





Gc  
979.4  
G94hj  
1204255

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01148 2822

















HISTORY  
OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
AND  
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD  
OF THE  
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA.

---

An Historical Story of the State's Marvelous Growth from Its Earliest Settlement  
to the Present Time

BY

PROF. J. M. GUINN, A. M.,

Author of A History of Los Angeles and Vicinity, History of Southern California, Secretary and Curator  
of the Historical Society of Southern California, Member of the American  
Historical Association, Washington, D. C.

---

ALSO

Containing Biographies of Well-Known Citizens of the Past and Present.

---

THE CHAPMAN PUBLISHING CO.  
CHICAGO  
1905



HISTORY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CALIFORNIA

COPYRIGHT, 1902

BY

CHAPMAN PUBLISHING CO.

# PREFACE.

12C4255

## HISTORICAL

THERE are very few states in the Union that have a more varied and a more interesting history than California; and there are few if any whose history is so vaguely and so indefinitely known. This is largely due to the fact that its colonization was effected by one race and its evolution as a state by another.

In the rapid development of the state by the conquering race, the trials and struggles of the first colonists have been forgotten. No forefathers' day keeps their memory green, and no observance celebrates the anniversary of their landing. To many of its people, the history of California begins with the discovery of gold, and all behind that is regarded of little importance. The race characteristics of the two peoples who have dominated California differ widely; and from this divergence arises the lack of sympathetic union. Perhaps no better expression for this difference can be given than is found in popular bywords of each. The "*poco tiempo*" (by and by) of the Spaniard is significant of a people who are willing to wait—who would rather defer till *mañana*—to-morrow—than hurry to-day. The "go ahead" of the American is indicative of haste, of rush, of a strenuous struggle to overcome obstacles, whatever they may be, in the present.

In narrating the story of California, I have endeavored to deal justly with the different eras and episodes of its history; to state facts; to tell the truth without favoritism or prejudice; to give credit where credit is due and blame where it is deserved. In the preparation of this history I have tried to make it readable. I have avoided dull details and have omitted cumbrous statistics.

The subject has been presented by topic, observing so far as possible the chronological order of the events. In collecting material for this work, I have visited all the large libraries of the state, have consulted state and county archives, and have scanned thousands of pages of newspapers and magazines. Where extracts have been made, due credit has been given in the body of the work. I have received valuable assistance from librarians, from pioneers of the state, from editors and others. To all who have assisted me, I return my sincere thanks.

J. M. GUINN.



# PREFACE.

---

## BIOGRAPHICAL

THE high standing of the San Joaquin Valley is due not alone to ideal climate and rare beauty of scenery. Other regions boasting an environment as attractive, have nevertheless remained unknown to the great world of commerce and of thought. When we study the progress made in this section of our country, especially during the past two decades of the nineteenth century and the opening years of the twentieth century, we are led to the conclusion that the present gratifying condition is due to the enterprise of public-spirited citizens. They have not only developed commercial possibilities and horticultural resources, but they have also maintained a commendable interest in public affairs, and have given to their commonwealth some of its ablest statesmen. The prosperity of the past has been gratifying; and, with the building of the canal to connect the Atlantic and the Pacific, with the increasing of railroad facilities, with the further development of local resources, there is every reason to believe that the twentieth century will witness the most marvelous growth this region has ever made.

In the compilation of this work and the securing of necessary data, a number of writers have been engaged for months. They have visited leading citizens and used every endeavor to produce a work accurate and trustworthy in every detail. Owing to the great care exercised, and to the fact that every opportunity was given to those represented to secure accuracy in their biographies, the publishers believe they are giving to their readers a volume containing few errors of consequence. The biographies of a number of representative citizens will be missed from the work. In some instances this was caused by their absence from home when our writers called, and in some instances was caused by a failure on the part of the men themselves to understand the scope of the work. The publishers, however, have done all within their power to make this work a representative one.

The value of the data herein presented will grow with the passing years. Posterity will preserve the volume with care, from the fact that it perpetuates biographical history that otherwise would be wholly lost. In those now far-distant days will be realized, to a greater extent than at the present time, the truth of Macauley's statement, "The history of a country is best told in the lives of its people."

CHAPMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

April, 1905.



# CONTENTS.

## CHAPTER I.

PAGE

SPANISH EXPLORATIONS AND DISCOVERIES.....	33
Romance and Reality—The Seven Cities of Cibola—The Myth of Quivera—El Dorado—Sandoval's Isle of the Amazons—Mutineers Discover the Peninsula of Lower California—Origin of the Name California—Cortes's Attempts at Colonization—Discovery of the Rio Colorado—Coronado's Explorations—Ulloa's Voyage.	



## CHAPTER II.

ALTA OR NUEVA CALIFORNIA.....	37
Voyage of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo—Enters the Bay of San Diego in Alta California—Discovers the Islands of San Salvador and Vitoria—The Bay of Smokes and Fires—The Santa Barbara Islands—Reaches Cape Mendocino—His Death and Burial on the Island of San Miguel—Ferrolo Continues the Voyage—Drake, the Sea King of Devon—His Hatred of the Spaniard—Sails into the South Sea—Plunders the Spanish Settlements of the South Pacific—Vain Search for the Straits of Anian—Refits His Ships in a California Harbor—Takes Possession of the Country for the English Queen—Sails Across the Pacific Ocean to Escape the Vengeance of the Spaniards—Sebastian Rodriguez Cermeño Attempts a Survey of the California Coast—Loss of the San Agustin—Sufferings of the Shipwrecked Mariners—Sebastian Viscaino's Explorations—Makes No New Discoveries—Changes the Names Given by Cabrillo to the Bays and Islands—Some Boom Literature—Failure of His Colonization Scheme—His Death.	



## CHAPTER III.

COLONIZATION OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.....	43
Jesuit Missions of Lower California—Father Kino or Kuhn's Explorations—Expulsion of the Jesuits—Spain's Decadence—Her Northwestern Possessions Threatened by the Russians and English—The Franciscans to Christianize and Colonize Alta California—Galvez Fits Out Two Expeditions—Their Safe Arrival at San Diego—First Mission Founded—Portolá's Explorations—Fails to Find Monterey Bay—Discovers the Bay of San Francisco—Return of the Explorers—Portolá's Second Expedition—Founding of San Carlos Mission and the Presidio of Monterey.	



## CHAPTER IV.

ABORIGINES OF CALIFORNIA.....	49
Inferiority of the California Indian—No Great Tribes—Indians of the San Gabriel Valley—Hugo Reid's Description of Their Government—Religion and Customs—Indians of the Santa Barbara Channel—Their God Chupa—Northern Indians—Indian Myths and Traditions.	

## CHAPTER V.

FRANCISCAN MISSIONS OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.....	PAGE 56
---	------------

Founding of San Diego de Alcalá—San Carlos Barromeo—San Antonio de Padua—San Gabriel Arcangel—San Luis Obispo—San Francisco de Asis—San Juan Capistrano—Santa Clara—San Buenaventura—Santa Barbara—La Purísima Concepcion—Santa Cruz—La Soledad—San José—San Juan Bautista—San Miguel—San Fernando del Rey, San Luis Rey, Santa Ynez—San Rafael—San Francisco Solano—Architecture—General Plan of the Missionary Establishments—Houses of the Neophytes—Their Uncleanliness.



## CHAPTER VI.

PRESIDIOS OF CALIFORNIA.....	66
------------------------------	----

Presidio in Colonization—Founding of San Diego—General Plan of the Presidio—Founding of Monterey—Rejoicing over the Event—Hard Times at the Presidio—Bear Meat Diet—Two Hundred Immigrants for the Presidio—Founding of the Presidio of San Francisco—Anza's Overland Route from Sonora—Quarrel with Rivera—Anza's Return to Sonora—Founding of Santa Barbara—Disappointment of Father Serra—Quarrel of the Captain with the Missionaries over Indian Laborers—Soldiers' Dreary Life at the Presidios.



## CHAPTER VII.

PUEBLOS.....	73
--------------	----

Pueblo Plan of Colonization—Necessity for Agricultural Colonies—Governor Filipe de Neve Selects Pueblo Sites—San José Founded—Named for the Patron Saint of California—Area of the Spanish Pueblo—Government Supplies to Colonists—Founding of the Pueblo of Los Angeles—Names of the Founders—Probable Origin of the Name—Subdivisions of Pueblo Lands—Lands Assigned to Colonists—Founding of Branciforte, the last Spanish Pueblo.



## CHAPTER VIII.

THE PASSING OF SPAIN'S DOMINATION.....	78
--	----

Spain's Exclusiveness—The First Foreign Ship in Monterey Bay—Vancouver's Visit—Government Monopoly of the Fur Trade—American Smugglers—The Memorias—Russian Aggression—Famine at Sitka—Rezánoff's Visit—A Love Affair and Its Tragic Ending—Fort Ross—Failure of the Russian Colony Scheme—The War of Mexican Independence—Sola the Royalist Governor—California Loyalists—The Year of Earthquakes—Bouchard the Privateer Burns Monterey—The Lima Tallow Ships—Hard Times—No Money and Little Credit—The Friars Supreme.



## CHAPTER IX.

FROM EMPIRE TO REPUBLIC.....	82
------------------------------	----

Sola Calls for Troops—Cholas Sent Him—Success of the Revolutionists—Plan of Iguala—The Three Guarantees—The Empire—Downfall of Agustín I.—Rise of the Republic—Bitter Disappointments of Governor Sola and the Friars—Disloyalty of the Mission Friars—Refuse to Take the Oath of Allegiance—Arguella, Governor—Advent of Foreigners—Coming of the Hide Droghers—Indian Outbreak.



# CONTENTS.

21

## CHAPTER X.

FIRST DECADE OF MEXICAN RULE.....	87
-----------------------------------	----

Echeandia Governor—Make San Diego His Capital—Padres of the Four Southern Missions Take the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic—Friars of the Northern Missions Contumacious—Arrest of Padre Sarria—Expulsion of the Spaniards—Clandestine Departure of Padres Ripoll and Altamira—Exile of Padre Martinez—The Diputacion—Queer Legislation—The Mexican Congress Attempts to Make California a Penal Colony—Liberal Colonization Laws—Captain Jedediah S. Smith, the Pioneer of Overland Travel, Arrives—Is Arrested—First White Man to Cross the Sierra Nevadas—Coming of the Fur Trappers—The Pattie Party—Imprisoned by Echeandia—Death of the Elder Pattie—John Ohio Pattie's Bluster—Peg Leg Smith—Ewing Young—The Solis Revolution—A Bloodless Battle—Echeandia's Mission Secularization Decree—He Is Hated by the Friars—Dios y Libertad—The Fitch Romance.



## CHAPTER XI.

REVOLUTIONS—THE HIJAR COLONISTS.....	93
--------------------------------------	----

Victoria, Governor—His Unpopularity—Defeated by the Southern Revolutionists—Abdicates and is Shipped out of the Country—Pio Pico, Governor—Echeandia, Governor of Abajenos (Lowers)—Zamarano of the Arribanos (Uppers)—Dual Governors and a No Man's Land—War Clouds—Los Angeles the Political Storm Center—Figueroa Appointed Gefe Politico—The Dual Governors Surrender—Figueroa the Right Man in the Place—Hijar's Colonization Scheme—Padres, the Promoter—Hijar to be Gefe Politico—A Famous Ride—A Cobbler Heads a Revolution—Hijar and Padres Arrested and Deported—Disastrous End of the Compania Cosmopolitana—Death of Figueroa.



## CHAPTER XII.

THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THE MISSIONS.....	96
---	----

Sentiment vs. History—The Friars' Right to the Mission Lands Only That of Occupation—Governor Borica's Opinion of the Mission System—Title to the Mission Domains—Viceroy Bucarili's Instructions—Secularization—Decree of the Spanish Cortes in 1813—Mission Land Monopoly—No Land for Settlers—Secularization Plans, Decrees and Reglamentos—No Attempt to Educate the Neophytes—Destruction of Mission Property, Ruthless Slaughter of Cattle—Emancipation in Theory and in Practice—Depravity of the Neophytes—What Did Six Decades of Mission Rule Accomplish?—What Became of the Mission Estates—The Passing of the Neophytes.



## CHAPTER XIII.

THE FREE AND SOVEREIGN STATE OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.....	101
--	-----

Castro, Gefe Politico—Nicolas Gutierrez, Comandante and Political Chief—Chico, "Gobernador Proprietario"—Makes Himself Unpopular—His Hatred of Foreigners—Makes Trouble Wherever He Goes—Shipped Back to Mexico—Gutierrez Again Political Chief—Centralism His Nemesis—Revolt of Castro and Alvarado—Gutierrez Besieged—Surrenders and Leaves the Country—Declaration of California's Independence—El Estado Libre y Soberano de La Alta California—Alvarado Declared Governor—The Ship of State

Launched—Encounters a Storm—The South Opposes California's Independence—Los Angeles Made a City and the Capital of the Territory by the Mexican Congress—The Capital Question the Cause of Opposition—War Between the North and South—Battle of San Buena Ventura—Los Angeles Captured—Peace in the Free State—Carlos Carrillo, Governor of the South—War Again—Defeat of Carrillo at Las Flores—Peace—Alvarado Appointed Governor by the Supreme Government—Release of Alvarado's Prisoners of State—Exit the Free State.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### DECLINE AND FALL OF MEXICAN DOMINATION..... 108

Hijos del Pais in Power—The Capital Question—The Foreigners Becoming a Menace—Graham Affair—Micheltorena Appointed Governor—His Cholo Army—Commodore Jones Captures Monterey—The Governor and the Commodore Meet at Los Angeles—Extravagant Demands of Micheltorena—Revolt Against Micheltorena and His Army of Chicken Thieves—Sutter and Graham Join Forces with Micheltorena—The Picos Unite with Alvarado and Castro—Battle of Cahuenga—Micheltorena and His Cholos Deported—Pico, Governor—Castro Rebellious—The Old Feud Between the North and the South—Los Angeles the Capital—Plots and Counter-Plots—Pico Made Governor by President Herrera—Immigration from the United States.



## CHAPTER XV.

### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT—HOMES AND HOME LIFE OF THE CALIFORNIANS.... 114

The "Muy Ilustre Ayuntamiento," or Municipal Council—Its Unlimited Power, Queer Customs and Quaint Usages—Blue Laws—How Office Sought the Man and Caught Him—Architecture of the Mission Age Not Aesthetic—Dress of the Better Class—Undress of the Neophyte and the Peon—Fashions That Changed but Once in Fifty Years—Filial Respect—Honor Thy Father and Mother—Economy in Government—When Men's Pleasures and Vices Paid the Cost of Governing—No Fire Department—No Paid Police—No Taxes.



## CHAPTER XVI.

### TERRITORIAL EXPANSION BY CONQUEST..... 119

The Mexican War—More Slave Territory Needed—Hostilities Begun in Texas—Trouble Brewing in California—Fremont at Monterey—Fremont and Castro Quarrel—Fremont and His Men Depart—Arrival of Lieutenant Gillespie—Follows Fremont—Fremont's Return—The Bear Flag Revolt—Seizure of Sonoma—A Short-Lived Republic—Commodore Sloat Seizes California—Castro's Army Retreats Southward—Meets Pico's Advancing Northward—Retreat to Los Angeles—Stockton and Fremont Invade the South—Pico and Castro Vainly Attempt to Arouse the People—Pico's Humane Proclamation—Flight of Pico and Castro—Stockton Captures Los Angeles—Issues a Proclamation—Some Historical Myths—The First Newspaper Published in California.

# CONTENTS.

23

## CHAPTER XVII.

REVOLT OF THE CALIFORNIANS.....	PAGE 125
---------------------------------	-------------

Stockton Returns to His Ship and Fremont Leaves for the North—Captain Gillespie, Comandante, in the South—Attempts Reforms—Californians Rebel—The Americans Besieged on Fort Hill—Juan Flaca's Famous Ride—Battle of Chino—Wilson's Company Prisoners—Americans Agree to Evacuate Los Angeles—Retreat to San Pedro—Cannon Thrown into the Bay—Flores in Command of the Californians.



## CHAPTER XVIII.

DEFEAT AND RETREAT OF MERVINE'S MEN.....	129
--	-----

Mervine, in Command of the Savannah, Arrives at San Pedro—Landing of the Troops—Mervine and Gillespie Unite Their Forces—On to Los Angeles—Duvall's Log Book—An Authentic Account of the March, Battle and Retreat—Names of the Killed and Wounded—Burial of the Dead on Dead Man's Island—Names of the Commanding Officers—Flores the Last Gefé Politico and Comandante-General—Jealousy of the Hijos del Pais—Hard Times in the Old Pueblo.



## CHAPTER XIX.

FINAL CONQUEST OF CALIFORNIA.....	133
-----------------------------------	-----

Affairs in the North—Fremont's Battalion—Battle of Natividad—Bloodless Battle of Santa Clara—End of the War in the North—Stockton at San Pedro—Carrillo's Strategy—A Remarkable Battle—Stockton Arrives at San Diego—Building of a Fort—Raid on the Ranchos—The Flag Episode—General Kearny Arrives at Warner's Pass—Battle of San Pasqual—Defeat of Kearny—Heavy Loss—Relief Sent Him from San Diego—Preparing for the Capture of Los Angeles—The March—Battle of Paso de Bartolo—Battle of La Mesa—Small Losses—American Names of These Battles Misnomers.



## CHAPTER XX.

CAPTURE AND OCCUPATION OF THE CAPITAL.....	141
--	-----

Surrender of Los Angeles—March of the Victors—The Last Volley—A Chilly Reception—A Famous Scold—On the Plaza—Stockton's Headquarters—Emory's Fort—Fremont's Battalion at San Fernando—The Flight of Flores—Negotiations with General Pico—Treaty of Cahuenga—Its Importance—Fremont's Battalion Enters the City—Fremont, Governor—Quarrel Between Kearny and Stockton—Kearny Departs for San Diego and Stockton's Men for San Pedro.



## CHAPTER XXI.

TRANSITION AND TRANSFORMATION.....	144
------------------------------------	-----

Colonel Fremont in Command at Los Angeles—The Mormon Battalion—Its Arrival at San Luis Rey, Sent to Los Angeles—General Kearny Governor at Monterey—Rival Governors—Col. R. B. Mason, Inspector of the Troops in California—He Quarrels with Fremont—Fremont Challenges Him—Colonel Cooke Made Commander of the Military

District of the South—Fremont's Battalion Mustered Out—Fremont Ordered to Report to Kearny—Returns to the States with Kearny—Placed Under Arrest—Court-Martialed—Found Guilty—Pardoned by the President—Rumors of a Mexican Invasion—Building of a Fort—Col. J. B. Stevenson Commands in the Southern District—A Fourth of July Celebration—The Fort Dedicated and Named Fort Moore—The New York Volunteers—Company F, Third U. S. Artillery, Arrives—The Mormon Battalion Mustered Out—Commodore Shubrick and General Kearny Jointly Issue a Proclamation to the People—Col. R. B. Mason, Military Governor of California—A Policy of Conciliation—Varela, Agitator and Revolutionist, Makes Trouble—Overland Immigration Under Mexican Rule—The First Train—Dr. Marsh's Meanness—The Fate of the Donner Party.



## CHAPTER XXII.

### MEXICAN LAWS AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS..... 150

Richard A. Mason, Commander of the Military Forces and Civil Governor of California—Civil and Military Laws—The First Trial by Jury—Americanizing the People—Perverse Electors and Contumacious Councilmen—Absolute Alcaldes—Nash at Sonoma and Bill Blackburn at Santa Cruz—Queer Decisions—El Cañon Perdido of Santa Barbara—Ex-Governor Pio Pico Returns—Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo—Peace Proclaimed—The News Reaches California—Country Acquired by the Treaty—The Volunteers Mustered Out.



## CHAPTER XXIII.

### GOLD! GOLD! GOLD!..... 155

Traditions of Early Gold Discoveries in California—The First Authenticated Discovery—Marshall's Discovery at Colomas—Disputed Dates and Conflicting Stories About the Discovery—Sutter's Account—James W. Marshall—His Story—The News Travels Slowly—First Newspaper Report—The Rush Begins—San Francisco Deserted—The Star and the Californian Suspend Publication—The News Spreads—Sonorian Migration—Oregonians Come—The News Reaches the States—A Tea Caddy Full of Gold at the War Office, Washington—Seeing Is Believing—Gold Hunters Come by Land and Sea—The Pacific Mail Steamship Company—Magical Growth of San Francisco—The Dry Diggings—Some Remarkable Yields—Forty Dollars for a Butcher Knife—Extent of the Gold Fields.



## CHAPTER XXIV.

### MAKING A STATE..... 162

Bennett Riley, Governor—Unsatisfactory Form of Government—Semi-Civil and Semi-Military—Congress Does Nothing—The Slave-Holding Faction Prevents Action—Growing Dissatisfaction—Call for Convention—Constitution Making—The Great Seal—Election of State Officers—Peter H. Burnett, Governor—Inauguration of a State Government—The First Legislature—A Self-Constituted State—The Pro-Slavery Faction in Congress—Oppose the Admission of California—Defeat of the Obstructionists—California Admitted into the Union—Great Rejoicing—A Magnificent Procession—California Full Grown at Birth—The Capital Question—San José Loses the Capital—Vallejo Wins—Goes to Sacramento—Comes to Benicia—Capital Question in the Courts—Sacramento Wins—Capitol Building Begun in 1860—Completed in 1869.

CHAPTER XXV.

THE ARGONAUTS.....	PAGE 169
--------------------	----------

Who First Called Them Argonauts—How They Came and From Where They Came—Extent of the Gold Fields—Mining Appliances—Batéas, Gold Pans, Rockers, Long Toms, Sluices—Useless Machines and Worthless Inventions—Some Famous Gold Rushes—Gold Lake—Gold Bluffs—Kern River—Frazer River—Washoe—Ho for Idaho!—Social Leveling—Capacity for Physical Labor the Standard—Independency and Honesty of the Argonauts.



CHAPTER XXVI.

SAN FRANCISCO .....	175
---------------------	-----

The First House—A Famous Fourth of July Celebration—The Enterprise of Jacob P. Leese—General Kearny's Decree for the Sale of Water Lots—Alcalde Bartlett Changes the Name of the Town from Yerba Buena to San Francisco—Hostility of the Star to the Change—Great Sale of Lots in the City of Francisca, now Benicia—Its Boom Bursts—Population of San Francisco September 4, 1847—Vocations of Its Inhabitants—Population March, 1848—Vioget's Survey—O'Farrell's Survey—Wharves—The First School House—The Gold Discovery Depopulates the City—Reaction—Rapid Growth—Description of the City in April, 1850—Great Increase in Population—How the People Lived and Labored—Enormous Rents—High Priced Real Estate—Awful Streets—Flour Sacks, 'Cooking Stove and Tobacco Box Sidewalk—Ships for Houses—The Six Great Fires—The Boom of 1853—The Burst of 1855—Harry Meigs—Steady Growth of the City.



CHAPTER XXVII.

CRIME, CRIMINALS AND VIGILANCE COMMITTEES.....	182
--	-----

But Little Crime in California Under Spanish and Mexican Rule—The First Vigilance Committee of California—The United Defenders of Public Safety—Execution of Alispaz and Maria del Rosario Villa—Advent of the Criminal Element—Criminal Element in the Ascendency—Incendiarism, Theft and Murder—The San Francisco Vigilance Committee of 1851—Hanging of Jenkins—A Case of Mistaken Identity—Burdue for Stuart—Arrest, Trial and Hanging of Stuart—Hanging of Whittaker and McKenzie—The Committee Adjourns but Does Not Disband—Its Work Approved—Corrupt Officials—James King of William Attacks Political Corruption in the Bulletin—Richardson killed by Cora—Scathing Editorials—Murders and Thefts—Attempts to Silence King—King Exposes James P. Casey's State's Prison Record—Cowardly Assassination of King by Casey—Organization of the Vigilance Committee of 1856—Fatal Mistake of the Herald—Casey and Cora in the Hands of the Committee—Death of King—Hanging of Casey and Cora—Other Executions—Law and Order Party—Terry and His Chivalrous Friends—They Are Glad to Subside—Black List and Deportations—The Augean Stable Cleaned—The Committee's Grand Parade—Vigilance Committees in Los Angeles—Joaquin Murrieta and His Banditti—Tiburcio Vasquez and His Gang.



CHAPTER XXVIII.

FILIBUSTERS AND FILIBUSTERING.....	193
------------------------------------	-----

The Origin of Filibustering in California—Raousset-Boulbon's Futile Schemes—His Execution—William Walker—His Career as a Doctor, Lawyer and Journalist—Recruits Filibusters—Lands at La Paz—His Infamous Conduct in Lower California—Failure of His

Scheme—A Farical Trial—Lionized in San Francisco—His Operations in Nicaragua—  
Battles—Decrees Slavery in Nicaragua—Driven Out of Nicaragua—Tries Again—Is Cap-  
tured and Shot—Crabb and His Unfortunate Expedition—Massacre of the Misguided  
Adventurers—Filibustering Ends When Secession Begins.



## CHAPTER XXIX.

FROM GOLD TO GRAIN AND FRUITS..... 199

Mexican Farming—But Little Fruit and Few Vegetables—Crude Farming Implements—  
The Agricultural Capabilities of California Underestimated—Wheat the Staple in Central  
California—Cattle in the South—Gold in the North—Big Profits in Grapes—Orange Culture  
Begun in the South—Apples, Peaches, Pears and Plums—The Sheep Industry—The Famine  
Years of 1863 and 1864 Bring Disaster to the Cattle Kings of the South—The Doom of  
Their Dynasty—Improvement of Domestic Animals—Exit the Mustang—Agricultural Col-  
onies.



## CHAPTER XXX.

CIVIL WAR—LOYALTY AND DISLOYALTY..... 204

State Division and What Became of It—Broderick's Early Life—Arrival in California—  
Enters the Political Arena—Gwin and Broderick—Duel Between Terry and Broderick—  
Death of Broderick—Gwin-Latham Combination—Firing on Fort Sumter—State Loyal-  
Treasonable Utterance—A Pacific Republic—Disloyalty Rampant in Southern California—  
Union Sentiments Triumphant—Confederate Sympathizers Silenced.



## CHAPTER XXXI.

TRADE, TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION..... 211

Spanish Trade—Fixed Prices—No Cornering the Market—Mexico's Methods of Trade—  
The Hide Droghers—Trade—Ocean Commerce and Travel—Overland Routes—Overland  
Stage Routes—Inland Commerce—The Pony Express—Stage Lines—Pack Trains—Camel  
Caravans—The Telegraph and the Railroad—Express Companies.



## CHAPTER XXXII.

RAILROADS..... 218

Early Agitation of the Pacific Railroad Scheme—The Pacific Railroad in Politics—Northern  
Routes and Southern Routes—First Railroad in California—Pacific Railroad Bills in Con-  
gress—A Decade of Agitation and No Road—The Central and Union Pacific Railroads—  
Act of 1862—Subsidies—The Southern Pacific Railroad System—Its Incorporation and  
Charter—Its Growth and Development—The Santa Fe System—Other Railroads.

# CONTENTS.

27

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

THE INDIAN QUESTION.....	223
--------------------------	-----

Treatment of the Indians by Spain and Mexico—A Conquista—Unsanitary Condition of the Mission Villages—The Mission Neophyte and What Became of Him—Wanton Outrages on the Savages—Some So-Called Indian Wars—Extermination of the Aborigines—Indian Island Massacre—The Mountaineer Battalion—The Two Years' War—The Modoc War.



## CHAPTER XXXIV.

SOME POLITICAL HISTORY.....	229
-----------------------------	-----

Advent of the Chinese—Kindly Received at First—Given a Public Reception—The "China Boys" Become Too Many—Agitation and Legislation Against Them—Dennis Kearney and the Sand Lot Agitation—Kearney's Slogan, "The Chinese Must Go"—How Kearney Went—The New Constitution—A Mixed Convention—Opposition to the Constitution—The Constitution Adopted—Defeat of the Workingmen's Party—A New Treaty with China—Governors of California, Spanish, Mexican and American.



## CHAPTER XXXV.

EDUCATION AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.....	235
--	-----

Public Schools in the Spanish Era—Schools of the Mexican Period—No Schools for the Neophytes—Early American Schools—First School House in San Francisco—The First American Teacher—The First School Law—A Grand School System—University of the Pacific—College of California—University of California—Stanford University—Normal Schools.



## CHAPTER XXXVI.

CITIES OF CALIFORNIA—THEIR ORIGIN AND GROWTH.....	242
---	-----

The Spaniards and Mexicans Not Town Builders—Francisca, on the Straits of Carquinez, the First American City—Its Brilliant Prospects and Dismal Failure—San Francisco—Its Population and Expansion—Los Angeles, the Only City in California Before the Conquest—Population and Development—Oakland, an American City—Population—Sacramento, the Metropolis of the Mines—San José, the Garden City—Stockton, the Entrepot of the Southern Mines—San Diego, the Oldest City—Fresno—Vallejo—Nevada City—Grass Valley—Eureka—Marysville—Redding—Pasadena—Pomona—San Bernardino—Riverside.





# INDEX.

Abbey, J. N.....	611	Bangs, Hon. Vital E.....	1020	Blodgett, Edwin.....	588
Abbey, Arthur A.....	1224	Banister, William B.....	1536	Bloss, George S., Sr.....	1356
Abbott, Daniel.....	756	Banta, Christopher H.....	846	Blowers, Cassius M.....	461
Ackerman, Fred.....	1080	Barber, Emmet.....	801	Boland, Patrick.....	1503
Adair, Charles H., M. D.....	322	Barber, Schuyler A., M. D.....	1050	Bollin, A. Lewis.....	1390
Adams, Silvio.....	1442	Barbour, Alexander.....	499	Bollin, H. D.....	1623
Adelsbach, Adam.....	622	Barcroft, Fred.....	309	Bond, Annie L., M. D.....	1035
Ahrensberg, Hans.....	1592	Barcroft, Joseph.....	369	Bond, J. M., M. D.....	1627
Akers, Joseph.....	1075	Barcroft, Raphael.....	1211	Bondson, Peter.....	563
Akers, Thomas J.....	470	Barker, John.....	747	Bonner, Charles G.....	1287
Akin, Albert G.....	850	Barnett, C. E.....	628	Bonnie Brae Ranch.....	1026
Alcorn, J. Warren.....	888	Barnum, Horace E.....	334	Bontadelli, Frederick.....	1550
Alford, Benjamin M., M. D.....	833	Barr, Thomas A.....	294	Boot, Robert.....	609
Alger, Hiram B.....	485	Barrett, Charles W.....	1361	Botsford, Gibbons A.....	717
Allen, Frank L.....	954	Barstow, Richard N.....	1502	Boyd, James A.....	730
Allen, Jonas A.....	1512	Bartch, Fred.....	351	Boydston, Charles D.....	1399
Allen, Parris.....	1449	Bartholomew, Asa L.....	413	Boynton, C. E., M. D.....	410
Allen, Samuel A.....	852	Bassett, Mark.....	439	Bozeman, Preston L.....	1167
Allen, Stonewall J.....	987	Bates, Dr. Cicero McL.....	373	Bradley, J. D.....	590
Allen, William T.....	1550	Batten, Luther.....	338	Brady, George L.....	798
Amer, William M.....	1351	Baxter, James R.....	1064	Brailsford, George.....	552
Anderson, A. W.....	1382	Beall, J. A.....	1474	Braly, James M.....	1380
Anderson, Frank E.....	944	Beall, John W.....	1406	Bramlet, Reuben H.....	346
Anderson, G. W.....	1382	Beall, Zephaniah D.....	1314	Brandon, Amberson.....	484
Anderson, Theodore.....	1561	Beard, Elihu B.....	521	Bratton, Theodore C.....	1460
Andrews, George R.....	1270	Bearup, J. W.....	1245	Brauer, John C.....	844
Applegate, Lewis H.....	483	Becker, Matthias.....	544	Braun, Johan.....	1605
Arkle, Christopher C.....	1617	Bedesen, Philip.....	524	Brem, Henry.....	656
Armitage, Harold V.....	1365	Belz, Andrew.....	1166	Brennan, Daniel.....	670
Arnauton, Alfred J.....	270	Bender, Howard P.....	1469	Brewer, Thomas R.....	1301
Arnold, Mrs. Mary V.....	1124	Benham, John A.....	1625	Brey, Hiram F.....	1118
Askin, Capt. Robert M.....	407	Bennett, Fred A.....	1576	Brickley, Henry.....	260
Austin, Ephraim W.....	390	Bennett, Obadiah R.....	825	Briscoe, Samuel M.....	908
Avila, John B.....	1549	Berger, John P.....	1054	Briscoe, Walter H.....	614
Awbrey, Thomas E.....	1005	Bering, Robert E., M. D.....	723	Brittan, Frank H.....	614
B					551
Bachle, Frederick.....	1600	Bernard, James A.....	1444	Brooks, Albert E.....	551
Bachman, Herman S.....	1435	Berry, Clarence J.....	1614	Brooks, Judge T.....	596
Bachtold, Christian.....	1502	Berry, Fulton G.....	263	Brotherton, William A.....	1070
Bacon, James A.....	1076	Berry, Hon. George S.....	281	Brough, William.....	708
Bacon, Thomas E.....	1312	Berry, William J.....	327	Brown, Charles J.....	1471
Baggs, Samuel A.....	1174	Berryhill, Orlando D.....	800	Brown, Daniel, Jr.....	1400
Bagley, Frank S.....	621	Bertch, George.....	585	Brown, George.....	646
Bagnelle, Miss Estella.....	697	Bertrandias, Adolph.....	512	Brown, George S.....	549
Bailey, Charles H.....	1150	Bibby, Enoch.....	322	Brown, Horace G.....	822
Bailey, John E.....	1029	Bibby, John.....	1625	Brown, John L.....	1520
Baird, Alfred.....	1393	Bibby, Nicholas.....	1604	Brown, Joseph.....	1585
Baird, Benjamin M.....	1411	Bickford, Adonijah.....	820	Brown, Oliver C.....	389
Baker, Artemus J.....	938	Billingslea, Walter.....	906	Brown, Samuel C.....	293
Baker, Frank C.....	804	Bird, Isaac.....	727	Brown, Samuel T.....	1399
Baker, Gilbert L.....	1375	Bisher, Charles A.....	1114	Brown, William G. H.....	1617
Baker, Richard.....	544	Bixby, Moses H.....	445	Browne, Jacob W.....	1468
Baker, Col. Thomas.....	1229	Black, Frank E.....	1104	Buckley, Irwin J.....	992
Baker, Westwood J.....	1463	Blackledge, L. N., M. D.....	1098	Buckner, William V.....	316
Balaam, Edwin S.....	1069	Blades, Thomas.....	578	Buckreus, Franz.....	1557
Baldwin, Elmer H.....	1017	Bladt, Peter.....	1560	Buhach Plantation.....	1507
Ball, Abraham R.....	1517	Blain, William H.....	577	Bulger, Lawrence.....	1610
Ballou, George A.....	426	Blair, James H.....	1032	Bunker, Frederick E.....	717
Bambauer, George S.....	1363	Bland, George H., M. D.....	1438	Burch, William E.....	932
Bambauer, Louis F.....	851	Blankenship, William.....	783	Burchell, Richard M.....	638
Bambauer, Rudolph H.....	429	Blankenship, Zachary T.....	638	Burgan, John.....	721
		Blayne, Arthur C.....	1464	Burgan, Samuel.....	864
		Bliss, Henry F.....	702	Burleigh, Frank J.....	1560
		Blodget, H. A.....	1624	Burness, Hector.....	1250

Burnett, John H.	1402	Cloer, Elisha L.	766	Daulton, Henry C.	1520
Burnett, William L.	767	Clough, Alfred G.	1320	Daulton, John F.	598
Burns, Fielding G.	1100	Clow, Henry.	804	Davidson, Moses.	1120
Burr, Charles F.	1612	Clute, George W.	545	Davis, Elonzo P.	491
Burr, John, Jr.	1612	Coates, W. D.	1348	Davis, James M.	1566
Burton, Edward G.	474	Coburn, Avon M.	718	Davis, Josiah W.	1579
Bush, E. E.	1037	Cochran, John H.	1367	Davis, Peter P.	1235
Buthenuth, J. A.	1516	Cody, C. Elmer.	1532	Davis, Robert.	674
Butin, John L., M. D.	432	Coe, Charles H.	1013	Davis, Samuel.	1488
Butts, Robert J.	1511	Coe, Charles M.	1241	Dawson, John H.	557
Byars, Alfred H., M. D.	464	Coen, Rev. Father John.	1113	Day, Quintis V. P.	1106
Byers, John Q.	1359	Cockley, Benjamin F.	815	Deakin, William.	1227
Byrd, John H.	1457	Cole, Charles P.	580	Dean, Albert H.	813
		Cole, William T.	1483	Dean, Marcus L.	814
C		Coley, John A.	1129	Dechman, William J.	917
Cain, Jules.	894	Collins, Oscar A.	1082	De La Grange, William.	407
Cairns, J. J.	1094	Collins, Thomas E.	1370	DeLaney, A. J.	1425
Calcute, Henry.	498	Collins, William G.	1330	Demaree, John H.	1099
Calcute, William.	476	Collins, William W.	659	Dennen, Charles L.	1149
Caldwell, George M.	1085	Colquhoun, George S.	1370	Denny, James E.	953
Callison, Ez.	1480	Colson, Benjamin Y.	1283	Dewey, Alfred E.	480
Cameron, George W.	1091	Combs, Fielding A., M. D.	662	Dewey, Charles H.	1474
Camilla Ranch.	1342	Condict, Henry F.	434	Dewey, Edward M.	1583
Campbell, Charles.	969	Conklin, Alvah L.	424	Dewey, Frederick V.	1584
Campbell, James E.	722	Conley, Hon. William M.	658	Dibble, Edwin J.	566
Capurro, E. M.	1278	Conway, Thomas A.	1254	Dickenson, Samuel F.	1299
Carden, William M.	1155	Cook, F. M.	598	Dixon, E. T.	411
Cardoza, J. S.	331	Cook, William H.	1325	Dobzensky, Adolph.	1505
Carle, Charles J.	1200	Cooper, Dr. John C.	1312	Dodd, Fred.	1470
Carmichael, Joseph.	558	Cooper, Robert J.	369	Dodds, George A.	762
Carney, Alex R.	1186	Corrigan, Matthew.	1313	Dodge, Moses.	506
Carpenter, B. L.	1106	Cory, Lewis L.	276	Dodge, Roswell R.	550
Carruthers, Thomas C.	573	Cothran, Judge C. S.	1582	Dodge, Roswell S.	564
Carson, John L., M. D.	476	Cottle Brothers.	863	Doherty, Robert.	1230
Carson, Emma M., M. D.	476	Couey, Elmer J., M. D.	366	Doran, James T.	750
Carter, James T.	1187	Coveale, Judge David S.	380	Dorland, Philip T.	633
Carter, Joseph.	1098	Cowgill, C. C.	429	Dorr, John.	585
Carter, Hon. Stanton L.	1533	Cowles, Charles O.	1053	Dorsey, Hon. Jesse R.	1515
Cartmill, Dr. W. F.	707	Cox, Edward T.	635	Dorsey, Capt. Norris H.	1560
Cartwright, George W.	304	Cox, Isaac.	924	Douglass, Theodore C.	1483
Carver, Hubert U.	614	Cox, John D.	1023	Dowle, James T., M. D.	1505
Case, Calvin A., M. D.	1217	Crabtree, James A.	813	Doyle, James.	1276
Castle, Carroll C.	1324	Crandall, Perry, M. D.	1223	Doyle, John J.	602
Castle, Hon. Curtis H.	774	Craven, Joshua B.	1466	Doyle, O. Burton, M. D.	981
Castle, Lemuel F.	340	Crawford, James.	1609	Draper, Wilbur F.	880
Cate, James W.	976	Croop, Peter S.	852	Drew, Hon. Alexander M.	540
Cate, J. Wilbur.	1526	Croop, William B.	451	Drew, George F.	339
Catron, Greenberry.	597	Crow, Benjamin F.	557	Driskell, James.	417
Cavanagh, Mrs. Amelia.	1064	Crow, Benjamin H.	887	Driver, C. B.	790
Cerini, John.	1605	Crow, C. C.	1623	Droge, Peter.	1586
Chamberlain, James F.	1514	Crow, James T.	1495	Drummond, John Q.	376
Chandler, Wilbur F.	1348	Crow, Lewis J.	1548	Dubois, Edward.	1476
Chapin, Ezra H.	397	Crowder, H. C., M. D.	683	Dudley, David B.	791
Chapman, Pleasant F., M. D.	1079	Crowell, Abner B.	374	Dudley, Moses.	1087
Charles, William B., M. D.	382	Cummings, G. P.	1364	Duke, Oscar.	1425
Chatten, John.	404	Cunningham, James.	733	Duncan, Nathaniel P., M. D.	1580
Chatten, Richard.	497	Cunningham, John.	1205	Duncan, O. H. P.	1636
Chinn, J. B.	1632	Cunningham, William N.	505	Dungan, A. Clifford.	1068
Chrisman, Gabriel.	1260	Curtin, Cornelius.	613	Dungan, James F., M. D.	1092
Chrisman, Ira.	1522	Curtis, David T.	1642	Dungan, J. Smith.	1205
Christian, Martin.	936	Cutler, Hobert N.	395	Dungan, Thomas M.	1230
Church, Denver S.	1621	Cutler, Loyal O.	307	Dunlap, John T.	319
Claffin, Hon. Charles L.	1510			Dunn, Clarence A.	610
Clark, Albert B.	1366	D		Duquesne, Felix D.	1442
Clark, Amaziah W.	906	Daggett, George.	1156	Dusy, Chester.	1166
Clark, James M.	603	Daggs, James M.	1616	E	
Clark, John P.	691	Dale, Edward H.	1135	Eachus, William P.	925
Clarke, Wilbur F.	1507	Dale, Milton M.	1041	Eastin, C. C.	1622
Clary, A. E.	806	Dale, Samuel E.	1109	Eastin, James T.	611
Clausen, Carl C.	498	Daly, James P.	988	Eastin, Oscar H.	676
Clement, Almond B.	964	Danker, John H.	981	Eastin, Thomas D.	680
Clement, George S.	1307	Darwin, Andrew M.	1245		

## III

Eddeleon, Charles F.	552	Fraser, Abner	1081	H	
Edgerly, A. S.	1396	Fraser, John W.	896	Haas, Louis	1180
Edmiston, N. B.	1144	Fraser, Larkens K.	742	Hadsell, Sidney F.	1464
Edmonds, Reuben A.	315	Freeland, David	661	Haheys, John	1242
Edwards, David F.	282	Fremam, Prof. Giles N.	278	Halbert, Edward D.	561
Edwards, Mrs. Emily J.	1503	French, Charles M.	303	Haley, Hon. James W.	313
Edwards, John	269	Frew, James H.	902	Halford, Joseph	1030
Edwards, John G.	652	Frikka, James	1036	Hall, John	660
Edwards, John H.	423	Fullerton, George D.	1465	Hall, Samuel	1519
Eichhoff, Henry	1013	Fulton, Percy B.	816	Hall, William S.	627
Elder, Martin	1470	Furtney, Henry, M. D.	923	Halstead, Jasper N.	819
Eley, Mills	1585			Hamilton, Azel B.	112
Elfers, John H.	534			Hamilton, Hugh L.	148
Elfers, Lawrence C.	1358	G		Hamilton, James L.	1497
Elfers, Louie	1602			Hamlett, Frank B.	772
Elliott, Columbus W.	1343	Gaines, Thomas C.	1252	Hamlett, James H.	802
Emmons, Hon. Elias J.	303	Gallagher, Robert H.	762	Hammond, John S.	651
Endicott, Richard H., M. D.	266	Galtes, Paul	467	Hammond, William H.	412
Enos, Manuel	1368	Gann, William	1030	Hancock, J. B.	354
Estes, James M.	851	Gardner, B. A.	1331	Hancock, John Q.	1449
Etzenhouser, John	1206	Gardner, William H.	1587	Hanna, Mrs. Alice A.	500
Evans, Adie B.	1369	Garrett, James	999	Hannah, Robert D.	1293
Evans, John M.	1458	Garrett, Levi	1378	Hansenberger, Layton J.	1576
Everett, Thomas E.	716	Garretson, Reuben J.	1486	Hansen, Hans	888
Everts, O. L.	479	Gastambide, Domingo	584	Hansen, Hans A.	1504
Ewing, David S.	478	Gay, Rev. Peter G.	452	Hansen, Henry A.	1555
		Giannini, Frank	1236	Hansen, Niels	1234
F		Gibson, George W.	749	Hansen, Nis	564
		Gibson, Lewis W.	1592	Hansen, Peter P.	1552
		Gibson, William M.	1487	Hardeaman, John L., M. D.	772
Farr, Elmer J.	1567	Giddings, C. J.	686	Harding, Hon. Fred E.	1137
Farr, George D.	501	Giddings, William W.	994	Hardman, William B.	1185
Farrow, E. D., M. D.	1524	Giffin, B. F.	1472	Hardwick, William J.	659
Fay, Alfred	961	Gilbert, Rev. Amos F.	1540	Harlan, Elisha	1430
Fay, Columbus	483	Gilbert, Samuel J. R.	502	Harman, Lane S.	936
Fay, Spencer	744	Gill, Fred	1040	Harp, John S.	63
Feaver, George	1572	Gill, John	542	Harrah, James C.	1479
Fee, Francis A.	268	Gill, Levi L.	367	Harray, John M.	636
Feemster, Thomas, M. D.	1105	Gill, William	956	Harrell, Andrew J.	950
Fenley, J. E.	1054	Gillette, J. Lotus	1035	Harrell, Jasper	1212
Fentem, Richard B.	1135	Gilliam, Samuel M.	442	Harrington, Orville C.	1475
Ferguson, James G.	1467	Gilliam, Rev. Samuel T.	643	Harris, Amos	1480
Ferguson, Josiah M.	1198	Gilmer, Rufus	1269	Harris, W. N.	1628
Ferguson, Wallace	1530	Gilreath, Marshall A., M. D.	698	Hart, Hon. Charles A.	490
Ferrii, Samuel H.	1048	Gist, Thomas J.	1248	Hart, Charles W.	991
Fewel, James W.	430	Givens, Eleazar T.	831	Hart, Fred M.	1547
Field, Augustus M., M. D.	462	Givens, Samuel L.	1180	Hart, Truman G.	346
Field, John H.	1300	Gobin, Frank A.	907	Hartley, William H.	1318
Fillmore, George W.	1187	Goldman, I. W.	1277	Hastie, Philip W.	1504
Fink, William F.	771	Goldstein, Henry S.	947	Hatch, Charles M.	736
Firebaugh, John F.	1086	Gonzales, Manuel, Jr.	1502	Hatfield, George A.	1319
Fisher, Charles C.	489	Good, Robert E. L.	1591	Hauch, Christian	986
Fisher, James	275	Goodin, Orville C.	1088	Haycroft, Robert D.	613
Fix, Robert W.	511	Goodwin, Harry E.	358	Hayes, Thomas	755
Flemming, Charles F.	1011	Goudy, George W.	1100	Hayes, Timothy	795
Fletcher, Andrew	1257	Goularte, Frank L.	1558	Hazelton, William	1447
Fly, James C.	1204	Gower, Edwin	685	Heberling, Burton U.	1126
Ford, H.	1630	Grace, Matthew W.	1037	Hedberg, John	1188
Foreman, Charles, D. D. S.	403	Gracey, Robert	904	Hedges, Henry P.	1373
Forrest, Curtis T.	1294	Graham, Elmer E.	1364	Heidt, George	580
Forsythe, Charles	1036	Grant, W. H.	1251	Heine, William L.	1020
Foster, Earl P.	1104	Glanz, Herman	1437	Heisinger, Samuel L.	1317
Fowler, David B.	295	Graybill, Rev. Jonathan W.	1192	Heitman, Hubert	1240
Fowler, Draper	760	Greeley, A. H.	1343	Heitzig, Henry C.	574
Fowler, Robert R.	985	Greeley, J. F.	1354	Hellar, William T.	1240
Fowler, Royal R.	911	Green, William E.	979	Helm, William	660
Fowler, William S., M. D.	370	Greene, Samuel K.	809	Henderson, Charles U.	1509
Frame, Harvey A.	1070	Gregory, Samuel	1162	Henderson, George C.	683
Frame, Jesse E.	704	Gries, Henry	1014	Henderson, Marion K.	1037
Francis, George W.	1518	Griffith, David R.	1589	Henderson, Ruthvan	1490
Frankum, George T.	1356	Grubb, Daniel H.	512	Henderson, Thomas E.	1132
Frans, John	975	Gurnee, Brewster S.	376	Henry, Benni J.	489
Frans, Thomas H.	453	Gurr, Alfred R.	826	Henry, Lewis	646



# INDEX.

v

## M

McBriar, John.....	667
McCabe, James C.....	1131
McCann, George.....	698
McCann, James T.....	612
McCardle, Charles M.....	1361
McCarthy, John D.....	1499
McCarthy, Rev. Father J. D.....	1496
McCullah, Clement J.....	797
McDonald, Mrs. Agnes E.....	690
McDonald, James R.....	385
McDonald, William.....	1319
McElroy, William H.....	527
McFarland, James H. C.....	579
McFarland, Robert W.....	963
McFarlane, John L.....	1018
McGee, H. R.....	985
McGregor, Allan.....	1168
McHaley, William.....	1480
McHenry, Oramil.....	1531
McIndoo, William.....	1031
McIntosh, Arthur M., M. D.....	458
McJunkin, Hon. Joseph T.....	1019
McKay, John R.....	1024
McKay, Scott.....	265
McKee, Francis E.....	508
McKelvy, Thomas B.....	1597
McKenzie, William H.....	668
McLean, Fleming.....	808
McLees Brothers.....	1050
McLees, Edmund.....	1082
McMaster, Alfred D., M. D.....	294
McNamara, Rev. Michael.....	1555
McNulty, William J.....	1264
McPherson, Oliver D.....	1553
McQuiddy, Major Thomas J.....	1178
McQuiddy, William R.....	359
Machen, Capt. William W.....	1352
Mackey, Charles E.....	1173
Mackey, James G.....	513
Madsen, Martin.....	1376
Madsen, Rasmus.....	1492
Madsen, Robert K.....	1599
Malesani, Tullius M.....	609
Malsbary, Job.....	1594
Manlove, Arthur.....	1471
Manter, Charles.....	492
March, R. L.....	1094
Marchbank, George.....	1308
Marden, William E.....	627
Marden, William H.....	626
Marks, Frank B.....	773
Marlow, William M.....	936
Marsh, Charles A.....	777
Martens, Claus J.....	1616
Martens, John.....	849
Martin, John A., Jr.....	645
Martin, John D.....	463
Martin, John W.....	868
Martin, Joseph G.....	975
Martin, Thomas.....	969
Martin, William J.....	645
Mason, Milton F.....	1413
Mathews, Carey W.....	1456
Mathewson, Arthur W.....	644
Mattei, Andrew.....	607
Matthews, Thomas B.....	463
Maude, A. C.....	1635
Maupin, William T., M. D.....	344
May, Jonathan W.....	982
May, Eric A.....	1218
Mayes, Archie A.....	495
Meier, Henry F. W. C.....	1554

Meilike, F. R.....	284
Mentz, Wilko.....	843
Metzler, Conrad.....	1438
Meyer, Henry.....	973
Middleton, John C.....	905
Middleton, Richard G.....	1412
Miles, Edward H.....	595
Miles, William O.....	1537
Miller, Clarence O.....	756
Miller, James.....	1073
Miller, John W.....	821
Miller, Martin.....	1369
Miller, Nathan O.....	1287
Miller, Newton W.....	1521
Miller, Peter.....	505
Mills, Elemeul M.....	1171
Mills, Jonathan K.....	477
Mills, William H.....	1311
Milton, Julius A.....	1365
Miner, Henry H.....	759
Miner, James L.....	1136
Minghetti, Joseph.....	1347
Misch, Franz.....	820
Mitchell, Adolphus.....	589
Mitchell, James F.....	1490
Mitchell, Joseph S.....	518
Mitchell, Susman.....	1074
Moffett, Joseph L.....	506
Moffett, William H.....	480
Monroe, Ishmael.....	1067
Monroe, John B.....	1276
Montgomery, Hon. John M.....	976
Montgomery, P. J. S.....	1314
Moody, Thomas F.....	1420
Moor, Edwin L.....	363
Moore, John C.....	1611
Moore, W. A.....	868
Moore, William O.....	365
Moorehead, James A.....	837
Moorehead, Robert C.....	876
Moorehead, Samuel A.....	1571
Moorehead, William T.....	536
Mordecai, George W.....	1282
Morley, Albert W.....	858
Morris, David W.....	519
Morris, Edwin E.....	586
Morris, Marcus L.....	1610
Morton, James H.....	1377
Mosher, Charles H.....	999
Mosier, James C.....	899
Moutrey, Asa E.....	505
Mugridge, J. M.....	1258
Mull, Thomas J.....	754
Muller, Gen. M. W.....	353
Mullinix, John R.....	1395
Muncy, Walter L.....	902
Munson, Orpealver P.....	315
Munson, William M.....	580
Murphy, George C.....	1222
Murphy, James.....	1283
Murray, Abram H., Sr.....	838
Murray, Abram H., Jr.....	839
Murry, George G.....	1107
Murry, John P.....	679
Musgrave, Robert W., M. D.....	1603
Musick, Charles W.....	1341
Musick, Jasper N.....	1379
Myer, Jacob.....	1159
Myers, Conrad.....	401

## N

Nehls, John.....	1029
Neighbor, Gilbert B.....	715

Nelson, A. L.....	1313
Nelson, Charles C.....	695
Nelson, Christian A.....	1517
Nelson, Frederick.....	501
Nelson, Joseph Y.....	1200
Nelson, Rev. Nicholas G.....	1491
Nelson, Oscar.....	1526
Nelson, Victor R.....	900
Netherton, Walter E.....	1000
Neu, John A.....	1354
Neumann, Paul.....	1221
Nevin, Rev. W. A.....	949
Newbury, Denwood N. L.....	337
Newell, Thomas F.....	1554
Newhall, Mrs. Mary E.....	1239
Newman, Harry H.....	1030
Newman, Henry.....	455
Newman, Jesse H.....	1218
Newman, Jesse G.....	1042
Newman, Robert O.....	1042
Newport, Court L.....	441
Newport, John B.....	1545
Newport, William J.....	251
Nichols, William B.....	1012
Niederaur, Jacob.....	433
Nightingale, Miles J.....	907
Noble, Joseph H.....	485
Nordgren, Gillo E.....	1504
Noriega, Faustino M.....	1571

## O

Oakes, James W.....	1119
Obert, John H.....	675
O'Brien, Edward S., M. D.....	956
O'Connor, John B.....	862
Ogden, Prof. Elmer E.....	546
Ogle, John H.....	608
Oldershaw, Clement D.....	929
Olsen, Benedict.....	539
Olsen, Ole J.....	1295
Orogren, B.....	1424
Orton, Julius.....	1423
Oshorn, John B.....	1044
Osburn, Ashbel P.....	1235
Osburn, R. M.....	797
Ostrander, Judge Fred G.....	321
Ostrander, Harvey J.....	528
Otis, George B.....	1197
Ott, Chris.....	628
Otto, Andreas.....	1570
Outhet, John.....	436
Owen, John H.....	661
Owen, Richard H.....	992

## P

Packard, Adoniam J.....	1097
Paden, Robert J.....	1278
Page, Charles.....	1300
Paine, James C.....	1123
Palladine, Antone C.....	1347
Pardee, William H., M. D.....	541
Parker, Basil G.....	840
Parlier, Isaac N.....	1203
Parnell, Jasper.....	1558
Patten, Elliott.....	1143
Patterson, Harris W.....	656
Patterson, James N.....	555
Patterson, Thomas W.....	207
Payne, L. Roy.....	1209
Payson, Capt. William H.....	1561
Pearsall, Joseph L.....	556





## INDEX.

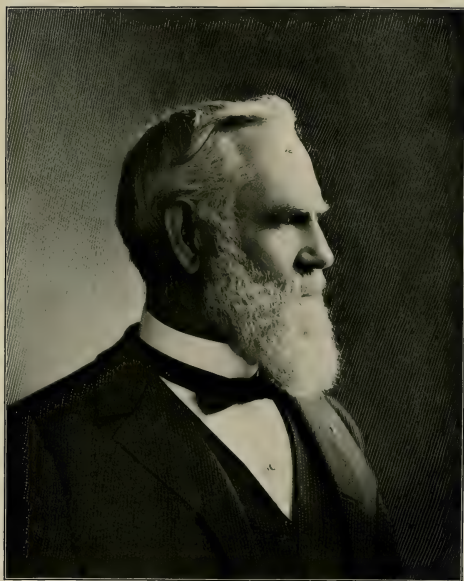
VII

Arnold, Robert H.	1325	Toomey, William F.	970	Wegner, Louis	1344
Stanford, George F.	1337	Toothacre, D. M.	254	Wehrmann, Arthur	1598
Stanley, Frank S.	1258	Toscano, J. V.	1401	Weill, Alphonse	1056
Starkweather, Clarence A.	395	Tout, Elias	768	Weisenberger, Joseph	867
Statham, Jefferson D.	1338	Traber, Charles W.	1137	Welch, Charles M.	508
Stearns, James B.	252	Traber, Hon. J. Orra	333	Weldon, Abraham J.	1462
Steinwand, Oscar W., M. D.	1511	Traber, Roy C.	1031	Wells, Andrew J.	375
Stelling, William C.	1073	Tracy, F. A.	1228	Wells, Hiram J.	368
Stevens, Ezra M.	789	Tremper, C. W.	1595	Wells, Morgan J.	1210
Stevens, Richard H.	287	Tucker, Capt. Egbert H.	761	Werner, Louis P.	900
Stevenson, Sebert	863	Tulloch, Charles T.	1606	Westman, N. J.	964
Stiles, Frank H.	913	Tully, Stephen E.	454	Weyant, Woolsey	1361
Stillwell, Thomas	1337	Turner, Mrs. Elizabeth	1476	Whaley, Henry	750
Stimpson, G. W.	1039	Turner, John R.	1475	Whealan, William	499
Stobie, William	1148	Turner, Levi N.	486	Wheeler, Alexander W.	948
Stockton, Robert L.	376	Tyler, Stephen A.	784	White, Capt. Harrison	418
Stockton, William J.	536			White, Huffman M.	319
Stokes, John W.	1093			White, S. J.	587
Stone, Fred J.	1414	U		White, William T.	436
Stone, James S.	1525	Unger, Mrs. Dora	1551	Whittington, William, M. D.	826
Stonesifer, Alfred G.	1497	Unger, William	1161	Whitworth, George H.	343
Street, Joseph J.	1593	Uridge, William G.	358	Whitworth, John W.	492
Stuhr, Jasper N.	1564			Wigley, George W.	634
Sturm, Fred	993	V		Wigley, Richard J.	1505
Sturm, John	1026	Van Benschoten, John W.	929	Wilcox, Origen A.	914
Sturm, John, Jr.	998	Van Cleve, John A.	1212	Williams, Franklin	920
Sullivan, Jeremiah	1124	Vanderburgh, John J.	1532	Williams, Frederick J.	974
Sullivan, Joseph	1499	Van Emon, John M.	702	Williams, James F.	734
Summers, John W.	1487	Van Emon, William E.	821	Williams, J. Howard	1374
Svensen, Ole	1260	Van Valer, Edwin L.	1495	Williams, John Z.	523
Swall, William	1473	Van Wickle, Benjamin W.	392	Williams, Dr. N. W.	1173
Swan, John S.	649	Vanwinckle, Abram	1441	Williams, Samuel A.	1600
Swanson, Miss Amanda O.	572	Vanwormer, Godfrey N.	1453	Williams, Hon. William L.	803
Swanson, Burton	701	Vaughan, James U.	148	Williamson, Charles	81
Sweeney, James J.	460	Vaughn, John W.	1041	Wilmsn, John M.	1629
Sweet, A. D.	1608	Vaughn, Lemuel W.	1154	Wilson, Alexander L., M. D.	857
Sweet, Solomon	856	Victor, Frank	1335	Wilson, Edward G.	802
Switzer, Upton D.	901	Vincent, Edward E.	458	Wilson, Oli S.	583
		Vincent, Marion M.	1290	Wilson, William C.	533
T		Vincent, Samuel J.	1199	Wiseman, Addison L.	1617
Talbot, Courtney	1203	Vogel, Jacob	1588	Wishon, A. G.	1454
Tannahill, James S.	1336	Volquards, Ernest	527	Witt, Henry C.	1400
Tarkington, Matthew S.	728	Vossler, Joseph	1112	Witten, Philip W.	1266
Taylor, Jesse S.	1448			Wolfe, Emil	1486
Teague, Benjamin F.	1014	W		Wood, Chester W.	1527
Teilman, Ingvart	1573	Wade, Charles F., M. D.	420	Wood, George D.	1305
Telfer, Charles A.	284	Waggoner, Joseph	1456	Wood, Levi	200
Thom, Robert C.	1463	Wagner, James D., M. D.	785	Wood, Mirabeau D.	473
Thoming, George	1620	Walker, Benjamin F., M. D.	1430	Wood, Uriah	941
Thompson, Andrew F.	987	Walker, Hon. J. N.	1633	Woodard, Homer D.	1004
Thompson, John	1358	Wallis, Daniel W.	457	Woody, Allen J.	937
Thompson, John E.	1233	Wallis, Robert H.	496	Wright, Harland E.	1006
Thompson, J. Goodwin, M. D.	250	Walthall, John M.	310	Wright, Isaac	779
Thompson, Joseph C.	1417	Warner, H. C.	1357	Wright, Isaac N.	689
Thompson, Mortimer G.	828	Warren, Julius F.	1459	Wright, William W.	1191
Thompson, Capt. Thomas H.	845	Warren, James W.	1543	Wyllie, George W.	1371
Thornton, Harry W. R.	1296	Wasgatt, Archie B.	716	Y	
Thornton, William	1048	Wash, Isaac H.	1306	Yeargin, A. T.	1621
Thurman, William E.	288	Wat, Alexander	1389	Yoakum, George W.	612
Thurman, William H.	288	Waugh, J. D.	879	Yost, Thomas	1443
Tighe, William C.	523	Waugh, William B.	1025	Yost, William A.	1038
Tilton, Joseph E.	572	Wear, George W.	1542	Youd, William	513
Timmins, L. P.	1634	Weaver, Henry E.	858	Z	
Tinnin, A. C.	402	Weaver, William L.	844	Zumwalt, Daniel K.	631
Tinnin, Hon. Wiley J.	1534	Webster, G. W.	1591		
Tinnin, William H.	408	Wegman, George J.	1105		
Toomey, David J.	943				









*J. M. Guinn*

# CALIFORNIA.

---

## CHAPTER I.

### SPANISH EXPLORATIONS AND DISCOVERIES.

FOR centuries there had been a vague tradition of a land lying somewhere in the seemingly limitless expanse of ocean stretching westward from the shores of Europe. The poetical fancy of the Greeks had located in it the Garden of Hesperides, where grew the Golden Apples. The myths and superstitions of the middle ages had peopled it with gorgons and demons and made it the abode of lost souls.

When Columbus proved the existence of a new world beyond the Atlantic, his discovery did not altogether dispel the mysteries and superstitions that for ages had enshrouded the fabled Atlantis, the lost continent of the Hesperides. Romance and credulity had much to do with hastening the exploration of the newly discovered western world. Its interior might hold wonderful possibilities for wealth, fame and conquest to the adventurers who should penetrate its dark unknown. The dimly told traditions of the natives were translated to fit the cupidity or the credulity of adventurers, and sometimes served to promote enterprises that produced results far different from those originally intended.

The fabled fountain of youth lured Ponce de Leon over many a league in the wilds of Florida; and although he found no spring spouting forth the elixir of life, he explored a rich and fertile country, in which the Spaniards planted the first settlement ever made within the territory now held by the United States. The legend of El Dorado, the gilded man of the golden lake, stimulated adventurers to brave the horrors of the miasmatic forests of the Amazon and the Orinoco; and the search for that gold-

covered hombre hastened, perhaps, by a hundred years, the exploration of the tropical regions of South America. Although the myth of Quivira that sent Coronado wandering over desert, mountain and plain, far into the interior of North America, and his quest for the seven cities of Cibola, that a romancing monk, Marcos de Niza, "led by the Holy Ghost," imagined he saw in the wilds of Pimeria, brought neither wealth nor pride of conquest to that adventurous explorer, yet these myths were the indirect cause of giving to the world an early knowledge of the vast regions to the north of Mexico.

When Cortés' lieutenant, Gonzalo de Sandoval, gave his superior officer an account of a wonderful island ten days westward from the Pacific coast of Mexico, inhabited by women only, and exceedingly rich in pearls and gold, although he no doubt derived his story from Montalvo's romance, "The Sergias of Esplandian," a popular novel of that day, yet Cortés seems to have given credence to his subordinate's tale, and kept in view the conquest of the island.

To the energy, the enterprise and the genius of Hernan Cortés is due the early exploration of the northwest coast of North America. In 1522, eighty-five years before the English planted their first colony in America, and nearly a century before the landing of the Pilgrims on Plymouth rock, Cortés had established a shipyard at Zacatula, the most northern port on the Pacific coast of the country that he had just conquered. Here he intended to build ships to explore the upper coast of the South Sea (as

the Pacific Ocean was then called), but his good fortune, that had hitherto given success to his undertakings, seemed to have deserted him, and disaster followed disaster. His warehouse, filled with material for shipbuilding, that with great labor and expense had been packed on muleback from Vera Cruz, took fire and all was destroyed. It required years to accumulate another supply. He finally, in 1527, succeeded in launching four ships. Three of these were taken possession of by the king's orders for service in the East Indies. The fourth and the smallest made a short voyage up the coast. The commander, Maldonado, returned with glowing reports of a rich country he had discovered. He imagined he had seen evidence of the existence of gold and silver, but he brought none with him.

In 1528 Cortés was unjustly deprived of the government of the country he had conquered. His successor, Nuno de Guzman, president of the royal audiencia, as the new form of government for New Spain (Mexico) was called, had pursued him for years with the malignity of a demon. Cortés returned to Spain to defend himself against the rancorous and malignant charges of his enemies. He was received at court with a show of high honors, but which in reality were hollow professions of friendship and insincere expressions of esteem. He was rewarded by the bestowal of an empty title. He was empowered to conquer and colonize countries at his own expense, for which he was to receive the twelfth part of the revenue. Cortés returned to Mexico and in 1532 he had two ships fitted out, which sailed from Acapulco, in June of that year, up the coast of Jalisco. Portions of the crews of each vessel mutinied. The mutineers were put aboard of the vessel commanded by Mazuela and the other vessels, commanded by Hurtado, continued the voyage as far as the Yaqui country. Here, having landed in search of provisions, the natives massacred the commander and all the crew. The crew of the other vessel shared the same fate lower down the coast. The stranded vessel was afterwards plundered and dismantled by Nuno de Guzman, who was about as much of a savage as the predatory and murderous natives.

In 1533 Cortés, undismayed by his disasters, fitted out two more ships for the exploration of the northern coast of Mexico. On board one of these ships, commanded by Bercerra de Mendoza, the crew, headed by the chief pilot, Jiminez, mutinied. Mendoza was killed and all who would not join the mutineers were forced to go ashore on the coast of Jalisco. The mutineers, to escape punishment by the authorities, under the command of the pilot, Fortuno Jiminez, sailed westerly away from the coast of the main land. After several days' sailing out of sight of land, they discovered what they supposed to be an island. They landed at a place now known as La Paz, Lower California. Here Jiminez and twenty of his confederates were killed by the Indians, or their fellow mutineers, it is uncertain which. The survivors of the ill-fated expedition managed to navigate the vessel back to Jalisco, where they reported the discovery of an island rich in gold and pearls. This fabrication doubtlessly saved their necks. There is no record of their punishment for mutiny. Cortés' other ship accomplished even less than the one captured by the mutineers. Grixalvo, the commander of this vessel, discovered a desolate island, forty leagues south of Cape San Lucas, which he named Santo Tomas. But the discovery that should immortalize Grixalvo, and place him in the category with the romanzon Monk, de Niza and Sandoval of the Amazonian isle, was the seeing of a merman. It swam about about the ship for a long time, playing antics like a monkey for the amusement of the sailors, washing its face with its hands, combing its hair with its fingers; at last, frightened by a sea bird, it disappeared.

Cortés, having heard of Jiminez's discovery, and possibly believing it to be Sandoval's isle of the Amazons, rich with gold and pearls, set about building more ships for exploration and for the colonization of the island. He ordered the building of three ships at Tehautepec. The royal audiencia having failed to give him any redress or protection against his enemy, Nuno de Guzman, he determined to punish him himself. Collecting a considerable force of cavaliers and soldiers, he marched to Chiametla. There he found his vessel, La Concepcion, lying

on her beam ends, a wreck, and plundered of everything of value. He failed to find Guzman, that worthy having taken a hasty departure before his arrival. His ships having come up from Tehautepec, he embarked as many soldiers and settlers as his vessels would carry, and sailed away for Jimenez's island. May 3, 1535, he landed at the port where Jimenez and his fellow mutineers were killed, which he named Santa Cruz. The colonists were landed on the supposed island and the ships were sent back to Chiametla for the remainder of the settlers. His usual ill luck followed him. The vessels became separated on the gulf in a storm and the smaller of the three returned to Santa Cruz. Embarking in it, Cortés set sail to find his missing ships. He found them at the port of Guaya-bal, one loaded with provisions, the other dismantled and run ashore. Its sailors had deserted and those of the other ship were about to follow. Cortés stopped this, took command of the vessels and had them repaired. When the repairs were completed he set sail for his colony. But misfortune followed him. His chief pilot was killed by the falling of a spar when scarce out of sight of land. Cortés took command of the vessels himself. Then the ships encountered a terrific storm that threatened their destruction. Finally they reached their destination, Santa Cruz. There again misfortune awaited him. The colonists could obtain no sustenance from the barren soil of the desolate island. Their provisions exhausted, some of them died of starvation and the others killed themselves by over-eating when relief came.

Cortés, finding the interior of the supposed island as desolate and forbidding as the coast, and the native inhabitants degraded and brutal savages, without houses or clothing, living on vermin, insects and the scant products of the sterile land, determined to abandon his colonization scheme. Gathering together the wretched survivors of his colony, he embarked them on his ships and in the early part of 1537 landed them in the port of Acapulco.

At some time between 1535 and 1537 the name California was applied to the supposed island, but whether applied by Cortés to encourage his disappointed colonists, or whether

given by them in derision, is an unsettled question. The name itself is derived from a Spanish romance, the "Sergas de Esplandian," written by Ordenez de Montalvo and published in Seville, Spain, about the year 1510. The passage in which the name California occurs is as follows: "Know that on the right hand of the Indies there is an island called California, very near the terrestrial paradise, which was peopled with black women, without any men among them, because they were accustomed to live after the fashion of Amazons. They were of strong and hardened bodies, of ardent courage and great force. The island was the strongest in the world from its steep rocks and great cliffs. Their arms were all of gold and so were the caparison of the wild beasts which they rode, after having trained them, for in all the island there is no other metal." The "steep rocks and great cliffs" of Jimenez's island may have suggested to Cortés or to his colonists some fancied resemblance to the California of Montalvo's romance, but there was no other similarity.

For years Cortés had been fitting out expeditions by land and sea to explore the unknown regions northward of that portion of Mexico which he had conquered, but disaster after disaster had wrecked his hopes and impoverished his purse. The last expedition sent out by him was one commanded by Francisco Ulloa, who, in 1539, with two ships, sailed up the Gulf of California, or Sea of Cortés, on the Sonora side, to its head. Thence he proceeded down the inner coast of Lower California to the cape at its southern extremity, which he doubled, and then sailed up the outer coast to Cabo del Engano, the "Cape of Deceit." Failing to make any progress against the head winds, April 5, 1540, the two ships parted company in a storm. The smaller one, the Santa Agueda, returned safely to Santiago. The larger, La Trinidad, after vainly endeavoring to continue the voyage, turned back. The fate of Ulloa and of the vessel too, is uncertain. One authority says he was assassinated after reaching the coast of Jalisco by one of his soldiers, who, for some trivial cause, stabbed him to death; another account says that nothing is known of his fate, nor is it certainly known

whether his vessel ever returned. The only thing accomplished by this voyage was to demonstrate that Lower California was a peninsula. Even this fact, although proved by Ulloa's voyage, was not fully admitted by geographers until two centuries later.

In 1540 Cortes returned to Spain to obtain, if possible, some recognition and recompense from the king for his valuable services. His declining years had been filled with bitter disappointments. Shipwreck and mutiny at sea; disaster and defeat to his forces on land; the treachery of his subordinates and the jealousy of royal officials continually thwarted his plans and wasted his substance. After expending nearly a million dollars in explorations, conquests and attempts at colonization, fretted and worried by the indifference and the ingratitude of a monarch for whom he had sacrificed so much, disappointed, disheartened, impoverished, he died at an obscure hamlet near Seville, Spain, in December, 1547.

The next exploration that had something to do with the discovery of California was that of Hernando de Alarcon. With two ships he sailed from Acapulco, May 9, 1540, up the Gulf of California. His object was to co-operate with the expedition of Coronado. Coronado, with an army of four hundred men, had marched from Culiacan, April 22, 1540, to conquer the seven cities of Cibola. In the early part of 1537 Alvaro Nunez Cabaza de Vaca and three companions (the only survivors of six hundred men that Panfilo de Narvaes, ten years before, had landed in Florida for the conquest of that province) after almost incredible sufferings and hardships arrived in Culiacan on the Pacific coast. On their long journey passing from one Indian tribe to another they had seen many wondrous things and had heard of many more. Among others they had been told of seven great cities in a country called Cibola that were rich in gold and silver and precious stones.

A Franciscan friar, Marcos de Niza, having heard their wonderful stories determined to find the seven cities. Securing the service of Estevanico, a negro slave, who was one of Cabeza de Vaca's party, he set out in quest of the cities. With a number of Indian porters and

Estevanico as a guide, he traveled northward a hundred leagues when he came to a desert that took four days to cross. Beyond this he found natives who told him of people four days further away who had gold in abundance. He sent the negro to investigate and that individual sent back word that Cibola was yet thirty days' journey to the northward. Following the trail of his guide, Niza travelled for two weeks crossing several deserts. The stories of the magnificence of the seven cities increased with every tribe of Indians through whose country he passed. At length, when almost to the promised land, a messenger brought the sad tidings that Estevanico had been put to death with all of his companions but two by the inhabitants of Cibola. To go forward meant death to the monk and all his party, but before turning back he climbed a high mountain and looked down upon the seven cities with their high houses and teeming populations thronging their streets. Then he returned to Culiacan to tell his wonderful stories. His tales fired the ambition and stimulated the avarice of a horde of adventurers. At the head of four hundred of these Coronado penetrated the wilds of Pimeria (now Arizona). He found seven Indian towns but no lofty houses, no great cities, no gold or silver. Cibola was a myth. Hearing of a country called Quivira far to the north, richer than Cibola, with part of his force he set out to find it. In his search he penetrated inland as far as the plains of Kansas, but Quivira proved to be as poor as Cibola, and Coronado returned disgusted. The Friar de Niza had evidently drawn on his imagination which seemed to be quite rich in cities.

Alarcon reached the head of the Gulf of California. Seeing what he supposed to be an inlet, but the water proving too shallow for his ships to enter it, he manned two boats and found his supposed inlet to be the mouth of a great river. He named it Buena Guia (Good Guide) now the Colorado. He sailed up it some distance and was probably the first white man to set foot upon the soil of Upper California. He heard of Coronado in the interior but was unable to establish communication with him. He descended the river in his boats, embarked on his vessels and returned to Mexico. The Viceroy



Mendoza, who had fitted out the expedition of Alarcon, was bitterly disappointed on the return of that explorer. He had hoped to find the ships loaded with the spoils of the seven cities.

The report of the discovery of a great river did not interest his sordid soul. Alarcon found himself a disgraced man. He retired to private life and not long after died a broken hearted man.

## CHAPTER II.

### ALTA OR NUEVA CALIFORNIA.

WHILE Coronado was still wandering in the interior of the continent searching for Quivira and its king, Tatarax, who wore a long beard, adored a golden cross and worshipped an image of the queen of heaven, Pedro de Alvarado, one of Cortés' former lieutenants, arrived from Guatemala, of which country he was governor, with a fleet of twelve ships. These were anchored in the harbor of Navidad. Mendoza, the viceroy, had been intriguing with Alvarado against Cortés; obtaining an interest in the fleet, he and Alvarado began preparations for an extensive scheme of exploration and conquest. Before they had perfected their plans an insurrection broke out among the Indians of Jalisco, and Pedro de Alvarado in attempting to quell it was killed. Mendoza fell heir to the fleet. The return of Coronado about this time dispelled the popular beliefs in Cibola and Quivira and put an end to further explorations of the inland regions of the northwest.

It became necessary for Mendoza to find something for his fleet to do. The *Islas de Poiniente*, or *Isles of the Setting Sun* (now the Philippines), had been discovered by Magellan. To these Mendoza dispatched five ships of the fleet under command of Lopez de Villalobos to establish trade with the natives. Two ships of the fleet, the *San Salvador* and the *Vitoria*, were placed under the command of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, reputed to be a Portuguese by birth and dispatched to explore the northwest coast of the Pacific. Cabrillo sailed from Navidad, June 27, 1542. Rounding the southern extremity of the peninsula of Lower California, he sailed up its outer coast. August 20 he reached Cabo del Engano, the most northerly point of Ulloa's exploration. On the 28th of September, 1542, he

entered a bay which he named *San Miguel* (now *San Diego*), where he found "a land locked and very good harbor." He remained in this harbor until October 3. Continuing his voyage he sailed along the coast eighteen leagues, discovering two islands about seven leagues from the main land. These he named *San Salvador* and *Vitoria* after his ships (now *Santa Catalina* and *San Clemente*). On the 8th of October he crossed the channel between the islands and main land and anchored in a bay which he named *Bahia de los Fumos y Fuegos*, the Bay of Smokes and Fires (now known as the Bay of *San Pedro*). Heavy clouds of smoke hung over the headlands of the coast; and inland, fierce fires were raging. The Indians either through accident or design had set fire to the long dry grass that covered the plains at this season of the year.

After sailing six leagues further up the coast he anchored in a large *ensenada* or bight, now the Bay of *Santa Monica*. It is uncertain whether he landed at either place. The next day he sailed eight leagues to an Indian town which he named the *Pueblo de las Canoas* (the town of Canoes). This town was located on or near the present site of *San Buenaventura*. Sailing northwestward he passed through the *Santa Barbara Channel*, discovering the islands of *Santa Cruz*, *Santa Rosa* and *San Miguel*. Continuing up the coast he passed a long narrow point of land extending into the sea, which from its resemblance to a galley boat he named *Cabo de la Galera*, the Cape of the Galley (now called *Point Concepcion*). Baffled by head winds, the explorers slowly beat their way up the coast. On the 17th of November, they cast anchor in a large bay which they named *Bahia de los Pinos*, the Bay of Pines (now the Bay of *Monterey*). Finding it impossible to land on



account of the heavy sea Cabrillo continued his voyage northward. After reaching a point on the coast in 40 degrees north latitude, according to his reckoning, the increasing cold and the storms becoming more frequent, he turned back and ran down the coast to the island of San Miguel, which he reached November 23. Here he decided to winter.

While on the island in October, he had broken his arm by a fall. Suffering from his broken arm he had continued in command. Exposure and unskilful surgery caused his death. He died January 3, 1543, and was buried on the island. His last resting place is supposed to be on the shore of Cuyler's harbor, on the island of San Miguel. No trace of his grave has ever been found. His companions named the island Juan Rodriguez, but he has been robbed of even this slight tribute to his memory. It would be a slight token of regard if the state would name the island Cabrillo. Saint Miguel has been well remembered in California and could spare an island.

Cabrillo on his death bed urged his successor in command, the pilot Bartolome Ferrollo, to continue the exploration. Ferrollo prosecuted the voyage of discovery with a courage and daring equal to that of Cabrillo. About the middle of February he left the harbor where he had spent most of the winter and after having made a short voyage in search of more islands he sailed up the coast. February 28, he discovered a cape which he named Mendocino in honor of the viceroy, a name it still bears. Passing the cape he encountered a fierce storm which drove him violently to the northeast, greatly endangering his ships. On March 1st, the fog partially lifting, he discovered a cape which he named Blanco, in the southern part of what is now the state of Oregon. The weather continuing stormy and the cold increasing as he sailed northward, Ferrollo reluctantly turned back. Running down the coast he reached the island of San Clemente. There in a storm the ships parted company and Ferrollo, after a search, gave up the Vitoria as lost. The ships, however, came together at Cerros island and from there, in sore distress for provisions, the explorers reached Navidad April 18, 1543. On the discov-

eries made by Cabrillo and Ferrollo the Spaniards claimed the territory on the Pacific coast of North America up to the forty-second degree of north latitude, a claim that they maintained for three hundred years.

The next navigator who visited California was Francis Drake, an Englishman. He was not seeking new lands, but a way to escape the vengeance of the Spaniards. Francis Drake, the "Sea King of Devon," was one of the bravest men that ever lived. Early in his maritime life he had suffered from the cruelty and injustice of the Spaniards. Throughout his subsequent career, which reads more like romance than reality, he let no opportunity slip to punish his old-time enemies. It mattered little to Drake whether his country was at peace or war with Spain; he considered a Spanish ship or a Spanish town his legitimate prey. On one of his predatory expeditions he captured a Spanish town on the isthmus of Panama named *El Nombre de Dios*, The Name of God. Its holy name did not protect it from Drake's rapacity. While on the isthmus he obtained information of the Spanish settlements of the South Pacific and from a high point of land saw the South sea, as the Pacific ocean was then called. On his return to England he announced his intention of fitting out a privatizing expedition against the Spaniards of the South Pacific. Although Spain and England were at peace, he received encouragement from the nobility, even Queen Elizabeth herself secretly contributing a thousand crown towards the venture.

Drake sailed out of Plymouth harbor, England, December 13, 1577, in command of a fleet of five small vessels, bound for the Pacific coast of South America. Some of his vessels were lost at sea and others turned back, until when he emerged from the Straits of Magellan he had but one left, the Pelican. He changed its name to the Golden Hind. It was a ship of only one hundred tons' burden. Sailing up the South Pacific coast, he spread terror and devastation among the Spanish settlements, robbing towns and capturing ships until, in the quaint language of a chronicler of the expedition, he "had loaded his vessel with a fabulous amount of fine wares of Asia, precious stones, church ornaments,

gold plate and so mooch silver as did ballas the Goulden Hinde."

From one treasure ship, the Caca Fuego, he obtained thirteen chests of silver, eighty pounds weight of gold, twenty-six tons of uncoined silver, two silver drinking vessels, precious stones and a quantity of jewels; the total value of his prize amounted to three hundred and sixty thousand pesos (dollars). Having spoiled the Spaniards of treasure amounting to "eight hundred sixty-six thousand pesos of silver \* \* \* a hundred thousand pesos of gold \* \* \* and other things of great worth, he thought it not good to return by the streight (Magellan) \* \* \* least the Spaniards should there waite and attend for him in great numbers and strength, whose hands, he being left but one ship, he could not possibly escape."

Surfeited with spoils and his ship loaded with plunder, it became necessary for him to find the shortest and safest route home. To return by the way he came was to invite certain destruction to his ship and death to all on board. At an island off the coast of Nicaragua he overhauled and refitted his ship. He determined to seek the Straits of Anian that were believed to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Striking boldly out on an unknown sea, he sailed more than a thousand leagues northward. Encountering contrary winds and the cold increasing as he advanced, he gave up his search for the mythical straits, and, turning, he ran down the northwest coast of North America to latitude 38°, where "hee found a harborrow for his ship." He anchored in it June 17, 1579. This "convenient and fit harborrow" is under the lee of Point Reyes and is now known as Sir Francis Drake's Bay.

Fletcher, the chronicler of Drake's voyage, in his narrative, "The World Encompassed," says: "The 3rd day following, viz., the 21st, our ship having received a leake at sea was brought to anchor neerer the shoare that her goods being landed she might be repaired; but for that we were to prevent any danger that might chance against our safety our Generall first of all landed his men with necessary provision to build tents and make a fort for defense of ourselves and goods; and that we might under the shel-

ter of it with more safety (whatsoever should befall) end our business."

The ship was drawn upon the beach, careened on its side, caulked and refitted. While the crew were repairing the ship the natives visited them in great numbers. From some of their actions Drake inferred that they regarded himself and his men as gods. To disabuse them of this idea, Drake ordered his chaplain, Fletcher, to perform divine service according to the English Church Ritual and preach a sermon. The Indians were greatly delighted with the psalm singing, but their opinion of Fletcher's sermon is not known.

From certain ceremonial performance Drake imagined that the Indians were offering him the sovereignty of their land and themselves as subjects of the English crown. Drake gladly accepted their proffered allegiance and formally took possession of the country in the name of the English sovereign, Queen Elizabeth. He named it New Albion, "for two causes: the one in respect of the white bankes and cliffes which ly towards the sea; and the other because it might have some affinitie with our own country in name which sometimes was so called."

Having completed the repairs to his ship, Drake made ready to depart, but before leaving "Our Generall with his company made a journey up into the land. The inland we found to be farre different from the shoare; a goodly country and fruitful soyle, stored with many blessings fit for the use of man; infinite was the company of very large and fat deere which there we saw by thousands as we supposed in a heard."\* They saw great numbers of small burrowing animals, which they called conies, but which were probably ground squirrels. Before departing, Drake set up a monument to show that he had taken possession of the country. To a large post firmly set in the ground he nailed a brass plate on which was engraved the name of the English Queen, the date of his arrival and the statement that the king and people of the country had voluntarily become vassals of the English crown; a new sixpence was fastened to the plate to show the Queen's likeness.

---

\*World Encompassed.

After a stay of thirty-six days, Drake took his departure, much to the regret of the Indians. He stopped at the Farallones islands for a short time to lay in a supply of seal meat; then he sailed for England by the way of the Cape of Good Hope. After encountering many perils, he arrived safely at Plymouth, the port from which he sailed nearly three years before, having "encompassed" or circumnavigated the globe. His exploits and the booty he brought back made him the most famous naval hero of his time. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth and accorded extraordinary honors by the nation. He believed himself to be the first discoverer of the country he called New Albion. "The Spaniards never had any dealings or so much as set foot in this country; the utmost of their discoveries reaching only to many degrees southward of this place."\* The English founded no claim on Drake's discoveries. The land hunger that characterizes that nation now had not then been developed.

Fifty years passed after Cabrillo's visit to California before another attempt was made by the Spaniards to explore her coast. Through all these years on their return voyage far out beyond the islands the Manila galleons, freighted with the wealth of "Ormuz and Ind," sailed down the coast of Las Californias from Cape Mendocino to Acapulco. Often storm-tossed and always scourged with that dread malady of the sea, the scurvy, there was no harbor of refuge for them to put into because his most Catholic Majesty, the King of Spain, had no money to spend in exploring an unknown coast where there was no return to be expected except perhaps the saving of a few sailors' lives.

In 1593, the question of a survey of the California coast for harbors to accommodate the increasing Philippine trade was agitated and Don Luis de Velasco, viceroy of New Spain, in a letter dated at Mexico, April 8, 1593, thus writes to his majesty: "In order to make the exploration or demarcation of the harbors of this main as far as the Philippine islands, as your majesty orders, money is lacking, and if it be not taken from the royal strong box it cannot be supplied,

as for some time past a great deal of money has been owing to the royal treasury on account of fines forfeited to it, legal cost and the like." Don Luis fortunately discovers a way to save the contents of the royal strong box and hastens to acquaint his majesty with his plan. In a letter written to the king from the City of Mexico, April 6, 1594, he says: "I ordered the navigator who at present sails in the flag ship, who is named Sebastian Rodriguez Cermeño, and who is a man of experience in his calling, one who can be depended upon and who has means of his own, although he is a Portuguese, there being no Spaniards of his profession whose services are available, that he should make the exploration and demarcation, and I offered, if he would do this, to give him his remuneration in the way of taking on board merchandise; and I wrote to the governor (of the Philippines) that he should allow him to put on board the ship some tons of cloth that he might have the benefit of the freight-money." The result of Don Luis's economy and the outcome of attempting to explore an unknown coast in a heavily laden merchant ship are given in a paragraph taken from a letter written by a royal officer from Acapulco, February 1, 1596, to the viceroy Conde de Monterey, the successor of Velasco: "On Wednesday, the 31st of January of this year, there entered this harbor a vessel of the kind called in the Philippines a viroco, having on board Juan de Morgana, navigating officer, four Spanish sailors, five Indians and a negro, who brought tidings that the ship San Agustin, of the exploring expedition, had been lost on a coast where she struck and went to pieces, and that a barefooted friar and another person of those on board had been drowned and that the seventy men or more who embarked in this small vessel only these came in her, because the captain of said ship, Sebastian Rodriguez Cermeño, and the others went ashore at the port of Navidad, and, as they understand, have already arrived in that city (Mexico). An account of the voyage and of the loss of the ship, together with the statement made under oath by said navigating officer, Juan de Morgana, accompany this. We visited officially the vessel, finding no kind of merchandise on board,

\*The World Encompassed.

and that the men were almost naked. The vessel being so small it seems miraculous that she should have reached this country with so many people on board." A viroco was a small vessel without a deck, having one or two square sails, and propelled by sweeps. Its hull was formed from a single tree, hollowed out and having the sides built up with planks. The San Agustin was wrecked in what is now called Francis Drake's Bay, about thirty miles north of San Francisco. To make a voyage from there to Acapulco in such a vessel, with seventy men on board, and live to tell the tale, was an exploit that exceeded the most hazardous undertakings of the Argonauts of '49.

The viceroy, Conde de Monte Rey, in a letter dated at Mexico, April 19, 1596, gives the king tidings of the loss of the San Agustin. He writes: "Touching the loss of the ship, San Agustin, which was on its way from the islands of the west (the Philippines) for the purpose of making the exploration of the coast of the South Sea, in accordance with your Majesty's orders to Viceroy, Don Luis de Velasco, I wrote to Your Majesty by the second packet (mailship) what I send as duplicate with this." He then goes on to tell how he had examined the officers in regard to the loss of the vessel and that they tried to inculpate one another. The navigating officer even in the viroco tried to explore the principal bays which they crossed, but on account of the hunger and illness they experienced he was compelled to hasten the voyage. The viceroy concludes: "Thus I take it, as to this exploration the intention of Your Majesty has not been carried into effect. It is the general opinion that this enterprise should not be attempted on the return voyage from the islands and with a laden ship, but from this coast and by constantly following along it." The above account of the loss of the San Agustin is taken from Volume II, Publications of the Historical Society of Southern California, and is the only correct account published. In September, 1595, just before the viceroy, Don Luis de Velasco, was superseded by Conde de Monte Rey, he entered into a contract with certain parties of whom Sebastian Viscaino, a ship captain, was the principal, to make an expedition up the Gulf

of California "for the purpose of fishing for pearls."—There was also a provision in the contract empowering Viscaino to make explorations and take possession of his discoveries for the crown of Spain. The Conde de Monte Rey seems, from a letter written to the King, to have seriously doubted whether Viscaino was the right man for so important an expedition, but finally allowed him to depart. In September, 1596, Viscaino sailed up the gulf with a fleet of three vessels, the flag ship San Francisco, the San José and á Lancha. The flag ship was disabled and leit at La Paz. With the other two vessels he sailed up the gulf to latitude 29°. He encountered severe storms. At some island he had trouble with the Indians and killed several. As the long boat was departing an Indian wounded one of the rowers with an arrow. The sailor dropped his oar, the boat careened and upset, drowning twenty of the twenty-six soldiers and sailors in it.

Viscaino returned without having procured any pearls or made any important discoveries. He proposed to continue his explorations of the Californias, but on account of his misfortunes his request was held in abeyance. He wrote a letter to the king in 1597, setting forth what supplies he required for the voyage. His inventory of the items needed is interesting, but altogether too long for insertion here. Among the items were "\$35,000 in money"; "eighty arrobas of powder"; "twenty quintals of lead"; "four pipes of wine for mass and sick friars"; "vestments for the clergy and \$2,000 to be invested in trifles for the Indians for the purpose of attracting them peaceably to receive the holy gospel." Viscaino's request was not granted at that time. The viceroy and the royal audiencia at one time ordered his commission revoked. Philip II died in 1598 and was succeeded by Philip III. After five years' waiting, Viscaino was allowed to proceed with his explorations. From Acapulco on the 5th of May, 1602, he writes to the king that he is ready to sail with his ships "for the discovery of harbors and bays of the coast of the South Sea as far as Cape Mendocino." "I report," he says, "merely that the said Viceroy (Conde de Monterey) has entrusted to me the accomplishment of the same

in two ships, a lancha and a barcoluengo, manned with sailors and soldiers and provisioned for eleven months. To-day being Sunday, the 5th of May, I sail at five o'clock in the names of God and his blessed mother and your majesty."

Viscaino followed the same course marked out by Cabrillo sixty years before. November 10, 1602, he anchored in Cabrillo's Bay of San Miguel. Whether the faulty reckoning of Cabrillo left him in doubt of the points named by the first discoverer, or whether it was that he might receive the credit of their discovery, Viscaino changed the names given by Cabrillo to the islands, bays and headlands along the California coast. Cabrillo's Bahia San Miguel became the Bay of San Diego; San Salvador and Vitoria were changed to Santa Catalina and San Clemente, and Cabrillo's Bahia de los Fumos y Fuegos appears on Viscaino's map as the Ensenada de San Andres, but in a description of the voyage compiled by the cosmographer, Cabrero Bueno, it is named San Pedro. It is not named for the Apostle St. Peter, but for St. Peter, Bishop of Alexandria, whose day in the Catholic calendar is November 26, the day of the month Viscaino anchored in the Bay of San Pedro.

Sailing up the coast, Viscaino passed through the Santa Barbara channel, which was so named by Antonio de la Ascencion, a Carmelite friar, who was chaplain of one of the ships. The expedition entered the channel December 4, which is the day in the Catholic calendar dedicated to Santa Barbara. He visited the mainland near Point Concepcion where the Indian chief of a populous rancheria offered each Spaniard who would become a resident of his town ten wives. This generous offer was rejected. December 15, 1602, he reached Point Pinos, so named by Cabrillo, and cast anchor in the bay formed by its projection. This bay he named Monterey, in honor of the viceroy, Conde de Monte Rey. Many of his men were sick with the scurvy and his provisions were becoming exhausted; so, placing the sick and disabled on the San Tomas, he sent them back to Acapulco; but few of them ever reached their destination. On the 3d of January, 1603, with two ships, he proceeded on

his search for Cape Mendocino, the northern limit of his survey. The Manila galleons on their return voyage from the Philippines sailed up the Asiatic coast to the latitude of Japan, when, taking advantage of the westerly winds and the Japan current, they crossed the Pacific, striking the North American coast in about the latitude of Cape Mendocino, and from there they ran down the coast of Las Californias and across the gulf to Acapulco. After leaving Point Reyes a storm separated his ships and drove him as far north as Cape Blanco. The smaller vessel, commanded by Martin de Aguilar, was driven north by the storm to latitude 43°, where he discovered what seemed to be the mouth of a great river; attempting to enter it, he was driven back by the swift current. Aguilar, believing he had discovered the western entrance of the Straits of Anian, sailed for New Spain to report his discovery. He, his chief pilot and most of his crew died of scurvy before the vessel reached Navidad. Viscaino, after sighting Cape Blanco, turned and sailed down the coast of California, reaching Acapulco March 21, 1603.

Viscaino, in a letter to the King of Spain, dated at the City of Mexico, May 23, 1603, grows enthusiastic over California climate and productions. It is the earliest known specimen of California boom literature. After depicting the commodiousness of Monterey Bay as a port of safety for the Philippine ships, he says: "This port is sheltered from all winds, while on the immediate shores there are pines, from which masts of any desired size can be obtained, as well as live oaks and white oaks, rosemary, the vine, the rose of Alexandria, a great variety of game, such as rabbits, hare, partridges and other sorts and species found in Spain. This land has a genial climate, its waters are good and it is fertile, judging from the varied and luxuriant growth of trees and plants; and it is thickly settled with people whom I found to be of gentle disposition, peaceable and docile. \* \* \* Their food consists of seeds which they have in great abundance and variety, and of the flesh of game such as deer, which are larger than cows, and bear, and of neat cattle and bisons and many other animals. The Indians are of good stature and



fair complexion, the women being somewhat less in size than the men, and of pleasing countenance. The clothing of the people of the coast lands consists of the skins of the sea wolves (otter) abounding there, which they tan and dress better than is done in Castile; they possess also in great quantity flax like that of Castile, hemp and cotton, from which they make fishing lines and nets for rabbits and hares. They have vessels of pine wood, very well made, in which they go to sea with fourteen paddlemen of a side, with great dexterity in very stormy weather. \* \* \* They are well acquainted with gold and silver and said that these were found in the interior."

The object of Viscaino's boom literature of three hundred years ago was the promotion of a colony scheme for the founding of a settlement on Monterey Bay. He visited Spain to obtain the consent of the king and assistance in planting a colony. After many delays, Philip III, in 1606, ordered the viceroy of New Spain to fit out immediately an expedition to be commanded by Viscaino for the occupation and settlement of the port of Monterey. Before the expedition could be gotten ready Viscaino died and his colonization scheme died with him. Had he lived to carry out his scheme, the settlement of California would have antedated that of Jamestown, Va., by one year.

## CHAPTER III.

### COLONIZATION OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

**A** HUNDRED and sixty years passed after the abandonment of Viscaino's colonization scheme before the Spanish crown made another attempt to utilize its vast possessions in Alta California. The Manila galleons sailed down the coast year after year for more than a century and a half, yet in all this long space of time none of them so far as we know ever entered a harbor or bay on the upper California coast. Spain still held her vast colonial possessions in America, but with a loosening grasp. As the years went by she had fallen from her high estate. Her power on sea and land had weakened. Those brave old sea kings, Drake, Hawkins and Frobisher, had destroyed her invincible Armada and burned her ships in her very harbors. The English and Dutch privateers had preyed upon her commerce on the high seas and the buccaneers had robbed her treasure ships and devastated her settlements on the islands and the Spanish main, while the freebooters of many nations had time and again captured her galleons and ravished her colonies on the Pacific coast. The energy and enterprise that had been a marked characteristic of her people in the days of Cortés and Pizarro were ebbing away. The cruelty and religious intol-

erance of her kings, her nobles and her clergy, had sapped the bravery of her people. The fear of her Holy Inquisition palsied effort and substituted in her people cringing for courage. For three centuries the rack and the thumb-screw of her Holy Office had never been allowed to rust from disuse nor its fires to burn out for want of victims. In trying to kill heresy her rulers were slowly but surely killing Spain. Proscriptive laws and the fear of the inquisition had driven into exile the most enterprising and the most intelligent classes of her people. Spain was decaying with the dry rot of bigotry. Other nations stood ready to take advantage of her decadence. Her old-time enemy, England, which had gained in power as Spain had lost, was ever on the alert to take advantage of her weakness; and another power, Russia, almost unknown among the powers of Europe when Spain was in her prime, was threatening her possessions in Alta California. To hold this vast country it must be colonized, but her restrictions on commerce and her proscriptive laws against foreign immigrants had shut the door to her colonial possessions against colonists from all other nations. Her sparse settlements in Mexico could spare no colonists. The indigenous inhabitants

of California must be converted to Christianity and made into citizens. Poor material indeed were these degraded savages, but Spain's needs were pressing and missionary zeal was powerful. Indeed, the pristine courage and daring of the Spanish soldier seemed to have passed to her missionary priest.

The Jesuits had begun missionary work in 1697 among the degraded inhabitants of Lower California. With a perseverance that was highly commendable and a bravery that was heroic, under their devoted leaders, Salvatierra, Kino, Ugarte, Piccolo and their successors, they founded sixteen missions on the peninsula. Father Kino (or Kuhn), a German Jesuit, besides his missionary work, between 1694 and 1702, had made explorations around the head of the Gulf of California and up the Rio Colorado to the mouth of the Gila, which had clearly demonstrated that Lower California was a peninsula and not an island. Although Ulloa had sailed down the inner coast and up the outer coast of Lower California and Domingo del Castillo, a Spanish pilot, had made a correct map showing it to be a peninsula, so strong was the belief in the existence of the Straits of Anian that one hundred and sixty years after Ulloa's voyage Las Californias were still believed to be islands and were sometimes called *Islas Carolinas*, or the Islands of Charles, named so for Charles II. of Spain. Father Kino had formed the design of establishing a chain of missions from Sonora around the head of the gulf and down the inner coast of Lower California to Cape San Lucas. He did not live to complete his ambitious project. The Jesuit missions of Baja California never grew rich in flocks and herds. The country was sterile and the few small valleys of fertile land around the missions gave the padres and the neophytes at best but a frugal return for their labors.

For years there had been, in the Catholic countries of Europe, a growing fear and distrust of the Jesuits. Portugal had declared them traitors to the government and had banished them in 1759 from her dominions. France had suppressed the order in her domains in 1764. In 1767, King Carlos III., by a pragmatic sanction or decree, ordered their expulsion from

Spain and all her American colonies. So great and powerful was the influence of the order that the decree for their expulsion was kept secret until the moment of its execution. Throughout all parts of the kingdom, at a certain hour of the night, a summons came to every college, monastery or other establishment where members of the order dwelt, to assemble by command of the king in the chapel or refectory immediately. The decree of perpetual banishment was then read to them. They were hastily bundled into vehicles that were awaiting them outside and hurried to the nearest seaport, where they were shipped to Rome. During their journey to the sea-coast they were not allowed to communicate with their friends nor permitted to speak to persons they met on the way. By order of the king, any subject who should undertake to vindicate the Jesuits in writing should be deemed guilty of treason and condemned to death.

The Lower California missions were too distant and too isolated to enforce the king's decree with the same haste and secrecy that was observed in Spain and Mexico. To Governor Gaspar de Portolá was entrusted the enforcement of their banishment. These missions were transferred to the Franciscans, but it took time to make the substitution. He proceeded with great caution and care lest the Indians should become rebellious and demoralized. It was not until February, 1768, that all the Jesuit missionaries were assembled at La Paz: from there they were sent to Mexico and on the 13th of April, at Vera Cruz, they bade farewell to the western continent.

At the head of the Franciscan contingent that came to Bahia, Cal., to take charge of the abandoned missions, was Father Junipero Serra, a man of indomitable will and great missionary zeal. Miguel José Serra was born on the island of Majorica in the year 1713. After completing his studies in the Lullian University, at the age of eighteen he became a monk and was admitted into the order of Franciscans. On taking orders he assumed the name of Junipero (Juniper). Among the disciples of St. Francis was a very zealous and devoted monk who bore the name of Junipero, of whom St. Francis once said,

"Would to God, my brothers, that I had a whole forest of such Junipers." Serra's favorite study was the "Lives of the Saints," and no doubt the study of the life of the original Junipero influenced him to take that saint's name. Serra's ambition was to become a missionary, but it was not until he was nearly forty years of age that his desire was gratified. In 1749 he came to Mexico and January 1, 1750, entered the College of San Fernando. A few months later he was given charge of an Indian mission in the Sierra Gorda mountains, where, with his assistant and lifelong friend, Father Palou, he remained nine years. Under his instructions the Indians were taught agriculture and the mission became a model establishment of its kind. From this mountain mission Serra returned to the city of Mexico. He spent seven years in doing missionary work among the Spanish population of the capital and surrounding country. His success as a preacher and his great missionary zeal led to his selection as president of the missions of California, from which the Jesuits had been removed. April 2, 1768, he arrived in the port of Loreto with fifteen associates from the College of San Fernando. These were sent to the different missions of the peninsula. These missions extended over a territory seven hundred miles in length and it required several months to locate all the missionaries. The scheme for the occupation and colonization of Alta California was to be jointly the work of church and state. The representative of the state was José de Galvez, *visitador-general* of New Spain, a man of untiring energy, great executive ability, sound business sense and, as such men are and ought to be, somewhat arbitrary. Galvez reached La Paz in July, 1768. He immediately set about investigating the condition of the peninsula missions and supplying their needs. This done, he turned his attention to the northern colonization. He established his headquarters at Santa Ana near La Paz. Here he summoned Father Junipero for consultation in regard to the founding of missions in Alta California. It was decided to proceed to the initial points San Diego and Monterey by land and sea. Three ships were to be dispatched carrying the heavier articles, such as agricultural imple-

ments, church ornaments, and a supply of provisions for the support of the soldiers and priest after their arrival in California. The expedition by land was to take along cattle and horses to stock the country. This expedition was divided into two detachments, the advance one under the command of Rivera y Moncada, who had been a long time in the country, and the second division under Governor Gaspar de Portolá, who was a newcomer. Captain Rivera was sent northward to collect from the missions all the live stock and supplies that could be spared and take them to Santa Maria, the most northern mission of the peninsula. Stores of all kinds were collected at La Paz. Father Serra made a tour of the missions and secured such church furniture, ornaments and vestments as could be spared.

The first vessel fitted out for the expedition by sea was the *San Carlos*, a ship of about two hundred tons burden, leaky and badly constructed. She sailed from La Paz January 9, 1760, under the command of Vicente Vila. In addition to the crew there were twenty-five Catalonian soldiers, commanded by Lieutenant Fages, Pedro Prat, the surgeon, a Franciscan friar, two blacksmiths, a baker, a cook and two tortilla makers. Galvez in a small vessel accompanied the *San Carlos* to Cape San Lucas, where he landed and set to work to fit out the *San Antonio*. On the 15th of February this vessel sailed from San José del Cabo (San José of the Cape), under the command of Juan Perez, an expert pilot, who had been engaged in the Philippine trade. On this vessel went two Franciscan friars, Juan Viscaíno and Francisco Gomez. Captain Rivera y Moncada, who was to pioneer the way, had collected supplies and cattle at Velicatá on the northern frontier. From here, with a small force of soldiers, a gang of neophytes and three muleteers, and accompanied by Padre Crespi, he began his march to San Diego on the 24th of March, 1769.

The second land expedition, commanded by Governor Gaspar de Portolá in person, began its march from Loreto, March 9, 1769. Father Serra, who was to have accompanied it, was detained at Loreto by a sore leg. He joined the expedition at Santa Maria, May 5, where it had



been waiting for him some time. It then proceeded to Rivera's camp at Velicatá, sixty miles further north, where Serra founded a mission, naming it San Fernando. Campa Coy, a friar who had accompanied the expedition thus far, was left in charge. This mission was intended as a frontier post in the travel between the peninsula missions and the Alta California settlements. On the 15th of May Portolá began his northern march, following the trail of Rivera. Galvez had named, by proclamation, St. Joseph as the patron saint of the California expeditions. Santa Maria was designated as the patroness of conversions.

The San Antonia, the last vessel to sail, was the first to arrive at San Diego. It anchored in the bay April 11, 1769, after a prosperous voyage of twenty-four days. There she remained at anchor, awaiting the arrival of the San Carlos, the flag ship of the expedition, which had sailed more than a month before her. On the 29th of April the San Carlos, after a disastrous voyage of one hundred and ten days, drifted into the Bay of San Diego, her crew prostrated with the scurvy, not enough able-bodied men being left to man a boat. Canvas tents were pitched and the afflicted men taken ashore. When the disease had run its course nearly all of the crew of the San Carlos, half of the soldiers who had come on her, and nine of the sailors of the San Antonio, were dead.

On the 14th of May Captain Rivera y Moncada's detachment arrived. The expedition had made the journey from Velicatá in fifty-one days. On the first of July the second division, commanded by Portolá, arrived. The journey had been uneventful. The four divisions of the grand expedition were now united, but its numbers had been greatly reduced. Out of two hundred and nineteen who had set out by land and sea only one hundred and twenty-six remained; death from scurvy and the desertion of the neophytes had reduced the numbers nearly one-half. The ravages of the scurvy had destroyed the crew of one of the vessels and greatly crippled that of the other, so it was impossible to proceed by sea to Monterey, the second objective point of the expedition. A council of the officers was held and it was de-

cided to send the San Antonia back to San Blas for supplies and sailors to man the San Carlos. The San Antonia sailed on the 9th of July and after a voyage of twenty days reached her destination; but short as the voyage was, half of the crew died of the scurvy on the passage. In early American navigation the scurvy was the most dreaded scourge of the sea, more to be feared than storm and shipwreck. These might happen occasionally, but the scurvy always made its appearance on long voyages, and sometimes destroyed the whole ship's crew. Its appearance and ravages were largely due to the neglect of sanitary precautions and to the utter indifference of those in authority to provide for the comfort and health of the sailors. The intercession of the saints, novenas, fasts and penance were relied upon to protect and save the vessel and her crew, while the simplest sanitary measures were utterly disregarded. A blind, unreasoning faith that was always seeking interposition from some power without to preserve and ignoring the power within, was the bane and curse of that age of superstition.

If the mandates of King Carlos III. and the instructions of the visitador-general, José de Galvez, were to be carried out, the expedition for the settlement of the second point designated (Monterey) must be made by land; accordingly Governor Portolá set about organizing his forces for the overland journey. On the 14th of July the expedition began its march. It consisted of Governor Portolá, Padres Crespi and Gomez, Captain Rivera y Moncada, Lieutenant Pedro Fages, Engineer Miguel Constansó, soldiers, muleteers and Indian servants, numbering in all sixty-two persons.

On the 16th of July, two days after the departure of Governor Portolá, Father Junipero, assisted by Padres Viscaino and Parron, founded the mission of San Diego. The site selected was in what is now Old Town, near the temporary presidio, which had been hastily constructed before the departure of Governor Portolá. A hut of boughs had been constructed and in this the ceremonies of founding were held. The Indians, while interested in what was going on, manifested no desire to be converted. They were willing to receive gifts, particularly

of cloth, but would not taste the food of the Spaniards, fearing that it contained poison and attributing the many deaths among the soldiers and sailors to the food. The Indians had a great liking for pieces of cloth, and their desire to obtain this led to an attack upon the people of the mission. On the 14th of August, taking advantage of the absence of Padre Parron and two soldiers, they broke into the mission and began robbing it and the beds of the sick. The four soldiers, a carpenter and a blacksmith rallied to the defense, and after several of their numbers had fallen by the guns of the soldiers, the Indians fled. A boy servant of the padres was killed and Father Viscaino wounded in the hand. After this the Indians were more cautious.

We now return to the march of Portolá's expedition. As the first exploration of the main land of California was made by it, I give considerable space to the incidents of the journey. Crespi, Constansó and Fages kept journals of the march. I quote from those of Constansó and Crespi. Lieutenant Constansó thus describes the order of the march. "The setting-forth was on the 14th day of June\* of the cited year of '69. The two divisions of the expedition by land marched in one, the commander so arranging because the number of horse-herd and packs was much, since of provisions and victuals alone they carried one hundred packs, which he estimated to be necessary to ration all the folk during six months; thus providing against a delay of the packets, altho' it was held to be impossible that in this interval some one of them should fail to arrive at Monterey. On the marches the following order was observed: At the head went the commandant with the officers, the six men of the Catalonia volunteers, who added themselves at San Diego, and some friendly Indians, with spades, mattocks, crow-bars, axes and other implements of pioneers, to chop and open a passage whenever necessary. After them followed the pack-train, divided into four bands with the muleteers and a competent number of garrison soldiers for their escort with each band. In the rear guard with the rest of

the troops and friendly Indians came the captain, Don Fernando Rivera, conveying the horse-herd and the mule herd for relays."

\* \* \*

"It must be well considered that the marches of these troops with such a train and with such embarrassments thro' unknown lands and unused paths could not be long ones; leaving aside the other causes which obliged them to halt and camp early in the afternoon, that is to say, the necessity of exploring the land one day for the next, so as to regulate them (the marches) according to the distance of the watering-places and to take in consequence the proper precautions; setting forth again on special occasions in the evening, after having given water to the beasts in that same hour upon the sure information that in the following stretch there was no water or that the watering place was low, or the pasture scarce. The restings were measured by the necessity, every four days, more or less, according to the extraordinary fatigue occasioned by the greater roughness of the road, the toil of the pioneers, or the wandering off of the beasts which were missing from the horse herd and which it was necessary to seek by their tracks. At other times, by the necessity of humoring the sick, when there were any, and with time there were many who yielded up their strength to the continued fatigue, the excessive heat and cruel cold. In the form and according to the method related the Spaniards executed their marches; traversing immense lands more fertile and more pleasing in proportion as they penetrated more to the north. All in general are peopled with a multitude of Indians, who came out to meet them and in some parts accompanied them from one stage of the journey to the next; a folk very docile and tractable chiefly from San Diego onward."

Constansó's description of the Indians of Santa Barbara will be found in the chapter on the "Aborigines of California." "From the channel of Santa Barbara onward the lands are not so populous nor the Indians so industrious, but they are equally affable and tractable. The Spaniards pursued their voyage without opposition up to the Sierra of Santa Lucia, which they contrived to cross with much hardship. At the

\*Evidently an error: it should be July 14th.

foot of said Sierra on the north side is to be found the port of Monterey, according to ancient reports, between the Point of Pines and that of Año Nuevo (New Year). The Spaniards caught sight of said points on the 1st of October of the year '69, and, believing they had arrived at the end of their voyage, the commandant sent the scouts forward to reconnoitre the Point of Pines; in whose near vicinity lies said Port in 36 degrees and 40 minutes North Latitude. But the scant tokens and equivocal ones which are given of it by the Pilot Cabrera Bueno, the only clue of this voyage, and the character of this Port, which rather merits the name of Bay, being spacious (in likeness to that of Cadiz), not corresponding with ideas which it is natural to form in reading the log of the aforementioned Cabrera Bueno, nor with the latitude of 37 degrees in which he located it, the scouts were persuaded that the Port must be farther to the north and they returned to the camp which our people occupied with the report that what they sought was not to be seen in those parts."

They decided that the Port was still further north and resumed their march. Seventeen of their number were sick with the scurvy, some of whom, Constansó says, seemed to be in their last extremity; these had to be carried in litters. To add to their miseries, the rains began in the latter part of October, and with them came an epidemic of diarrhea, "which spread to all without exception; and it came to be feared that this sickness which prostrated their powers and left the persons spiritless, would finish with the expedition altogether. But it turned out quite to the contrary." Those afflicted with the scurvy began to mend and in a short time they were restored to health. Constansó thus describes the discovery of the Bay of San Francisco: "The last day of October the Expedition by land came in sight of Punta de Los Reyes and the Farallones of the Port of San Francisco, whose landmarks, compared with those related by the log of the Pilot Cabrera Bueno, were found exact. Thereupon it became of evident knowledge that the Port of Monterey had been left behind; there being few who stuck to the contrary opinion. Nevertheless the commandant resolved to send to reconnoitre the

land as far as Point de los Reyes. The scouts who were commissioned for this purpose found themselves obstructed by immense estuaries, which run extraordinarily far back into the land and were obliged to make great detours to get around the heads of these. \* \* \* Having arrived at the end of the first estuary and reconnoitered the land that would have to be followed to arrive at the Point de Los Reyes, interrupted with new estuaries, scant pasturage and firewood and having recognized, besides this, the uncertainty of the news and the misapprehension the scouts had labored under, the commandant, with the advice of his officers, resolved upon a retreat to the Point of Pines in hopes of finding the Port of Monterey and encountering in it the Packet San José or the San Antonia, whose succor already was necessary; since of the provisions which had been taken in San Diego no more remained than some few sacks of flour of which a short ration was issued to each individual daily."

"On the eleventh day of November was put into execution the retreat in search of Monterey. The Spaniards reached said port and the Point of Pines on the 28th of November. They maintained themselves in this place until the 10th of December without any vessel having appeared in this time. For which reason and noting also a lack of victuals, and that the sierra of Santa Lucia was covering itself with snow, the commandant, Don Gaspar de Portolá, saw himself obliged to decide to continue the retreat unto San Diego, leaving it until a better occasion to return to the enterprise. On this retreat the Spaniards experienced some hardships and necessities, because they entirely lacked provisions, and because the long marches, which necessity obliged to make to reach San Diego, gave no time for seeking sustenance by the chase, nor did game abound equally everywhere. At this juncture they killed twelve mules of the pack-train on whose meat the folk nourished themselves unto San Diego, at which new establishment they arrived, all in health, on the 24th of January, 1770."

The San José, the third ship fitted out by Visitador-General Galvez, and which Governor Portolá expected to find in the Bay of Monte-

rey, sailed from San José del Cabo in May, 1770, with supplies and a double crew to supply the loss of sailors on the other vessels, but nothing was ever heard of her afterwards. Provisions were running low at San Diego, no ship had arrived, and Governor Portolá had decided to abandon the place and return to Loreto. Father Junipero was averse to this and prayed unceasingly for the intercession of Saint Joseph, the patron of the expedition. A novena or nine days' public prayer was instituted, to terminate with a grand ceremonial on March 19th, which was the saint's own day. But on the 23rd of March, when all were ready to depart, the packet San Antonia arrived. She had sailed from San Blas the 20th of December. She encountered a storm which drove her four hundred leagues from the coast; then she made land in 35 degrees north latitude. Turning her prow southward, she ran down to Point Concepcion, where at an anchorage in the Santa Barbara channel the captain, Perez, took on water and learned from the Indians of the return of Portolá's expedition. The vessel then ran down to San Diego, where its opportune arrival prevented the abandonment of that settlement.

With an abundant supply of provisions and a vessel to carry the heavier articles needed in forming a settlement at Monterey, Portolá organized a second expedition. This time he took with him only twenty soldiers and one officer, Lieutenant Pedro Fages. He set out from San Diego on the 17th of April and followed his trail made the previous year. Father Serra and the engineer, Constansó, sailed on the San Antonia, which left the port of San Diego on the 16th of April. The land expedition reached Monterey on the 23d of May and the San Antonia on the 31st of the same month. On the 3d of June, 1770, the mission of San Carlos Borromeo de Monterey was formally founded with solemn church ceremonies, accompanied by the ringing of bells, the crack of musketry and the roar of cannon. Father Serra conducted the church services. Governor Portolá took possession of the land in the name of King Carlos III. A presidio or fort of palisades was built and a few huts erected. Portolá, having formed the nucleus of a settlement, turned over the command of the territory to Lieutenant Fages. On the 9th of July, 1770, he sailed on the San Antonia for San Blas. He never returned to Alta California.

## CHAPTER IV.

### ABORIGINES OF CALIFORNIA.

WHETHER the primitive California Indian was the low and degraded being that some modern writers represent him to have been, admits of doubt. A mission training continued through three generations did not elevate him in morals at least. When freed from mission restraint and brought in contact with the white race he lapsed into a condition more degraded and more debased than that in which the missionaries found him. Whether it was the inherent fault of the Indian or the fault of his training is a question that is useless to discuss now. If we are to believe the accounts of the California Indian given by Viscaino and Constansó, who saw him before he

had come in contact with civilization he was not inferior in intelligence to the nomad aborigines of the country east of the Rocky mountains.

Sebastian Viscaino thus describes the Indians he found on the shores of Monterey Bay three hundred years ago:

"The Indians are of good stature and fair complexion, the women being somewhat less in size than the men and of pleasing countenance. The clothing of the people of the coast lands consists of the skins of the sea-wolves (otter) abounding there, which they tan and dress better than is done in Castile; they possess also, in great quantity, flax like that of Castile, hemp and cotton, from which they make fish-lines

and nets for rabbits and hares. They have vessels of pine wood very well made, in which they go to sea with fourteen paddle men on a side with great dexterity, even in stormy weather."

Indians who could construct boats of pine boards that took twenty-eight paddle men to row were certainly superior in maritime craft to the birch bark canoe savages of the east. We might accuse Viscaino, who was trying to induce King Philip III. to found a colony on Monterey Bay, of exaggeration in regard to the Indian boats were not his statements confirmed by the engineer, Miguel Constansó, who accompanied Portolá's expedition one hundred and sixty-seven years after Viscaino visited the coast. Constansó, writing of the Indians of the Santa Barbara Channel, says, "The dexterity and skill of these Indians is surpassing in the construction of their launches made of pine planking. They are from eight to ten varas (twenty-three to twenty-eight feet) in length, including their rake and a vara and a half (four feet three inches) beam. Into their fabric enters no iron whatever, of the use of which they know little. But they fasten the boards with firmness, one to another, working their drills just so far apart and at a distance of an inch from the edge, the holes in the upper boards corresponding with those in the lower, and through these holes they pass strong lashings of deer sinews. They pitch and calk the seams, and paint the whole in slightly colors. They handle the boats with equal cleverness, and three or four men go out to sea to fish in them, though they have capacity to carry eight or ten. They use long oars with two blades and row with unspeakable lightness and velocity. They know all the arts of fishing, and fish abound along their coasts as has been said of San Diego. They have communication and commerce with the natives of the islands, whence they get the beads of coral which are current in place of money through these lands, although they hold in more esteem the glass beads which the Spaniards gave them, and offered in exchange for these whatever they had like trays, otter skins, baskets and wooden plates. \* \* \*

"They are likewise great hunters. To kill deer and antelope they avail themselves of an

admirable ingenuity. They preserve the hide of the head and part of the neck of some one of these animals, skinned with care and leaving the horns attached to the same hide, which they stuff with grass or straw to keep its shape. They put this said shell like a cap upon the head and go forth to the woods with this rare equipage. On sighting the deer or antelope they go dragging themselves along the ground little by little with the left hand. In the right they carry the bow and four arrows. They lower and raise the head, moving it to one side and the other, and making other demonstrations so like these animals that they attract them without difficulty to the snare; and having them within a short distance, they discharge their arrows at them with certainty of hitting."

In the two chief occupations of the savage, hunting and fishing, the Indians of the Santa Barbara Channel seem to have been the equals if not the superiors of their eastern brethren. In the art of war they were inferior. Their easy conquest by the Spaniards and their tame subjection to mission rule no doubt had much to do with giving them a reputation for inferiority.

The Indians of the interior valleys and those of the coast belonged to the same general family. There were no great tribal divisions like those that existed among the Indians east of the Rocky mountains. Each rancheria was to a certain extent independent of all others, although at times they were known to combine for war or plunder. Although not warlike, they sometimes resisted the whites in battle with great bravery. Each village had its own territory in which to hunt and fish and its own section in which to gather nuts, seeds and herbs. While their mode of living was somewhat nomadic they seem to have had a fixed location for their rancherias.

The early Spanish settlers of California and the mission padres have left but very meager accounts of the manners, customs, traditions, government and religion of the aborigines. The padres were too intent upon driving out the old religious beliefs of the Indian and instilling new ones to care much what the aborigine had formerly believed or what traditions or myths he



had inherited from his ancestors. They ruthlessly destroyed his fetiches and his altars wherever they found them, regarding them as inventions of the devil.

The best account that has come down to us of the primitive life of the Southern California aborigines is found in a series of letters written by Hugo Reid and published in the *Los Angeles Star* in 1851-52. Reid was an educated Scotchman, who came to Los Angeles in 1834. He married an Indian woman, Dona Victoria, a neophyte of the San Gabriel mission. She was the daughter of an Indian chief. It is said that Reid had been crossed in love by some high toned Spanish señorita and married the Indian woman because she had the same name as his lost love. It is generally believed that Reid was the putative father of Helen Hunt Jackson's heroine, Ramona.

From these letters, now in the possession of the Historical Society of Southern California, I briefly collate some of the leading characteristics of the Southern Indians:

#### GOVERNMENT.

"Before the Indians belonging to the greater part of this country were known to the whites they comprised, as it were, one great family under distinct chiefs; they spoke nearly the same language, with the exception of a few words, and were more to be distinguished by a local intonation of the voice than anything else. Being related by blood and marriage war was never carried on between them. When war was consequently waged against neighboring tribes of no affinity it was a common cause."

"The government of the people was invested in the hands of their chiefs, each captain commanding his own lodge. The command was hereditary in a family. If the right line of descent ran out they elected one of the same kin nearest in blood. Laws in general were made as required, with some few standing ones. Robbery was never known among them. Murder was of rare occurrence and punished with death. Incest was likewise punished with death, being held in such abhorrence that marriages between kinsfolk were not allowed. The manner of putting to death was by shooting the delinquent

with arrows. If a quarrel ensued between two parties the chief of the lodge took cognizance in the case and decided according to the testimony produced. But if a quarrel occurred between parties of distinct lodges, each chief heard the witnesses produced by his own people, and then, associated with the chief of the opposite side, they passed sentence. In case they could not agree an impartial chief was called in, who heard the statements made by both and he alone decided. There was no appeal from his decision. Whipping was never resorted to as a punishment. All fines and sentences consisted in delivering shells, money, food and skins."

#### RELIGION.

"They believed in one God, the Maker and Creator of all things, whose name was and is held so sacred among them as hardly ever to be used, and when used only in a low voice. That name is Qua-o-ar. When they have to use the name of the supreme being on an ordinary occasion they substitute in its stead the word Y-yo-ha-rory-nain or the Giver of Life. They have only one word to designate life and soul."

"The world was at one time in a state of chaos, until God gave it its present formation, fixing it on the shoulders of seven giants, made expressly for this end. They have their names, and when they move themselves an earthquake is the consequence. Animals were then formed, and lastly man and woman were formed, separately from earth and ordered to live together. The man's name was Tobahar and the woman's Probavit. God ascended to Heaven immediately afterward, where he receives the souls of all who die. They had no bad spirits connected with their creed, and never heard of a 'devil' or a 'hell' until the coming of the Spaniards. They believed in no resurrection whatever"

#### MARRIAGE.

"Chiefs had one, two or three wives, as their inclination dictated, the subjects only one. When a person wished to marry and had selected a suitable partner, he advertised the same to all his relatives, even to the nineteenth cousin. On a day appointed the male portion of the lodge

brought in a collection of money beads. All the relations having come in with their share, they (the males) proceeded in a body to the residence of the bride, to whom timely notice had been given. All of the bride's female relations had been assembled and the money was equally divided among them, the bride receiving nothing, as it was a sort of purchase. After a few days the bride's female relations returned the compliment by taking to the bridegroom's dwelling baskets of meal made of chia, which was distributed among the male relatives. These preliminaries over, a day was fixed for the ceremony, which consisted in decking out the bride in innumerable strings of beads, paint, feathers and skins. On being ready she was taken up in the arms of one of her strongest male relatives, who carried her, dancing, towards her lover's habitation. All of her family, friends and neighbors accompanied, dancing around, throwing food and edible seeds at her feet at every step. These were collected in a scramble by the spectators as best they could. The relations of the bridegroom met them half way, and, taking the bride, carried her themselves, joining in the ceremonious walking dance. On arriving at the bridegroom's (who was sitting within his hut) she was inducted into her new residence by being placed alongside of her husband, while baskets of seeds were liberally emptied on their heads to denote blessings and plenty. This was likewise scrambled for by the spectators, who, on gathering up all the bride's seed cake, departed, leaving them to enjoy their honeymoon according to usage. A grand dance was given on the occasion, the warriors doing the dancing, the young women doing the singing. The wife never visited her relatives from that day forth, although they were at liberty to visit her."

#### BURIALS.

"When a person died all the kin collected to mourn his or her loss. Each one had his own peculiar mode of crying or howling, as easily distinguished the one from the other as one song is from another. After lamenting awhile a mourning dirge was sung in a low whining tone, accompanied by a shrill whistle produced by blowing into the tube of a deer's leg bone.

Dancing can hardly be said to have formed a part of the rites, as it was merely a monotonous action of the foot on the ground. This was continued alternately until the body showed signs of decay, when it was wrapped in the covering used in life. The hands were crossed upon the breast and the body tied from head to foot. A grave having been dug in their burial ground, the body was deposited with seeds, etc., according to the means of the family. If the deceased were the head of the family or a favorite son, the hut in which he lived was burned up, as likewise were all his personal effects."

#### FEUDS—THE SONG FIGHTS.

"Animosity between persons or families was of long duration, particularly between those of different tribes. These feuds descended from father to son until it was impossible to tell of how many generations. They were, however, harmless in themselves, being merely a war of songs, composed and sung against the conflicting party, and they were all of the most obscene and indecent language imaginable. There are two families at this day (1851) whose feud commenced before the Spaniards were ever dreamed of and they still continue singing and dancing against each other. The one resides at the mission of San Gabriel and the other at San Juan Capistrano; they both lived at San Bernardino when the quarrel commenced. During the singing they continue stamping on the ground to express the pleasure they would derive from tramping on the graves of their foes. Eight days was the duration of the song fight."

#### UTENSILS.

"From the bark of nettles was manufactured thread for nets, fishing lines, etc. Needles, fish-hooks, awls and many other articles were made of either bone or shell; for cutting up meat a knife of cane was invariably used. Mortars and pestles were made of granite. Sharp stones and perseverance were the only things used in their manufacture, and so skillfully did they combine the two that their work was always remarkably uniform. Their pots to cook in were made of soapstone of about an inch in thickness and procured from the Indians of Santa Catalina.

Their baskets, made out of a certain species of rush, were used only for dry purposes, although they were water proof. The vessels in use for liquids were roughly made of rushes and plastered outside and in with bitumen or pitch."

#### INDIANS OF THE SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL.

Miguel Constansó, the engineer who accompanied Portolá's expedition in 1769, gives us the best description of the Santa Barbara Indians extant.

"The Indians in whom was recognized more vivacity and industry are those that inhabit the islands and the coast of the Santa Barbara channel. They live in pueblos (villages) whose houses are of spherical form in the fashion of a half orange covered with rushes. They are up to twenty varas (fifty-five feet) in diameter. Each house contains three or four families. The hearth is in the middle and in the top of the house they leave a vent or chimney to give exit for the smoke. In nothing did these gentiles give the lie to the affability and good treatment which were experienced at their hands in other times (1602) by the Spaniards who landed upon those coasts with General Sebastian Vizcaino. They are men and women of good figure and aspect, very much given to painting and staining their faces and bodies with red ochre.

"They use great head dresses of feathers and some panderellas (small darts) which they bind up amid their hair with various trinkets and beads of coral of various colors. The men go entirely naked, but in time of cold they sport some long capes of tanned skins of nutrias (otters) and some mantles made of the same skins cut in long strips, which they twist in such a manner that all the fur remains outside; then they weave these strands one with another, forming a weft, and give it the pattern referred to.

"The women go with more decency, girt about the waist with tanned skins of deer which cover them in front and behind more than half down the leg, and with a mantelet of nutria over the body. There are some of them with good features. These are the Indian women who make the trays and vases of rushes, to which they give a thousand different forms and grace-

ful patterns, according to the uses to which they are destined, whether it be for eating, drinking, guarding their seeds, or for other purposes; for these peoples do not know the use of earthen ware as those of San Diego use it.

"The men work handsome trays of wood, with finer inlays of coral or of bone; and some vases of much capacity, closing at the mouth, which appear to be made with a lathe—and with this machine they would not come out better hollowed nor of more perfect form. They give the whole a luster which appears the finished handiwork of a skilled artisan. The large vessels which hold water are of a very strong weave of rushes pitched within; and they give them the same form as our water jars.

"To eat the seeds which they use in place of bread they toast them first in great trays, putting among the seeds some pebbles or small stones heated until red; then they move and shake the tray so it may not burn; and getting the seed sufficiently toasted they grind it in mortars or almireses of stone. Some of these mortars were of extraordinary size, as well wrought as if they had had for the purpose the best steel tools. The constancy, attention to trifles, and labor which they employ in finishing these pieces are well worthy of admiration. The mortars are so appreciated among themselves that for those who, dying, leave behind such handiworks, they are wont to place them over the spot where they are buried, that the memory of their skill and application may not be lost.

"They inter their dead. They have their cemeteries within the very pueblo. The funerals of their captains they make with great pomp, and set up over their bodies some rods or poles, extremely tall, from which they hang a variety of utensils and chattels which were used by them. They likewise put in the same place some great planks of pine, with various paintings and figures in which without doubt they explain the exploits and prowesses of the personage.

"Plurality of wives is not lawful among these peoples. Only the captains have a right to marry two. In all their pueblos the attention was taken by a species of men who lived like the women, kept company with them, dressed in the same garb, adorned themselves with beads, pen-



dants, necklaces and other womanish adornments, and enjoyed great consideration among the people. The lack of an interpreter did not permit us to find out what class of men they were, or to what ministry they were destined, though all suspect a defect in sex, or some abuse among those gentiles.

"In their houses the married couples have their separate beds on platforms elevated from the ground. Their mattresses are some simple petates (mats) of rushes and their pillows are of the same petates rolled up at the head of the bed. All these beds are hung about with like mats, which serve for decency and protect from the cold."

From the descriptions given by Viscaino and Constansó of the coast Indians they do not appear to have been the degraded creatures that some modern writers have pictured them. In mechanical ingenuity they were superior to the Indians of the Atlantic seaboard or those of the Mississippi valley. Much of the credit that has been given to the mission padres for the patient training they gave the Indians in mechanical arts should be given to the Indian himself. He was no mean mechanic when the padres took him in hand.

Bancroft says "the Northern California Indians were in every way superior to the central and southern tribes." The difference was more in climate than in race. Those of Northern California living in an invigorating climate were more active and more warlike than their sluggish brethren of the south. They gained their living by hunting larger game than those of the south whose subsistence was derived mostly from acorns, seeds, small game and fish. Those of the interior valleys of the north were of lighter complexion and had better forms and features than their southern kinsmen. They were divided into numerous small tribes or clans, like those of central and Southern California. The Spaniards never penetrated very far into the Indian country of the north and consequently knew little or nothing about the habits and customs of the aborigines there. After the discovery of gold the miners invaded their country in search of the precious metal. The Indians at first were not hostile, but ill

treatment soon made them so. When they retaliated on the whites a war of extermination was waged against them. Like the mission Indians of the south they are almost extinct.

All of the coast Indians seem to have had some idea of a supreme being. The name differed with the different tribes. According to Hugo Reid the god of the San Gabriel Indian was named Quaoâr. Father Boscana, who wrote "A Historical Account of the Origin, Customs and Traditions of the Indians" at the missionary establishment of San Juan Capistrano, published in Alfred Robinson's "Life in California," gives a lengthy account of the religion of those Indians before their conversion to Christianity. Their god was Chinigchinich. Evidently the three old men from whom Boscana derived his information mixed some of the religious teachings of the padres with their own primitive beliefs, and made up for the father a nondescript religion half heathen and half Christian. Boscana was greatly pleased to find so many allusions to Scriptural truths, evidently never suspecting that the Indians were imposing upon him.

The religious belief of the Santa Barbara Channel Indians appears to have been the most rational of any of the beliefs held by the California aborigines. Their god, Chupu, was the deification of good; and Nunaxus, their Satan, the personification of evil. Chupu the all-powerful created Nunaxus, who rebelled against his creator and tried to overthrow him; but Chupu, the almighty, punished him by creating man who, by devouring the animal and vegetable products of the earth, checked the physical growth of Nunaxus, who had hoped by liberal feeding to become like unto a mountain. Foiled in his ambition, Nunaxus ever afterwards sought to injure mankind. To secure Chupu's protection, offerings were made to him and dances were instituted in his honor. Flutes and other instruments were played to attract his attention. When Nunaxus brought calamity upon the Indians in the shape of dry years, which caused a dearth of animal and vegetable products, or sent sickness to afflict them, their old men interceded with Chupu to protect them; and to exorcise their Satan they shot arrows and threw

stones in the direction in which he was supposed to be.

Of the Indian myths and traditions Hugo Reid says: "They were of incredible length and contained more metamorphoses than Ovid could have engendered in his brain had he lived a thousand years."

The Cahuilla tribes who formerly inhabited the mountain districts of the southeastern part of the state had a tradition of their creation. According to this tradition the primeval Adam and Eve were created by the Supreme Being in the waters of a northern sea. They came up out of the water upon the land, which they found to be soft and miry. They traveled southward for many moons in search of land suitable for their residence and where they could obtain sustenance from the earth. This they found at last on the mountain sides in Southern California.

Some of the Indian myths when divested of their crudities and ideas clothed in fitting language are as poetical as those of Greece or Scandinavia. The following one which Hugo Reid found among the San Gabriel Indians bears a striking resemblance to the Grecian myths of Orpheus and Eurydice but it is not at all probable that the Indians ever heard the Grecian fable. Ages ago, so runs this Indian myth, a powerful people dwelt on the banks of the Arroyo Seco and hunted over the hills and plains of what are now our modern Pasadena and the valley of San Fernando. They committed a grievous crime against the Great Spirit. A pestilence destroyed them all save a boy and girl who were saved by a foster mother possessed of supernatural powers. They grew to manhood and womanhood and became husband and wife. Their devotion to each other angered the foster mother, who fancied herself neglected. She plotted to destroy the wife. The young woman, divining her fate, told her husband that should he at any time feel a tear drop on his shoulder, he might know that she was dead. While he was away hunting the dread signal came. He hastened back to destroy the hag who had brought death to his wife, but the sorceress had escaped. Disconsolate he threw himself on the grave of his wife. For three days he neither ate nor drank. On the third day a whirlwind

arose from the grave and moved toward the south. Perceiving in it the form of his wife, he hastened on until he overtook it. Then a voice came out of the cloud saying: "Whither I go, thou canst not come. Thou art of earth but I am dead to the world. Return, my husband, return!" He plead piteously to be taken with her. She consenting, he was wrapt in the cloud with her and borne across the illimitable sea that separates the abode of the living from that of the dead. When they reached the realms of ghosts a spirit voice said: "Sister, thou comest to us with an odor of earth; what dost thou bring?" Then she confessed that she had brought her living husband. "Take him away!" said a voice stern and commanding. She plead that he might remain and recounted his many virtues. To test his virtues, the spirits gave him four labors. First to bring a feather from the top of a pole so high that its summit was invisible. Next to split a hair of great length and exceeding fineness; third to make on the ground a map of the constellation of the lesser bear and locate the north star and last to slay the celestial deer that had the form of black beetles and were exceedingly swift. With the aid of his wife he accomplished all the tasks.

But no mortal was allowed to dwell in the abodes of death. "Take thou thy wife and return with her to the earth," said the spirit. "Yet remember, thou shalt not speak to her; thou shalt not touch her until three suns have passed. A penalty awaits thy disobedience." He promised. They pass from the spirit land and travel to the confines of matter. By day she is invisible but by the flickering light of his camp-fire he sees the dim outline of her form. Three days pass. As the sun sinks behind the western hills he builds his camp-fire. She appears before him in all the beauty of life. He stretches forth his arms to embrace her. She is snatched from his grasp. Although invisible to him yet the upper rim of the great orb of day hung above the western verge. He had broken his promise. Like Orpheus, disconsolate, he wandered over the earth until, relenting, the spirits sent their servant Death to bring him to Tecupar (Heaven).

The following myth of the mountain Indians

of the north bears a strong resemblance to the Norse fable of Gyoll the River of Death and its glittering bridge, over which the spirits of the dead pass to Hel, the land of spirits. The Indian, however, had no idea of any kind of a bridge except a foot-log across a stream. The myth in a crude form was narrated to me many years ago by an old pioneer.

According to this myth when an Indian died his spirit form was conducted by an unseen guide over a mountain trail unknown and inaccessible to mortals, to the rapidly flowing river which separated the abode of the living from that of the dead. As the trail descended to the river it branched to the right and left. The right hand path led to a foot bridge made of the mas-

sive trunk of a rough barked pine which spanned the Indian styx; the left led to a slender, fresh peeled birch pole that hung high above the roaring torrent. At the parting of the trail an inexorable fate forced the bad to the left, while the spirit form of the good passed on to the right and over the rough barked pine to the happy hunting grounds, the Indian heaven. The bad reaching the river's brink and gazing longingly upon the delights beyond, essayed to cross the slippery pole—a slip, a slide, a clutch at empty space, and the ghostly spirit form was hurled into the mad torrent below, and was borne by the rushing waters into a vast lethean lake where it sunk beneath the waves and was blotted from existence forever.

## CHAPTER V.

### FRANCISCAN MISSIONS OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

#### SAN DIEGO DE ALCALÁ.

THE two objective points chosen by Vis-  
itador General Galvez and President  
Junipero Serra to begin the spiritual  
conquest and civilization of the savages of Alta  
California, were San Diego and Monterey. The  
expeditions sent by land and sea were all united  
at San Diego July 1, 1769. Father Serra lost no  
time in beginning the founding of missions.  
On the 16th of July, 1769, he founded the mis-  
sion of San Diego de Alcalá. It was the first  
link in the chain of missionary establishments  
that eventually stretched northward from San  
Diego to Solano, a distance of seven hundred  
miles, a chain that was fifty-five years in forging.  
The first site of the San Diego mission was at  
a place called by the Indians "Cosoy." It was  
located near the presidio established by Gov-  
ernor Portolá before he set out in search of  
Monterey. The locality is now known as Old  
Town.

Temporary buildings were erected here but  
the location proved unsuitable and in August,  
1774, the mission was removed about two  
leagues up the San Diego river to a place called  
by the natives "Nipaguay." Here a dwelling for

the padres, a store house, a smithy and a  
wooden church 18x57 feet were erected.

The mission buildings at Cosoy were given  
up to the presidio except two rooms, one for  
the visiting priests and the other for a temporary  
store room for mission supplies coming by sea.  
The missionaries had been fairly successful in  
the conversions of the natives and some prog-  
ress had been made in teaching them to labor.  
On the night of November 4, 1775, without any  
previous warning, the gentiles or unconverted  
Indians in great numbers attacked the mission.  
One of the friars, Fray Funster, escaped to the  
soldiers' quarters; the other, Father Jaume, was  
killed by the savages. The blacksmith also was  
killed; the carpenter succeeded in reaching the  
soldiers. The Indians set fire to the buildings  
which were nearly all of wood. The soldiers, the  
priest and carpenter were driven into a small  
adobe building that had been used as a kitchen.  
Two of the soldiers were wounded. The cor-  
poral, one soldier and the carpenter were all  
that were left to hold at bay a thousand howl-  
ing fiends. The corporal, who was a sharp  
shooter, did deadly execution on the savages.

Father Funster saved the defenders from being blown to pieces by the explosion of a fifty pound sack of gunpowder. He spread his cloak over the sack and sat on it, thus preventing the powder from being ignited by the sparks of the burning building. The fight lasted till daylight, when the hostiles fled. The Christian Indians who professed to have been coerced by the savages then appeared and made many protestations of sorrow at what had happened. The military commander was not satisfied that they were innocent but the padres believed them. New buildings were erected at the same place, the soldiers of the presidio for a time assisting the Indians in their erection.

The mission was fairly prosperous. In 1800 the cattle numbered 6,960 and the agricultural products amounted to 2,600 bushels. From 1769 to 1834 there were 6,638 persons baptized and 4,428 buried. The largest number of cattle possessed by the mission at one time was 9,245 head in 1822. The old building now standing on the mission site at the head of the valley is the third church erected there. The first, built of wood and roofed with tiles, was erected in 1774; the second, built of adobe, was completed in 1780 (the walls of this were badly cracked by an earthquake in 1803); the third was begun in 1808 and dedicated November 12, 1813. The mission was secularized in 1834.

#### SAN CARLOS DE BORROMEIO.

As narrated in a former chapter, Governor Portolá, who with a small force had set out from San Diego to find Monterey Bay, reached that port May 24, 1770. Father Serra, who came up by sea on the *San Antonia*, arrived at the same place May 31. All things being in readiness the Presidio of Monterey and the mission of San Carlos de Borromeo were founded on the same day—June 3, 1770. The boom of artillery and the roar of musketry accompanying the service of the double founding frightened the Indians away from the mission and it was some time before the savages could muster courage to return. In June, 1771, the site of the mission was moved to the Carmelo river. This was done by Father Serra to remove the neophytes from the contaminating in-

fluence of the soldiers at the presidio. The erection of the stone church still standing was begun in 1793. It was completed and dedicated in 1797. The largest neophyte population at San Carlos was reached in 1794, when it numbered nine hundred and seventy-one. Between 1800 and 1810 it declined to seven hundred and forty-seven. In 1820 the population had decreased to three hundred and eighty-one and at the end of the next decade it had fallen to two hundred and nine. In 1834, when the decree of secularization was put in force, there were about one hundred and fifty neophytes at the mission. At the rate of decrease under mission rule, a few more years would have produced the same result that secularization did, namely, the extinction of the mission Indian.

#### SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA.

The third mission founded in California was San Antonio de Padua. It was located about twenty-five leagues from Monterey. Here, on the 14th of June, 1771, in *La Canada de los Robles*, the cañon of oaks beneath a shelter of branches, Father Serra performed the services of founding. The Indians seem to have been more tractable than those of San Diego or Monterey. The first convert was baptized one month after the establishment of the mission. San Antonio attained the highest limit of its neophyte population in 1805, when it had twelve hundred and ninety-six souls within its fold. In 1831 there were six hundred and sixty-one Indians at or near the mission. In 1834, the date of secularization, there were five hundred and sixty-seven. After its disestablishment the property of the mission was quickly squandered through inefficient administrators. The buildings are in ruins.

#### SAN GABRIEL ARCANGEL.

San Gabriel Arcángel was the fourth mission founded in California. Father Junípero Serra, as previously narrated, had gone north in 1770 and founded the mission of San Carlos Borromeo on Monterey Bay and the following year he established the mission of San Antonio de Padua on the Salinas river about twenty-five leagues south of Monterey.

On the 6th of August, 1771, a cavalcade of soldiers and musketeers escorting Padres Somero and Cambon set out from San Diego over the trail made by Portolá's expedition in 1769 (when it went north in search of Monterey Bay) to found a new mission on the River Jesus de los Temblores or to give it its full name, El Rio del Dulcísimo Nombre de Jesus de los Temblores, the river of the sweetest name of Jesus of the Earthquakes. Not finding a suitable location on that river (now the Santa Ana) they pushed on to the Rio San Miguel, also known as the Rio de los Temblores. Here they selected a site where wood and water were abundant. A stockade of poles was built inclosing a square within which a church was erected, covered with boughs.

September 8, 1771, the mission was formally founded and dedicated to the archangel Gabriel. The Indians who at the coming of the Spaniards were docile and friendly, a few days after the founding of the mission suddenly attacked two soldiers who were guarding the horses. One of these soldiers had outraged the wife of the chief who led the attack. The soldier who committed the crime killed the chieftain with a musket ball and the other Indians fled. The soldiers then cut off the chief's head and fastened it to a pole at the presidio gate. From all accounts the soldiers at this mission were more brutal and barbarous than the Indians and more in need of missionaries to convert them than the Indians. The progress of the mission was slow. At the end of the second year only seventy-three children and adults had been baptized. Father Serra attributed the lack of conversions to the bad conduct of the soldiers.

The first buildings at the mission Vieja were all of wood. The church was 45x18 feet, built of logs and covered with tule thatch. The church and other wooden buildings used by the padres stood within a square inclosed by pointed stakes. In 1776, five years after its founding, the mission was moved from its first location to a new site about a league distant from the old one. The old site was subject to overflow by the river. The adobe ruins pointed out to tourists as the foundations of the old mission are the debris of a building erected for a ranch house

about sixty years ago. The buildings at the mission Vieja were all of wood and no trace of them remains. A chapel was first built at the new site. It was replaced by a church built of adobes one hundred and eight feet long by twenty-one feet wide. The present stone church, begun about 1794, and completed about 1806, is the fourth church erected.

The mission attained the acme of its importance in 1817, when there were seventeen hundred and one neophytes in the mission fold.

The largest grain crop raised at any mission was that harvested at San Gabriel in 1821, which amounted to 29,400 bushels. The number of cattle belonging to the mission in 1830 was 25,725. During the whole period of the mission's existence, i. e., from 1771 to 1834, according to statistics compiled by Bancroft from mission records, the total number of baptisms was 7,854, of which 4,355 were Indian adults and 2,459 were Indian children and the remainder gente de razon or people of reason. The deaths were 5,656, of which 2,916 were Indian adults and 2,363 Indian children. If all the Indian children born were baptized it would seem (if the statistics are correct) that but very few ever grew up to manhood and womanhood. In 1834, the year of its secularization, its neophyte population was 1,320.

The missionaries of San Gabriel established a station at old San Bernardino about 1820. It was not an asistencia like pala, but merely an agricultural station or ranch headquarters. The buildings were destroyed by the Indians in 1834.

#### SAN LUIS OBISPO DE TOLOSA.

On his journey southward in 1782, President Serra and Padre Cavaller, with a small escort of soldiers and a few Lower California Indians, on September 1, 1772, founded the mission of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa (St. Louis, Bishop of Toulouse). The site selected was on a creek twenty-five leagues southerly from San Antonio. The soldiers and Indians were set at work to erect buildings. Padre Cavaller was left in charge of the mission, Father Serra continuing his journey southward. This mission was never a very important one. Its greatest population was in 1803, when there were eight



hundred and fifty-two neophytes within its jurisdiction. From that time to 1834 their number declined to two hundred and sixty-four. The average death rate was 7.30 per cent of the population—a lower rate than at some of the more populous missions. The adobe church built in 1793 is still in use, but has been so remodeled that it bears but little resemblance to the church of mission days.

#### SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS.

The expedition under command of Portolá in 1769 failed to find Monterey Bay but it passed on and discovered the great bay of San Francisco. So far no attempt had been made to plant a mission or presidio on its shores. Early in 1775, Lieutenant Ayala was ordered to explore the bay with a view to forming a settlement near it. Rivera had previously explored the land bordering on the bay where the city now stands. Captain Anza, the discoverer of the overland route from Mexico to California via the Colorado river, had recruited an expedition of two hundred persons in Sonora for the purpose of forming a settlement at San Francisco. He set out in 1775 and reached Monterey March 10, 1776. A quarrel between him and Rivera, who was in command at Monterey, defeated for a time the purpose for which the settlers had been brought, and Anza, disgusted with the treatment he had received from Rivera, abandoned the enterprise. Anza had selected a site for a presidio at San Francisco. After his departure Rivera changed his policy of delay that had frustrated all of Anza's plans and decided at once to proceed to the establishment of a presidio. The presidio was formally founded September 17, 1776, at what is now known as Fort Point. The ship *San Carlos* had brought a number of persons; these with the settlers who had come up from Monterey made an assemblage of more than one hundred and fifty persons.

After the founding of the presidio Lieutenant Moraga in command of the military and Captain Quiros of the *San Carlos*, set vigorously at work to build a church for the mission. A wooden building having been constructed on the 9th of October, 1776, the mission was dedicated, Father Palou conducting the service, assisted by

Fathers Cambon, Nosedal and Peña. The site selected for the mission was on the Laguna de los Dolores. The lands at the mission were not very productive. The mission, however, was fairly prosperous. In 1820 it owned 11,240 cattle and the total product of wheat was 114,480 bushels. In 1820 there were 1,252 neophytes attached to it. The death rate was very heavy—the average rate being 12.4 per cent of the population. In 1832 the population had decreased to two hundred and four and at the time of secularization it had declined to one hundred and fifty. A number of neophytes had been taken to the new mission of San Francisco Solano.

#### SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO.

The revolt of the Indians at San Diego delayed the founding of San Juan Capistrano a year. October 30, 1775, the initiatory services of the founding had been held when a messenger came with the news of the uprising of the savages and the massacre of Father Jaume and others. The bells which had been hung on a tree were taken down and buried. The soldiers and the padres hastened to San Diego. November 1, 1776, Fathers Serra, Mugartegui and Amurrio, with an escort of soldiers, arrived at the site formerly selected. The bells were dug up and hung on a tree, an enramada of boughs was constructed and Father Serra said mass. The first location of the mission was several miles northeasterly from the present site at the foot of the mountain. The abandoned site is still known as *la Mision Vieja* (the Old Mission). Just when the change of location was made is not known.

The erection of a stone church was begun in February, 1797, and completed in 1806. A master builder had been brought from Mexico and under his superintendence the neophytes did the mechanical labor. It was the largest and handsomest church in California and was the pride of mission architecture. The year 1812 was known in California as *el año de los temblores*—the year of earthquakes. For months the seismic disturbance was almost continuous. On Sunday, December 8, 1812, a severe shock threw down the lofty church tower, which crashed through the vaulted roof on the congre-

gation below. The padre who was celebrating mass escaped through the sacristy. Of the fifty persons present only five or six escaped. The church was never rebuilt. "There is not much doubt," says Bancroft, "that the disaster was due rather to faulty construction than to the violence of the temblor." The edifice was of the usual cruciform shape, about 90x180 feet on the ground, with very thick walls and arched dome-like roof all constructed of stones imbedded in mortar or cement. The stones were not hewn, but of irregular size and shape, a kind of structure evidently requiring great skill to ensure solidity. The mission reached its maximum in 1819; from that on till the date of its secularization there was a rapid decline in the numbers of its live stock and of its neophytes.

This was one of the missions in which Governor Figueroa tried his experiment of forming Indian pueblos of the neophytes. For a time the experiment was a partial success, but eventually it went the way of all the other missions. Its lands were granted to private individuals and the neophytes scattered. Its picturesque ruins are a great attraction to tourists.

#### SANTA CLARA.

The mission of Santa Clara was founded January 12, 1777. The site had been selected some time before and two missionaries designated for service at it, but the comandante of the territory, Rivera y Moncada, who was an exceedingly obstinate person, had opposed the founding on various pretexts, but positive orders coming from the viceroy Rivera did not longer delay, so on the 6th of January, 1777, a detachment of soldiers under Lieutenant Moraga, accompanied by Father Peña, was sent from San Francisco to the site selected which was about sixteen leagues south of San Francisco. Here under an enramada the services of dedication were held. The Indians were not averse to receiving a new religion and at the close of the year sixty-seven had been baptized.

The mission was quite prosperous and became one of the most important in the territory. It was located in the heart of a rich agricultural district. The total product of wheat was 175,800 bushels. In 1828 the mission flocks and

herds numbered over 30,000 animals. The neophyte population in 1827 was 1,464. The death rate was high, averaging 12.63 per cent of the population. The total number of baptisms was 8,640; number of deaths 6,950. In 1834 the population had declined to 800. Secularization was effected in 1837.

#### SAN BUENAVENTURA.

The founding of San Buenaventura had been long delayed. It was to have been among the first missions founded by Father Serra; it proved to be his last. On the 26th of March, 1782, Governor de Neve, accompanied by Father Serra (who had come down afoot from San Carlos), and Father Cambon, with a convoy of soldiers and a number of neophytes, set out from San Gabriel to found the mission. At the first camping place Governor de Neve was recalled to San Gabriel by a message from Col. Pedro Fazes, informing him of the orders of the council of war to proceed against the Yumas who had the previous year destroyed the two missions on the Colorado river and massacred the missionaries.

On the 29th, the remainder of the company reached a place on the coast named by Portolá in 1769, Asuncion de Nuestra Señora, which had for some time been selected for a mission site. Near it was a large Indian rancheria. On Easter Sunday, March 31st, the mission was formally founded with the usual ceremonies and dedicated to San Buenaventura (Giovanni de Fidenza of Tuscany), a follower of St. Francis, the founder of the Franciscans.

The progress of the mission was slow at first, only two adults were baptized in 1782, the year of its founding. The first buildings built of wood were destroyed by fire. The church still used for service, built of brick and adobe, was completed and dedicated, September 9, 1809. The earthquake of December 8, 1812, damaged the church to such an extent that the tower and part of the façade had to be rebuilt. After the earthquake the whole site of the mission for a time seemed to be sinking. The inhabitants, fearful of being engulfed by the sea, removed to San Joaquin y Santa Ana, where they remained several months. The mission at-







SANTA BARBARA MISSION, FOUNDED IN 1786

tained its greatest prosperity in 1816, when its neophyte population numbered 1,330 and it owned 23,400 cattle.

#### SANTA BARBARA.

Governor Felipe de Neve founded the presidio of Santa Barbara April 21, 1782. Father Serra had hoped to found the mission at the same time, but in this he was disappointed. His death in 1784 still further delayed the founding and it was not until the latter part of 1786 that everything was in readiness for the establishing of the new mission. On the 22d of November Father Lasuen, who had succeeded Father Serra as president of the missions, arrived at Santa Barbara, accompanied by two missionaries recently from Mexico. He selected a site about a mile distant from the presidio. The place was called *Taynagan* (Rocky Hill) by the Indians. There was a plentiful supply of stone on the site for building and an abundance of water for irrigation.

On the 15th of December, 1786, Father Lasuen, in a hut of boughs, celebrated the first mass; but December 4, the day that the fiesta of Santa Barbara is commemorated, is considered the date of its founding. Part of the services were held on that day. A chapel built of adobe and roofed with thatch was erected in 1787. Several other buildings of adobe were erected the same year. In 1788, tile took the place of thatch. In 1789, a second church, much larger than the first, was built. A third church of adobe was commenced in 1793 and finished in 1794. A brick portico was added in 1795 and the walls plastered.

The great earthquake of December, 1812, demolished the mission church and destroyed nearly all the buildings. The years 1813 and 1814 were spent in removing the debris of the ruined buildings and in preparing for the erection of new ones. The erection of the present mission church was begun in 1815. It was completed and dedicated September 10, 1820.

Father Caballeria, in his History of Santa Barbara, gives the dimensions of the church as follows: "Length (including walls), sixty varas; width, fourteen varas; height, ten varas (a vara is thirty-four inches)." The walls are of stone

and rest on a foundation of rock and cement. They are six feet thick and are further strengthened by buttresses. Notwithstanding the building has withstood the storms of four score years, it is still in an excellent state of preservation. Its exterior has not been disfigured by attempts at modernizing.

The highest neophyte population was reached at Santa Barbara in 1803, when it numbered 1,792. The largest number of cattle was 5,200 in 1809. In 1834, the year of secularization, the neophytes numbered 556, which was a decrease of 155 from the number in 1830. At such a rate of decrease it would not, even if mission rule had continued, have taken more than a dozen years to depopulate the mission.

#### LA PURISIMA CONCEPCION.

Two missions, San Buenaventura and Santa Barbara, had been founded on the Santa Barbara channel in accordance with Neve's report of 1777, in which he recommended the founding of three missions and a presidio in that district. It was the intention of General La Croix to conduct these on a different plan from that prevailing in the older missions. The natives were not to be gathered into a missionary establishment, but were to remain in their rancherias, which were to be converted into mission pueblos. The Indians were to receive instruction in religion, industrial arts and self-government while comparatively free from restraint. The plan which no doubt originated with Governor de Neve, was a good one theoretically, and possibly might have been practically. The missionaries were bitterly opposed to it. Unfortunately it was tried first in the Colorado river missions among the fierce and treacherous Yumas. The massacre of the padres and soldiers of these missions was attributed to this innovation.

In establishing the channel missions the missionaries opposed the inauguration of this plan and by their persistence succeeded in setting it aside; and the old system was adopted. La Purisima Concepcion, or the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin, the third of the channel missions, was founded December 8, 1787, by Father Lasuen at a place called by the natives *Algsacupi*. Its location is about twelve

miles from the ocean on the Santa Ynez river. Three years after its founding three hundred converts had been baptized but not all of them lived at the mission. The first church was a temporary structure. The second church, built of adobe and roofed with tile, was completed in 1802. December 21, 1812, an earthquake demolished the church and also about one hundred adobe houses of the neophytes. A site across the river and about four miles distant from the former one, was selected for new buildings. A temporary building for a church was erected there. A new church, built of adobe and roofed with tile, was completed and dedicated in 1818.

The Indians revolted in 1824 and damaged the building. They took possession of it and a battle lasting four hours was fought between one hundred and thirty soldiers and four hundred Indians. The neophytes cut loop holes in the church and used two old rusty cannon and a few guns they possessed; but, unused to fire arms, they were routed with the loss of several killed. During the revolt which lasted several months four white men and fifteen or twenty Indians were killed. The hostiles, most of whom fled to the Tulares, were finally subdued. The leaders were punished with imprisonment and the others returned to their missions.

This mission's population was largest in 1804, when it numbered 1,520. In 1834 there were but 407 neophytes connected with it. It was secularized in February, 1835. During mission rule from 1787 to 1834, the total number of Indian children baptized was 1,492; died 902, which was a lower death rate than at most of the southern missions.

#### SANTA CRUZ.

Santa Cruz, one of the smallest of the twenty-one missions of California, was founded September 25, 1790. The mission was never very prosperous. In 1798 many of the neophytes deserted and the same year a flood covered the planting fields and damaged the church. In 1812 the neophytes murdered the missionary in charge, Padre Andr s Quintana. They claimed that he had treated them with great cruelty. Five of those implicated in the murder received two hundred lashes each and were sentenced to work in chains from two to ten years. Only

one survived the punishment. The maximum of its population was reached in 1798, when there were six hundred and forty-four Indians in the mission fold. The total number baptized from the date of its founding to 1834 was 2,466; the total number of deaths was 2,034. The average death rate was 10.93 per cent of the population. At the time of its secularization in 1834 there were only two hundred and fifty Indians belonging to the mission.

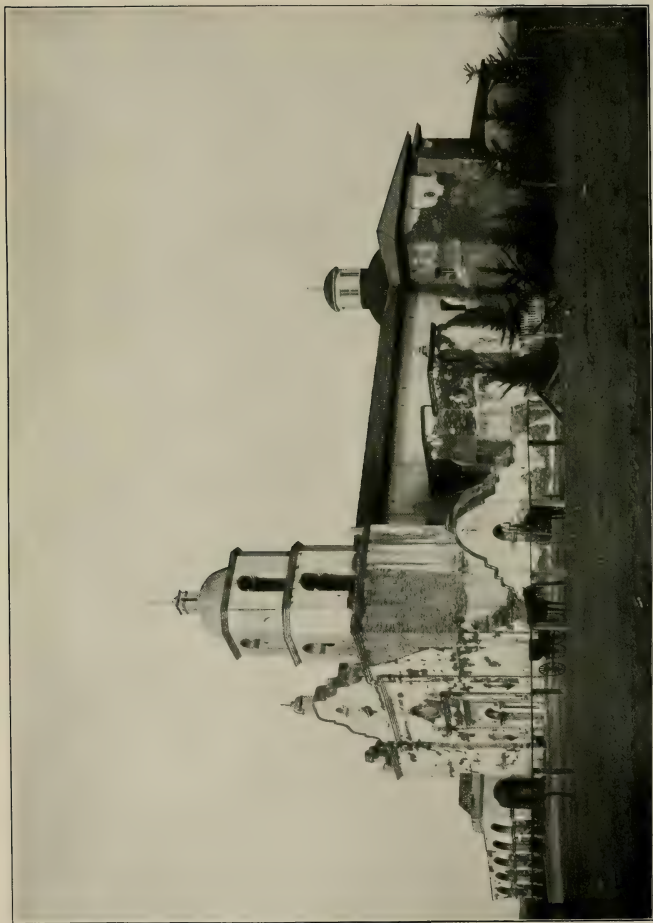
#### LA SOLEDAD.

The mission of our Lady of Solitude was founded September 29, 1791. The site selected had borne the name Soledad (solitude) ever since the first exploration of the country. The location was thirty miles northeast of San Carlos de Monterey. La Soledad, by which name it was generally known, was unfortunate in its early missionaries. One of them, Padre Gracia, was supposed to be insane and the other, Padre Rubi, was very immoral. Rubi was later on expelled from his college for licentiousness. At the close of the century the mission had become fairly prosperous, but in 1802 an epidemic broke out and five or six deaths occurred daily. The Indians in alarm fled from the mission. The largest population of the mission was seven hundred and twenty-five in 1805. At the time of secularization its population had decreased to three hundred. The total number of baptisms during its existence was 2,222; number of deaths 1,803.

#### SAN JOSE.

St. Joseph had been designated by the visitador General Galvez and Father Junipero Serra as the patron saint of the mission colonization of California. Thirteen missions had been founded and yet none had been dedicated to San Jos . Orders came from Mexico that one be established and named for him. Accordingly a detail of a corporal and five men, accompanied by Father Lasuen, president of the missions, proceeded to the site selected, which was about twelve miles northerly from the pueblo of San Jos . There, on June 11, 1797, the mission was founded. The mission was well located agriculturally and became one of the most prosperous in California. In 1820 it had a population of





SAN LUIS REY MISSION, FOUNDED IN 1798

1,754, the highest of any mission except San Luis Rey. The total number of baptisms from its founding to 1834 was 6,737; deaths 5,109. Secularization was effected in 1836-37. The total valuation of the mission property, not including lands or the church, was \$155,000.

#### SAN JUAN BAPTISTA.

In May, 1797, Governor Borica ordered the comandante at Monterey to detail a corporal and five soldiers to proceed to a site that had been previously chosen for a mission which was about ten leagues northeast from Monterey. Here the soldiers erected of wood a church, priest's house, granary and guard house. June 24, 1797, President Lasuen, assisted by Fathers Catala and Martiari, founded the mission of San Juan Bautista (St. John the Baptist). At the close of the year, eighty-five converts had been baptized. The neighboring Indian tribes were hostile and some of them had to be killed before others learned to behave themselves. A new church, measuring 60x160 feet, was completed and dedicated in 1812. San Juan was the only mission whose population increased between 1820 and 1830. This was due to the fact that its numbers were recruited from the eastern tribes, its location being favorable for obtaining new recruits from the gentiles. The largest population it ever reached was 1,248 in 1823. In 1834 there were but 850 neophytes at the mission.

#### SAN MIGUEL.

Midway between the old missions of San Antonio and San Luis Obispo, on the 25th of July, 1797, was founded the mission of San Miguel Arcangel. The two old missions contributed horses, cattle and sheep to start the new one. The mission had a propitious beginning; fifteen children were baptized on the day the mission was founded. At the close of the century the number of converts reached three hundred and eighty-five, of whom fifty-three had died. The mission population numbered 1,076 in 1814; after that it steadily declined until, in 1834, there were only 599 attached to the establishment. Total number of baptisms was 2,588; deaths 2,038. The average death rate was 6.91 per cent of the population, the lowest rate in any

of the missions. The mission was secularized in 1836.

#### SAN FERNANDO REY DE ESPANA.

In the closing years of the century explorations were made for new mission sites in California. These were to be located between missions already founded. Among those selected at that time was the site of the mission San Fernando on the Encino Rancho, then occupied by Francisco Reyes. Reyes surrendered whatever right he had to the land and the padres occupied his house for a dwelling while new buildings were in the course of erection.

September 8, 1797, with the usual ceremonies, the mission was founded by President Lasuen, assisted by Father Dumetz. According to instructions from Mexico it was dedicated to San Fernando Rey de España (Fernando III., King of Spain, 1217-1251). At the end of the year 1797, fifty-five converts had been gathered into the mission fold and at the end of the century three hundred and fifty-two had been baptized.

The adobe church began before the close of the century was completed and dedicated in December, 1806. It had a tiled roof. It was but slightly injured by the great earthquakes of December, 1812, which were so destructive to the mission buildings at San Juan Capistrano, Santa Barbara, La Purisima and Santa Ynez. This mission reached its greatest prosperity in 1819, when its neophyte population numbered 1,080. The largest number of cattle owned by it at one time was 12,800 in 1819.

Its decline was not so rapid as that of some of the other missions, but the death rate, especially among the children, was fully as high. Of the 1,367 Indian children baptized there during the existence of mission rule 965, or over seventy per cent, died in childhood. It was not strange that the fearful death rate both of children and adults at the missions sometimes frightened the neophytes into running away.

#### SAN LUIS REY DE FRANCIA.

Several explorations had been made for a mission site between San Diego and San Juan Capistrano. There was quite a large Indian

population that had not been brought into the folds of either mission. In October, 1797, a new exploration of this territory was ordered and a site was finally selected, although the agricultural advantages were regarded as not satisfactory.

\* Governor Borica, February 28, 1798, issued orders to the comandante at San Diego to furnish a detail of soldiers to aid in erecting the necessary buildings. June 13, 1798, President Lasuen, the successor of President Serra, assisted by Fathers Peyri and Santiago, with the usual services, founded the new mission. It was named San Luis Rey de Francia (St. Louis, King of France). Its location was near a river on which was bestowed the name of the mission. The mission flourished from its very beginning. Its controlling power was Padre Antonio Peyri. He remained in charge of it from its founding almost to its downfall, in all thirty-three years. He was a man of great executive abilities and under his administration it became one of the largest and most prosperous missions in California. It reached its maximum in 1826, when its neophyte population numbered 2,869, the largest number at one time connected with any mission in the territory.

The asistencia or auxiliary mission of San Antonio was established at Pala, seven leagues easterly from the parent mission. A chapel was erected here and regular services held. One of the padres connected with San Luis Rey was in charge of this station. Father Peyri left California in 1831, with the exiled Governor Victoria. He went to Mexico and from there to Spain and lastly to Rome, where he died. The mission was converted into an Indian pueblo in 1834, but the pueblo was not a success. Most of the neophytes drifted to Los Angeles and San Gabriel. During the Mexican conquest American troops were stationed there. It has recently been partially repaired and is now used for a Franciscan school under charge of Father J. J. O'Keefe.

#### SANTA YNEZ.

Santa Ynez was the last mission founded in Southern California. It was established September 17, 1804. Its location is about forty miles

northwesterly from Santa Barbara, on the easterly side of the Santa Ynez mountains and eighteen miles southeasterly from La Purisima. Father Tapis, president of the missions from 1803 to 1812, preached the sermon and was assisted in the ceremonies by Fathers Cipies, Calzada and Gutierrez. Carrillo, the comandante at the presidio, was present, as were also a number of neophytes from Santa Barbara and La Purisima. Some of these were transferred to the new mission.

The earthquake of December, 1812, shook down a portion of the church and destroyed a number of the neophytes' houses. In 1815 the erection of a new church was begun. It was built of adobes, lined with brick, and was completed and dedicated July 4, 1817. The Indian revolt of 1824, described in the sketch of La Purisima, broke out first at this mission. The neophytes took possession of the church. The mission guard defended themselves and the padre. At the approach of the troops from Santa Barbara the Indians fled to La Purisima.

San Ynez attained its greatest population, 770, in 1816. In 1834 its population had decreased to 334. From its founding in 1804 to 1834, when the decrees of secularization were put in force, 757 Indian children were baptized and 519 died, leaving only 238, or about thirty per cent of those baptized to grow up.

#### SAN RAFAEL.

San Rafael was the first mission established north of the Bay of San Francisco. It was founded December 14, 1817. At first it was an asistencia or branch of San Francisco. An epidemic had broken out in the Mission Dolores and a number of the Indians were transferred to San Rafael to escape the plague. Later on it attained to the dignity of a mission. In 1828 its population was 1,140. After 1830 it began to decline and at the time of its secularization in 1834 there were not more than 500 connected with it. In the seventeen years of its existence under mission rule there were 1,873 baptisms and 608 deaths. The average death rate was 6.09 per cent of the population. The mission was secularized in 1834. All traces of the mission building have disappeared.



## SAN FRANCISCO SOLANO.

The mission of San Francisco de Asis had fallen into a rapid decline. The epidemic that had carried off a number of the neophytes and had caused the transfer of a considerable number to San Rafael had greatly reduced its population. Besides, the sterility of the soil in the vicinity of the mission necessitated going a long distance for agricultural land and pasturage for the herds and flocks. On this account and also for the reason that a number of new converts might be obtained from the gentiles living in the district north of the bay, Governor Arguello and the mission authorities decided to establish a mission in that region. Explorations were made in June and July, 1823. On the 4th of July a site was selected, a cross blessed and raised, a volley of musketry fired and mass said at a place named New San Francisco, but afterwards designated as the Mission of San Francisco Solano. On the 25th of August work was begun on the mission building and on the 4th of April, 1824, a church, 24x105 feet, built of wood, was dedicated.

It had been intended to remove the neophytes from the old mission of San Francisco to the new; but the padres of the old mission opposed its depopulation and suppression. A compromise was effected by allowing all neophytes of the old mission who so elected to go to the new. Although well located, the Mission of Solano was not prosperous. Its largest population, 996, was reached in 1832. The total number of baptisms were 1,315; deaths, 651. The average death rate was 7.8 per cent of the population. The mission was secularized in 1835, at which time there were about 550 neophytes attached to it.

The architecture of the missions was Moorish—that is, if it belonged to any school. The padres in most cases were the architects and master builders. The main feature of the buildings was massiveness. Built of adobe or rough stone, their walls were of great thickness. Most of the church buildings were narrow, their width being out of proportion to their length. This was necessitated by the difficulty of procuring joists and rafters of sufficient length for wide buildings. The padres had no means or perhaps no

knowledge of trussing a roof, and the width of the building had to be proportioned to the length of the timbers procurable. Some of the buildings were planned with an eye for the picturesque, others for utility only. The sites selected for the mission buildings in nearly every case commanded a fine view of the surrounding country. In their prime, their white walls looming up on the horizon could be seen at long distance and acted as beacons to guide the traveler to their hospitable shelter.

Col. J. J. Warner, who came to California in 1831, and saw the mission buildings before they had fallen into decay, thus describes their general plan: "As soon after the founding of a mission as circumstances would permit, a large pile of buildings in the form of a quadrangle, composed in part of burnt brick, but chiefly of sun-dried ones, was erected around a spacious court. A large and capacious church, which usually occupied one of the outer corners of the quadrangle, was a conspicuous part of the pile. In this massive building, covered with red tile, was the habitation of the friars, rooms for guests and for the major domos and their families. In other buildings of the quadrangle were hospital wards, storehouses and granaries, rooms for carding, spinning and weaving of woolen fabrics, shops for blacksmiths, joiners and carpenters, saddlers, shoemakers and soap boilers, and cellars for storing the product (wine and brandy) of the vineyards. Near the habitation of the friars another building of similar material was placed and used as quarters for a small number—about a corporal's guard—of soldiers under command of a non-commissioned officer, to hold the Indian neophytes in check as well as to protect the mission from the attacks of hostile Indians." The Indians, when the buildings of the establishment were complete, lived in adobe houses built in lines near the quadrangle. Some of the buildings of the square were occupied by the alcaldes or Indian bosses. When the Indians were gathered into the missions at first they lived in brush shanties constructed in the same manner as their forefathers had built them for generations. In some of the missions these huts were not replaced by adobe buildings for a generation or more. Vancouver, who visited



the Mission of San Francisco in 1792, sixteen years after its founding, describes the Indian village with its brush-built huts. He says: "These miserable habitations, each of which was allotted for the residence of a whole family, were erected with some degree of uniformity about three or four feet asunder in straight rows, leaving lanes or passageways at right angles between them; but these were so abominably infested with every kind of filth and nastiness as to be rendered no less offensive than degrading to the human species."

Of the houses at Santa Clara, Vancouver says: "The habitations were not so regularly disposed nor did it (the village) contain so many as the village of San Francisco, yet the same horrid state of uncleanness and laziness seemed to pervade the whole." Better houses were then in the course of construction at Santa Clara. "Each house would contain two rooms and a garret with a garden in the rear." Vancouver

visited San Carlos de Monterey in 1792, twenty-two years after its founding. He says: "Notwithstanding these people are taught and employed from time to time in many of the occupations most useful to civil society, they had not made themselves any more comfortable habitations than those of their forefathers; nor did they seem in any respect to have benefited by the instruction they had received."

Captain Beechey, of the English navy, who visited San Francisco and the missions around the bay in 1828, found the Indians at San Francisco still living in their filthy hovels and grinding acorns for food. "San José (mission)," he says, "on the other hand, was all neatness, cleanliness and comfort." At San Carlos he found that the filthy hovels described by Vancouver had nearly all disappeared and the Indians were comfortably housed. He adds: "Sickness in general prevailed to an incredible extent in all the missions."

## CHAPTER VI.

### PRESIDIOS OF CALIFORNIA.

#### SAN DIEGO.

THE presidio was an essential feature of the Spanish colonization of America. It was usually a fortified square of brick or stone, inside of which were the barracks of the soldiers, the officers' quarters, a church, store houses for provisions and military supplies. The gates at the entrance were closed at night, and it was usually provisioned for a siege. In the colonization of California there were four presidios established, namely: San Diego, Monterey, San Francisco and Santa Barbara. Each was the headquarters of a military district and besides a body of troops kept at the presidio it furnished guards for the missions in its respective district and also for the pueblos if there were any in the district. The first presidio was founded at San Diego. As stated in a previous chapter, the two ships of the expedition by sea for the settlement of California arrived at the port of San Diego in a deplorable condition

from scurvy. The *San Antonia*, after a voyage of fifty-nine days, arrived on April 11; the *San Carlos*, although she had sailed a month earlier, did not arrive until April 29, consuming one hundred and ten days in the voyage. Don Miguel Constansó, the engineer who came on this vessel, says in his report: "The scurvy had infected all without exception; in such sort that on entering San Diego already two men had died of the said sickness; most of the seamen, and half of the troops, found themselves prostrate in their beds; only four mariners remained on their feet, and attended, aided by the troops, to trimming and furling the sails and other working of the ship." "The *San Antonia*," says Constansó, "had the half of its crew equally affected by the scurvy, of which illness two men had likewise died." This vessel, although it had arrived at the port on the 11th of April, had evidently not landed any of its sick. On the 1st of

May, Don Pedro Fages, the commander of the troops, Constansó and Estorace, the second captain of the San Carlos, with twenty-five soldiers, set out to find a watering place where they could fill their barrels with fresh water. "Following the west shore of the port, after going a matter of three leagues, they arrived at the banks of a river hemmed in with a fringe of willows and cottonwoods. Its channel must have been twenty varas wide and it discharges into an estuary which at high tide could admit the launch and made it convenient for accomplishing the taking on of water." \* \* \* "Having reconnoitered the watering place, the Spaniards betook themselves back on board the vessels and as these were found to be very far away from the estuary in which the river discharges, their captains, Vicente Vila and Don Juan Perez, resolved to approach it as closely as they could in order to give less work to the people handling the launches. These labors were accomplished with satiety of hardship; for from one day to the next the number of the sick kept increasing, along with the dying of the most aggravated cases and augmented the fatigue of the few who remained on their feet."

"Immediate to the beach on the side toward the east a scanty enclosure was constructed formed of a parapet of earth and fascines, which was garnished with two cannons. They disembarked some sails and awnings from the packets with which they made two tents capacious enough for a hospital. At one side the two officers, the missionary fathers and the surgeon put up their own tents; the sick were brought in launches to this improvised presidio and hospital." "But these diligencies," says Constansó, "were not enough to procure them health." \* \* \* "The cold made itself felt with rigor at night in the barracks and the sun by day, alternations which made the sick suffer cruelly, two or three of them dying every day. And this whole expedition, which had been composed of more than ninety men, saw itself reduced to only eight soldiers and as many mariners in a state to attend to the safeguarding of the barks, the working of the launches, custody of the camp and service of the sick."

Rivera y Moncada, the commander of the first detachment of the land expedition, arrived at San Diego May 14. It was decided by the officers to remove the camp to a point near the river. This had not been done before on account of the small force able to work and the lack of beasts of burden. Rivera's men were all in good health and after a day's rest "all were removed to a new camp, which was transferred one league further north on the right side of the river upon a hill of middling height."

Here a presidio was built, the remains of which can still be seen. It was a parapet of earth similar to that thrown up at the first camp, which, according to Bancroft, was probably within the limits of New Town and the last one in Old Town or North San Diego.

While Portolá's expedition was away searching for the port of Monterey, the Indians made an attack on the camp at San Diego, killed a Spanish youth and wounded Padre Viscaino, the blacksmith, and a Lower California neophyte. The soldiers remaining at San Diego surrounded the buildings with a stockade. Constansó says, on the return of the Spaniards of Portolá's expedition: "They found in good condition their humble buildings, surrounded with a palisade of trunks of trees, capable of a good defense in case of necessity."

"In 1782, the presidial force at San Diego, besides the commissioned officers, consisted of five corporals and forty-six soldiers. Six men were constantly on duty at each of the three missions of the district, San Diego, San Juan Capistrano and San Gabriel; while four served at the pueblo of Los Angeles, thus leaving a sergeant, two corporals and about twenty-five men to garrison the fort, care for the horses and a small herd of cattle, and to carry the mails, which latter duty was the hardest connected with the presidio service in time of peace. There were a carpenter and blacksmith constantly employed, besides a few servants, mostly natives. The population of the district in 1790, not including Indians, was 220."\*

Before the close of the century the wooden palisades had been replaced by a thick adobe

\*Bancroft's History of California, Vol. I,

wall, but even then the fort was not a very formidable defense. Vancouver, the English navigator, who visited it in 1793, describes it as "irregularly built on very uneven ground, which makes it liable to some inconveniences without the obvious appearance of any object for selecting such a spot." It then mounted three small brass cannon.

Gradually a town grew up around the presidio. Robinson, who visited San Diego in 1829, thus describes it: "On the lawn beneath the hill on which the presidio is built stood about thirty houses of rude appearance, mostly occupied by retired veterans, not so well constructed in respect either to beauty or stability as the houses at Monterey, with the exception of that belonging to our Administrador, Don Juan Bandini, whose mansion, then in an unfinished state, bid fair, when completed, to surpass any other in the country."

Under Spain there was attempt at least to keep the presidio in repair, but under Mexican domination it fell into decay. Dana describes it as he saw it in 1836: "The first place we went to was the old ruinous presidio, which stands on rising ground near the village which it overlooks. It is built in the form of an open square, like all the other presidios, and was in a most ruinous state, with the exception of one side, in which the comandante lived with his family. There were only two guns, one of which was spiked and the other had no carriage. Twelve half clothed and half starved looking fellows composed the garrison; and they, it was said, had not a musket apiece. The small settlement lay directly below the fort composed of about forty dark brown looking huts or houses and three or four larger ones whitewashed, which belonged to the gente de razon."

#### THE PRESIDIO OF MONTEREY.

In a previous chapter has been narrated the story of Portolá's expedition in search of Monterey Bay, how the explorers, failing to recognize it, passed on to the northward and discovered the great Bay of San Francisco. On their return they set up a cross at what they supposed was the Bay of Monterey; and at the foot of the cross buried a letter giving information to

any ship that might come up the coast in search of them that they had returned to San Diego. They had continually been on the lookout for the San José, which was to co-operate with them, but that vessel had been lost at sea with all on board. On their return to San Diego, in January, 1770, preparations were made for a return as soon as a vessel should arrive. It was not until the 16th of April that the San Antonio, the only vessel available, was ready to depart for the second objective point of settlement. On the 17th of April, Governor Portolá, Lieutenant Fages, Father Crespi and nineteen soldiers took up their line of march for Monterey. They followed the trail made in 1769 and reached the point where they had set up the cross April 24. They found it decorated with feathers, bows and arrows and a string of fish. Evidently the Indians regarded it as the white man's fetich and tried to propitiate it by offerings.

The San Antonio, bearing Father Serra, Pedro Prat, the surgeon, and Miguel Constansó, the civil engineer, and supplies for the mission and presidio, arrived the last day of May. Portolá was still uncertain whether this was really Monterey Bay. It was hard to discover in the open roadstead stretching out before them Viscaino's land-locked harbor, sheltered from all winds. After the arrival of the San Antonio the officers of the land and sea expedition made a reconnaissance of the bay and all concurred that at last they had reached the destined port. They located the oak under whose wide-spreading branches Padre Ascension, Viscaino's chaplain, had celebrated mass in 1602, and the springs of fresh water near by. Preparations were begun at once for the founding of mission and presidio. A shelter of boughs was constructed, an altar raised and the bells hung upon the branch of a tree. Father Serra sang mass and as they had no musical instrument, salvos of artillery and volleys of musketry furnished an accompaniment to the service. After the religious services the royal standard was raised and Governor Portolá took possession of the country in the name of King Carlos III., King of Spain. The ceremony closed with the pulling of grass and the casting of stones around, significant of en-

tire possession of the earth and its products. After the service all feasted.

Two messengers were sent by Portolá with dispatches to the city of Mexico. A day's journey below San Diego they met Rivera and twenty soldiers coming with a herd of cattle and a flock of sheep to stock the mission pastures. Rivera sent back five of his soldiers with Portolá's carriers. The messengers reached Todos Santos near Cape San Lucas in forty-nine days from Monterey. From there the couriers were sent to San Blas by ship, arriving at the city of Mexico August 10. There was great rejoicing at the capital. Marquis Le Croix and Visitador Galvez received congratulations in the King's name for the extension of his domain.

Portolá superintended the building of some rude huts for the shelter of the soldiers, the officers and the padres. Around the square containing the huts a palisade of poles was constructed. July 9, Portolá having turned over the command of the troops to Lieutenant Fages, embarked on the San Antonio for San Blas; with him went the civil engineer, Constansó, from whose report I have frequently quoted. Neither of them ever returned to California.

The difficulty of reaching California by ship on account of the head winds that blow down the coast caused long delays in the arrival of vessels with supplies. This brought about a scarcity of provisions at the presidios and missions.

In 1772 the padres of San Gabriel were reduced to a milk diet and what little they could obtain from the Indians. At Monterey and San Antonio the padres and the soldiers were obliged to live on vegetables. In this emergency Lieutenant Fages and a squad of soldiers went on a bear hunt. They spent three months in the summer of 1772 killing bears in the Cañada de los Osos (Bear Cañon). The soldiers and missionaries had a plentiful supply of bear meat. There were not enough cattle in the country to admit of slaughtering any for food. The presidial walls which were substituted for the palisades were built of adobes and stone. The inclosure measured one hundred and ten yards on each side. The buildings were roofed with tiles. "On the north were the main entrance,

the guard house, and the warehouses; on the west the houses of the governor comandante and other officers, some fifteen apartments in all; on the east nine houses for soldiers, and a blacksmith shop; and on the south, besides nine similar houses, was the presidio church, opposite the main gateway."\*

The military force at the presidio consisted of cavalry, infantry and artillery, their numbers varying from one hundred to one hundred and twenty in all. These soldiers furnished guards for the missions of San Carlos, San Antonio, San Miguel, Soledad and San Luis Obispo. The total population of gente de razon in the district at the close of the century numbered four hundred and ninety. The rancho "del rey" or rancho of the king was located where Salinas City now stands. This rancho was managed by the soldiers of presidio and was intended to furnish the military with meat and a supply of horses for the cavalry. At the presidio a number of invalided soldiers who had served out their time were settled; these were allowed to cultivate land and raise cattle on the unoccupied lands of the public domain. A town gradually grew up around the presidio square.

Vancouver, the English navigator, visited the presidio of Monterey in 1792 and describes it as it then appeared: "The buildings of the presidio form a parallelogram or long square comprehending an area of about three hundred yards long by two hundred and fifty wide, making one entire enclosure. The external wall is of the same magnitude and built with the same materials, and except that the officers' apartments are covered with red tile made in the neighborhood, the whole presents the same lonely, uninteresting appearance as that already described at San Francisco. Like that establishment, the several buildings for the use of the officers, soldiers, and for the protection of stores and provisions are erected along the walls on the inside of the inclosure, which admits of but one entrance for carriages or persons on horseback; this, as at San Francisco, is on the side of the square fronting the church which was rebuilding with stone like that at San Carlos."

\* \* \*

\*Bancroft's History of California, Vol. I.

"At each corner of the square is a small kind of block house raised a little above the top of the wall where swivels might be mounted for its protection. On the outside, before the entrance into the presidio, which fronts the shores of the bay, are placed seven cannon, four nine and three three-pounders, mounted. The guns are planted on the open plain ground without breastwork or other screen for those employed in working them or the least protection from the weather."

#### THE PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO.

In a previous chapter I have given an account of the discovery of San Francisco Bay by Portolá's expedition in 1769. The discovery of that great bay seems to have been regarded as an unimportant event by the governmental officials. While there was great rejoicing at the city of Mexico over the founding of a mission for the conversion of a few naked savages, the discovery of the bay was scarcely noticed, except to construe it into some kind of a miracle. Father Serra assumed that St. Francis had concealed Monterey from the explorers and led them to the discovery of the bay in order that he (St. Francis) might have a mission named for him. Indeed, the only use to which the discovery could be put, according to Serra's ideas, was a site for a mission on its shores, dedicated to the founder of the Franciscans. Several explorations were made with this in view. In 1772, Lieutenant Fages, Father Crespi and sixteen soldiers passed up the western side of the bay and in 1774 Captain Rivera, Father Palou and a squad of soldiers passed up the eastern shore, returning by way of Monte Diablo, Amador valley and Alameda creek to the Santa Clara valley.

In the latter part of the year 1774, viceroy Bucureli ordered the founding of a mission and presidio at San Francisco. Hitherto all explorations of the bay had been made by land expeditions. No one had ventured on its waters. In 1775 Lieutenant Juan de Ayala of the royal navy was sent in the old pioneer mission ship, the San Carlos, to make a survey of it. August 5, 1775, he passed through the Golden Gate. He moored his ship at an island called by him

Nuestra Señora de los Angeles, now Angel Island. He spent forty days in making explorations. His ship was the first vessel to sail upon the great Bay of San Francisco.

In 1774, Captain Juan Bautista de Anza, commander of the presidio of Tubac in Sonora, had made an exploration of a route from Sonora via the Colorado river, across the desert and through the San Gorgonia pass to San Gabriel mission. From Tubac to the Colorado river the route had been traveled before but from the Colorado westward the country was a terra incognita. He was guided over this by a lower California neophyte who had deserted from San Gabriel mission and alone had reached the rancherias on the Colorado.

After Anza's return to Sonora he was commissioned by the viceroy to recruit soldiers and settlers for San Francisco. October 23, 1775, Anza set out from Tubac with an expedition numbering two hundred and thirty-five persons, composed of soldiers and their families, colonists, musketeers and vaqueros. They brought with them large herds of horses, mules and cattle. The journey was accomplished without loss of life, but with a considerable amount of suffering. January 4, 1776, the immigrants arrived at San Gabriel mission, where they stopped to rest, but were soon compelled to move on, provisions at the mission becoming scarce. They arrived at Monterey March 10. Here they went into camp. Anza with an escort of soldiers proceeded to San Francisco to select a presidio site. Having found a site he returned to Monterey. Rivera, the commander of the territory, had manifested a spirit of jealousy toward Anza and had endeavored to thwart him in his attempts to found a settlement. Disgusted with the action of the commander, Anza, leaving his colonists to the number of two hundred at Monterey took his departure from California. Anza in his explorations for a presidio site had fixed upon what is now Fort Point.

After his departure Rivera experienced a change of heart and instead of trying to delay the founding he did everything to hasten it. The imperative orders of the viceroy received at about this time brought about the change. He ordered Lieutenant Moraga, to whom Anza had



turned over the command of his soldiers and colonists, to proceed at once to San Francisco with twenty soldiers to found the fort. The San Carlos, which had just arrived at Monterey, was ordered to proceed to San Francisco to assist in the founding. Moraga with his soldiers arrived June 27, and encamped on the Laguna de los Dolores, where the mission was a short time afterwards founded. Moraga decided to locate the presidio at the site selected by Anza but awaited the arrival of the San Carlos before proceeding to build. August 18 the vessel arrived. It had been driven down the coast to the latitude of San Diego by contrary winds and then up the coast to latitude 42 degrees. On the arrival of the vessel work was begun at once on the fort. A square of ninety-two varas (two hundred and forty-seven feet) on each side was inclosed with palisades. Barracks, officers' quarters and a chapel were built inside the square. September 17, 1776, was set apart for the services of founding, that being the day of the "Sores of our seraphic father St. Francis." The royal standard was raised in front of the square and the usual ceremony of pulling grass and throwing stones was performed. Possession of the region round about was taken in the name of Carlos III., King of Spain. Over one hundred and fifty persons witnessed the ceremony. Vancouver, who visited the presidio in November, 1792, describes it as a "square area whose sides were about two hundred yards in length, enclosed by a mud wall and resembling a pound for cattle. Above this wall the thatched roofs of the low small houses just made their appearance." The wall was "about fourteen feet high and five feet in breadth and was first formed by upright and horizontal rafters of large timber, between which dried sods and moistened earth were pressed as close and hard as possible, after which the whole was cased with the earth made into a sort of mud plaster which gave it the appearance of durability."

In addition to the presidio there was another fort at Fort Point named Castillo de San Joaquin. It was completed and blessed December 8, 1794. "It was of horseshoe shape, about one hundred by one hundred and twenty feet." The structure rested mainly on sand; the brick-faced

adobe walls crumbled at the shock whenever a salute was fired; the guns were badly mounted and for the most part worn out, only two of the thirteen twenty-four-pounders being serviceable or capable of sending a ball across the entrance of the fort.\*

#### PRESIDIO OF SANTA BARBARA.

Cabrillo, in 1542, found a large Indian population inhabiting the main land of the Santa Barbara channel. Two hundred and twenty-seven years later, when Portolá made his exploration, apparently there had been no decrease in the number of inhabitants. No portion of the coast offered a better field for missionary labor and Father Serra was anxious to enter it. In accordance with Governor Felipe de Neve's report of 1777, it had been decided to found three missions and a presidio on the channel. Various causes had delayed the founding and it was not until April 17, 1782, that Governor de Neve arrived at the point where he had decided to locate the presidio of Santa Barbara. The troops that were to man the fort reached San Gabriel in the fall of 1781. It was thought best for them to remain there until the rainy season was over. March 26, 1782, the governor and Father Serra, accompanied by the largest body of troops that had ever before been collected in California, set out to found the mission of San Buenaventura and the presidio. The governor, as has been stated in a former chapter, was recalled to San Gabriel. The mission was founded and the governor having rejoined the cavalcade a few weeks later proceeded to find a location for the presidio.

"On reaching a point nine leagues from San Buenaventura, the governor called a halt and in company with Father Serra at once proceeded to select a site for the presidio. The choice resulted in the adoption of the square now formed by city blocks 139, 140, 155 and 156, and bounded in common by the following streets: Figueroa, Cañon Perdido, Garden and Anacapa. A large community of Indians were residing there but orders were given to leave them undisturbed. The soldiers were at once

\*Bancroft's "History of California," Vol. I.

directed to hew timbers and gather brush to erect temporary barracks which, when completed, were also used as a chapel. A large wooden cross was made that it might be planted in the center of the square and possession of the country was taken in the name of the cross, the emblem of Christianity.

April 21, 1782, the soldiers formed a square and with edifying solemnity raised the cross and secured it in the earth. Father Serra blessed and consecrated the district and preached a sermon. The royal standard of Spain was unfurled.\*

An inclosure, sixty varas square, was made of palisades. The Indians were friendly, and through their chief yanoalit, who controlled thirteen rancherias, details of them were secured to assist the soldiers in the work of building. The natives were paid in food and clothing for their labor.

Irrigation works were constructed, consisting of a large reservoir made of stone and cement, with a zanja for conducting water to the presidio. The soldiers, who had families, cultivated small gardens which aided in their support. Lieutenant Ortega was in command of the presidio for two years after its founding. He was succeeded by Lieutenant Felipe de Goycochea. After the founding of the mission in 1786, a bitter feud broke out between the padres and the comandante of the presidio. Goycochea claimed the right to employ the Indians in the building of the presidio as he had done before the coming of the friars. This they denied. After an acrimonious controversy the dispute was finally compromised by dividing the Indians into two bands, a mission band and a presidio band.

Gradually the palisades were replaced by an adobe wall twelve feet high. It had a stone foundation and was strongly built. The plaza or inclosed square was three hundred and thirty feet on each side. On two sides of this inclosure were ranged the family houses of the soldiers, averaging in size 15x25 feet. On one side stood the officers' quarters and the church. On

the remaining side were the main entrance four varas wide, the store rooms, soldiers' quarters and a guard room; and adjoining these outside the walls were the corrals for cattle and horses. A force of from fifty to sixty soldiers was kept at the post. There were bastions at two of the corners for cannon.

The presidio was completed about 1790, with the exception of the chapel, which was not finished until 1797. Many of the soldiers when they had served out their time desired to remain in the country. These were given permission to build houses outside the walls of the presidio and in course of time a village grew up around it.

At the close of the century the population of the gente de razon of the district numbered three hundred and seventy. The presidio when completed was the best in California. Vancouver, the English navigator, who visited it in November, 1793, says of it: "The buildings appeared to be regular and well constructed; the walls clean and white and the roofs of the houses were covered with a bright red tile. The presidio excels all the others in neatness, cleanliness and other smaller though essential comforts; it is placed on an elevated part of the plain and is raised some feet from the ground by a basement story which adds much to its pleasantness."

During the Spanish régime the settlement at the presidio grew in the leisurely way that all Spanish towns grew in California. There was but little immigration from Mexico and about the only source of increase was from invalid soldiers and the children of the soldiers growing up to manhood and womanhood. It was a dreary and monotonous existence that the soldiers led at the presidios. A few of them had their families with them. These when the country became more settled had their own houses adjoining the presidio and formed the nuclei of the towns that grew up around the different forts. There was but little fighting to do and the soldiers' service consisted mainly of a round of guard duty at the forts and missions. Occasionally there were conquistas into the Indian country to secure new material for converts from the gentiles. The soldiers were oc-

---

\*Father Cabelleria's History of Santa Barbara.



casionally employed in hunting hindas or runaways from the missions. These when brought back were thoroughly flogged and compelled to wear clogs attached to their legs. Once a month the soldier couriers brought up from Loreta a budget of mail made up of official bandos and a

few letters. These contained about all the news that reached them from their old homes in Mexico. But few of the soldiers returned to Mexico when their term of enlistment expired. In course of time these and their descendants formed the bulk of California's population.

## CHAPTER VII.

### PUEBLOS.

THE pueblo plan of colonization so common in Hispano-American countries did not originate with the Spanish-American colonists. It was older even than Spain herself. In early European colonization, the pueblo plan, the common square in the center of the town, the house lots grouped round it, the arable fields and the common pasture lands beyond, appears in the Aryan village, in the ancient German mark and in the old Roman *praesidium*. The Puritans adopted this form in their first settlements in New England. Around the public square or common where stood the meeting house and the town house, they laid off their home lots and beyond these were their cultivated fields and their common pasture lands. This form of colonization was a combination of communal interests and individual ownership. Primarily, no doubt, it was adopted for protection against the hostile aborigines of the country, and secondly for social advantage. It reversed the order of our own western colonization. The town came first, it was the initial point from which the settlement radiated; while with our western pioneers the town was an afterthought, a center point for the convenience of trade.

When it had been decided to send colonists to colonize California the settlements naturally took the pueblo form. The difficulty of obtaining regular supplies for the presidios from Mexico, added to the great expense of shipping such a long distance, was the principal cause that influenced the government to establish pueblos *de gente de razon*. The presidios received their shipments of grain for breadstuff from San Blas

by sailing vessels. The arrival of these was uncertain. Once when the vessels were unusually long in coming, the padres and the soldiers at the presidios and missions were reduced to living on milk, bear meat and what provisions they could obtain from the Indians. When Felipe de Neve was made governor of Alta or Nueva California in 1776 he was instructed by the viceroy to make observations on the agricultural possibilities of the country and the feasibility of founding pueblos where grain could be produced to supply the military establishments.

On his journey from San Diego to San Francisco in 1777 he carefully examined the country; and as a result of his observations recommended the founding of two pueblos; one on the Rio de Porciuncula in the south, and the other on the Rio de Guadalupe in the north. On the 29th of November, 1777, the Pueblo of San José de Guadalupe was founded. The colonists were nine of the presidio soldiers from San Francisco and Monterey, who had some knowledge of farming and five of Anza's pobladores who had come with his expedition the previous years to found the presidio of San Francisco, making with their families sixty-one persons in all. The pueblo was named for the patron saint of California, San José (St. Joseph), husband of Santa Maria, Queen of the Angeles.

The site selected for the town was about a mile and a quarter north of the center of the present city. The first houses were built of palisades and the interstices plastered with mud. These huts were roofed with earth and the floor was the hard beaten ground. Each head of a family was given a *suerte* or sowing lot of two

hundred varas square, a house lot, "ten dollars a month and a soldier's rations." Each, also, received a yoke of oxen, two cows, a mule, two sheep and two goats, together with the necessary implements and seed, all of which were to be repaid in products of the soil delivered at the royal warehouse. The first communal work done by the pobladores (colonists) was to dam the river, and construct a ditch to irrigate their sowing fields. The dam was not a success and the first sowing of grain was lost. The site selected for the houses was low and subject to overflow.

During wet winters the inhabitants were compelled to take a circuitous route of three leagues to attend church service at the mission of Santa Clara. After enduring this state of affairs through seven winters they petitioned the governor for permission to remove the pueblo further south on higher ground. The governor did not have power to grant the request. The petition was referred to the comandante-general of the Intendencia in Mexico in 1785. He seems to have studied over the matter two years and having advised with the asesor-general "finally issued a decree, June 21, 1787, to Governor Fages, authorizing the settlers to remove to the "adjacent loma (hill) selected by them as more useful and advantageous without changing or altering, for this reason, the limits and boundaries of the territory or district assigned to said settlement and to the neighboring Mission of Santa Clara, as there is no just cause why the latter should attempt to appropriate to herself that land."

Having frequently suffered from floods, it would naturally be supposed that the inhabitants, permission being granted, moved right away. They did nothing of the kind. Ten years passed and they were still located on the old marshy site, still discussing the advantages of the new site on the other side of the river. Whether the padres of the Mission of Santa Clara opposed the moving does not appear in the records, but from the last clause of the comandante-general's decree in which he says "there is not just cause why the latter (the Mission of Santa Clara) should attempt to appropriate to herself the land," it would seem that the mission

padres were endeavoring to secure the new site or at least prevent its occupancy. There was a dispute between the padres and the pobladores over the boundary line between the pueblo and mission that outlived the century. After having been referred to the titled officials, civil and ecclesiastical, a boundary line was finally established, July 24, 1801, that was satisfactory to both. "According to the best evidence I have discovered," says Hall in his History of San José, "the removal of the pueblo took place in 1797," just twenty years after the founding. In 1798 the juzgado or town hall was built. It was located on Market street near El Dorado street.

The area of a pueblo was four square leagues (Spanish) or about twenty-seven square miles. This was sometimes granted in a square and sometimes in a rectangular form. The pueblo lands were divided into classes: Solares, house lots; suertes (chance), sowing fields, so named because they were distributed by lot; propios, municipal lands or lands the rent of which went to defray municipal expenses; ejidas, vacant suburbs or commons; dehesas, pasture where the large herds of the pueblo grazed; realenges, royal lands also used for raising revenue; these were unappropriated lands.

From various causes the founding of the second pueblo had been delayed. In the latter part of 1779, active preparations were begun for carrying out the plan of founding a presidio and three missions on the Santa Barbara Channel and a pueblo on the Rio Porciuncula to be named "Reyna de Los Angeles." The comandante-general of the Four Interior Provinces of the West (which embraced the Californias, Sonora, New Mexico and Viscaya), Don Teodoro de Croix or "El Cavallero de Croix," "The Knight of the Cross," as he usually styled himself, gave instructions to Don Fernando de Rivera y Moncada to recruit soldiers and settlers for the proposed presidio and pueblo in Nueva California. He, Rivera, crossed the gulf and began recruiting in Sonora and Sinaloa. His instructions were to secure twenty-four settlers, who were heads of families. They must be robust and well behaved, so that they might set a good example to the natives. Their families

must accompany them and unmarried female relatives must be encouraged to go, with the view to marrying them to bachelor soldiers.

According to the regulations drafted by Governor Felipe de Neve, June 1, 1779, for the government of the province of California and approved by the king, in a royal order of the 24th of October, 1781, settlers in California from the older provinces were each to be granted a house lot and a tract of land for cultivation. Each poblador in addition was to receive \$116.50 a year for the first two years, "the rations to be understood as comprehended in this amount, and in lieu of rations for the next three years they will receive \$60 yearly."

Section 3 of Title 14 of the Reglamento provided that "To each poblador and to the community of the pueblo there shall be given under condition of repayment in horses and mules fit to be given and received, and in the payment of the other large and small cattle at the just prices, which are to be fixed by tariff, and of the tools and implements at cost, as it is ordained, two mares, two cows, and one calf, two sheep and two goats, all breeding animals, and one yoke of oxen or steers, one plow point, one hoe, one spade, one axe, one sickle, one wood knife, one musket and one leather shield, two horses and one cargo mule. To the community there shall likewise be given the males corresponding to the total number of cattle of different kinds distributed amongst all the inhabitants, one forge and anvil, six crowbars, six iron spades or shovels and the necessary tools for carpenter and cast work." For the government's assistance to the pobladores in starting their colony the settlers were required to sell to the presidios the surplus products of their lands and herds at fair prices, which were to be fixed by the government.

The terms offered to the settlers were certainly liberal, and by our own hardy pioneers, who in the closing years of the last century were making their way over the Alleghany mountains into Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, they would have been considered munificent; but to the indolent and energyless mixed breeds of Sonora and Sinaloa they were no inducement. After

spending nearly nine months in recruiting, Rivera was able to obtain only fourteen pobladores, but little over half the number required, and two of these deserted before reaching California. The soldiers that Rivera had recruited for California, forty-two in number, with their families, were ordered to proceed overland from Alamos, in Sonora, by way of Tucson and the Colorado river to San Gabriel Mission. These were commanded by Rivera in person.

Leaving Alamos in April, 1781, they arrived in the latter part of June at the junction of the Gila and Colorado rivers. After a short delay to rest, the main company was sent on to San Gabriel Mission. Rivera, with ten or twelve soldiers, remained to recruit his live stock before crossing the desert. Two missions had been established on the California side of the Colorado the previous year. Before the arrival of Rivera the Indians had been behaving badly. Rivera's large herd of cattle and horses destroyed the mesquite trees and intruded upon the Indians' melon patches. This, with their previous quarrel with the padres, provoked the savages to an uprising. They, on July 17, attacked the two missions, massacred the padres and the Spanish settlers attached to the missions and killed Rivera and his soldiers, forty-six persons in all. The Indians burned the mission buildings. These were never rebuilt nor was there any attempt made to convert the Yumas. The hostility of the Yumas practically closed the Colorado route to California for many years.

The pobladores who had been recruited for the founding of the new pueblo, with their families and a military escort, all under the command of Lieut. José Zuniga, crossed the gulf from Guaymas to Loreto, in Lower California, and by the 16th of May were ready for their long journey northward. In the meantime two of the recruits had deserted and one was left behind at Loreto. On the 18th of August the eleven who had remained faithful to their contract, with their families, arrived at San Gabriel. On account of smallpox among some of the children the company was placed in quarantine about a league from the mission.

On the 26th of August, 1781, from San Gabriel, Governor de Neve issued his instructions

for the founding of Los Angeles, which gave some additional rules in regard to the distribution of lots not found in the royal reglamento previously mentioned.

On the 4th of September, 1781, the colonists, with a military escort headed by Governor Felipe de Neve, took up their line of march from the Mission San Gabriel to the site selected for their pueblo on the Rio de Porciuncula. There, with religious ceremonies, the Pueblo de Nuestra Señora La Reina de Los Angeles was formally founded. A mass was said by a priest from the Mission San Gabriel, assisted by the choristers and musicians of that mission. There were salvos of musketry and a procession with a cross, candlestick, etc. At the head of the procession the soldiers bore the standard of Spain and the women followed bearing a banner with the image of our Lady the Queen of the Angels. This procession made a circuit of the plaza, the priest blessing it and the building lots. At the close of the services Governor de Neve made an address full of good advice to the colonists. Then the governor, his military escort and the priests returned to San Gabriel and the colonists were left to work out their destiny.

Few of the great cities of the land have had such humble founders as Los Angeles. Of the eleven pobladores who built their huts of poles and tule thatch around the plaza vieja one hundred and twenty-two years ago, not one could read or write. Not one could boast of an un-mixed ancestry. They were mongrels in race, Caucasian, Indian and Negro mixed. Poor in purse, poor in blood, poor in all the sterner qualities of character that our own hardy pioneers of the west possessed, they left no impress on the city they founded; and the conquering race that possesses the land that they colonized has forgotten them. No street or landmark in the city bears the name of any one of them. No monument or tablet marks the spot where they planted the germ of their settlement. No Forefathers' day preserves the memory of their services and sacrifices. Their names, race and the number of persons in each family have been preserved in the archives of California. They are as follows:

1. José de Lara, a Spaniard (or reputed to be one, although it is doubtful whether he was of pure blood) had an Indian wife and three children.
2. José Antonio Navarro, a Mestizo, forty-two years old; wife a mulatress; three children.
3. Basilio Rosas, an Indian, sixty-eight years old, had a mulatto wife and two children.
4. Antonio Mesa, a negro, thirty-eight years old; had a mulatto wife and two children.
5. Antonio Felix Villavicencio, a Spaniard, thirty years old; had an Indian wife and one child.
6. José Vanegas, an Indian, twenty-eight years old; had an Indian wife and one child.
7. Alejandro Rosas, an Indian, nineteen years old, and had an Indian wife. (In the records, "wife, Coyote-Indian.")
8. Pablo Rodriguez, an Indian, twenty-five years old; had an Indian wife and one child.
9. Manuel Camero, a mulatto, thirty years old; had a mulatto wife.
10. Luis Quintero, a negro, fifty-five years old, and had a mulatto wife and five children.
11. José Morena, a mulatto, twenty-two years old, and had a mulatto wife.

Antonio Miranda, the twelfth person described in the padron (list) as a Chino, fifty years old and having one child, was left at Loreto when the expedition marched northward. It would have been impossible for him to have rejoined the colonists before the founding. Presumably his child remained with him, consequently there were but forty-four instead of "forty-six persons in all." Col. J. J. Warner, in his "Historical Sketch of Los Angeles," originated the fiction that one of the founders (Miranda, the Chino,) was born in China. Chino, while it does mean a Chinaman, is also applied in Spanish-American countries to persons or animals having curly hair. Miranda was probably of mixed Spanish and Negro blood, and curly haired. There is no record to show that Miranda ever came to Alta California.

When José de Galvez was fitting out the expedition for occupying San Diego and Monterey, he issued a proclamation naming St. Joseph as the patron saint of his California colonization scheme. Bearing this fact in mind, no

doubt, Governor de Neve, when he founded San José, named St. Joseph its patron saint. Having named one of the two pueblos for San José it naturally followed that the other should be named for Santa Maria, the Queen of the Angels, wife of San José.

On the 1st of August, 1769, Portolá's expedition, on its journey northward in search of Monterey Bay, had halted in the San Gabriel valley near where the Mission Vieja was afterwards located, to reconnoiter the country and "above all," as Father Crespi observes, "for the purpose of celebrating the jubilee of Our Lady of the Angels of Porciuncula." Next day, August 2, after traveling about three leagues (nine miles), Father Crespi, in his diary, says: "We came to a rather wide canada having a great many cottonwood and alder trees. Through it ran a beautiful river toward the north-northeast and curving around the point of a cliff it takes a direction to the south. Toward the north-northeast we saw another river bed which must have been a great overflow, but we found it dry. This arm unites with the river and its great floods during the rainy season are clearly demonstrated by the many uprooted trees scattered along the banks." (This dry river is the Arroyo Seco.) "We stopped not very far from the river, to which we gave the name of Porciuncula." Porciuncula is the name of a hamlet in Italy near which was located the little church of Our Lady of the Angels, in which St. Francis of Assisi was praying when the jubilee was granted him. Father Crespi, speaking of the plain through which the river flows, says: "This is the best locality of all those we have yet seen for a mission, besides having all the resources required for a large town." Padre Crespi was evidently somewhat of a prophet.

The fact that this locality had for a number of years borne the name of "Our Lady of the Angels of Porciuncula" may have influenced Governor de Neve to locate his pueblo here. The full name of the town, El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora La Reyna de Los Angeles, was seldom used. It was too long for everyday use. In the earlier years of the town's history it seems to have had a variety of names. It appears in the records as El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora de Los

Angeles, as El Pueblo de La Reyna de Los Angeles and as El Pueblo de Santa Maria de Los Angeles. Sometimes it was abbreviated to Santa Maria, but it was most commonly spoken of as El Pueblo, the town. At what time the name of Rio Porciuncula was changed to Rio Los Angeles is uncertain. The change no doubt was gradual.

The site selected for the pueblo of Los Angeles was picturesque and romantic. From where Alameda street now is to the eastern bank of the river the land was covered with a dense growth of willows, cottonwoods and alders; while here and there, rising above the swampy copse, towered a giant aliso (sycamore). Wild grapevines festooned the branches of the trees and wild roses bloomed in profusion. Behind the narrow shelf of mesa land where the pueblo was located rose the brown hills, and in the distance, towered the lofty Sierra Madre mountains.

The last pueblo founded in California under Spanish domination was Villa de Branciforte, located on the opposite side of the river from the Mission of Santa Cruz. It was named after the Viceroy Branciforte. It was designed as a coast defense and a place to colonize discharged soldiers. The scheme was discussed for a considerable time before anything was done. Governor Borica recommended "that an adobe house be built for each settler so that the prevalent state of things in San José and Los Angeles, where the settlers still live in tule huts, being unable to build better dwellings without neglecting their fields, may be prevented, the houses to cost not over two hundred dollars."\*

The first detachment of the colonists arrived May 12, 1797, on the Concepcion in a destitute condition. Lieutenant Moraga was sent to superintend the construction of houses for the colonists. He was instructed to build temporary huts for himself and the guard, then to build some larger buildings to accommodate fifteen or twenty families each. These were to be temporary. Only nine families came and they were of a vagabond class that had a constitutional antipathy to work. The settlers received the

\*Bancroft's History of California, Vol. I.



same amount of supplies and allowance of money as the colonists of San José and Los Angeles. Although the colonists were called Spaniards and assumed to be of a superior race to the first settlers of the other pueblos, they made less progress and were more unruly than the mixed and mongrel inhabitants of the older pueblos.

Although at the close of the century three decades had passed since the first settlement was made in California, the colonists had made but little progress. Three pueblos of gente de razon had been founded and a few ranchos granted to ex-soldiers. Exclusive of the soldiers, the white population in the year 1800 did not exceed six hundred. The people lived in the most primitive manner. There was no commerce and no manufacturing except a little at the missions. Their houses were adobe huts roofed with tule thatch. The floor was the beaten earth and the

scant furniture home-made. There was a scarcity of cloth for clothing. Padre Salazar relates that when he was at San Gabriel Mission in 1795 a man who had a thousand horses and cattle in proportion came there to beg cloth for a shirt, for none could be had at the pueblo of Los Angeles nor at the presidio of Santa Barbara.

Hermanagildo Sal, the comandante of San Francisco, writing to a friend in 1799, says, "I send you, by the wife of the pensioner José Barbo, one piece of cotton goods and an ounce of sewing silk. There are no combs and I have no hope of receiving any for three years." Think of waiting three years for a comb!

Eighteen missions had been founded at the close of the century. Except at a few of the older missions, the buildings were temporary structures. The neophytes for the most part were living in wigwams constructed like those they had occupied in their wild state.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE PASSING OF SPAIN'S DOMINATION.

THE Spaniards were not a commercial people. Their great desire was to be let alone in their American possessions. Philip II. once promulgated a decree pronouncing death upon any foreigner who entered the Gulf of Mexico. It was easy to promulgate a decree or to pass restrictive laws against foreign trade, but quite another thing to enforce them.

After the first settlement of California seventeen years passed before a foreign vessel entered any of its ports. The first to arrive were the two vessels of the French explorer, La Perouse, who anchored in the harbor of Monterey, September 15, 1786. Being of the same faith, and France having been an ally of Spain in former times, he was well received. During his brief stay he made a study of the mission system and his observations on it are plainly given. He found a similarity in it to the slave plantations of Santo Domingo. November 14, 1792, the English navigator, Capt. George Vancouver, in the ship *Discovery*, entered the Bay of San

Francisco. He was cordially received by the comandante of the port, Hermanagildo Sal, and the friars of the mission. On the 20th of the month, with several of his officers, he visited the Mission of Santa Clara, where he was kindly treated. He also visited the Mission of San Carlos de Monterey. He wrote an interesting account of his visit and his observations on the country. Vancouver was surprised at the backwardness of the country and the antiquated customs of the people. He says: "Instead of finding a country tolerably well inhabited, and far advanced in cultivation, if we except its natural pastures, flocks of sheep and herds of cattle, there is not an object to indicate the most remote connection with any European or other civilized nation." On a subsequent visit, Captain Vancouver met a chilly reception from the acting governor, Arrillaga. The Spaniards suspected him of spying out the weakness of their defenses. Through the English, the Spaniards became acquainted with the importance and

value of the fur trade. The bays and lagoons of California abounded in sea otter. Their skins were worth in China all the way from \$30 to \$100 each. The trade was made a government monopoly. The skins were to be collected from the natives, soldiers and others by the missionaries, at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$10 each, and turned over to the government officials appointed to receive them. All trade by private persons was prohibited. The government was sole trader. But the government failed to make the trade profitable. In the closing years of the century the American smugglers began to haunt the coast. The restrictions against trade with foreigners were proscriptive and the penalties for evasion severe, but men will trade under the most adverse circumstances. Spain was a long way off, and smuggling was not a very venal sin in the eyes of layman or churchman. Fast sailing vessels were fitted out in Boston for illicit trade on the California coast. Watching their opportunities, these vessels slipped into the bays and inlets along the coast. There was a rapid exchange of Yankee notions for sea otter skins, the most valued peltry of California, and the vessels were out to sea before the revenue officers could intercept them. If successful in escaping capture, the profits of a smuggling voyage were enormous, ranging from 500 to 1,000 per cent above cost on the goods exchanged; but the risks were great. The smuggler had no protection; he was an outlaw. He was the legitimate prey of the padres, the people and the revenue officers. The Yankee smuggler usually came out ahead. His vessel was heavily armed, and when speed or stratagem failed he was ready to fight his way out of a scrape.

Each year two ships were sent from San Blas with the memorias—mission and presidio supplies. These took back a small cargo of the products of the territory, wheat being the principal. This was all the legitimate commerce allowed California.

The fear of Russian aggression had been one of the causes that had forced Spain to attempt the colonization of California. Bering, in 1741, had discovered the strait that bears his name and had taken possession, for the Russian gov-

ernment, of the northwestern coast of America. Four years later, the first permanent Russian settlement, Sitka, had been made on one of the coast islands. Rumors of the Russian explorations and settlements had reached Madrid and in 1774 Captain Perez, in the *San Antonia*, was sent up the coast to find out what the Russians were doing.

Had Russian America contained arable land where grain and vegetables could have been grown, it is probable that the Russians and Spaniards in America would not have come in contact; for another nation, the United States, had taken possession of the intervening country, bordering the Columbia river.

The supplies of breadstuffs for the Sitka colonists had to be sent overland across Siberia or shipped around Cape Horn. Failure of supplies sometimes reduced the colonists to sore straits. In 1806, famine and diseases incident to starvation threatened the extinction of the Russian colony. Count Rezánoff, a high officer of the Russian government, had arrived at the Sitka settlement in September, 1805. The destitution prevailing there induced him to visit California with the hope of obtaining relief for the starving colonists. In the ship *Juno* (purchased from an American trader), with a scurvy afflicted crew, he made a perilous voyage down the stormy coast and on the 5th of April, 1806, anchored safely in the Bay of San Francisco. He had brought with him a cargo of goods for exchange but the restrictive commercial regulations of Spain prohibited trade with foreigners. Although the friars and the people needed the goods the governor could not allow the exchange. Count Rezánoff would be permitted to purchase grain for cash, but the Russian's exchequer was not plethoric and his ship was already loaded with goods. Love that laughs at locksmiths eventually unlocked the shackles that hampered commerce. Rezánoff fell in love with Dona Concepcion, the beautiful daughter of Don José Arguello, the comandante of San Francisco, and an old time friend of the governor, Arrillaga. The attraction was mutual. Through the influence of Dona Concepcion, the friars and Arguello, the governor was induced to sanction a plan by which cash was the sup-



posed medium of exchange on both sides, but grain on the one side and goods on the other were the real currency.

The romance of Rezánoff and Dona Concepcion had a sad ending. On his journey through Siberia to St. Petersburg to obtain the consent of the emperor to his marriage he was killed by a fall from his horse. It was several years before the news of his death reached his affianced bride. Faithful to his memory, she never married, but dedicated her life to deeds of charity. After Rezánoff's visit the Russians came frequently to California, partly to trade, but more often to hunt otter. While on these fur hunting expeditions they examined the coast north of San Francisco with the design of planting an agricultural colony where they could raise grain to supply the settlements in the far north. In 1812 they founded a town and built a fort on the coast north of Bodega Bay, which they named Ross. The fort mounted ten guns. They maintained a fort at Bodega Bay and also a small settlement on Russian river. The Spaniards protested against this aggression and threatened to drive the Russians out of the territory, but nothing came of their protests and they were powerless to enforce their demands. The Russian ships came to California for supplies and were welcomed by the people and the friars if not by the government officials. The Russian colony at Ross was not a success. The ignorant soldiers and the Aluets who formed the bulk of its three or four hundred inhabitants, knew little or nothing about farming and were too stupid to learn. After the decline of fur hunting the settlement became unprofitable. In 1841 the buildings and the stock were sold by the Russian governor to Capt. John A. Sutter for \$30,000. The settlement was abandoned and the fort and the town are in ruins.

On the 15th of September, 1810, the patriot priest, Miguel Hidalgo, struck the first blow for Mexican independence. The revolution which began in the province of Guanajuato was at first regarded by the authorities as a mere riot of ignorant Indians that would be speedily suppressed. But the insurrection spread rapidly. Long years of oppression and cruelty had instilled into the hearts of the people an undy-

ing hatred for their Spanish oppressors. Hidalgo soon found himself at the head of a motley army, poorly armed and undisciplined, but its numbers swept away opposition. Unfortunately through over-confidence reverses came and in March, 1811, the patriots met an overwhelming defeat at the bridge of Calderon. Hidalgo was betrayed, captured and shot. Though suppressed for a time, the cause of independence was not lost. For eleven years a fratricidal war was waged—cruel, bloody and devastating. Allende, Mina, Moreles, Alama, Rayon and other patriot leaders met death on the field of battle or were captured and shot as rebels, but "Freedom's battle" bequeathed from bleeding sire to son was won at last.

Of the political upheavals that shook Spain in the first decades of the century only the faintest rumblings reached far distant California. Notwithstanding the many changes of rulers that political revolutions and Napoleonic wars gave the mother country, the people of California remained loyal to the Spanish crown, although at times they must have been in doubt who wore the crown.

Arrillaga was governor of California when the war of Mexican independence began. Although born in Mexico he was of pure Spanish parentage and was thoroughly in sympathy with Spain in the contest. He did not live to see the end of the war. He died in 1814 and was succeeded by Pablo Vicente de Sola. Sola was Spanish born and was bitterly opposed to the revolution, even going so far as to threaten death to any one who should speak in favor of it. He had received his appointment from Viceroy Calleja, the butcher of Guanajuato, the cruelest and most bloodthirsty of the vice regal governors of new Spain. The friars were to a man loyal to Spain. The success of the republic meant the downfall of their domination. They hated republican ideas and regarded their dissemination as a crime. They were the ruling power in California. The governors and the people were subservient to their wishes.

The decade between 1810 and 1820 was marked by two important events, the year of the earthquakes and the year of the insurgents.

The year 1812 was the *Ano de los Temblores*. The seismic disturbance that for forty years or more had shaken California seemed to concentrate in power that year and expend its force on the mission churches. The massive church of San Juan Capistrano, the pride of mission architecture, was thrown down and forty persons killed. The walls of San Gabriel Mission were cracked and some of the saints shaken out of their niches. At San Buenaventura there were three heavy shocks which injured the church so that the tower and much of the facade had to be rebuilt. The whole mission site seemed to settle and the inhabitants, fearful that they might be engulfed by the sea, moved up the valley about two miles, where they remained three months. At Santa Barbara both church and the presidio were damaged and at Santa Inez the church was shaken down. The quakes continued for several months and the people were so terrified that they abandoned their houses and lived in the open air.

The other important epoch of the decade was *El Año de los Insurgentes*, the year of the insurgents. In November, 1818, Bouchard, a Frenchman in the service of Buenos Ayres and provided with letters of marque by San Martin, the president of that republic, to prey upon Spanish commerce, appeared in the port of Monterey with two ships carrying sixty-six guns and three hundred and fifty men. He attacked Monterey and after an obstinate resistance by the Californians, it was taken by the insurgents and burned. Bouchard next pillaged Ortega's rancho and burned the buildings. Then sailing down the coast he scared the Santa Barbarañs; then keeping on down he looked into San Pedro, but finding nothing there to tempt him he kept on to San Juan Capistrano. There he landed, robbed the mission of a few articles and drank the padres' wine. Then he sailed away and disappeared. He left six of his men in California, among them Joseph Chapman of Boston, the first American resident of California.

In the early part of the last century there was a limited commerce with Lima. That

being a Spanish dependency, trade with it was not prohibited. Gilroy, who arrived in California in 1814, says in his reminiscences:\*

"The only article of export then was tallow, of which one cargo was sent annually to Callao in a Spanish ship. This tallow sold for \$1.50 per hundred weight in silver or \$2.00 in trade or goods. Hides, except those used for tallow bags, were thrown away. Wheat, barley and beans had no market. Nearly everything consumed by the people was produced at home. There was no foreign trade."

As the revolution in Mexico progressed times grew harder in California. The mission memorias ceased to come. No tallow ships from Callao arrived. The soldiers' pay was years in arrears and their uniforms in rags. What little wealth there was in the country was in the hands of the padres. They were supreme. "The friars," says Gilroy, "had everything their own way. The governor and the military were expected to do whatever the friars requested. The missions contained all the wealth of the country." The friars supported the government and supplied the troops with food from the products of the neophytes' labor. The crude manufacturers of the missions supplied the people with cloth for clothing and some other necessities. The needs of the common people were easily satisfied. They were not used to luxuries nor were they accustomed to what we would now consider necessities. Gilroy, in the reminiscences heretofore referred to, states that at the time of his arrival (1814) "There was not a saw-mill, whip saw or spoked wheel in California. Such lumber as was used was cut with an axe. Chairs, tables and wood floors were not to be found except in the governor's house. Plates were rare unless that name could be applied to the tiles used instead. Money was a rarity. There were no stores and no merchandise to sell. There was no employment for a laborer. The neophytes did all the work and all the business of the country was in the hands of the friars."

---

\*Alta California, June 25, 1865.

## CHAPTER IX.

## FROM EMPIRE TO REPUBLIC.

THE condition of affairs in California steadily grew worse as the revolution in Mexico progressed. Sola had made strenuous efforts to arouse the Spanish authorities of New Spain to take some action towards benefiting the territory. After the affair with the insurgent Bouchard he had appealed to the viceroy for reinforcements. In answer to his urgent entreaties a force of one hundred men was sent from Mazatlan to garrison San Diego and an equal force from San Blas for Monterey. They reached California in August, 1819, and Sola was greatly rejoiced, but his joy was turned to deep disgust when he discovered the true character of the reinforcement and arms sent him. The only equipments of the soldiers were a few hundred old worn-out sabers that Sola declared were unfit for sickles. He ordered them returned to the comandante of San Blas, who had sent them. The troops were a worse lot than the arms sent. They had been taken out of the prisons or conscripted from the lowest class of the population of the cities. They were thieves, drunkards and vagabonds, who, as soon as landed, resorted to robberies, brawls and assassinations. Sola wrote to the viceroy that the outcasts called troops sent him from the jails of Tepic and San Blas by their vices caused continual disorders; their evil example had debauched the minds of the Indians and that the cost incurred in their collection and transportation had been worse than thrown away. He could not get rid of them, so he had to control them as best he could. Governor Sola labored faithfully to benefit the country over which he had been placed and to arouse the Spanish authorities in Mexico to do something for the advancement of California; but the government did nothing. Indeed it was in no condition to do anything. The revolution would not down. No sooner was one revolutionary leader suppressed and the rebellion apparently crushed than there was an uprising in

some other part of the country under a new leader.

Ten years of intermittent warfare had been waged—one army of patriots after another had been defeated and the leaders shot; the struggle for independence was almost ended and the royalists were congratulating themselves on the triumph of the Spanish crown, when a sudden change came and the vice regal government that for three hundred years had swayed the destinies of New Spain went down forever. Agustin Iturbide, a colonel in the royal army, who in February, 1821, had been sent with a corps of five thousand men from the capital to the Sierras near Acapulco to suppress Guerrero, the last of the patriot chiefs, suddenly changed his allegiance, raised the banner of the revolution and declared for the independence of Mexico under the plan of Iguala, so named for the town where it was first proclaimed. The central ideas of the plan were "Union, civil and religious liberty."

There was a general uprising in all parts of the country and men rallied to the support of the Army of the Three Guarantees, religion, union, independence. Guerrero joined forces with Iturbide and September 21, 1821, at the head of sixteen thousand men, amid the rejoicing of the people, they entered the capital. The viceroy was compelled to recognize the independence of Mexico. A provisional government under a regency was appointed at first, but a few months later Iturbide was crowned emperor, taking the title of his most serene majesty, Agustin I., by divine providence and by the congress of the nation, first constitutional emperor of Mexico.

Sola had heard rumors of the turn affairs were taking in Mexico, but he had kept the reports a secret and still hoped and prayed for the success of the Spanish arms. At length a vessel appeared in the harbor of Monterey floating an unknown flag, and cast anchor beyond

the reach of the guns of the castillo. The soldiers were called to arms. A boat from the ship put off for shore and landed an officer, who declared himself the bearer of dispatches to Don Pablo Vicente de Sola, the governor of the province. "I demand," said he, "to be conducted to his presence in the name of my sovereign, the liberator of Mexico, General Agustin de Iturbide." There was a murmur of applause from the soldiers, greatly to the surprise of their officers, who were all loyalists. Governor Sola was bitterly disappointed. Only a few days before he had harangued the soldiers in the square of the presidio and threatened "to shoot down any one high or low without the formality of a trial who dared to say a word in favor of the traitor Iturbide."

For half a century the banner of Spain had floated from the flag staff of the presidio of Monterey. Sadly Sola ordered it lowered and in its place was hoisted the imperial flag of the Mexican Empire. A few months pass, Iturbide is forced to abdicate the throne of empire and is banished from Mexico. The imperial standard is supplanted by the tricolor of the republic. Thus the Californians, in little more than one year, have passed under three different forms of government, that of a kingdom, an empire and a republic, and Sola from the most loyal of Spanish governors in the kingdom of Spain has been transformed in a Mexican republican.

The friars, if possible, were more bitterly disappointed than the governor. They saw in the success of the republic the doom of their establishments. Republican ideas were repulsive to them. Liberty meant license to men to think for themselves. The shackles of creed and the fetters of priestcraft would be loosened by the growth of liberal ideas. It was not strange, viewing the question from their standpoint, that they refused to take the oath of allegiance to the republic. Nearly all of them were Spanish born. Spain had aided them to plant their missions, had fostered their establishments and had made them supreme in the territory. Their allegiance was due to the Spanish crown. They would not transfer it to a republic and they did not; to the last they were loyal to Spain in

heart, even if they did acquiesce in the observance of the rule of the republic.

Sola had long desired to be relieved of the governorship. He was growing old and was in poor health. The condition of the country worried him. He had frequently asked to be relieved and allowed to retire from military duty. His requests were unheeded; the vice regal government of New Spain had weightier matters to attend to than requests or the complaints of the governor of a distant and unimportant province. The inauguration of the empire brought him the desired relief.

Under the empire Alta California was allowed a diputado or delegate in the imperial congress. Sola was elected delegate and took his departure for Mexico in the autumn of 1822. Luis Antonio Arguello, president of the provincial diputacion, an institution that had come into existence after the inauguration of the empire, became governor by virtue of his position as president. He was the first hijo del pais or native of the country to hold the office of governor. He was born at San Francisco in 1784, while his father, an ensign at the presidio, was in command there. His opportunities for obtaining an education were extremely meager, but he made the best use of what he had. He entered the army at sixteen and was, at the time he became temporary governor, comandante at San Francisco.

The inauguration of a new form of government had brought no relief to California. The two Spanish ships that had annually brought los memorias del rey (the remembrances of the king) had long since ceased to come with their supplies of money and goods for the soldiers. The California ports were closed to foreign commerce. There was no sale for the products of the country. So the missions had to throw open their warehouses and relieve the necessities of the government.

The change in the form of government had made no change in the dislike of foreigners, that was a characteristic of the Spaniard. During the Spanish era very few foreigners had been allowed to remain in California. Run-away sailors and shipwrecked mariners, notwithstanding they might wish to remain in the coun-

try and become Catholics, were shipped to Mexico and returned to their own country. John Gilroy, whose real name was said to be John Cameron, was the first permanent English speaking resident of California. When a boy of eighteen he was left by the captain of a Hudson Bay company's ship at Monterey in 1814. He was sick with the scurvy and not expected to live. Nursing and a vegetable diet brought him out all right, but he could not get away. He did not like the country and every day for several years he went down to the beach and scanned the ocean for a foreign sail. When one did come he had gotten over his home-sickness, had learned the language, fallen in love, turned Catholic and married.

In 1822 William E. P. Hartnell, an Englishman, connected with a Lima business house, visited California and entered into a contract with Padre Payeras, the prefect of the missions, for the purchase of hides and tallow. Hartnell a few years later married a California lady and became a permanent resident of the territory. Other foreigners who came about the same time as Hartnell and who became prominent in California were William A. Richardson, an Englishman; Capt. John R. Cooper of Boston and William A. Gale, also of Boston. Gale had first visited California in 1810 as a fur trader. He returned in 1822 on the ship *Sachem*, the pioneer Boston hide drogher. The hide drogher was in a certain sense the pioneer emigrant ship of California. It brought to the coast a number of Americans who became permanent residents of the territory. California, on account of its long distance from the world's marts of trade, had but few products for exchange that would bear the cost of shipment. Its chief commodities for barter during the Mexican era were hides and tallow. The vast range of country adapted to cattle raising made that its most profitable industry. Cattle increased rapidly and required but little care or attention from their owners. As the native Californians were averse to hard labor cattle raising became almost the sole industry of the country.

After the inauguration of a republican form of government in Mexico some of the most

burdensome restrictions on foreign commerce were removed. The Mexican Congress of 1824 enacted a colonization law, which was quite liberal. Under it foreigners could obtain land from the public domain. The Roman Catholic religion was the state religion and a foreigner, before he could become a permanent resident of the country, acquire property or marry, was required to be baptized and embrace the doctrines of that church. After the Mexican Congress repealed the restrictive laws against foreign commerce a profitable trade grew up between the New England ship owners and the Californians.

Vessels called hide droghers were fitted out in Boston with assorted cargoes suitable for the California trade. Making the voyage by way of Cape Horn they reached California. Stopping at the various ports along the coast they exchanged their stocks of goods and Yankee notions for hides and tallow. It took from two to three years to make a voyage to California and return to Boston, but the profits on the goods sold and on the hides received in exchange were so large that these ventures paid handsomely. The arrival of a hide drogher with its department store cargo was heralded up and down the coast. It broke the monotony of existence, gave the people something new to talk about and stirred them up as nothing else could do unless possibly a revolution.

"On the arrival of a new vessel from the United States," says Robinson in his "Life in California," "every man, woman, boy and girl took a proportionate share of interest as to the qualities of her cargo. If the first inquired for rice, sugar or tobacco, the latter asked for prints, silks and satins; and if the boy wanted a Wilson's jack knife, the girl hoped that there might be some satin ribbons for her. Thus the whole population hailed with eagerness an arrival. Even the Indian in his unsophisticated style asked for *Panas Colorados* and *Abalaris*—red handkerchiefs and beads.

"After the arrival of our trading vessel (at San Pedro) our friends came in the morning flocking on board from all quarters; and soon a busy scene commenced afloat and ashore. Boats were passing to the beach, and men, women



and children partaking in the general excitement. On shore all was confusion, cattle and carts laden with hides and tallow, gente de razon and Indians busily employed in the delivery of their produce and receiving in return its value in goods. Groups of individuals seated around little bonfires upon the ground, and horsemen racing over the plains in every direction. Thus the day passed, some arriving, some departing, till long after sunset, the low white road, leading across the plains to the town (Los Angeles), appeared a living panorama."

The commerce of California during the Mexican era was principally carried on by the hide droghers. The few stores at the pueblos and presidios obtained their supplies from them and retailed their goods to customers in the intervals between the arrivals of the department store droghers.

The year 1824 was marked by a serious outbreak among the Indians of several missions. Although in the older missionary establishments many of the neophytes had spent half a century under the Christianizing influence of the padres and in these, too, a younger generation had grown from childhood to manhood under mission tutelage, yet their Christian training had not eliminated all the aboriginal savagery from their natures. The California Indians were divided into numerous small tribes, each speaking a different dialect. They had never learned, like the eastern Indians did, the advantages of uniting against a common enemy. When these numerous small tribes were gathered into the missions they were kept as far as it was possible separate and it is said the padres encouraged their feuds and tribal animosities to prevent their uniting against the missionaries. Their long residence in the missions had destroyed their tribal distinctions and merged them into one body. It had taught them, too, the value of combination.

How long the Indians had been plotting no one knew. The conspiracy began among the neophytes of Santa Ynez and La Purisima, but it spread to the missions of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, San Buenaventura, San Fernando and San Gabriel. Their plan was to massacre the padres and the mission guard and

having obtained arms to kill all the gente de razon and thus free themselves from mission thralldom and regain their old time freedom. The plotting had been carried on with great secrecy. Rumors had passed from mission to mission arranging the details of the uprising without the whites suspecting anything. Sunday, February 22, 1824, was the day set for beginning the slaughter. At the hour of celebrating mass, when the soldiers and the padres were within the church, the bloody work was to begin. The plot might have succeeded had not the Indians at Santa Ynez begun their work prematurely. One account (Hittell's History of California) says that on Saturday afternoon before the appointed Sunday they determined to begin the work by the murder of Padre Francisco Xavier Uná, who was sleeping in a chamber next the mission church. He was warned by a faithful page. Springing from his couch and rushing to a window he saw the Indians approaching. Seizing a musket from several that were in the room he shot the first Indian that reached the threshold dead. He seized a second musket and laid another Indian low. The soldiers now rallied to his assistance and the Indians were driven back; they set fire to the mission church, but a small body of troops under Sergeant Carrillo, sent from Santa Barbara to reinforce the mission guard, coming up at this time, the Indians fled to Purisima. The fire was extinguished before the church was consumed. At Purisima the Indians were more successful. The mission was defended by Corporal Tapia and five soldiers. The Indians demanded that Tapia surrender, but the corporal refused. The fight began and continued all night. The Indians set fire to the building, but all they could burn was the rafters. Tapia, by a strategic movement, succeeded in collecting all the soldiers and the women and children inside the walls of one of the largest buildings from which the roof had been burnt. From this the Indians could not dislodge him. The fight was kept up till morning, when one of the Indians, who had been a mission alcade, made a proposition to the corporal to surrender. Tapia refused to consider it, but Father Blas Ordaz interfered and insisted on a compromise. After

much contention Tapia found himself overruled. The Indians agreed to spare the lives of all on condition that the whites laid down their arms. The soldiers laid down their arms and surrendered two small cannon belonging to the church. The soldiers, the women and the children were then allowed to march to Santa Ynez. While the fight was going on the Indians killed four white men, two of them, Dolores Sepulveda and Ramon Satelo, were on their way to Los Angeles and came to the mission not suspecting any danger. Seven Indians were killed in the fight and a number wounded.

The Indians at Santa Barbara began hostilities according to their prearranged plot. They made an attack upon the mission. Captain de la Guerra, who was in command at the presidio, marched to the mission and a fight of several hours ensued. The Indians sheltered themselves behind the pillars of the corridor and fought with guns and arrows. After losing several of their number they fled to the hills. Four soldiers were wounded. The report of the uprising reached Monterey and measures were taken at once to subdue the rebellious neophytes. A force of one hundred men was sent under Lieut. José Estrada to co-operate with Captain de la Guerra against the rebels. On the 16th of March the soldiers surrounded the Indians who had taken possession of the mission church at Purisima and opened fire upon them. The Indians replied with their captured cannon, muskets and arrows. Estrada's artillery battered down the walls of the church. The Indians, unused to arms, did little execution. Driven out of the wrecked building, they attempted to make their escape by flight, but were intercepted by the cavalry which had been deployed for that purpose. Finding themselves

hemmed in on all sides the neophytes surrendered. They had lost sixteen killed and a large number of wounded. Seven of the prisoners were shot for complicity in the murder of Sepulveda and the three other travelers. The four leaders in the revolt, Mariano Pacomio, Benito and Bernabe, were sentenced to ten years hard labor at the presidio and eight others to lesser terms. There were four hundred Indians engaged in the battle.

The Indians of the Santa Barbara missions and escapes from Santa Ynez and Purisima made their way over the mountains to the Tulares. A force of eighty men under command of a lieutenant was sent against these. The troops had two engagements with the rebels, whom they found at Buenavista Lake and San Emigdio. Finding his force insufficient to subdue them the lieutenant retreated to Santa Barbara. Another force of one hundred and thirty men under Captain Portilla and Lieutenant Valle was sent after the rebels. Father Ripoll had induced the governor to offer a general pardon. The padre claimed that the Indians had not harmed the friars nor committed sacrilege in the church and from his narrow view these were about the only venial sins they could commit. The troops found the fugitive neophytes encamped at San Emigdio. They now professed repentance for their misdeeds and were willing to return to mission life if they could escape punishment. Padres Ripoll and Sarria, who had accompanied the expedition, entered into negotiations with the Indians; pardon was promised them for their offenses. They then surrendered and marched back with the soldiers to their respective missions. This was the last attempt of the Indians to escape from mission rule.



## CHAPTER X.

## FIRST DECADE OF MEXICAN RULE.

JOSE MARIA ECHEANDIA, a lieutenant colonel of the Mexican army, was appointed governor of the two Californias, February 1, 1825. With his staff officers and a few soldiers he landed at Loreto June 22. After a delay of a few months at Loreto he marched overland to San Diego, where he arrived about the middle of October. He summoned Arguello to meet him there, which he did and turned over the government, October 31, 1825. Echeandia established his capital at San Diego, that town being about the center of his jurisdiction. This did not suit the people of Monterey, who become prejudiced against the new governor. Shortly after his inauguration he began an investigation of the attitude of the mission friars towards the republic of Mexico. He called padres Sanches, Zalvidea, Peyri and Martin, representatives of the four southern missions, to San Diego and demanded of them whether they would take the oath of allegiance to the supreme government. They expressed their willingness and were accordingly sworn to support the constitution of 1824. Many of the friars of the northern missions remained contumacious. Among the most stubborn of these was Padre Vicente Francisco de Sarria, former president of the missions. He had resigned the presidency to escape taking the oath of allegiance and still continued his opposition. He was put under arrest and an order issued for his expulsion by the supreme government, but the execution of the order was delayed for fear that if he were banished others of the disloyal padres would abandon their missions and secretly leave the country. The government was not ready yet to take possession of the missions. The friars could keep the neophytes in subjection and make them work. The business of the country was in the hands of the friars and any radical change would have been disastrous.

The national government in 1827 had issued a decree for the expulsion of Spaniards from Mexican territory. There were certain classes of those born in Spain who were exempt from banishment, but the friars were not among the exempts. The decree of expulsion reached California in 1828; but it was not enforced for the reason that all of the mission padres except three were Spaniards. To have sent these out of the country would have demoralized the missions. The Spanish friars were expelled from Mexico; but those in California, although some of them had boldly proclaimed their willingness to die for their king and their religion and demanded their passports to leave the country, were allowed to remain in the country. Their passports were not given them for reasons above stated. Padres Ripoll and Altimira made their escape without passports. They secretly took passage on an American brig lying at Santa Barbara. Orders were issued to seize the vessel should she put into any other harbor on the coast, but the captain, who no doubt had been liberally paid, took no chance of capture and the padres eventually reached Spain in safety. There was a suspicion that the two friars had taken with them a large amount of money from the mission funds, but nothing was proved. It was certain that they carried away something more than the bag and staff, the only property allowed them by the rules of their order.

The most bitter opponent of the new government was Father Luis Antonio Martinez of San Luis Obispo. Before the clandestine departure of Ripoll and Altimira there were rumors that he meditated a secret departure from the country. The mysterious shipment of \$6,000 in gold belonging to the mission on a vessel called the Santa Apolonia gave credence to the report of his intended flight. He had been given a passport but still remained in the territory. His

outspoken disloyalty and his well known success in evading the revenue laws and smuggling goods into the country had made him particularly obnoxious to the authorities. Governor Echeandia determined to make an example of him. He was arrested in February, 1830, and confined in a room at Santa Barbara. In his trial before a council of war an attempt was made to connect him with complicity in the Solis revolution, but the evidence against him was weak. By a vote of five to one it was decided to send him out of the country. He was put on board an English vessel bound for Callao and there transferred to a vessel bound for Europe; he finally arrived safely at Madrid.

Under the empire a diputacion or provincial legislature had been established in California. Arguello in 1825 had suppressed this while he was governor. Echeandia, shortly after his arrival, ordered an election for a new diputacion. The diputacion made the general laws of the territory. It consisted of seven members called vocals. These were chosen by an electoral junta, the members of which were elected by the people. The diputacion chose a diputado or delegate to the Mexican Congress. As it was a long distance for some of the members to travel to the territorial capital a suplente or substitute was chosen for each member, so as to assure a quorum. The diputacion called by Echeandia met at Monterey, June 14, 1828. The sessions, of which there were two each week, were held in the governor's palacio. This diputacion passed a rather peculiar revenue law. It taxed domestic aguardiente (grape brandy) \$5 a barrel and wine half that amount in the jurisdictions of Monterey and San Francisco; but in the jurisdictions of Santa Barbara and San Diego the rates were doubled, brandy was taxed \$10 a barrel and wine \$5. San Diego, Los Angeles and Santa Barbara were wine producing districts, while Monterey and San Francisco were not. As there was a larger consumption of the product in the wine producing districts than in the others the law was enacted for revenue and not for prevention of drinking.

Another peculiar freak of legislation perpetrated by this diputacion was the attempt to change the name of the territory. The supreme

government was memorialized to change the name of Alta California to that of Montezuma and also that of the Pueblo de Nuestra Señora de los Angeles to that of Villa Victoria de la Reyna de los Angeles and make it the capital of the territory. A coat of arms was adopted for the territory. It consisted of an oval with the figure of an oak tree on one side, an olive tree on the other and a plumed Indian in the center with his bow and quiver, just in the act of stepping across the mythical straits of Anian. The memorial was sent to Mexico, but the supreme government paid no attention to it.

The political upheavals, revolutions and counter revolutions that followed the inauguration of a republican form of government in Mexico demoralized the people and produced a prolific crop of criminals. The jails were always full and it became a serious question what to do with them. It was proposed to make California a penal colony, similar to England's Botany Bay. Orders were issued to send criminals to California as a means of reforming their morals. The Californians protested against the sending of these undesirable immigrants, but in vain. In February, 1830, the brig Maria Ester brought eighty convicts from Acapulco to San Diego. They were not allowed to land there and were taken to Santa Barbara. What to do with them was a serious question with the Santa Barbara authorities. The jail would not hold a tenth part of the shipment and to turn them loose in the sparsely settled country was dangerous to the peace of the community. Finally, about thirty or forty of the worst of the bad lot were shipped over to the island of Santa Cruz. They were given a supply of cattle, some fishhooks and a few tools and turned loose on the island to shift for themselves. They staid on the island until they had slaughtered and eaten the cattle, then they built a raft and drifted back to Santa Barbara, where they quartered themselves on the padres of the mission. Fifty more were sent from Mexico a few months later. These shipments of prison exiles were distributed around among the settlements. Some served out their time and returned to their native land, a few escaped over the border,

others remained in the territory after their time was up and became fairly good citizens.

The colonization law passed by the Mexican Congress August 18, 1824, was the first break in the proscriptive regulations that had prevailed in Spanish-American countries since their settlement. Any foreigner of good character who should locate in the country and become a Roman Catholic could obtain a grant of public land, not exceeding eleven leagues; but no foreigner was allowed to obtain a grant within twenty leagues of the boundary of a foreign country nor within ten leagues of the sea coast. The law of April 14, 1828, allowed foreigners to become naturalized citizens. The applicant was required to have resided at least two years in the country, to be or to become a Roman Catholic, to renounce allegiance to his former country and to swear to support the constitution and laws of the Mexican republic. Quite a number of foreigners who had been residing a number of years in California took advantage of this law and became Mexican citizens by naturalization. The colonization law of November 18, 1828, prescribed a series of rules and regulations for the making of grants of land. Colonists were required to settle on and cultivate the land granted within a specified time or forfeit their grants. Any one residing outside of the republic could not retain possession of his land. The minimum size of a grant as defined by this law was two hundred varas square of irrigable land, eight hundred varas square of arable land (depending on the seasons) and twelve hundred varas square grazing land. The size of a house lot was one hundred varas square.

The Californians had grown accustomed to foreigners coming to the country by sea, but they were not prepared to have them come overland. The mountains and deserts that intervened between the United States and California were supposed to be an insurmountable barrier to foreign immigration by land. It was no doubt with feelings of dismay, mingled with anger, that Governor Echeandia received the advance guard of *maldito extranjeros*, who came across the continent. Echeandia hated foreigners and particularly Americans. The pioneer of over-

land travel from the United States to California was Capt. Jedediah S. Smith. Smith was born in Connecticut and when quite young came with his father to Ohio and located in Ashtabula county, where he grew to manhood amid the rude surroundings of pioneer life in the west. By some means he obtained a fairly good education. We have no record of when he began the life of a trapper. We first hear of him as an employe of General Ashley in 1822. He had command of a band of trappers on the waters of the Snake river in 1824. Afterwards he became a partner of Ashley under the firm name of Ashley & Smith and subsequently one of the members of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company. The latter company had about 1825 established a post and fort near Great Salt Lake. From this, August 22, 1826, Captain Smith with a band of fifteen hunters and trappers started on his first expedition to California. His object was to find some new country that had not been occupied by a fur company. Traveling in a south-westerly direction he discovered a river which he named Adams (after President John Quincy Adams) now known as the Rio Virgin. This stream he followed down to its junction with the Colorado. Traveling down the latter river he arrived at the Mojave villages, where he rested fifteen days. Here he found two wandering neophytes, who guided his party across the desert to the San Gabriel mission, where he and his men arrived safely early in December, 1826.

The arrival of a party of armed Americans from across the mountains and deserts alarmed the padres and couriers were hastily dispatched to Governor Echeandia at San Diego. The Americans were placed under arrest and compelled to give up their arms. Smith was taken to San Diego to give an account of himself. He claimed that he had been compelled to enter the territory on account of the loss of horses and a scarcity of provisions. He was finally released from prison upon the endorsement of several American ship captains and supercargoes who were then at San Diego. He was allowed to return to San Gabriel, where he purchased horses and supplies. He moved his camp to San Bernardino, where he remained until February. The authorities had grown uneasy

at his continued presence in the country and orders were sent to arrest him, but before this could be done he left for the Tulare country by way of Cajon Pass. He trapped on the tributaries of the San Joaquin. By the 1st of May he and his party had reached a fork of the Sacramento (near where the town of Folsom now stands). Here he established a summer camp and the river ever since has been known as the American fork from that circumstance.

Here again the presence of the Americans worried the Mexican authorities. Smith wrote a conciliatory letter to Padre Duran, president of the missions, informing him that he had "made several efforts to pass over the mountains, but the snow being so deep I could not succeed in getting over. I returned to this place, it being the only point to kill meat, to wait a few weeks until the snow melts so that I can go on." "On May 20, 1827," Smith writes, "with two men, seven horses and two mules, I started from the valley. In eight days we crossed Mount Joseph, losing two horses and one mule. After a march of twenty days eastward from Mount Joseph (the Sierra Nevadas) I reached the southwesterly corner of the Great Salt Lake. The country separating it from the mountains is arid and without game. Often we had no water for two days at a time. When we reached Salt Lake we had left only one horse and one mule, so exhausted that they could hardly carry our slight baggage. We had been forced to eat the horses that had succumbed."

Smith's route over the Sierras to Salt Lake was substantially the same as that followed by the overland emigration of later years. He discovered the Humboldt, which he named the Mary river, a name it bore until changed by Fremont in 1845. He was the first white man to cross the Sierra Nevadas. Smith left his party of trappers except the two who accompanied him in the Sacramento valley. He returned next year with reinforcements and was ordered out of the country by the governor. He traveled up the coast towards Oregon. On the Umpqua river he was attacked by the Indians. All his party except himself and two others were massacred. He lost all of his horses and furs. He reached Fort Vancouver, his clothing torn to

rags and almost starved to death. In 1831 he started with a train of wagons to Santa Fe on a trading expedition. While alone searching for water near the Cimarron river he was set upon by a party of Indians and killed. Thus perished by the hands of cowardly savages in the wilds of New Mexico a man who, through almost incredible dangers and sufferings, had explored an unknown region as vast in extent as that which gave fame and immortality to the African explorer, Stanley; and who marked out trails over mountains and across deserts that Fremont following years afterwards won the title of "Pathfinder of the Great West." Smith led the advance guard of the fur trappers to California. Notwithstanding the fact that they were unwelcome visitors these adventurers continued to come at intervals up to 1845. They trapped on the tributaries of the San Joaquin, Sacramento and the rivers in the northern part of the territory. A few of them remained in the country and became permanent residents, but most of them sooner or later met death by the savages.

Capt. Jedediah S. Smith, marked out two of the great immigrant trails by which the overland travel, after the discovery of gold, entered California, one by way of the Humboldt river over the Sierra Nevadas, the other southerly from Salt Lake, Utah Lake, the Rio Virgin, across the Colorado desert, through the Cajon Pass to Los Angeles. A third immigrant route was blazed by the Pattie party. This route led from Santa Fe, across New Mexico, down the Gila to the Colorado and from thence across the desert through the San Geronio Pass to Los Angeles.

This party consisted of Sylvester Pattie, James Ohio Pattie, his son, Nathaniel M. Pryor, Richard Laughlin, Jesse Furguson, Isaac Slover, William Pope and James Puter. The Patties left Kentucky in 1824 and followed trapping in New Mexico and Arizona until 1827; the elder Pattie for a time managing the copper mines of Santa Rita. In May, 1827, Pattie the elder, in command of a party of thirty trappers and hunters, set out to trap the tributaries of the Colorado. Losses by Indian hostilities, by dissensions and desertions reduced the party to eight persons. December 1st, 1827, while

these were encamped on the Colorado near the mouth of the Gila, the Yuma Indians stole all their horses. They constructed rafts and floated down the Colorado, expecting to find Spanish settlements on its banks, where they hoped to procure horses to take them back to Santa Fe. They floated down the river until they encountered the flood tide from the gulf. Finding it impossible to go ahead on account of the tide or back on account of the river current, they landed, cached their furs and traps and with two days' supply of beaver meat struck out westerly across the desert. After traveling for twenty-four days and suffering almost incredible hardships they reached the old Mission of Santa Catalina near the head of the Gulf of California. Here they were detained until news of their arrival could be sent to Governor Echeandia at San Diego. A guard of sixteen soldiers was sent for them and they were conducted to San Diego, where they arrived February 27, 1828. Their arms were taken from them and they were put in prison. The elder Pattie died during their imprisonment. In September all the party except young Pattie, who was retained as a hostage, were released and permitted to go after their buried furs. They found their furs had been ruined by the overflow of the river. Two of the party, Slover and Pope, made their way back to Santa Fe; the others returned, bringing with them their beaver traps. They were again imprisoned by Governor Echeandia, but were finally released.

Three of the party, Nathaniel M. Pryor, Richard Laughlin and Jesse Fergusson, became permanent residents of California. Young Pattie returned to the United States by way of Mexico. After his return, with the assistance of the Rev. Timothy Flint, he wrote an account of his adventures, which was published in Cincinnati in 1833, under the title of "Pattie's Narrative." Young Pattie was inclined to exaggeration. In his narrative he claims that with vaccine matter brought by his father from the Santa Rita mines he vaccinated twenty-two thousand people in California. In Los Angeles alone, he vaccinated twenty-five hundred, which was more than double the population of the town in 1828. He took a contract from the

president of the missions to vaccinate all the neophytes in the territory. When his job was finished the president offered him in pay five hundred cattle and five hundred mules with land to pasture his stock on condition he would become a Roman Catholic and a citizen of Mexico. Pattie scorned the offer and roundly upbraided the padre for taking advantage of him. He had previously given Governor Echeandia a tongue lashing and had threatened to shoot him on sight. From his narrative he seems to have put in most of his time in California blustering and threatening to shoot somebody.

Another famous trapper of this period was "Peg Leg" Smith. His real name was Thomas L. Smith. It is said that in a fight with the Indians his leg below the knee was shattered by a bullet. He coolly amputated his leg at the knee with no other instrument than his hunting knife. He wore a wooden leg and from this came his nickname. He first came to California in 1829. He was ordered out of the country. He and his party took their departure, but with them went three or four hundred California horses. He died in a San Francisco hospital in 1866.

Ewing Young, a famous captain of trappers, made several visits to California from 1830 to 1837. In 1831 he led a party of thirty hunters and trappers, among those of his party who remained in California was Col. J. J. Warner, who became prominent in the territory and state. In 1837 Ewing Young with a party of sixteen men came down from Oregon, where he finally located, to purchase cattle for the new settlements on the Willamette river. They bought seven hundred cattle at \$3 per head from the government and drove them overland to Oregon, reaching there after a toilsome journey of four months with six hundred. Young died in Oregon in 1841.

From the downfall of Spanish domination in 1822, to the close of that decade there had been but few political disturbances in California. The only one of any consequence was Solis' and Herrera's attempt to revolutionize the territory and seize the government. José Maria Herrera had come to California as a commissioner of



the commissary department, but after a short term of service had been removed from office for fraud. Joaquin Solis was a convict who was serving a ten years sentence of banishment from Mexico. The ex-official and the exile with others of damaged character combined to overturn the government.

On the night of November 12, 1829, Solis, with a band of soldiers that he had induced to join his standard, seized the principal government officials at Monterey and put them in prison. At Solis' solicitation Herrera drew up a pronunciamiento. It followed the usual line of such documents. It began by deploring the evils that had come upon the territory through Echeandia's misgovernment and closed with promises of reformation if the revolutionists should obtain control of the government. To obtain the sinews of war the rebels seized \$3,000 of the public funds. This was distributed among the soldiers and proved a great attraction to the rebel cause. Solis with twenty men went to San Francisco and the soldiers there joined his standard. Next he marched against Santa Barbara with an army of one hundred and fifty men. Echeandia on hearing of the revolt had marched northward with all the soldiers he could enlist. The two armies met at Santa Ynez. Solis opened fire on the governor's army. The fire was returned. Solis' men began to break away and soon the army and its valiant leader were in rapid flight. Pacheco's cavalry captured the leaders of the revolt. Herrera, Solis and thirteen others were shipped to Mexico under arrest to be tried for their crimes. The Mexican authorities, always lenient to California revolutionists, probably from a fellow feeling, turned them all loose and Herrera was sent back to fill his former office.

Near the close of his term Governor Echeandia formulated a plan for converting the mission into pueblos. To ascertain the fitness of the neophytes for citizenship he made an investigation to find out how many could read and write. He found so very few that he ordered schools opened at the missions. A pretense was made of establishing schools, but very little was accomplished. The padres were opposed to edu-

cating the natives for the same reason that the southern slave-holders were opposed to educating the negro, namely, that an ignorant people were more easily kept in subjection. Echeandia's plan of secularization was quite elaborate and dealt fairly with the neophytes. It received the sanction of the diputacion when that body met in July, 1830, but before anything could be done towards enforcing it another governor was appointed. Echeandia was thoroughly hated by the mission friars and their adherents. Robinson in his "Life in California" calls him a man of vice and makes a number of damaging assertions about his character and conduct, which are not in accordance with the facts. It was during Echeandia's term as governor that the motto of Mexico, *Dios y Libertad* (God and Liberty), was adopted. It became immensely popular and was used on all public documents and often in private correspondence.

A romantic episode that has furnished a theme for fiction writers occurred in the last year of Echeandia's rule. It was the elopement of Henry D. Fitch with Doña Josefa, daughter of Joaquin Carrillo of San Diego. Fitch was a native of New Bedford, Mass. He came to California in 1826 as master of the *Maria Ester*. He fell in love with Doña Josefa. There were legal obstructions to their marriage. Fitch was a foreigner and a Protestant. The latter objection was easily removed by Fitch becoming a Catholic. The Dominican friar who was to perform the marriage service, fearful that he might incur the wrath of the authorities, civil and clerical, refused to perform the ceremony, but suggested that there were other countries where the laws were less strict and offered to go beyond the limits of California and marry them. It is said that at this point Doña Josefa said: "Why don't you carry me off, Don Enrique?" The suggestion was quickly acted upon. The next night the lady, mounted on a steed with her cousin, Pio Pico, as an escort, was secretly taken to a point on the bay shore where a boat was waiting for her. The boat put off to the *Vulture*, where Captain Fitch received her on board and the vessel sailed for Valparaiso, where the couple were married. A year later Captain Fitch returned to California with his

wife and infant son. At Monterey Fitch was arrested on an order of Padre Sanchez of San Gabriel and put in prison. His wife was also placed under arrest at the house of Captain Cooper. Fitch was taken to San Gabriel for trial, "his offenses being most heinous." At her intercession, Governor Echeandia released Mrs. Fitch and allowed her to go to San Gabriel, where her husband was imprisoned in one of the rooms of the mission. This act of clemency greatly enraged the friar and his fiscal, Palomares, and they seriously considered the question of arresting the governor. The trial dragged along for nearly a month. Many witnesses were examined and many learned points of clerical law discussed. Vicar Sanchez finally gave his decision that the marriage at Valparaiso, though not legitimate, was not null and void, but valid. The couple were condemned

to do penance by "presenting themselves in church with lighted candles in their hands to hear high mass for three feast days and recite together for thirty days one-third of the rosary of the holy virgin."\* In addition to these joint penances the vicar inflicted an additional penalty on Fitch in these words: "Yet considering the great scandal which Don Enrique has caused in this province I condemn him to give as penance and reparation a bell of at least fifty pounds in weight for the church at Los Angeles, which barely has a borrowed one." Fitch and his wife no doubt performed the joint penance imposed upon them, but the church at Los Angeles had to get along with its borrowed bell. Don Enrique never gave it one of fifty pounds or any other weight.

---

\*Bancroft's History of California, Vol. III-144.

## CHAPTER XI.

### REVOLUTIONS—THE HIJAR COLONISTS.

MANUEL VICTORIA was appointed governor in March, 1830, but did not reach California until the last month of the year. Victoria very soon became unpopular. He undertook to overturn the civil authority and substitute military rule. He recommended the abolition of the ayuntamientos and refused to call together the territorial diputacion. He exiled Don Abel Stearns and José Antonio Carrillo; and at different times, on trumped-up charges, had half a hundred of the leading citizens of Los Angeles incarcerated in the pueblo jail. Alcalde Vicente Sanchez was the petty despot of the pueblo, who carried out the tyrannical decrees of his master, Victoria. Among others who were imprisoned in the cuartel was José Maria Avila. Avila was proud, haughty and overbearing. He had incurred the hatred of both Victoria and Sanchez. Sanchez, under orders from Victoria, placed Avila in prison, and to humiliate him put him in irons. Avila brooded over the indignities inflicted upon him and vowed to be revenged.

Victoria's persecutions became so unbearable that Pio Pico, Juan Bandini and José Antonio Carrillo raised the standard of revolt at San Diego and issued a pronunciamiento, in which they set forth the reasons why they felt themselves obliged to rise against the tyrant, Victoria. Pablo de Portilla, comandante of the presidio of San Diego, and his officers, with a force of fifty soldiers, joined the revolutionists and marched to Los Angeles. Sanchez's prisoners were released and he was chained up in the pueblo jail. Here Portilla's force was recruited to two hundred men. Avila and a number of the other released prisoners joined the revolutionists, and all marched forth to meet Victoria, who was moving southward with an armed force to suppress the insurrection. The two forces met on the plains of Cahuenga, west of the pueblo, at a place known as the Lomitas de la Canada de Breita. The sight of his persecutor so infuriated Avila that alone he rushed upon him to run him through with his lance. Captain Pacheco, of Victoria's staff, parried the lance thrust. Avila shot him dead with one of



his pistols and again attacked the governor and succeeded in wounding him, when he himself received a pistol ball that unhorsed him. After a desperate struggle (in which he seized Victoria by the foot and dragged him from his horse) he was shot by one of Victoria's soldiers. Portilla's army fell back in a panic to Los Angeles and Victoria's men carried the wounded governor to the Mission San Gabriel, where his wounds were dressed by Joseph Chapman, who, to his many other accomplishments, added that of amateur surgeon. Some citizens who had taken no part in the fight brought the bodies of Avila and Pacheco to the town. "They were taken to the same house, the same hands rendered them the last sad rites, and they were laid side by side. Side by side knelt their widows and mingled their tears, while sympathizing countrymen chanted the solemn prayers of the church for the repose of the souls of these untimely dead. Side by side beneath the orange and the olive in the little churchyard upon the plaza sleep the slayer and the slain."\*

Next day, Victoria, supposing himself mortally wounded, abdicated and turned over the governorship of the territory to Echeandia. He resigned the office December 9, 1831, having been governor a little over ten months. When Victoria was able to travel he was sent to San Diego, from where he was deported to Mexico, San Diego borrowing \$125 from the ayuntamiento of Los Angeles to pay the expense of shipping him out of the country. Several years afterwards the money had not been repaid, and the town council began proceedings to recover it, but there is no record in the archives to show that it was ever paid. And thus it was that California got rid of a bad governor and Los Angeles incurred a bad debt.

January 10, 1832, the territorial legislature met at Los Angeles to choose a "gefe politico," or governor, for the territory. Echeandia was invited to preside but replied from San Juan Capistrano that he was busy getting Victoria out of the country. The diputacion, after waiting some time and receiving no satisfaction

from Echeandia whether he wanted the office or not, declared Pio Pico, by virtue of his office of senior vocal, "gefe politico."

No sooner had Pico been sworn into office than Echeandia discovered that he wanted the office and wanted it badly. He protested against the action of the diputacion and intrigued against Pico. Another revolution was threatened. Los Angeles favored Echeandia, although all the other towns in the territory had accepted Pico. (Pico at that time was a resident of San Diego.) A mass meeting was called on February 12, 1832, at Los Angeles, to discuss the question whether it should be Pico or Echeandia. I give the report of the meeting in the quaint language of the pueblo archives:

"The town, acting in accord with the Most Illustrious Ayuntamiento, answered in a loud voice, saying they would not admit Citizen Pio Pico as 'gefe politico,' but desired that Lieut.-Col. Citizen José Maria Echeandia be retained in office until the supreme government appoint. Then the president of the meeting, seeing the determination of the people, asked the motive or reason of refusing Citizen Pio Pico, who was of unblemished character. To this the people responded that while it was true that Citizen Pio Pico was to some extent qualified, yet they preferred Lieut.-Col. Citizen José M. Echeandia. The president of the meeting then asked the people whether they had been bribed, or was it merely insubordination that they opposed the resolution of the Most Excellent Diputacion? Whereupon the people answered that they had not been bribed, nor were they insubordinate, but that they opposed the proposed 'gefe politico' because he had not been named by the supreme government."

At a public meeting February 19 the matter was again brought up. Again the people cried out "they would not recognize or obey any other gefe politico than Echeandia." The Most Illustrious Ayuntamiento opposed Pio Pico for two reasons: "First, because his name appeared first on the plan to oust Gefé Politico Citizen Manuel Victoria," and "Second, because he, Pico, had not sufficient capacity to fulfil the duties of the office." Then José Perez and José Antonio Carrillo withdrew from the meeting,

\*Stephen C. Foster.

saying they would not recognize Echeandia as "gefe politico." Pico, after holding the office for twenty days, resigned for the sake of peace. And this was the length of Pico's first term as governor.

Echeandia, by obstinacy and intrigue, had obtained the coveted office, "gefe politico," but he did not long enjoy it in peace. News came from Monterey that Capt. Agustin V. Zamorano had declared himself governor and was gathering a force to invade the south and enforce his authority. Echeandia began at once marshaling his forces to oppose him. Ybarra, Zamorano's military chief, with a force of one hundred men, by a forced march, reached Paso de Bartolo, on the San Gabriel river, where, fifteen years later, Stockton fought the Mexican troops under Flores. Here Ybarra found Captain Borroso posted with a piece of artillery and fourteen men. He did not dare to attack him. Echeandia and Borroso gathered a force of a thousand neophytes at Paso de Bartolo, where they drilled them in military evolutions. Ybarra's troops had fallen back to Santa Barbara, where he was joined by Zamorano with reinforcements. Ybarra's force was largely made up of ex-convicts and other undesirable characters, who took what they needed, asking no questions of the owners. The Angelenos, fearing those marauders, gave their adhesion to Zamorano's plan and recognized him as military chief of the territory. Captain Borroso, Echeandia's faithful adherent, disgusted with the fickleness of the Angelenos, at the head of a thousand mounted Indians, threatened to invade the recalcitrant pueblo, but at the intercession of the frightened inhabitants this modern Coriolanus turned aside and regaled his neophyte retainers on the fat bullocks of the Mission San Gabriel, much to the disgust of the padres. The neophyte warriors were disbanded and sent to their respective missions.

A peace was patched up between Zamorano and Echeandia. Alta California was divided into two territories. Echeandia was given jurisdiction over all south of San Gabriel and Zamorano all north of San Fernando. This division apparently left a neutral district, or "no man's land," between. Whether Los Angeles was in

this neutral territory the records do not show. If it was, it is probable that neither of the governors wanted the job of governing the rebellious pueblo.

In January, 1833, Governor Figueroa arrived in California. Echeandia and Zamorano each surrendered his half of the divided territory to the newly appointed governor, and California was united and at peace. Figueroa proved to be the right man for the times. He conciliated the factions and brought order out of chaos. The two most important events in Figueroa's term of office were the arrival of the Hajar Colony in California and the secularization of the missions. These events were most potent factors in the evolution of the territory.

In 1833 the first California colonization scheme was inaugurated in Mexico. At the head of this was José Maria Hajar, a Mexican gentleman of wealth and influence. He was assisted in its promulgation by José M. Padres, an adventurer, who had been banished from California by Governor Victoria. Padres, like some of our modern real estate boomers, pictured the country as an earthly paradise—an improved and enlarged Garden of Eden. Among other inducements held out to the colonists, it is said, was the promise of a division among them of the mission property and a distribution of the neophytes for servants.

Headquarters were established at the city of Mexico and two hundred and fifty colonists enlisted. Each family received a bonus of \$10, and all were to receive free transportation to California and rations while on the journey. Each head of a family was promised a farm from the public domain, live stock and farming implements; these advances to be paid for on the installment plan. The original plan was to found a colony somewhere north of San Francisco bay, but this was not carried out. Two vessels were dispatched with the colonists—the Morelos and the Natalia. The latter was compelled to put into San Diego on account of sickness on board. She reached that port September 1, 1834. A part of the colonists on board her were sent to San Pedro and from there they were taken to Los Angeles and San Gabriel. The Morelos reached Monterey Sep-

tember 25. Hijar had been appointed governor of California by President Farias, but after the sailing of the expedition, Santa Ana, who had succeeded Farias, dispatched a courier overland with a countermanding order. By one of the famous rides of history, Amador, the courier, made the journey from the city of Mexico to Monterey in forty days and delivered his message to Governor Figueroa. When Hijar arrived he found to his dismay that he was only a private citizen of the territory instead of its governor. The colonization scheme was abandoned and the immigrants distributed themselves throughout the territory. Generally they were a good class of citizens, and many of them became prominent in California affairs.

That storm center of political disturbances, Los Angeles, produced but one small revolution during Figueroa's term as governor. A party of fifty or sixty Sonorans, some of whom were Hijar colonists who were living either in the town or its immediate neighborhood, assembled at Los Nietos on the night of March 7, 1835. They formulated a pronunciamiento against Don José Figueroa, in which they first vigorously arraigned him for sins of omission and commission and then laid down their plan of government of the territory. Armed with this formidable document and a few muskets and lances, these patriots, headed by Juan Gallado, a cobbler, and Felipe Castillo, a cigarmaker, in the gray light of the morning, rode into the pueblo, took possession of the town hall and the big cannon and the ammunition that had

been stored there when the Indians of San Luis Rey had threatened hostilities. The slumbering inhabitants were aroused from their dreams of peace by the drum beat of war. The terrified citizens rallied to the juzgado, the ayuntamiento met, the cobbler statesman, Gallado, presented his plan; it was discussed and rejected. The revolutionists, after holding possession of the pueblo throughout the day, tired, hungry and disappointed in not receiving their pay for saving the country, surrendered to the legal authorities the real leaders of the revolution and disbanded. The leaders proved to be Torres, a clerk, and Apalategui, a doctor, both supposed to be emissaries of Hijar. They were imprisoned at San Gabriel. When news of the revolt reached Figueroa he had Hijar and Padres arrested for complicity in the outbreak. Hijar, with half a dozen of his adherents, was shipped back to Mexico. And thus the man who the year before had landed in California with a commission as governor and authority to take possession of all the property belonging to the missions returned to his native land an exile. His grand colonization scheme and his "Compania Cosmopolitana" that was to revolutionize California commerce were both disastrous failures.

Governor José Figueroa died at Monterey on the 29th of September, 1835. He is generally regarded as the best of the Mexican governors sent to California. He was of Aztec extraction and took a great deal of pride in his Indian blood.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THE MISSIONS.

THE Franciscan Missions of Alta California have of late been a prolific theme for a certain class of writers and especially have they dwelt upon the secularization of these establishments. Their productions have added little or nothing to our previous knowledge of these institutions. Carried away by sentiment these writers draw pictures of mission life that are unreal, that are purely imag-

inary, and aroused to indignation at the injustice they fancy was done to their ideal institutions they deal out denunciations against the authorities that brought about secularization as unjust as they are undeserved. Such expressions as "the robber hand of secularization," and "the brutal and thievish disestablishment of the missions," emanate from writers who seem to be ignorant of the purpose for which the mis-

sions were founded, and who ignore, or who do not know, the causes which brought about their secularization.

It is an historical fact known to all acquainted with California history that these establishments were not intended by the Crown of Spain to become permanent institutions. The purpose for which the Spanish government fostered and protected them was to Christianize the Indians and make of them self-supporting citizens. Very early in its history Governor Borica, Fages and other intelligent Spanish officers in California discovered the weakness of the mission system. Governor Borica, writing in 1796, said: "According to the laws the natives are to be free from tutelage at the end of ten years, the missions then becoming doctrinaires, but those of New California, at the rate they are advancing, will not reach the goal in ten centuries; the reason God knows, and men, too, know something about it."

The tenure by which the mission friars held their lands is admirably set forth in William Carey Jones' "Report on Land Titles in California," made in 1850. He says, "It had been supposed that the lands they (the missions) occupied were grants held as the property of the church or of the mission establishments as corporations. Such, however, was not the case; all the missions in Upper California were established under the direction and mainly at the expense of the government, and the missionaries there had never any other right than to the occupation and use of the lands for the purpose of the missions and at the pleasure of the government. This is shown by the history and principles of their foundation, by the laws in relation to them, by the constant practice of the government toward them and, in fact, by the rules of the Franciscan order, which forbid its members to possess property."

With the downfall of Spanish domination in Mexico came the beginning of the end of missionary rule in California. The majority of the mission padres were Spanish born. In the war of Mexican independence their sympathies were with their mother country, Spain. After Mexico attained her independence, some of them refused to acknowledge allegiance to the repub-

lic. The Mexican authorities feared and distrusted them. In this, in part, they found a pretext for the disestablishment of the missions and the confiscation of the mission estates. There was another cause or reason for secularization more potent than the loyalty of the padres to Spain. Few forms of land monopoly have ever exceeded that in vogue under the mission system of California. From San Diego to San Francisco bay the twenty missions established under Spanish rule monopolized the greater part of the fertile land between the coast range and the sea. The limits of one mission were said to cover the intervening space to the limits of the next. There was but little left for other settlers. A settler could not obtain a grant of land if the padres of the nearest mission objected.

The twenty-four ranchos owned by the Mission San Gabriel contained about a million and a half acres and extended from the sea to the San Bernardino mountains. The greatest neophyte population of San Gabriel was in 1817, when it reached 1,701. Its yearly average for the first three decades of the present century did not exceed 1,500. It took a thousand acres of fertile land under the mission system to support an Indian, even the smallest papoose of the mission flock. It is not strange that the people clamored for a subdivision of the mission estates; and secularization became a public necessity. The most enthusiastic admirer of the missions to-day, had he lived in California seventy years ago, would no doubt have been among the loudest in his wail against the mission system.

The abuse heaped upon the Mexican authorities for their secularization of these institutions is as unjust as it is unmerited. The act of the Mexican Congress of August 17, 1833, was not the initiative movement towards their disestablishment. Indeed in their foundation their secularization, their subdivision into pueblos, was provided for and the local authorities were never without lawful authority over them. In the very beginning of missionary work in Alta California the process of secularizing the mission establishments was mapped out in the following "Instructions given by Viceroy Bucarili August 17, 1773, to the comandante of the new establishments of San Diego and Monterey.

Article 15, when it shall happen that a mission is to be formed into a pueblo or village the comandante will proceed to reduce it to the civil and economical government, which, according to the laws, is observed by other villages of this kingdom; their giving it a name and declaring for its patron the saint under whose memory and protection the mission was founded."

The purpose for which the mission was founded was to aid in the settlement of the country, and to convert the natives to Christianity. "These objects accomplished the missionary's labor was considered fulfilled and the establishment subject to dissolution. This view of their purpose and destiny fully appears in the tenor of the decree of the Spanish Cortes of September 13, 1813. It was passed in consequence of a complaint by the Bishop of Guiana of the evils that affected that province on account of the Indian settlements in charge of missions not being delivered to the ecclesiastical ordinary, although thirty, forty and fifty years had passed since the reduction and conversion of the Indians."\*

The Cortes decreed 1st, that all the new *reducciones y doctrinairs* (settlements of newly converted Indians) not yet formed into parishes of the province beyond the sea which were in charge of missionary monks and had been ten years subjected should be delivered immediately to the respective ecclesiastical ordinaries (bishops) without resort to any excuse or pretext conformably to the laws and cédulas in that respect. Section 2nd, provided that the secular clergy should attend to the spiritual wants of these curacies. Section 3rd, the missionary monks relieved from the converted settlements shall proceed to the conversion of other heathen."

The decree of the Mexican Congress, passed November 20, 1833, for the secularization of the missions of Upper and Lower California, was very similar in its provisions to the decree of the Spanish Cortes of September, 1813. The Mexican government simply followed the example of Spain and in the conversion of the missions into pueblos was attempting to enforce a prin-

ciple inherent in the foundation of the missionary establishments. That secularization resulted disastrously to the Indians was not the fault of the Mexican government so much as it was the defect in the industrial and intellectual training of the neophytes. Except in the case of those who were trained for choir services in the churches there was no attempt made to teach the Indians to read or write. The padres generally entertained a poor opinion of the neophytes' intellectual ability. The reglamento governing the secularization of the missions, published by Governor Echeandia in 1830, but not enforced, and that formulated by the diputacion under Governor Figueroa in 1834, approved by the Mexican Congress and finally enforced in 1834-5-6, were humane measures. These regulations provided for the colonization of the neophytes into pueblos or villages. A portion of the personal property and a part of the lands held by the missions were to be distributed among the Indians as follows:

"Article 5—To each head of a family and all who are more than twenty years old, although without families, will be given from the lands of the mission, whether temporal (lands dependent on the seasons) or watered, a lot of ground not to contain more than four hundred varas (yards) in length, and as many in breadth not less than one hundred. Sufficient land for watering the cattle will be given in common. The outlets or roads shall be marked out by each village, and at the proper time the corporation lands shall be designated." This colonization of the neophytes into pueblos would have thrown large bodies of the land held by the missions open to settlement by white settlers. The personal property of missionary establishments was to have been divided among their neophyte retainers thus: "Article 6. Among the said individuals will be distributed, ratably and justly, according to the discretion of the political chief, the half of the movable property, taking as a basis the last inventory which the missionaries have presented of all descriptions of cattle. Article 7. One-half or less of the implements and seeds indispensable for agriculture shall be allotted to them."

The political government of the Indian pu-

\*William Carey Jones' Report.



eblos was to be organized in accordance with existing laws of the territory governing other towns. The neophyte could not sell, mortgage or dispose of the land granted him; nor could he sell his cattle. The regulations provided that "Religious missionaries shall be relieved from the administration of temporalities and shall only exercise the duties of their ministry so far as they relate to spiritual matters." The nunneries or the houses where the Indian girls were kept under the charge of a duena until they were of marriageable age were to be abolished and the children restored to their parents. Rule 7 provided that "What is called the 'priesthood' shall immediately cease, female children whom they have in charge being handed over to their fathers, explaining to them the care they should take of them, and pointing out their obligations as parents. The same shall be done with the male children."

Commissioners were to be appointed to take charge of the mission property and superintend its subdivision among the neophytes. The conversion of ten of the missionary establishments into pueblos was to begin in August, 1835. That of the others was to follow as soon as possible. San Gabriel, San Fernando and San Juan Capistrano were among the ten that were to be secularized first. For years secularization had threatened the missions, but hitherto something had occurred at the critical time to avert it. The missionaries had used their influence against it, had urged that the neophytes were unfitted for self-support, had argued that the emancipation of the natives from mission rule would result in disaster to them. Through all the agitation of the question in previous years the padres had labored on in the preservation and upbuilding of their establishments; but with the issuing of the secularization decree by the Mexican Congress, August 17, 1833, the organization of the Hija Colon in Mexico and the instructions of acting president Farias to Hija to occupy all the property of the missions and subdivide it among the colonists on their arrival in California, convinced the missionaries that the blow could no longer be averted. The revocation of Hija's appointment as governor and the controversy which followed between

him and Governor Figueroa and the diputacion for a time delayed the enforcement of the decree.

In the meantime, with the energy born of despair, eager at any cost to outwit those who sought to profit by their ruin, the mission fathers hastened to destroy that which through more than half a century thousands of human beings had spent their lives to accumulate. The wealth of the missions lay in their herds of cattle. The only marketable products of these were the hides and tallow. Heretofore a certain number of cattle had been slaughtered each week to feed the neophytes and sometimes when the ranges were in danger of becoming overstocked cattle were killed for their hides and tallow, and the meat left to the coyotes and the carrion crows. The mission fathers knew that if they allowed the possession of their herds to pass to other hands neither they nor the neophytes would obtain any reward for years of labor. The blow was liable to fall at any time. Haste was required. The mission butchers could not slaughter the animals fast enough. Contracts were made with the rancheros to kill on shares. The work of destruction began at the missions. The country became a mighty shambles. The matansas were no longer used. An animal was lassoed on the plain, thrown, its throat cut and while yet writhing in death agony, its hide was stripped and pegged upon the ground to dry. There were no vessels to contain the tallow and this was run into pits in the ground to be taken out when there was more time to spare and less cattle to be killed. The work of destruction went on as long as there were cattle to kill. So great was the stench from rotting carcasses of the cattle on the plains that a pestilence was threatened. The ayuntamiento of Los Angeles, November 15, 1833, passed an ordinance compelling all persons slaughtering cattle for the hides and tallow to cremate the carcasses. Some of the rancheros laid the foundations of their future wealth by appropriating herds of young cattle from the mission ranges.

Hugo Reid, in the letters previously referred to in this volume, says of this period at San Gabriel, "These facts (the decree of secularization



and the distribution of the mission property) being known to Padre Tomas (Estenaga), he, in all probability, by order of his superior, commenced a work of destruction. The back buildings were unroofed and the timber converted into fire wood. Cattle were killed on the halves by people who took a lion's share. Utensils were disposed of and goods and other articles distributed in profusion among the neophytes. The vineyards were ordered to be cut down, which, however, the Indians refused to do." After the mission was placed in charge of an administrator, Padre Tomas remained as minister of the church at a stipend of \$1,500 per annum, derived from the pious fund.

Hugo Reid says of him, "As a wrong impression of his character may be produced from the preceding remarks, in justice to his memory, be it stated that he was a truly good man, a sincere Christian and a despiser of hypocrisy. He had a kind, unsophisticated heart, so that he believed every word told him. There has never been a purer priest in California. Reduced in circumstances, annoyed on many occasions by the petulancy of administrators, he fulfilled his duties according to his conscience, with benevolence and good humor. The nuns, who, when the secular movement came into operation, had been set free, were again gathered together under his supervision and maintained at his expense, as were also a number of old men and women."

The experiment of colonizing the Indians in pueblos was a failure and they were gathered back into the mission, or as many of them as could be got back, and placed in charge of administrators. "The Indians," says Reid, "were made happy at this time in being permitted to enjoy once more the luxury of a tule dwelling, from which the greater part had been debarred for so long; they could now breathe freely again." (The close adobe buildings in which they had been housed in mission days were no doubt one of the causes of the great mortality among them.)

"Administrator followed administrator until the mission could support no more, when the system was broken up." \* \* \* "The Indians during this period were continually run-

ning off. Scantily clothed and still more scantily supplied with food, it was not to be wondered at. Nearly all the Gabrielinos went north, while those of San Diego, San Luis and San Juan overrun this country, filling the Angeles and surrounding ranchos with more servants than were required. Labor, in consequence, was very cheap. The different missions, however, had alcaldes continually on the move, hunting them up and carrying them back, but to no purpose; it was labor in vain."

"Even under the dominion of the church in mission days," Reid says, "the neophytes were addicted both to drinking and gaming, with an inclination to steal," but after their emancipation they went from bad to worse. Those attached to the ranchos and those located in the town were virtually slaves. They had bosses or owners and when they ran away were captured and returned to their master. The account book for 1840 of the *sindico* of Los Angeles contains this item, "For the delivery of two Indians to their boss \$12."

In all the large towns there was an Indian village known as the *pueblito* or little town. These were the sink holes of crime and the favorite resorts of dissolute characters, both white and red. The Indian village at Los Angeles between what is now Aliso and First street became such an intolerable nuisance that on petition of the citizens it was removed across the river to the "Spring of the Abilas," but its removal did not improve its morals. Vicente Guerrero, the *sindico*, discussing the Indian question before the *ayuntamiento* said, "The Indians are so utterly depraved that no matter where they may settle down their conduct would be the same, since they look upon death even with indifference, provided they can indulge in their pleasures and vices." This was their condition in less than a decade after they were freed from mission control.

What did six decades of mission rule accomplish for the Indian? In all the older missions between their founding and their secularization three generations of adults had come under the influence of mission life and training—first, the adult converts made soon after the founding; second, their children born at the missions, and

third, the children of these who had grown to manhood before the fall of the missions. How great an improvement had the neophytes of the third generation made over those of the first? They had to a great extent lost their original language and had acquired a speaking knowledge of Spanish. They had abandoned or forgotten their primitive religious belief, but their new religion exercised but little influence on their lives. After their emancipation they went from bad to worse. Some of the more daring escaped to the mountains and joining the wild tribes there became the leaders in frequent predatory excursions on the horses and cattle of the settlers in the valleys. They were hunted down and shot like wild beasts.

What became of the mission estates? As the cattle were killed off the different ranchos of the mission domains, settlers petitioned the *ayuntamiento* for grants. If upon investigation it was found that the land asked for was vacant the petition was referred to the governor for his approval. In this way the vast mission domains passed into private hands. The country improved more in wealth and population between 1836 and 1846 than in the previous fifty years. Secularization was destruction to the mission

and death to the Indian, but it was beneficial to the country at large. The decline of the missions and the passing of the neophyte had begun long before the decrees of secularization were enforced. Nearly all the missions passed their zenith in population during the second decade of the century. Even had the missionary establishments not been secularized they would eventually have been depopulated. At no time during the mission rule were the number of births equal to the number of deaths. When recruits could no longer be obtained from the Gentiles or wild Indians the decline became more rapid. The mission annals show that from 1769 to 1834, when secularization was enforced—an interval of sixty-five years—79,000 converts were baptized and 62,000 deaths recorded. The death rate among the neophytes was about twice that of the negro in this country and four times that of the white race. The extinction of the neophyte or mission Indian was due to the enforcement of that inexorable law or decree of nature, the Survival of the Fittest. Where a stronger race comes in contact with a weaker, there can be but one termination of the contest—the extermination of the weaker.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE FREE AND SOVEREIGN STATE OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.

G OVERNOR FIGUEROA on his death-bed turned over the civil command of the territory to José Castro, who thereby became "gefe politico ad interim." The military command was given to Lieut.-Col. Nicolas Gutierrez with the rank of comandante general. The separation of the two commands was in accordance with the national law of May 6, 1822.

Castro was a member of the diputacion, but was not senior vocal or president. José Antonio Carrillo, who held that position, was diputado or delegate to congress and was at that time in the city of Mexico. It was he who secured the decree from the Mexican Congress May 23, 1835, making Los Angeles the capital

of California, and elevating it to the rank of a city. The second vocal, José Antonio Estudillo, was sick at his home in San Diego. José Castro ranked third. He was the only one of the diputacion at the capital and at the previous meeting of the diputacion he had acted as presiding officer. Gutierrez, who was at San Gabriel when appointed to the military command, hastened to Monterey, but did not reach there until after the death of Figueroa. Castro, on assuming command, sent a notification of his appointment to the civil authorities of the different jurisdictions. All responded favorably except San Diego and Los Angeles. San Diego claimed the office for Estudillo, second vocal, and Los Angeles declared against Castro be-

cause he was only third vocal and demanded that the diputacion should meet at the legal capital (Los Angeles) of the territory. This was the beginning of the capital war that lasted ten years and increased in bitterness as it increased in age. The diputacion met at Monterey. It decided in favor of Castro and against removing the capital to Los Angeles.

Castro executed the civil functions of *gefe politico* four months and then, in accordance with orders from the supreme government, he turned over his part of the governorship to Comandante General Gutierrez and again the two commands were united in one person. Gutierrez filled the office of "gobernador interno" from January 2, 1836, to the arrival of his successor, Mariano Chico. Chico had been appointed governor by President Barragan, December 16, 1835, but did not arrive in California until April, 1836. Thus California had four governors within nine months. They changed so rapidly there was not time to foment a revolution. Chico began his administration by a series of petty tyrannies. Just before his arrival in California a vigilance committee at Los Angeles shot to death Gervacio Alispaz and his paramour, Maria del Rosaria Villa, for the murder of the woman's husband, Domingo Feliz. Alispaz was a countryman of Chico. Chico had the leaders arrested and came down to Los Angeles with the avowed purpose of executing Prudon, Arzaga and Arango, the president, secretary and military commander, respectively, of the Defenders of Public Security, as the vigilantes called themselves. He announced his intention of arresting and punishing every man who had taken part in the banishment of Governor Victoria. He summoned Don Abel Stearns to Monterey and threatened to have him shot for some imaginary offense. He fulminated a fierce pronunciamiento against foreigners, that incurred their wrath, and made himself so odious that he was hated by all, native or foreigner. He was a centralist and opposed to popular rights. Exasperated beyond endurance by his scandalous conduct and unseemly exhibitions of temper the people of Monterey rose en masse against him, and so terrified him that he took passage on board a brig that was lying in the

harbor and sailed for Mexico with the threat that he would return with an armed force to punish the rebellious Californians, but he never came back again.

With the enforced departure of Chico, the civil command of the territory devolved upon Nicolas Gutierrez, who still held the military command. He was of Spanish birth and a centralist or anti-federalist in politics. Although a mild mannered man he seemed to be impressed with the idea that he must carry out the arbitrary measures of his predecessor. Centralism was his nemesis. Like Chico, he was opposed to popular rights and at one time gave orders to disperse the diputacion by force. He was not long in making himself unpopular by attempting to enforce the centralist decrees of the Mexican Congress.

He quarreled with Juan Bautista Alvarado, the ablest of the native Californians. Alvarado and José Castro raised the standard of revolt. They gathered together a small army of rancheros and an auxiliary force of twenty-five American hunters and trappers under Graham, a backwoodsman from Tennessee. By a strategic movement they captured the castillo or fort which commanded the presidio, where Gutierrez and the Mexican army officials were stationed. The patriots demanded the surrender of the presidio and the arms. The governor refused. The revolutionists had been able to find but a single cannon ball in the castillo, but this was sufficient to do the business. A well-directed shot tore through the roof of the governor's house, covering him and his staff with the debris of broken tiles; that and the desertion of most of his soldiers to the patriots brought him to terms. On the 5th of November, 1836, he surrendered the presidio and resigned his authority as governor. He and about seventy of his adherents were sent aboard a vessel lying in the harbor and shipped out of the country.

With the Mexican governor and his officers out of the country, the next move of Castro and Alvarado was to call a meeting of the diputacion or territorial congress. A plan for the independence of California was adopted. This, which was known afterwards as the Monterey plan, consisted of six sections, the most im-

portant of which were as follows: "First, Alta California hereby declares itself independent from Mexico until the Federal System of 1824 is restored. Second, the same California is hereby declared a free and sovereign state; establishing a congress to enact the special laws of the country and the other necessary supreme powers. Third, the Roman Apostolic Catholic religion shall prevail; no other creed shall be allowed, but the government shall not molest anyone on account of his private opinions." The diputacion issued a declaration of independence that arraigned the mother country, Mexico, and her officials very much in the style that our own Declaration gives it to King George III. and England.

Castro issued a pronunciamiento, ending with Viva La Federacion! Viva La Libertad! Viva el Estado Libre y Soberano de Alta California! Thus amid vivas and proclamations, with the beating of drums and the booming of cannon, El Estado Libre de Alta California (The Free State of Alta California) was launched on the political sea. But it was rough sailing for the little craft. Her ship of state struck a rock and for a time shipwreck was threatened.

For years there had been a growing jealousy between Northern and Southern California. Los Angeles, as has been stated before, had by a decree of the Mexican congress been made the capital of the territory. Monterey had persistently refused to give up the governor and the archives. In the movement to make Alta California a free and independent state, the Angelenos recognized an attempt on the part of the people of the north to deprive them of the capital. Although as bitterly opposed to Mexican governors, and as active in fomenting revolutions against them as the people of Monterey, the Angelenos chose to profess loyalty to the mother country. They opposed the plan of government adopted by the congress at Monterey and promulgated a plan of their own, in which they declared California was not free; that the "Roman Catholic Apostolic religion shall prevail in this jurisdiction, and any person publicly professing any other shall be prosecuted by law as heretofore." A mass meeting was called to take measures "to prevent the

spreading of the Monterey revolution, so that the progress of the nation may not be paralyzed," and to appoint a person to take military command of the department.

San Diego and San Luis Rey took the part of Los Angeles in the quarrel, Sonoma and San José joined Monterey, while Santa Barbara, always conservative, was undecided, but finally issued a plan of her own. Alvarado and Castro determined to suppress the revolutionary Angelenos. They collected a force of one hundred men, made up of natives, with Graham's contingent of twenty-five American riflemen. With this army they prepared to move against the recalcitrant sureños.

The ayuntamiento of Los Angeles began preparations to resist the invaders. An army of two hundred and seventy men was enrolled, a part of which was made up of neophytes. To secure the sinews of war José Sepulveda, second alcalde, was sent to the Mission San Fernando to secure what money there was in the hands of the major domo. He returned with two packages, which, when counted, were found to contain \$2,000.

Scouts patrolled the Santa Barbara road as far as San Buenaventura to give warning of the approach of the enemy, and pickets guarded the Pass of Cahuenga and the Rodeo de Las Aguas to prevent northern spies from entering and southern traitors from getting out of the pueblo. The southern army was stationed at San Fernando under the command of Alferez (Lieut.) Rocha. Alvarado and Castro, pushing down the coast, reached Santa Barbara, where they were kindly received and their force recruited to one hundred and twenty men with two pieces of artillery. José Sepulveda at San Fernando sent to Los Angeles for the cannon at the town house and \$200 of the mission money to pay his men.

On the 16th of January, 1837, Alvarado from San Buenaventura dispatched a communication to the ayuntamiento of Los Angeles and the citizens, telling them what military resources he had, which he would use against them if it became necessary, but he was willing to confer upon a plan of settlement. Sepulveda and Antonio M. Osio were appointed commissioners

and sent to confer with the governor, armed with several propositions, the substance of which was that California shall not be free and the Catholic religion must prevail with the privilege to prosecute any other religion, "according to law as heretofore." The commissioners met Alvarado on "neutral ground," between San Fernando and San Buenaventura. A long discussion followed without either coming to the point. Alvarado, by a coup d'état, brought it to an end. In the language of the commissioners' report to the ayuntamiento: "While we were a certain distance from our own forces with only four unarmed men and were on the point of coming to an agreement with Juan B. Alvarado, we saw the Monterey division advancing upon us and we were forced to deliver up the instructions of this illustrious body through fear of being attacked." They delivered up not only the instructions, but the Mission San Fernando. The southern army was compelled to surrender it and fall back on the pueblo, Rocha swearing worse than "our army in Flanders" because he was not allowed to fight. The southern soldiers had a wholesome dread of Graham's riflemen. These fellows, armed with long Kentucky rifles, shot to kill, and a battle once begun somebody would have died for his country and it would not have been Alvarado's riflemen.

The day after the surrender of the mission, January 21, 1837, the ayuntamiento held a session and the members were as obdurate and belligerent as ever. They resolved that it was only in the interests of humanity that the mission had been surrendered and their army forced to retire. "This ayuntamiento, considering the commissioners were forced to comply, annuls all action of the commissioners and does not recognize this territory as a free and sovereign state nor Juan B. Alvarado as its governor, and declares itself in favor of the Supreme Government of Mexico." A few days later Alvarado entered the city without opposition, the Angelenian soldiers retiring to San Gabriel and from there scattering to their homes.

On the 26th of January an extraordinary session of the most illustrious ayuntamiento was held. Alvarado was present and made a lengthy

speech, in which he said, "The native sons were subjected to ridicule by the Mexican mandarins sent here, and knowing our rights we ought to shake off the ominous yoke of bondage." Then he produced and read the six articles of the Monterey plan, the council also produced a plan and a treaty of amity was effected. Alvarado was recognized as governor pro tem. and peace reigned. The belligerent sureños vied with each other in expressing their admiration for the new order of things. Pio Pico wished to express the pleasure it gave him to see a "hijo del pais" in office. And Antonio Osio, the most belligerent of the sureños, declared "that sooner than again submit to a Mexican dictator as governor, he would flee to the forest and be devoured by wild beasts." The ayuntamiento was asked to provide a building for the government, "this being the capital of the state." The hatchet apparently was buried. Peace reigned in El Estado Libre. At the meeting of the town council, on the 30th of January, Alvarado made another speech, but it was neither conciliatory nor complimentary. He arraigned the "traitors who were working against the peace of the country" and urged the members to take measures "to liberate the city from the hidden hands that will tangle them in their own ruin." The pay of his troops who were ordered here for the welfare of California is due "and it is an honorable and preferred debt, therefore the ayuntamiento will deliver to the government the San Fernando money," said he. With a wry face, very much such as a boy wears when he is told that he has been spanked for his own good, the alcalde turned over the balance of the mission money to Juan Bautista, and the governor took his departure for Monterey, leaving, however, Col. José Castro with part of his army stationed at Mission San Gabriel, ostensibly "to support the city's authority," but in reality to keep a close watch on the city authorities.

Los Angeles was subjugated, peace reigned and El Estado Libre de Alta California took her place among the nations of the earth. But peace's reign was brief. At the meeting of the ayuntamiento May 27, 1838, Juan Bandini and Santiago E. Arguello of San Diego, appeared



with a pronunciamiento and a plan, San Diego's plan of government. Monterey, Santa Barbara and Los Angeles had each formulated a plan of government for the territory, and now it was San Diego's turn. Agustin V. Zamorano, who had been exiled with Governor Gutierrez, had crossed the frontier and was made comandante-general and territorial political chief ad interim by the San Diego revolutionists. The plan restored California to obedience to the supreme government; all acts of the diputacion and the Monterey plan were annulled and the northern rebels were to be arraigned and tried for their part in the revolution; and so on through twenty articles.

On the plea of an Indian outbreak near San Diego, in which the redmen, it was said, "were to make an end of the white race," the big cannon and a number of men were secured at Los Angeles to assist in suppressing the Indians, but in reality to reinforce the army of the San Diego revolutionists. With a force of one hundred and twenty-five men under Zamorano and Portilla, "the army of the supreme government" moved against Castro at Los Angeles. Castro retreated to Santa Barbara and Portilla's army took position at San Fernando.

The civil and military officials of Los Angeles took the oath to support the Mexican constitution of 1836 and, in their opinion, this absolved them from all allegiance to Juan Bautista and his Monterey plan. Alvarado hurried reinforcements to Castro at Santa Barbara, and Portilla called loudly for "men, arms and horses," to march against the northern rebels. But neither military chieftain advanced, and the summer wore away without a battle. There were rumors that Mexico was preparing to send an army of one thousand men to subjugate the rebellious Californians. In October came the news that José Antonio Carrillo, the Machiavelli of California politics, had persuaded President Bustamante to appoint Carlos Carrillo, José's brother, governor of Alta California.

Then consternation seized the arribeños (uppers) of the north and the abajeños (lowers) of Los Angeles went wild with joy. It was not that they loved Carlos Carrillo, for he was a Santa Barbara man and had opposed them in

the late unpleasantness, but they saw in his appointment an opportunity to get revenge on Juan Bautista for the way he had humiliated them. They sent congratulatory messages to Carrillo and invited him to make Los Angeles the seat of his government. Carrillo was flattered by their attentions and consented. The 6th of December, 1837, was set for his inauguration, and great preparations were made for the event. The big cannon was brought over from San Gabriel to fire salutes and the city was ordered illuminated on the nights of the 6th, 7th and 8th of December. Cards of invitation were issued and the people from the city and country were invited to attend the inauguration ceremonies, "dressed as decent as possible," so read the invitations.

The widow Josefa Alvarado's house, the finest in the city, was secured for the governor's palacio (palace). The largest hall in the city was secured for the services and decorated as well as it was possible. The city treasury, being in its usual state of collapse, a subscription for defraying the expenses was opened and horses, hides and tallow, the current coin of the pueblo, were liberally contributed.

On the appointed day, "the most illustrious ayuntamiento and the citizens of the neighborhood (so the old archives read) met his excellency, the governor, Don Carlos Carrillo, who made his appearance with a magnificent accompaniment." The secretary, Narciso Botello, "read in a loud, clear and intelligible voice, the oath, and the governor repeated it after him." At the moment the oath was completed, the artillery thundered forth a salute and the bells rang out a merry peal. The governor made a speech, when all adjourned to the church, where a mass was said and a solemn Te Deum sung; after which all repaired to the house of his excellency, where the southern patriots drank his health in bumpers of wine and shouted themselves hoarse in vivas to the new government. An inauguration ball was held—the "beauty and the chivalry of the south were gathered there." Outside the tallows dips flared and flickered from the porticos of the house, bonfires blazed in the streets and cannon boomed salvos from the old plaza. Los Angeles was the capital at last and had a gov-



ernor all to herself, for Santa Barbara refused to recognize Carrillo, although he belonged within its jurisdiction.

The Angeleños determined to subjugate the Barbareños. An army of two hundred men, under Castenada, was sent to capture the city. After a few futile demonstrations, Castenada's forces fell back to San Buenaventura.

Then Alvarado determined to subjugate the Angeleños. He and Castro, gathering together an army of two hundred men, by forced marches reached San Buenaventura, and by a strategic movement captured all of Castenada's horses and drove his army into the mission church. For two days the battle raged and, "cannon to the right of them," and "cannon in front of them volleyed and thundered." One man was killed on the northern side and the blood of several mustangs watered the soil of their native land—died for their country. The southerners slipped out of the church at night and fled up the valley on foot. Castro's caballeros captured about seventy prisoners. Pio Pico, with reinforcements, met the remnant of Castenada's army at the Santa Clara river, and together all fell back to Los Angeles. Then there was wailing in the old pueblo, where so lately there had been rejoicing. Gov. Carlos Carrillo gathered together what men he could get to go with him and retreated to San Diego. Alvarado's army took possession of the southern capital and some of the leading conspirators were sent as prisoners to the castillo at Sonoma.

Carrillo, at San Diego, received a small reinforcement from Mexico, under a Captain Tobar. Tobar was made general and given command of the southern army. Carrillo, having recovered from his fright, sent an order to the northern rebels to surrender within fifteen days under penalty of being shot as traitors if they refused. In the meantime Los Angeles was held by the enemy. The second alcalde (the first, Louis Aranas, was a prisoner) called a meeting to devise some means "to have his excellency, Don Carlos Carrillo, return to this capital, as his presence is very much desired by the citizens to protect their lives and property." A committee was appointed to locate Don Carlos.

Instead of surrendering, Castro and Alvarado, with a force of two hundred men, advanced against Carrillo. The two armies met at Campo de Las Flores. General Tobar had fortified a cattle corral with rawhides, carretas and cottonwood poles. A few shots from Alvarado's artillery scattered Tobar's rawhide fortifications. Carrillo surrendered. Tobar and a few of the leaders escaped to Mexico. Alvarado ordered the misguided Angeleñan soldiers to go home and behave themselves. He brought the captive governor back with him and left him with his (Carrillo's) wife at Santa Barbara, who became surety for the deposed ruler. Not content with his unfortunate attempts to rule, he again claimed the governorship on the plea that he had been appointed by the supreme government. But the Angeleños had had enough of him. Disgusted with his incompetency, Juan Gallardo, at the session of May 14, 1838, presented a petition praying that this ayuntamiento do not recognize Carlos Carrillo as governor, and setting forth the reasons why we, the petitioners, "should declare ourselves subject to the northern governor" and why they opposed Carrillo.

"First. In having compromised the people from San Buenaventura south into a declaration of war, the incalculable calamities of which will never be forgotten, not even by the most ignorant.

"Second. Not satisfied with the unfortunate event of San Buenaventura, he repeated the same at Campo de Las Flores, which, only through a divine dispensation, California is not to-day in mourning." Seventy citizens signed the petition, but the city attorney, who had done time in Vallejo's castillo, decided the petition illegal because it was written on common paper when paper with the proper seal could be obtained.

Next day Gallardo returned with his petition on legal paper. The ayuntamiento decided to sound the "public alarm" and call the people together to give them "public speech." The public alarm was sounded. The people assembled at the city hall; speeches were made on both sides; and when the vote was taken twenty-two were in favor of the northern governor, five

in favor of whatever the ayuntamiento decides, and Serbulo Vareles alone voted for Don Carlos Carrillo. So the council decided to recognize Don Juan Bautista Alvarado as governor and leave the supreme government to settle the contest between him and Carrillo.

Notwithstanding this apparent burying of the hatchet, there were rumors of plots and intrigues in Los Angeles and San Diego against Alvarado. At length, aggravated beyond endurance, the governor sent word to the sureños that if they did not behave themselves he would shoot ten of the leading men of the south. As he had about that number locked up in the castillo at Sonoma, his was no idle threat. One by one Alvarado's prisoners of state were released from Vallejo's bastle at Sonoma and returned to Los Angeles, sadder if not wiser men. At the session of the ayuntamiento October 20, 1838, the president announced that Senior Regidor José Palomares had returned from Sonoma, where he had been compelled to go by reason of "political differences," and that he should be allowed his seat in the council. The request was granted unanimously.

At the next meeting Narciso Botello, its former secretary, after five and a half months' imprisonment at Sonoma, put in an appearance and claimed his office and his pay. Although others had filled the office in the interim the illustrious ayuntamiento, "ignoring for what offense he was incarcerated, could not suspend his salary." But his salary was suspended. The treasury was empty. The last horse and the last hide had been paid out to defray the expense of the inauguration festivities of Carlos, the Pretender, and the civil war that followed. Indeed there was a treasury deficit of whole caballadas of horses, and bales of hides. Narciso's back pay

was a preferred claim that outlasted *El Estado Libre*.

The sureños of Los Angeles and San Diego, finding that in Alvarado they had a man of courage and determination to deal with, ceased from troubling him and submitted to the inevitable. At the meeting of the ayuntamiento, October 5, 1839, a notification was received, stating that the supreme government of Mexico had appointed Juan Bautista Alvarado governor of the department. There was no grumbling or dissent. On the contrary, the records say, "This illustrious body acknowledges receipt of the communication and congratulated his excellency. It will announce the same to the citizens to-morrow (Sunday), will raise the national colors, salute the same with the required number of volleys, and will invite the people to illuminate their houses for a better display in rejoicing at such a happy appointment." With his appointment by the supreme government the "free and sovereign state of Alta California" became a dream of the past—a dead nation. Indeed, months before Alvarado had abandoned his idea of founding an independent state and had taken the oath of allegiance to the constitution of 1836. The loyal sureños received no thanks from the supreme government for all their professions of loyalty, whilst the rebellious *arribeños* of the north obtained all the rewards—the governor, the capital and the offices. The supreme government gave the deposed governor, Carlos Carrillo, a grant of the island of Santa Rosa, in the Santa Barbara Channel, but whether it was given him as a salve to his wounded dignity or as an *Elba* or *St. Helena*, where, in the event of his stirring up another revolution, he might be banished a la Napoleon, the records do not inform us.

## CHAPTER XIV.

## DECLINE AND FALL OF MEXICAN DOMINATION.

WHILE the revolution begun by Alvarado and Castro had not established California's independence, it had effectually rid the territory of Mexican dictators. A native son was governor of the department of the Californians (by the constitution of 1836 Upper and Lower California had been united into a department); another native son was comandante of its military forces. The membership of the departmental junta, which had taken the place of the diputacion, was largely made up of sons of the soil, and natives filled the minor offices. In their zeal to rid themselves of Mexican office-holders they had invoked the assistance of another element that was ultimately to be their undoing.

During the revolutionary era just passed the foreign population had largely increased. Not only had the foreigners come by sea, but they had come by land. Capt. Jedediah S. Smith, a New England-born trapper and hunter, was the first man to enter California by the overland route. A number of trappers and hunters came in the early '30s from New Mexico by way of the old Spanish trail. This immigration was largely American, and was made up of a bold, adventurous class of men, some of them not the most desirable immigrants. Of this latter class were some of Graham's followers.

By invoking Graham's aid to put him in power, Alvarado had fastened upon his shoulders an old Man of the Sea. It was easy enough to enlist the services of Graham's riflemen, but altogether another matter to get rid of them. Now that he was firmly established in power, Alvarado would, no doubt, have been glad to be rid entirely of his recent allies, but Graham and his adherents were not backward in giving him to understand that he owed his position to them, and they were inclined to put themselves on an equality with him. This did not comport with his ideas of the dignity of his office. To be

hailed by some rough buckskin-clad trapper with "Ho! Bautista; come here, I want to speak with you," was an affront to his pride that the governor of the two Californias could not quietly pass over, and, besides, like all of his countrymen, he disliked foreigners.

There were rumors of another revolution, and it was not difficult to persuade Alvarado that the foreigners were plotting to revolutionize California. Mexico had recently lost Texas, and the same class of "malditos extranjeros" (wicked strangers) were invading California, and would ultimately possess themselves of the country. Accordingly, secret orders were sent throughout the department to arrest and imprison all foreigners. Over one hundred men of different nationalities were arrested, principally Americans and English. Of these forty-seven were shipped to San Blas, and from there marched overland to Tepic, where they were imprisoned for several months. Through the efforts of the British consul, Barron, they were released. Castro, who had accompanied the prisoners to Mexico to prefer charges against them, was placed under arrest and afterwards tried by court-martial, but was acquitted. He had been acting under orders from his superiors. After an absence of over a year twenty of the exiles landed at Monterey on their return from Mexico. Robinson, who saw them land, says: "They returned neatly dressed, armed with rifles and swords, and looking in much better condition than when they were sent away, or probably than they had ever looked in their lives before." The Mexican government had been compelled to pay them damages for their arrest and imprisonment and to return them to California. Graham, the reputed leader of the foreigners, was the owner of a distillery near Santa Cruz, and had gathered a number of hard characters around him. It would have been no loss had he never returned.

The only other event of importance during Alvarado's term as governor was the capture of Monterey by Commodore Ap Catesby Jones, of the United States navy. This event happened after Alvarado's successor, Micheltorena, had landed in California, but before the government had been formally turned over to him.

The following extract from the diary of a pioneer, who was an eye-witness of the affair, gives a good description of the capture:

"MONTEREY, Oct. 19, 1842.—At 2 p. m. the United States man-of-war United States, Commodore Ap Catesby Jones, came to anchor close alongside and in-shore of all the ships in port. About 3 p. m. Capt. Armstrong came ashore, accompanied by an interpreter, and went direct to the governor's house, where he had a private conversation with him, which proved to be a demand for the surrender of the entire coast of California, upper and lower, to the United States government. When he was about to go on board he gave three or four copies of a proclamation to the inhabitants of the two Californias, assuring them of the protection of their lives, persons and property. In his notice to the governor (Alvarado) he gave him only until the following morning at 9 a. m. to decide. If he received no answer, then he would fire upon the town."

"I remained on shore that night and went down to the governor's with Mr. Larkin and Mr. Eagle. The governor had had some idea of running away and leaving Monterey to its fate, but was told by Mr. Spence that he should not go, and finally he resolved to await the result. At 12 at night some persons were sent on board the United States who had been appointed by the governor to meet the commodore and arrange the terms of the surrender. Next morning at half-past ten o'clock about one hundred sailors and fifty marines disembarked. The sailors marched up from the shore and took possession of the fort. The American colors were hoisted. The United States fired a salute of thirteen guns; it was returned by the fort, which fired twenty-six guns. The marines in the meantime had marched up to the government house. The officers and soldiers of the California government were discharged and their guns and other

arms taken possession of and carried to the fort. The stars and stripes now wave over us. Long may they wave here in California!"

"Oct. 21, 4 p. m.—Flags were again changed, the vessels were released, and all was quiet again. The commodore had received later news by some Mexican newspapers."

Commodore Jones had been stationed at Calao with a squadron of four vessels. An English fleet was also there, and a French fleet was cruising in the Pacific. Both these were supposed to have designs on California. Jones learned that the English admiral had received orders to sail next day. Surmising that his destination might be California, he slipped out of the harbor the night before and crowded all sail to reach California before the English admiral. The loss of Texas, and the constant influx of immigrants and adventurers from the United States into California, had embittered the Mexican government more and more against foreigners. Manuel Micheltorena, who had served under Santa Anna in the Texas war, was appointed January 19, 1842, comandante-general inspector and gobernador propietario of the Californias.

Santa Anna was president of the Mexican republic. His experience with Americans in Texas during the Texan war of independence, in 1836-37, had determined him to use every effort to prevent California from sharing the fate of Texas.

Micheltorena, the newly-appointed governor, was instructed to take with him sufficient force to check the ingress of Americans. He recruited a force of three hundred and fifty men, principally convicts enlisted from the prisons of Mexico. His army of thieves and ragamuffins landed at San Diego in August, 1842.

Robinson, who was at San Diego when one of the vessels conveying Micheltorena's cholos (convicts) landed, thus describes them: "Five days afterward the brig Chato arrived with ninety soldiers and their families. I saw them land, and to me they presented a state of wretchedness and misery unequalled. Not one individual among them possessed a jacket or pantaloons, but, naked, and like the savage Indians, they concealed their nudity with dirty,

miserable blankets. The females were not much better off, for the scantiness of their mean apparel was too apparent for modest observers. They appeared like convicts, and, indeed, the greater portion of them had been charged with crime, either of murder or theft."

Micheltorena drilled his Falstaffian army at San Diego for several weeks and then began his march northward; Los Angeles made great preparations to receive the new governor. Seven years had passed since she had been decreed the capital of the territory, and in all these years she had been denied her rights by Monterey. A favorable impression on the new governor might induce him to make the ciudad his capital. The national fiesta of September 16 was postponed until the arrival of the governor. The best house in the town was secured for him and his staff. A grand ball was projected and the city illuminated the night of his arrival. A camp was established down by the river and the cholos, who in the meantime had been given white linen uniforms, were put through the drill and the manual of arms. They were incorrigible thieves, and stole for the very pleasure of stealing. They robbed the hen roosts, the orchards, the vineyards and the vegetable gardens of the citizens. To the Angeleños the glory of their city as the capital of the territory faded in the presence of their empty chicken coops and plundered orchards. They longed to speed the departure of their now unwelcome guests. After a stay of a month in the city Micheltorena and his army took up their line of march northward. He reached a point about twenty miles north of San Fernando, when, on the night of the 24th of October, a messenger aroused him from his slumbers with the news that the capital had been captured by the Americans. Micheltorena seized the occasion to make political capital for himself with the home government. He spent the remainder of the night in fulminating proclamations against the invaders fiercer than the thunderbolts of Jove, copies of which were dispatched post haste to Mexico. He even wished himself a thunderbolt "that he might fly over intervening space and annihilate the invaders." Then, with his own courage and doubtless that of his brave cholos aroused to the highest

pitch, instead of rushing on the invaders, he and his army fled back to San Fernando, where, afraid to advance or retreat, he halted until news reached him that Commodore Jones had restored Monterey to the Californians. Then his valor reached the boiling point. He boldly marched to Los Angeles, established his headquarters in the city and awaited the coming of Commodore Jones and his officers from Monterey.

On the 19th of January, 1843, Commodore Jones and his staff came to Los Angeles to meet the governor. At the famous conference in the Palacio de Don Abel, Micheltorena presented his articles of convention. Among other ridiculous demands were the following: "Article VI. Thomas Ap C. Jones will deliver fifteen hundred complete infantry uniforms to replace those of nearly one-half of the Mexican force, which have been ruined in the violent march and the continued rains while they were on their way to recover the port thus invaded." "Article VII. Jones to pay \$15,000 into the national treasury for expenses incurred from the general alarm; also a complete set of musical instruments in place of those ruined on this occasion."\* Judging from Robinson's description of the dress of Micheltorena's cholos it is doubtful whether there was an entire uniform among them.

"The commodore's first impulse," writes a member of his staff, "was to return the papers without comment and to refuse further communication with a man who could have the effrontery to trump up such charges as those for which indemnification was claimed." The commodore on reflection put aside his personal feelings, and met the governor at the grand ball in Sanchez hall, held in honor of the occasion. The ball was a brilliant affair, "the dancing ceased only with the rising of the sun next morning." The commodore returned the articles without his signature. The governor did not again refer to his demands. Next morning, January 21, 1843, Jones and his officers took their departure from the city "amidst the beating of drums, the firing of cannon and the ring-

---

\*Bancroft's History of California, Vol. IV.



ing of bells, saluted by the general and his wife from the door of their quarters. On the 31st of December Micheltorena had taken the oath of office in Sanchez' hall, which stood on the east side of the plaza. Salutes were fired, the bells were rung and the city was illuminated for three evenings. For the second time a governor had been inaugurated in Los Angeles.

Micheltorena and his cholo army remained in Los Angeles about eight months. The Angelenos had all the capital they cared for. They were perfectly willing to have the governor and his army take up their residence in Monterey. The cholos had devoured the country like an army of chapules (locusts) and were willing to move on. Monterey would no doubt have gladly transferred what right she had to the capital if at the same time she could have transferred to her old rival, Los Angeles, Micheltorena's cholos. Their pilfering was largely enforced by their necessities. They received little or no pay, and they often had to steal or starve. The leading native Californians still entertained their old dislike to "Mexican dictators" and the retinue of three hundred chicken thieves accompanying the last dictator intensified their hatred.

Micheltorena, while not a model governor, had many good qualities and was generally liked by the better class of foreign residents. He made an earnest effort to establish a system of public education in the territory. Schools were established in all the principal towns, and territorial aid from the public funds to the amount of \$500 each was given them. The school at Los Angeles had over one hundred pupils in attendance. His worst fault was a disposition to meddle in local affairs. He was unreliable and not careful to keep his agreements. He might have succeeded in giving California a stable government had it not been for the antipathy to his soldiers and the old feud between the "hijos del pais" and the Mexican dictators.

These proved his undoing. The native sons under Alvarado and Castro rose in rebellion. In November, 1844, a revolution was inaugurated at Santa Clara. The governor marched with an army of one hundred and fifty men against the rebel forces, numbering about two hundred. They met at a place called the La-

guna de Alvires. A treaty was signed in which Micheltorena agreed to ship his cholos back to Mexico.

This treaty the governor deliberately broke. He then intrigued with Capt. John A. Sutter of New Helvetia and Isaac Graham to obtain assistance to crush the rebels. January 9, 1845, Micheltorena and Sutter formed a junction of their forces at Salinas—their united commands numbering about five hundred men. They marched against the rebels to crush them. But the rebels did not wait to be crushed. Alvarado and Castro, with about ninety men, started for Los Angeles, and those left behind scattered to their homes. Alvarado and his men reached Los Angeles on the night of January 20, 1845. The garrison stationed at the curate's house was surprised and captured. One man was killed and several wounded. Lieutenant Medina, of Micheltorena's army, was the commander of the pueblo troops. Alvarado's army encamped on the plaza and he and Castro set to work to revolutionize the old pueblo. The leading Angelenos had no great love for Juan Bautista, and did not readily fall into his schemes. They had not forgotten their enforced detention in Vallejo's bastle during the Civil war. An extraordinary session of the ayuntamiento was called January 21. Alvarado and Castro were present and made eloquent appeals. The records say: "The ayuntamiento listened, and after a short interval of silence and meditation decided to notify the senior member of the department assembly of Don Alvarado and Castros' wishes."

They were more successful with the Pico brothers. Pio Pico was senior vocal, and in case Micheltorena was disposed he, by virtue of his office, would become governor. Through the influence of the Picos the revolution gained ground. The most potent influence in spreading the revolt was the fear of Micheltorena's army of chicken thieves. Should the town be captured by them it certainly would be looted. The department assembly was called together. A peace commission was sent to meet Micheltorena, who was leisurely marching southward, and intercede with him to give up his proposed invasion of the south. He refused. Then the



assembly pronounced him a traitor, deposed him by vote and appointed Pio Pico governor. Recruiting went on rapidly. Hundreds of saddle horses were contributed, "old rusty guns were repaired, hacked swords sharpened, rude lances manufactured" and cartridges made for the cannon. Some fifty foreigners of the south joined Alvarado's army; not that they had much interest in the revolution, but to protect their property against the rapacious invaders—the cholos—and Sutter's Indians,\* who were as much dreaded as the cholos. On the 19th of February, Micheltorena reached the Encinos, and the Angelenian army marched out through Cahuenga Pass to meet him. On the 20th the two armies met on the southern edge of the San Fernando valley, about fifteen miles from Los Angeles. Each army numbered about four hundred men. Micheltorena had three pieces of artillery and Castro two. They opened on each other at long range and seem to have fought the battle throughout at very long range. A mustang or a mule (authorities differ) was killed.

Wilson, Workman and McKinley of Castro's army decided to induce the Americans on the other side, many of whom were their personal friends, to abandon Micheltorena. Passing up a ravine, they succeeded in attracting the attention of some of them by means of a white flag. Gantt, Hensley and Bidwell joined them in the ravine. The situation was discussed and the Americans of Micheltorena's army agreed to desert him if Pico would protect them in their land grants. Wilson, in his account of the battle, says:† "I knew, and so did Pico, that these land questions were the point with those young Americans. Before I started on my journey or embassy, Pico was sent for; on his arrival among us I, in a few words, explained to him what the party had advanced. 'Gentlemen,' said he, 'are any of you citizens of Mexico?' They answered 'No.' 'Then your title deeds given you by Micheltorena are not worth the paper

they are written on, and he knew it well when he gave them to you; but if you will abandon his cause I will give you my word of honor as a gentleman, and Don Benito Wilson and Don Juan Workman to carry out what I promise, that I will protect each one of you in the land that you now hold, and when you become citizens of Mexico I will issue you the proper titles.' They said that was all they asked, and promised not to fire a gun against us. They also asked not to be required to fight on our side, which was agreed to.

"Micheltorena discovered (how, I do not know) that his Americans had abandoned him. About an hour afterwards he raised his camp and flanked us by going further into the valley towards San Fernando, then marching as though he intended to come around the bend of the river to the city. The Californians and we foreigners at once broke up our camp and came back through the Cahuenga Pass, marched through the gap into the Feliz ranch, on the Los Angeles River, till we came into close proximity to Micheltorena's camp. It was now night, as it was dark when we broke up our camp. Here we waited for daylight, and some of our men commenced maneuvering for a fight with the enemy. A few cannon shots were fired, when a white flag was discovered flying from Micheltorena's front. The whole matter then went into the hands of negotiators appointed by both parties and the terms of surrender were agreed upon, one of which was that Micheltorena and his obnoxious officers and men were to march back up the river to the Cahuenga Pass, then down on the plain to the west of Los Angeles, the most direct line to San Pedro, and embark at that point on a vessel then anchored there to carry them back to Mexico." Sutter was taken prisoner, and his Indians, after being corralled for a time, were sent back to the Sacramento.

The roar of the battle of Cahuenga, or the Alamo, as it is sometimes called, could be distinctly heard in Los Angeles, and the people remaining in the city were greatly alarmed. William Heath Davis, in his *Sixty Years in California*, thus describes the alarm in the town: "Directly to the north of the town was a high

\*Sutter had under his command a company of Indians. He had drilled these in the use of firearms. The employing of these savages by Micheltorena was bitterly resented by the Californians.

†Pub. Historical Society of Southern California, Vol. III.

hill" (now known as Mt. Lookout). "As soon as firing was heard all the people remaining in the town, men, women and children, ran to the top of this hill. As the wind was blowing from the north, the firing was distinctly heard, five leagues away, on the battle-field throughout the day. All business places in town were closed. The scene on the hill was a remarkable one, women and children, with crosses in their hands, kneeling and praying to the saints for the safety of their fathers, brothers, sons, husbands, lovers, cousins, that they might not be killed in the battle; indifferent to their personal appearance, tears streaming from their eyes, and their hair blown about by the wind, which had increased to quite a breeze. Don Abel Stearns, myself and others tried to calm and pacify them, assuring them that there was probably no danger; somewhat against our convictions, it is true, judging from what we heard of the firing and from our knowledge of Micheltorena's disciplined force, his battery, and the riflemen he had with him. During the day the scene on the hill continued. The night that followed was a gloomy one, caused by the lamentations of the women and children."

Davis, who was supercargo on the Don Quixote, the vessel on which Micheltorena and his soldiers were shipped to Mexico, claims that the general "had ordered his command not to injure the Californians in the force opposed to him, but to fire over their heads, as he had no desire to kill them."

Another Mexican-born governor had been deposed and deported, gone to join his fellows, Victoria, Chico and Gutierrez. In accordance with the treaty of Cahuenga and by virtue of his rank as senior member of the departmental assembly, Pío Pico became governor. The hijos del pais were once more in the ascendancy. José Castro was made comandante-general. Alvarado was given charge of the custom house at Monterey, and José Antonio Carrillo was appointed commander of the military district of the south. Los Angeles was made the capital, although the archives and the treasury remained in Monterey. The revolution apparently had been a success. In the proceedings of the Los Angeles ayuntamiento, March 1, 1845, appears

this record: "The agreements entered into at Cahuenga between Gen. Emanuel Micheltorena and Lieut.-Col. José Castro were then read, and as they contain a happy termination of affairs in favor of the government, this illustrious Body listened with satisfaction and so answered the communication."

The people joined with the ayuntamiento in expressing their "satisfaction" that a "happy termination" had been reached of the political disturbances which had distracted the country. But the end was not yet. Pico did his best to conciliate the conflicting elements, but the old sectional jealousies that had divided the people of the territory would crop out. José Antonio Carrillo, the Machiaveli of the south, hated Castro and Alvarado and was jealous of Pico's good fortune. He was the superior of any of them in ability, but made himself unpopular by his intrigues and his sarcastic speech. When Castro and Alvarado came south to raise the standard of revolt they tried to win him over. He did assist them. He was willing enough to plot against Micheltorena, but after the overthrow of the Mexican he was equally ready to plot against Pico and Castro. In the summer of 1845 he was implicated in a plot to depose Pico, who, by the way, was his brother-in-law. Pico placed him and two of his fellow conspirators, Serbuló and Hilario Varela, under arrest. Carrillo and Hilario Varela were shipped to Mazatlan to be tried for their misdeed. Serbuló Varela made his escape from prison. The two exiles returned early in 1846 unpunished and ready for new plots.

Pico was appointed gobernador propietario, or constitutional governor of California, September 3, 1845, by President Herrera. The supreme government of Mexico never seemed to take offense or harbor resentment against the Californians for deposing and sending home a governor. As the officials of the supreme government usually obtained office by revolution, they no doubt had a fellow feeling for the revolting Californians. When Micheltorena returned to Mexico he was coldly received and a commissioner was sent to Pico with dispatches virtually approving all that had been done.

Castro, too, gave Pico a great deal of uneasi-

ness. He ignored the governor and managed the military affairs of the territory to suit himself. His headquarters were at Monterey and doubtless he had the sympathy if not the encouragement of the people of the north in his course. But the cause of the greatest uneasiness was the increasing immigration from the United States. A stream of emigrants from the western states, increasing each year, poured down the Sierra Nevadas and spread over the rich valleys of California. The Californians recognized that through the advent of these "foreign adventurers," as they called them, the "manifest destiny" of California was to be absorbed by the United States. Alvarado had appealed to Mexico for men and arms and had been answered by the arrival of Micheltorena and his cholos. Pico appealed and for a time the Californians were cheered by the prospect of aid.

In the summer of 1845 a force of six hundred veteran soldiers, under command of Colonel Iniestra, reached Acapulco, where ships were lying to take them to California, but a revolution broke out in Mexico and the troops destined for the defense of California were used to overthrow President Herrera and to seat Paredes. California was left to work out her own destiny unaided or drift with the tide—and she drifted.

In the early months of 1846 there was a rapid succession of important events in her history, each in passing bearing her near and nearer to a manifest destiny—the downfall of Mexican domination in California. These will be presented fully in the chapter on the Acquisition of California by the United States. But before taking up these we will turn aside to review life in California in the olden time under Spanish and Mexican rule.

## CHAPTER XV.

### MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT—HOMES AND HOME-LIFE OF THE CALIFORNIANS.

UNDER Spain the government of California was semi-military and semi-clerical.

The governors were military officers and had command of the troops in the territory, and looked after affairs at the pueblos; the friars were supreme at the missions. The municipal government of the pueblos was vested in ayuntamientos. The decree of the Spanish Cortés passed May 23, 1812, regulated the membership of the ayuntamiento according to the population of the town—"there shall be one alcalde (mayor), two regidores (councilmen), and one procurador-syndico (treasurer) in all towns which do not have more than two hundred inhabitants; one alcalde, four regidores and one syndico in those the population of which exceeds two hundred, but does not exceed five hundred." When the population of a town exceeded one thousand it was allowed two alcaldes, eight regidores and two syndicos. Over the members of the ayuntamiento in the early years of Spanish rule was a quasi-military offi-

cer called a comisionado, a sort of petty dictator or military despot, who, when occasion required or inclination moved him, embodied within himself all three departments of government, judiciary, legislative and executive. After Mexico became a republic the office of comisionado was abolished. The alcalde acted as president of the ayuntamiento, as mayor and as judge of the court of first instance. The second alcalde took his place when that officer was ill or absent. The syndico was a general utility man. He acted as city or town attorney, tax collector and treasurer. The secretary was an important officer; he kept the records, acted as clerk of the alcalde's court and was the only municipal officer who received pay, except the syndico, who received a commission on his collections.

In 1837 the Mexican Congress passed a decree abolishing ayuntamientos in capitals of departments having a population of less than four thousand and in interior towns of less than eight thousand. In 1839 Governor Alvarado

reported to the Departmental Assembly that no town in California had the requisite population. The ayuntamientos all closed January 1, 1840. They were re-established in 1844. During their abolition the towns were governed by prefects and justices of the peace, and the special laws or ordinances were enacted by the departmental assembly.

The jurisdiction of the ayuntamiento often extended over a large area of country beyond the town limits. That of Los Angeles, after the secularization of the missions, extended over a country as large as the state of Massachusetts. The authority of the ayuntamiento was as extensive as its jurisdiction. It granted town lots and recommended to the governor grants of land from the public domain. In addition to passing ordinances its members sometimes acted as executive officers to enforce them. It exercised the powers of a board of health, a board of education, a police commission and a street department. During the civil war between Northern and Southern California, in 1837-38, the ayuntamiento of Los Angeles raised and equipped an army and assumed the right to govern the southern half of the territory.

The ayuntamiento was spoken of as *Muy Ilustre* (Most Illustrious), in the same sense that we speak of the honorable city council, but it was a much more dignified body than a city council. The members were required to attend their public functions "attired in black apparel, so as to add solemnity to the meetings." They served without pay, but if a member was absent from a meeting without a good excuse he was liable to a fine. As there was no pay in the office and its duties were numerous and onerous, there was not a large crop of aspirants for councilmen in those days, and the office usually sought the man. It might be added that when it caught the right man it was loath to let go of him.

The misfortunes that beset Francisco Pantoja aptly illustrate the difficulty of resigning in the days when office sought the man, not man the office. Pantoja was elected fourth regidor of the ayuntamiento of Los Angeles in 1837. In those days wild horses were very numerous. When the pasture in the foothills was exhausted

they came down into the valleys and ate up the feed needed for the cattle. On this account, and because most of these wild horses were worthless, the *rancheros* slaughtered them. A corral was built with wings extending out on the right and left from the main entrance. When the corral was completed a day was set for a wild horse drive. The bands were rounded up and driven into the corral. The pick of the *caballados* were lassoed and taken out to be broken to the saddle and the refuse of the drive killed. The *Vejars* had obtained permission from the ayuntamiento to build a corral between the *Ceritos* and the *Salinas* for the purpose of corralling wild horses. Pantoja, being something of a sport, petitioned his fellow *regidores* for a twenty days' leave of absence to join in the wild horse chase. A wild horse chase was wild sport and dangerous, too. Somebody was sure to get hurt, and Pantoja in this one was one of the unfortunates. When his twenty days' leave of absence was up he did not return to his duties of *regidor*, but instead sent his resignation on plea of illness. His resignation was not accepted and the president of the ayuntamiento appointed a committee to investigate his physical condition. There were no physicians in Los Angeles in those days, so the committee took along Santiago McKinley, a canny Scotch merchant, who was reputed to have some knowledge of surgery. The committee and the improvised surgeon held an ante-mortem inquest on what remained of Pantoja. The committee reported to the council that he was a physical wreck; that he could not mount a horse nor ride one when mounted. A native Californian who had reached such a state of physical dilapidation that he could not mount a horse might well be excused from official duties. To excuse him might establish a dangerous precedent. The ayuntamiento heard the report, pondered over it and then sent it and the resignation to the governor. The governor took them under advisement. In the meantime a revolution broke out and before peace was restored and the governor had time to pass upon the case Pantoja's term had expired by limitation.

That modern fad of reform legislation, the

referendum, was in full force and effect in California three-quarters of a century ago. When some question of great importance to the community was before the ayuntamiento and the regidores were divided in opinion, the alarma publica or public alarm was sounded by the beating of the long roll on the drum and all the citizens were summoned to the hall of sessions. Any one hearing the alarm and not heeding it was fined \$3. When the citizens were convened the president of the ayuntamiento, speaking in a loud voice, stated the question and the people were given "public speech." The question was debated by all who wished to speak. When all had had their say it was decided by a show of hands.

The ayuntamientos regulated the social functions of the pueblos as well as the civic. Ordinance 5, ayuntamiento proceedings of Los Angeles, reads: "All individuals serenading promiscuously around the street of the city at night without first having obtained permission from the alcalde will be fined \$1.50 for the first offense, \$3 for the second offense, and for the third punished according to law." Ordinance 4, adopted by the ayuntamiento of Los Angeles, January 28, 1838, reads: "Every person not having any apparent occupation in this city or its jurisdiction is hereby ordered to look for work within three days, counting from the day this ordinance is published; if not complied with, he will be fined \$2 for the first offense, \$4 for the second offense, and will be given compulsory work for the third." From the reading of the ordinance it would seem if the tramp kept looking for work, but was careful not to find it, there could be no offense and consequently no fines or compulsory work.

Some of the enactments of the old regidores would fade the azure out of the blue laws of Connecticut in severity. In the plan of government adopted by the sureños in the rebellion of 1837 appears this article: "Article 3, The Roman Catholic Apostolic religion shall prevail throughout this jurisdiction; and any person professing publicly any other religion shall be prosecuted."

Here is a blue law of Monterey, enacted March 23, 1816: "All persons must attend mass

and respond in a loud voice, and if any persons should fail to do so without good cause they will be put in the stocks for three hours."

The architecture of the Spanish and Mexican eras of California was homely almost to ugliness. There was no external ornamentation to the dwellings and no internal conveniences. There was but little attempt at variety and the houses were mostly of one style, square walled, tile covered, or flat roofed with pitch, and usually but one story high. Some of the mission churches were massive, grand and ornamental, while others were devoid of beauty and travesties on the rules of architecture. Every man was his own architect and master builder. He had no choice of material, or, rather, with his ease-loving disposition, he chose to use that which was most convenient, and that was adobe clay, made into sun-dried brick. The Indian was the brickmaker, and he toiled for his taskmasters, like the Hebrew of old for the Egyptian, making bricks without straw and without pay. There were no labor strikes in the building trades then. The Indian was the builder, and he did not know how to strike for higher wages, because he received no wages, high or low. The adobe bricks were moulded into form and set up to dry. Through the long summer days they baked in the hot sun, first on one side, then on the other; and when dried through they were laid in the wall with mud mortar. Then the walls had to dry and dry perhaps through another summer before the house was habitable. Time was the essence of building contracts then.

There was but little wood used in house construction then. It was only the aristocrats who could indulge in the luxury of wooden floors. Most of the houses had floors of the beaten earth. Such floors were cheap and durable. Gilroy says, when he came to Monterey in 1814, only the governor's house had a wooden floor. A door of rawhide shut out intruders and wooden-barred windows admitted sunshine and air.

The legendry of the hearthstone and the fireside which fills so large a place in the home life and literature of the Anglo-Saxon had no part in the domestic system of the old-time Californian. He had no hearthstone and no fireside,



nor could that pleasing fiction of Santa Claus coming down the chimney with toys on Christmas eve that so delights the children of to-day have been understood by the youthful Californian of long ago. There were no chimneys in California. The only means of warming the houses by artificial heat was a pan (or brasero) of coals set on the floor. The people lived out of doors in the open air and invigorating sunshine; and they were healthy and long-lived. Their houses were places to sleep in or shelters from rain.

The furniture was meager and mostly home-made. A few benches or rawhide-bottomed chairs to sit on; a rough table; a chest or two to keep the family finery in; a few cheap prints of saints on the walls—these formed the furnishings and the decorations of the living rooms of the common people. The bed was the pride and the ambition of the housewife. Even in humble dwellings, sometimes, a snowy counterpane and lace-trimmed pillows decorated a couch whose base was a dried bullock's hide stretched on a rough frame of wood. A shrine dedicated to the patron saint of the household was a very essential part of a well-regulated home.

Fashions in dress did not change with the seasons. A man could wear his grandfather's hat and his coat, too, and not be out of the fashion. Robinson, writing of California in 1829, says: "The people were still adhering to the costumes of the past century." It was not until after 1834, when the Hijar colonists brought the latest fashions from the City of Mexico, that the style of dress for men and women began to change. The next change took place after the American conquest. Only two changes in half a century, a garment had to be very durable to become unfashionable.

The few wealthy people in the territory dressed well, even extravagantly. Robinson describes the dress of Tomas Yorba, a wealthy ranchero of the Upper Santa Ana, as he saw him in 1829: "Upon his head he wore a black silk handkerchief, the four corners of which hung down his neck behind. An embroidered shirt; a cravat of white jaconet, tastefully tied; a blue damask vest; short clothes of crimson velvet; a bright green cloth jacket, with large

silver buttons, and shoes of embroidered deer-skin composed his dress. I was afterwards informed by Don Manuel (Dominguez) that on some occasions, such as some particular feast day or festival, his entire display often exceeded in value a thousand dollars."

"The dress worn by the middle class of females is a chemise, with short embroidered sleeves, richly trimmed with lace; a muslin petticoat, flounced with scarlet and secured at the waist by a silk band of the same color; shoes of velvet or blue satin; a cotton reboso or scarf; pearl necklace and earrings; with hair falling in broad plaits down the back."\* After 1834 the men generally adopted calzoneras instead of the knee breeches or short clothes of the last century.

"The calzoneras were pantaloons with the exterior seam open throughout its length. On the upper edge was a strip of cloth, red, blue or black, in which were buttonholes. On the other edge were eyelet holes for buttons. In some cases the calzonera was sewn from hip to the middle of the thigh; in others, buttoned. From the middle of the thigh downward the leg was covered by the bota or leggins, used by every one, whatever his dress." The short jacket, with silver or bronze buttons, and the silken sash that served as a connecting link between the calzoneras and the jacket, and also supplied the place of what the Californians did not wear, suspenders, thus constituted a picturesque costume, that continued in vogue until the conquest, and with many of the natives for years after. "After 1834 the fashionable women of California exchanged their narrow for more flowing garments and abandoned the braided hair for the coil and the large combs till then in use for smaller combs."†

For outer wraps the serapa for men and the rebosa for women were universally worn. The texture of these marked the social standing of the wearer. It ranged from cheap cotton and coarse serge to the costliest silk and the finest French broadcloth. The costume of the neophyte changed but once in centuries, and that

\*Robinson, *Life in California*.

†Bancroft's *Pastoral California*.



was when he divested himself of his coat of mud and smear of paint and put on the mission shirt and breech clout. Shoes he did not wear and in time his feet became as hard as the hoofs of an animal. The dress of the mission women consisted of a chemise and a skirt; the dress of the children was a shirt and sometimes even this was dispensed.

Filial obedience and respect for parental authority were early impressed upon the minds of the children. The commandment, "Honor thy father and mother," was observed with an oriental devotion. A child was never too old or too large to be exempt from punishment. Stephen C. Foster used to relate an amusing story of a case of parental disciplining he once saw at Los Angeles. An old lady, a grandmother, was belaboring, with a barrel stave, her son, a man thirty years of age. The son had done something of which the mother did not approve. She sent for him to come over to the maternal home to receive his punishment. He came. She took him out to the metaphorical woodshed, which, in this case, was the portico of her house, where she stood him up and proceeded to administer corporal punishment. With the resounding thwacks of the stave, she would exclaim, "I'll teach you to behave yourself." "I'll mend your manners, sir." "Now you'll be good, won't you?" The big man took his punishment without a thought of resisting or rebelling. In fact, he seemed to enjoy it. It brought back feelingly and forcibly a memory of his boyhood days.

In the earlier years of the republic, before revolutionary ideas had perverted the usages of the Californians, great respect was shown to those in authority, and the authorities were strict in requiring deference from their constituents. In the Los Angeles archives of 1828 are the records of an impeachment trial of Don Antonio Maria Lugo, held to depose him from the office of judge of the plains. The principal duty of such a judge was to decide cases of disputed ownership of horses and cattle. Lugo seems to have had an exalted idea of the dignity of his office. Among the complaints presented at the trial was one from young Pedro Sanchez, in which he testified that Lugo had tried to ride

his horse over him in the street because he, Sanchez, would not take off his hat to the juez del campo and remain standing uncovered while the judge rode past. Another complainant at the same trial related how at a rodeo Lugo adjudged a neighbor's boy guilty of contempt of court because the boy gave him an impertinent answer, and then he proceeded to give the boy an unmerciful whipping. So heinous was the offense in the estimation of the judge that the complainant said, "had not Lugo fallen over a chair he would have been beating the boy yet."

Under Mexican domination in California there was no tax levied on land and improvements. The municipal funds of the pueblos were obtained from revenue on wine and brandy; from the licenses of saloons and other business houses; from the tariff on imports; from permits to give balls or dances; from the fines of transgressors, and from the tax on bull rings and cock pits. Then men's pleasures and vices paid the cost of governing. In the early '40s the city of Los Angeles claimed a population of two thousand, yet the municipal revenues rarely exceeded \$1,000 a year. With this small amount the authorities ran a city government and kept out of debt. It did not cost much to run a city government then. There was no army of high-salaried officials with a horde of political heelers quartered on the municipality and fed from the public crib at the expense of the taxpayer. Politicians may have been no more honest then than now, but where there was nothing to steal there was no stealing. The alcaldes and regidores put no temptation in the way of the politicians, and thus they kept them reasonably honest, or at least they kept them from plundering the taxpayers by the simple expedient of having no taxpayers.

The functions of the various departments of the municipal governments were economically administered. Street cleaning and lighting were performed at individual expense instead of public. There was an ordinance in force in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara and probably in other municipalities that required each owner of a house every Saturday to sweep and clean in front of his premises to the middle of the street. His neighbor on the opposite side met him half

way, and the street was swept without expense to the pueblo. There was another ordinance that required each owner of a house of more than two rooms on a main street to hang a lighted lantern in front of his door from twilight to eight o'clock in winter and to nine in summer. There were fines for neglect of these duties.

There was no fire department in the pueblos. The adobe houses with their clay walls, earthen floors, tiled roofs and rawhide doors were as nearly fireproof as any human habitation could be made. The cooking was done in detached

kitchens and in beehive-shaped ovens without flues. The houses were without chimneys, so the danger from fire was reduced to a minimum. A general conflagration was something unknown in the old pueblo days of California.

There was no paid police department. Every able-bodied young man was subject to military duty. A volunteer guard or patrol was kept on duty at the cuartels or guard houses. The guards policed the pueblos, but they were not paid. Each young man had to take his turn at guard duty.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### TERRITORIAL EXPANSION BY CONQUEST.

THE Mexican war marked the beginning by the United States of territorial expansion by conquest. "It was," says General Grant, "an instance of a republic following the bad example of European monarchies in not considering justice in their desire to acquire additional territory." The "additional territory" was needed for the creation of slave states. The southern politicians of the extreme pro-slavery school saw in the rapid settlement of the northwestern states the downfall of their domination and the doom of their beloved institution, slavery. Their peculiar institution could not expand northward and on the south it had reached the Mexican boundary. The only way of acquiring new territory for the extension of slavery on the south was to take it by force from the weak Republic of Mexico. The annexation of Texas brought with it a disputed boundary line. The claim to a strip of country between the Rio Nueces and the Rio Grande furnished a convenient pretext to force Mexico to hostilities. Texas as an independent state had never exercised jurisdiction over the disputed territory. As a state of the Union after annexation she could not rightfully lay claim to what she never possessed, but the army of occupation took possession of it as United States property, and the war was on. In the end we acquired a large slice of Mexican territory, but the irony

of fate decreed that not an acre of its soil should be tilled by slave labor.

The causes that led to the acquisition of California antedated the annexation of Texas and the invasion of Mexico. After the adoption of liberal colonization laws by the Mexican government in 1824, there set in a steady drift of Americans to California. At first they came by sea, but after the opening of the overland route in 1841 they came in great numbers by land. It was a settled conviction in the minds of these adventurous nomads that the manifest destiny of California was to become a part of the United States, and they were only too willing to aid destiny when an opportunity offered. The opportunity came and it found them ready for it.

Capt. John C. Fremont, an engineer and explorer in the services of the United States, appeared at Monterey in January, 1846, and applied to General Castro, the military comandante, for permission to buy supplies for his party of sixty-two men who were encamped in the San Joaquin valley, in what is now Kern county. Permission was given him. There seems to have been a tacit agreement between Castro and Fremont that the exploring party should not enter the settlements, but early in March the whole force was encamped in the Salinas valley. Castro regarded the marching of a body of armed men through the country as an act of

hostility, and ordered them out of the country. Instead of leaving, Fremont entrenched himself on an eminence known as Gabilan Peak (about thirty miles from Monterey), raised the stars and stripes over his barricade, and defied Castro. Castro maneuvered his troops on the plain below, but did not attack Fremont. After two days' waiting Fremont abandoned his position and began his march northward. On May 9, when near the Oregon line, he was overtaken by Lieutenant Gillespie, of the United States navy, with a dispatch from the president. Gillespie had left the United States in November, 1845, and, disguised, had crossed Mexico from Vera Cruz to Mazatlan, and from there had reached Monterey. The exact nature of the dispatches to Fremont is not known, but presumably they related to the impending war between Mexico and the United States, and the necessity for a prompt seizure of the country to prevent it from falling into the hands of England. Fremont returned to the Sacramento, where he encamped.

On the 14th of June, 1846, a body of American settlers from the Napa and Sacramento valleys, thirty-three in number, of which Ide, Semple, Grigsby and Merritt seem to have been the leaders, after a night's march, took possession of the old castillo or fort at Sonoma, with its rusty muskets and unused cannon, and made Gen. M. G. Vallejo, Lieut.-Col. Prudon, Capt. Salvador Vallejo and Jacob P. Leese, a brother-in-law of the Vallejos, prisoners. There seems to have been no privates at the castillo, all officers. Exactly what was the object of the American settlers in taking General Vallejo prisoner is not evident. General Vallejo was one of the few eminent Californians who favored the annexation of California to the United States. He is said to have made a speech favoring such a movement in the junta at Monterey a few months before. Castro regarded him with suspicion. The prisoners were sent under an armed escort to Fremont's camp. William B. Ide was elected captain of the revolutionists who remained at Sonoma, to "hold the fort." He issued a pronunciamiento in which he declared California a free and independent government, under the name of the California Re-

public. A nation must have a flag of its own, so one was improvised. It was made of a piece of cotton cloth, or manta, a yard wide and five feet long. Strips of red flannel torn from the shirt of one of the men were stitched on the bottom of the flag for stripes. With a blacking brush, or, as another authority says, the end of a chewed stick for a brush, and red paint, William L. Todd painted the figure of a grizzly bear passant on the field of the flag. The natives called Todd's bear "cochino," a pig; it resembled that animal more than a bear. A five-pointed star in the left upper corner, painted with the same coloring matter, and the words "California republic" printed on it in ink, completed the famous bear flag.

The California republic was ushered into existence June 14, 1846, attained the acme of its power July 4, when Ide and his fellow patriots burnt a quantity of powder in salutes, and fired off oratorical pyrotechnics in honor of the new republic. It utterly collapsed on the 9th of July, after an existence of twenty-five days, when news reached Sonoma that Commodore Sloat had raised the stars and stripes at Monterey and taken possession of California in the name of the United States. Lieutenant Revere arrived at Sonoma on the 9th and he it was who lowered the bear flag from the Mexican flagstaff, where it had floated through the brief existence of the California republic, and raised in its place the banner of the United States.

Commodore Sloat, who had anchored in Monterey Bay July 2, 1846, was for a time undecided whether to take possession of the country. He had no official information that war had been declared between the United States and Mexico; but, acting on the supposition that Captain Fremont had received definite instructions, on the 7th of July he raised the flag and took possession of the custom-house and government buildings at Monterey. Captain Montgomery, on the 9th, raised it at San Francisco, and on the same day the bear flag gave place to the stars and stripes at Sonoma.

General Castro was holding Santa Clara and San José when he received Commodore Sloat's proclamation informing him that the commodore had taken possession of Monterey. Cas-

tro, after reading the proclamation, which was written in Spanish, formed his men in line, and addressing them, said: "Monterey is taken by the Americans. What can I do with a handful of men against the United States? I am going to Mexico. All of you who wish to follow me, 'About face!' All that wish to remain can go to their homes."\* A very small part of his force followed him.

Commodore Sloat was superseded by Commodore Stockton, who set about organizing an expedition to subjugate the part of the territory which still remained loyal to Mexico. Fremont's exploring party, recruited to a battalion of one hundred and twenty men, had marched to Monterey, and from there was sent by vessel to San Diego to procure horses and prepare to act as cavalry.

While these stirring events were transpiring in the north, what was the condition in the south where the capital, Los Angeles, and the bulk of the population of the territory were located? Pio Pico had entered upon the duties of the governorship with a desire to bring peace and harmony to the distracted country. He appointed Juan Bandini, one of the ablest statesmen of the south, his secretary. After Bandini resigned he chose J. M. Covarrubias, and later José M. Moreno filled the office.

The principal offices of the territory had been divided equally between the politicians of the north and the south. While Los Angeles became the capital, and the departmental assembly met there, the military headquarters, the archives and the treasury remained at Monterey. But, notwithstanding this division of the spoils of office, the old feud between the *arribeños* and the *abajeros* would not down, and soon the old-time quarrel was on with all its bitterness. Castro, as military comandante, ignored the governor, and Alvarado was regarded by the *sureños* as an emissary of Castro's. The departmental assembly met at Los Angeles, in March, 1846. Pico presided, and in his opening message set forth the unfortunate condition of affairs in the department. Education was neglected; justice was not administered; the mis-

sions were so burdened by debt that but few of them could be rented; the army was disorganized and the treasury empty.

Not even the danger of war with the Americans could make the warring factions forget their fratricidal strife. Castro's proclamation against Fremont was construed by the *sureños* into a scheme to inveigle the governor to the north so that the comandante-general could depose him and seize the office for himself. Castro's preparations to resist by force the encroachments of the Americans were believed by Pico and the Angelenians to be fitting out of an army to attack Los Angeles and overthrow the government.

On the 16th of June, Pico left Los Angeles for Monterey with a military force of a hundred men. The object of the expedition was to oppose, and, if possible, to depose Castro. He left the capital under the care of the *ayuntamiento*. On the 20th of June Alcalde Gallardo reported to the *ayuntamiento* that he had positive information "that Don Castro had left Monterey and would arrive here in three days with a military force for the purpose of capturing this city." (Castro had left Monterey with a force of seventy men, but he had gone north to San José.) The sub-prefect, Don Abel Stearns, was authorized to enlist troops to preserve order. On the 23d of June three companies were organized, an artillery company under Miguel Pryor, a company of riflemen under Benito Wilson, and a cavalry company under Gorge Palomares. Pico called for reinforcements, but just as he was preparing to march against Monterey the news reached him of the capture of Sonoma by the Americans, and next day, June 24th, the news reached Los Angeles just as the council had decided on a plan of defense against Castro, who was five hundred miles away. Pico, on the impulse of the moment, issued a proclamation, in which he arraigned the United States for perfidy and treachery, and the gang of "North American adventurers," who captured Sonoma "with the blackest treason the spirit of evil can invent." His arraignment of the "North American nation" was so severe that some of his American friends in Los Angeles took umbrage to his

\*Hall's History of San José.

pronunciamento. He afterwards tried to recall it, but it was too late; it had been published.

Castro, finding the "foreign adventurers" too numerous and too aggressive in the northern part of the territory, determined, with what men he could induce to go with him, to retreat to the south; but before so doing he sent a mediator to Pico to negotiate a treaty of peace and amity between the factions. On the 12th of July the two armies met at Santa Margarita, near San Luis Obispo. Castro brought the news that Commodore Sloat had hoisted the United States flag at Monterey and taken possession of the country for his government. The meeting of the governor and the comandante-general was not very cordial, but in the presence of the impending danger to the territory they concealed their mutual dislike and decided to do their best to defend the country they both loved.

Sorrowfully they began their retreat to the capital; but even threatened disaster to their common country could not wholly unite the north and the south. The respective armies, Castro's numbering about one hundred and fifty men, and Pico's one hundred and twenty, kept about a day's march apart. They reached Los Angeles, and preparations were begun to resist the invasion of the Americans. Pico issued a proclamation ordering all able-bodied men between fifteen and sixty years of age, native and naturalized, to take up arms to defend the country; any able-bodied Mexican refusing was to be treated as a traitor. There was no enthusiasm for the cause. The old factional jealousy and distrust was as potent as ever. The militia of the south would obey none but their own officers; Castro's troops, who considered themselves regulars, ridiculed the raw recruits of the sureños, while the naturalized foreigners of American extraction secretly sympathized with their own people.

Pico, to counteract the malign influence of his Santa Barbara proclamation and enlist the sympathy and more ready adhesion of the foreign element of Los Angeles, issued the following circular: (This circular or proclamation has never before found its way into print. I find no allusion to it in Bancroft's or Hittell's His-

tories. A copy, probably the only one in existence, was donated some years since to the Historical Society of Southern California.)

{  
SEAL OF  
}

*Gobierno del Dep.  
de Californias.*

"CIRCULAR.—As owing to the unfortunate condition of things that now prevails in this department in consequence of the war into which the United States has provoked the Mexican nation, some ill feeling might spring up between the citizens of the two countries, out of which unfortunate occurrences might grow, and as this government desires to remove every cause of friction, it has seen fit, in the use of its power, to issue the present circular.

"The Government of the department of California declares in the most solemn manner that all the citizens of the United States that have come lawfully into its territory, relying upon the honest administration of the laws and the observance of the prevailing treaties, shall not be molested in the least, and their lives and property shall remain in perfect safety under the protection of the Mexican laws and authorities legally constituted.

"Therefore, in the name of the supreme government of the nation, and by virtue of the authority vested upon me, I enjoin upon all the inhabitants of California to observe towards the citizens of the United States that have lawfully come among us, the kindest and most cordial conduct, and to abstain from all acts of violence against their persons or property; provided they remain neutral, as heretofore, and take no part in the invasion effected by the armies of their nation.

"The authorities of the various municipalities and corporations will be held strictly responsible for the faithful fulfillment of this order, and shall, as soon as possible, take the necessary measures to bring it to the knowledge of the people. God and Liberty.

"PIO PICO.

"JOSE MATIAS MARENO, *Secretary pro tem.*"  
Angeles, July 27, 1846.



When we consider the conditions existing in California at the time this circular was issued, its sentiments reflect great credit on Pico for his humanity and forbearance. A little over a month before, a party of Americans seized General Vallejo and several other prominent Californians in their homes and incarcerated them in prison at Sutter's Fort. Nor was this outrage mitigated when the stars and stripes were raised. The perpetrators of the outrage were not punished. These native Californians were kept in prison nearly two months without any charge against them. Besides, Governor Pico and the leading Californians very well knew that the Americans whose lives and property this proclamation was designed to protect would not remain neutral when their countrymen invaded the territory. Pico Pico deserved better treatment from the Americans than he received. He was robbed of his landed possessions by unscrupulous land sharks, and his character defamed by irresponsible historical scribbles.

Pico made strenuous efforts to raise men and means to resist the threatened invasion. He had mortgaged the government house to de Celis for \$2,000, the mortgage to be paid "as soon as order shall be established in the department." This loan was really negotiated to fit out the expedition against Castro, but a part of it was expended after his return to Los Angeles in procuring supplies while preparing to meet the American army. The government had but little credit. The moneyed men of the pueblo were averse to putting money into what was almost sure to prove a lost cause. The bickerings and jealousies between the factions neutralized to a considerable degree the efforts of Pico and Castro to mobilize the army.

Castro established his camp on the mesa east of the river. Here he and Andres Pico undertook to drill the somewhat incongruous collection of hombres in military maneuvering. Their entire force at no time exceeded three hundred men. These were poorly armed and lacking in discipline.

We left Stockton at Monterey preparing an expedition against Castro at Los Angeles. On taking command of the Pacific squadron, July

29, he issued a proclamation. It was as bombastic as the pronunciamiento of a Mexican governor. Bancroft says: "The paper was made up of falsehood, of irrelevant issues and bombastic ranting in about equal parts, the tone being offensive and impolitic even in those inconsiderable portions which were true and legitimate." His only object in taking possession of the country was "to save from destruction the lives and property of the foreign residents and citizens of the territory who had invoked his protection." In view of Pico's humane circular and the uniform kind treatment that the Californians accorded the American residents, there was very little need of Stockton's interference on that score. Commodore Sloat did not approve of Stockton's proclamation or of his policy.

On the 6th of August, Stockton reached San Pedro and landed three hundred and sixty sailors and marines. These were drilled in military movements on land and prepared for the march to Los Angeles.

Castro sent two commissioners, Pablo de La Guerra and José M. Flores, to Stockton, asking for a conference and a cessation of hostilities while negotiations were pending. They asked that the United States forces remain at San Pedro while the terms of the treaty were under discussion. These requests Commodore Stockton peremptorily refused, and the commissioners returned to Los Angeles without stating the terms on which they proposed to treat.

In several so-called histories, I find a very dramatic account of this interview. On the arrival of the commissioners they were marched up to the mouth of an immense mortar, shrouded in skins save its huge aperture. Their terror and discomfort were plainly discernible. Stockton received them with a stern and forbidding countenance, harshly demanding their mission, which they disclosed in great confusion. They bore a letter from Castro proposing a truce, each party to hold its own possessions until a general pacification should be had. This proposal Stockton rejected with contempt, and dismissed the commissioners with the assurance that only an immediate disbandment of his forces and an unconditional surrender would



shield Castro from the vengeance of an incensed foe. The messengers remounted their horses in dismay and fled back to Castro." The mortar story, it is needless to say, is pure fabrication, yet it runs through a number of so-called histories of California. Castro, on the 9th of August, held a council of war with his officers at the Campo en La Mesa. He announced his intention of leaving the country for the purpose of reporting to the supreme government, and of returning at some future day to punish the usurpers. He wrote to Pico: "I can count only one hundred men, badly armed, worse supplied and discontented by reason of the miseries they suffer; so that I have reason to fear that not even these men will fight when the necessity arises." And this is the force that some imaginative historians estimate at eight hundred to one thousand men.

Pico and Castro left Los Angeles on the night of August 10, for Mexico; Castro going by the Colorado River route to Sonora, and Pico, after being concealed for a time by his brother-in-law, Juan Foster, at the Santa Margarita and narrowly escaping capture by Fremont's men, finally reached Lower California and later on crossed the Gulf to Sonora.

Stockton began his march on Los Angeles August 11. He took with him a battery of four guns. The guns were mounted on carretas, and each gun drawn by four oxen. He had with him a good brass band.

Major Fremont, who had been sent to San Diego with his battalion of one hundred and seventy men, had, after considerable skirmishing among the ranchos, secured enough horses to move, and on the 8th of August had begun his march to join Stockton. He took with him one hundred and twenty men, leaving about fifty to garrison San Diego.

Stockton consumed three days on the march. Fremont's troops joined him just south of the city, and at 4 p. m. of the 13th the combined force, numbering nearly five hundred men, entered the town without opposition, "our entry," says Major Fremont, "having more the effect of a parade of home guards than of an enemy taking possession of a conquered town." Stockton reported finding at Castro's abandoned camp

ten pieces of artillery, four of them spiked. Fremont says he (Castro) "had buried part of his guns." Castro's troops that he had brought down with him took their departure for their northern homes soon after their general left, breaking up into small squads as they advanced. The southern troops that Pico had recruited dispersed to their homes before the arrival of the Americans. Squads of Fremont's battalion were sent out to scour the country and bring in any of the Californian officers or leading men whom they could find. These, when found, were paroled.

Another of those historical myths, like the mortar story previously mentioned, which is palmed off on credulous readers as genuine history, runs as follows: "Stockton, while en route from San Pedro to Los Angeles, was informed by a courier from Castro 'that if he marched upon the town he would find it the grave of himself and men.' 'Then,' answered the commodore, 'tell the general to have the bells ready to toll at eight o'clock, as I shall be there by that time.'" As Castro left Los Angeles the day before Stockton began his march from San Pedro, and when the commodore entered the city the Mexican general was probably two hundred miles away, the bell tolling myth goes to join its kindred myths in the category of history as it should not be written.

On the 17th of August, Stockton issued a second proclamation, in which he signs himself commander-in-chief and governor of the territory of California. It was milder in tone and more dignified than the first. He informed the people that their country now belonged to the United States. For the present it would be governed by martial law. They were invited to elect their local officers if those now in office refused to serve.

Four days after the capture of Los Angeles, The Warren, Captain Hull, commander, anchored at San Pedro. She brought official notice of the declaration of war between the United States and Mexico. Then for the first time Stockton learned that there had been an official declaration of war between the two countries. United States officers had waged war and had taken possession of California upon

the strength of a rumor that hostilities existed between the countries.

The conquest, if conquest it can be called, was accomplished without the loss of a life, if we except the two Americans, Fowler and Cowie, of the Bear Flag party, who were brutally murdered by a band of Californians under Padillo, and the equally brutal shooting of Beryessa and the two de Haro boys by the Americans at San Rafael. These three men were shot as spies, but there was no proof that they were such, and they were not tried. These murders occurred before Commodore Sloat raised the stars and stripes at Monterey.

On the 15th of August, 1846, just thirty-seven days after the raising of the stars and stripes at Monterey, the first newspaper ever published in California made its appearance. It was published at Monterey by Semple and Colton and named The Californian. Rev. Walter Colton was a chaplain in the United States navy and came to California on the Congress with Commodore Stockton. He was made alcalde of Monterey and built, by the labor of the chain

gang and from contributions and fines, the first schoolhouse in California, named for him Colton Hall. Colton thus describes the other member of the firm, Dr. Robert Semple: "My partner is an emigrant from Kentucky, who stands six feet eight in his stockings. He is in a buckskin dress, a foxskin cap; is true with his rifle, ready with his pen and quick at the type case." Semple came to California in 1845, with the Hastings party, and was one of the leaders in the Bear Flag revolution. The type and press used were brought to California by Augustin V. Zamorano in 1834, and by him sold to the territorial government, and had been used for printing bandos and pronunciamientos. The only paper the publishers of The Californian could procure was that used in the manufacture of cigarettes, which came in sheets a little larger than foolscap. The font of type was short of w's, so two v's were substituted for that letter, and when these ran out two u's were used. The paper was moved to San Francisco in 1848 and later on consolidated with the California Star.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### REVOLT OF THE CALIFORNIANS.

HOSTILITIES had ceased in all parts of the territory. The leaders of the Californians had escaped to Mexico, and Stockton, regarding the conquest as completed, set about organizing a government for the conquered territory. Fremont was to be appointed military governor. Detachments from his battalion were to be detailed to garrison different towns, while Stockton, with what recruits he could gather in California, and his sailors and marines, was to undertake a naval expedition against the west coast of Mexico, land his forces at Mazatlan or Acapulco and march overland to "shake hands with General Taylor at the gates of Mexico." Captain Gillespie was made military commandant of the southern department, with headquarters at Los Angeles; and assigned a garrison of fifty men. Commodore Stockton left Los Angeles for the north Sep-

tember 2. Fremont, with the remainder of his battalion, took up his line of march for Monterey a few days later. Gillespie's orders were to place the city under martial law, but not to enforce the more burdensome restrictions upon quiet and well-disposed citizens. A conciliatory policy in accordance with instructions of the secretary of the navy was to be adopted and the people were to be encouraged to "neutrality, self-government and friendship."

Nearly all historians who have written upon this subject lay the blame for the subsequent uprising of the Californians and their revolt against the rule of the military commandant, Gillespie, to his petty tyrannies. Col. J. J. Warner, in his Historical Sketch of Los Angeles County, says: "Gillespie attempted by a coercive system to effect a moral and social change in the habits, diversions and pastimes of

the people and to reduce them to his standard of propriety." Warner was not an impartial judge. He had a grievance against Gillespie which embittered him against the captain. Gillespie may have been lacking in tact, and his schooling in the navy under the tyrannical régime of the quarterdeck of fifty years ago was not the best training to fit him for government, but it is hardly probable that in two weeks' time he undertook to enforce a "coercive system" looking toward an entire change in the moral and social habits of the people. Los Angeles under Mexican domination was a hotbed of revolutions. It had a turbulent and restless element among its inhabitants that was never happier than when fomenting strife and conspiring to overthrow those in power. Of this class Colton, writing in 1846, says: "They drift about like Arabs. If the tide of fortune turns against them they disband and scatter to the four winds. They never become martyrs to any cause. They are too numerous to be brought to punishment by any of their governors, and thus escape justice." There was a conservative class in the territory, made up principally of the large landed proprietors, both native and foreign-born, but these exerted small influence in controlling the turbulent. While Los Angeles had a monopoly of this turbulent and revolutionary element, other settlements in the territory furnished their full quota of that class of political knight errants whose chief pastime was revolution, and whose capital consisted of a gaily caparisoned steed, a riata, a lance, a dagger and possibly a pair of horse pistols. These were the fellows whose "habits, diversions and pastimes" Gillespie undertook to reduce "to his standard of propriety."

That Commodore Stockton should have left Gillespie so small a garrison to hold the city and surrounding country in subjection shows that either he was ignorant of the character of the people, or that he placed too great reliance in the completeness of their subjection. With Castro's men in the city or dispersed among the neighboring ranchos, many of them still retaining their arms, and all of them ready to rally at a moment's notice to the call of their leaders; with no reinforcements nearer than five hundred

miles to come to the aid of Gillespie in case of an uprising, it was foolhardiness in Stockton to entrust the holding of the most important place in California to a mere handful of men, half disciplined and poorly equipped, without fortifications for defense or supplies to hold out in case of a siege.

Scarcely had Stockton and Fremont, with their men, left the city before trouble began. The turbulent element of the city fomented strife and seized every occasion to annoy and harass the military commandant and his men. While his "petty tyrannies," so called, which were probably nothing more than the enforcement of martial law, may have been somewhat provocative, the real cause was more deep seated. The Californians, without provocation on their part and without really knowing the cause why, found their country invaded, their property taken from them and their government in the hands of an alien race, foreign to them in customs and religion. They would have been a tame and spiritless people indeed, had they neglected the opportunity that Stockton's blundering gave them to regain their liberties. They did not waste much time. Within two weeks from the time Stockton sailed from San Pedro hostilities had begun and the city was in a state of siege.

Gillespie, writing in the *Sacramento Statesman* in 1858, thus describes the first attack: "On the 22d of September, at three o'clock in the morning, a party of sixty-five Californians and Sonoreños made an attack upon my small command quartered in the government house. We were not wholly surprised, and with twenty-one rifles we beat them back without loss to ourselves, killing and wounding three of their number. When daylight came, Lieutenant Hensley, with a few men, took several prisoners and drove the Californians from the town. This party was merely the nucleus of a revolution commenced and known to Colonel Fremont before he left Los Angeles. In twenty-four hours, six hundred well-mounted horsemen, armed with escopetas (shotguns), lances and one fine brass piece of light artillery, surrounded Los Angeles and summoned me to surrender. There were three old honey-combed iron guns (spiked

in the corral of my quarters, which we at once cleared and mounted upon the axles of carts."

Serbulo Varela, a young man of some ability, but of a turbulent and reckless character, had been the leader at first, but as the uprising assumed the character of a revolution, Castro's old officers came to the front. Capt. José Maria Flores was chosen comandante-general; José Antonio Carrillo, major-general; and Andres Pico, comandante de escuadron. The main camp of the insurgents was located on the mesa, east of the river, at a place called Paredon Blanco (White Bluff).

On the 24th of September, from the camp at White Bluff, was issued the famous Pronunciamiento de Barelas y otros Californias contra Los Americanos (The Proclamation of Barelas and other Californians against the Americans). It was signed by Serbulo Varela (spelled Barelas), Leonardo Cota and over three hundred others. Although this proclamation is generally credited to Flores, there is no evidence to show that he had anything to do with framing it. He promulgated it over his signature October 1. It is probable that it was written by Varela and Cota. It has been the custom of American writers to sneer at this production as florid and bombastic. In fiery invective and fierce denunciation it is the equal of Patrick Henry's famous "Give me liberty or give me death!" Its recital of wrongs is brief, but to the point. "And shall we be capable of permitting ourselves to be subjugated and to accept in silence the heavy chains of slavery? Shall we lose the soil inherited from our fathers, which cost them so much blood? Shall we leave our families victims of the most barbarous servitude? Shall we wait to see our wives outraged, our innocent children beaten by American whips, our property sacked, our temples profaned, to drag out a life full of shame and disgrace? No! a thousand times no! Compatriots, death rather than that! Who of you does not feel his heart beat and his blood boil on contemplating our situation? Who will be the Mexican that will not be indignant and rise in arms to destroy our oppressors? We believe there will be not one so vile and cowardly!"

Gillespie had left the government house (lo-

cated on what is now the site of the St. Charles Hotel) and taken a position on Fort Hill, where he had erected a temporary barricade of sacks filled with earth and had mounted his cannon there. The Americans had been summoned to surrender, but had refused. They were besieged by the Californians. There was but little firing between the combatants, an occasional sortie and a volley of rifle balls by the Americans when the Californians approached too near. The Californians were well mounted, but poorly armed, their weapons being principally muskets, shotguns, pistols, lances and riatas; while the Americans were armed with long-range rifles, of which the Californians had a wholesome dread. The fear of these arms and his cannon doubtless saved Gillespie and his men from capture.

On the 24th Gillespie dispatched a messenger to find Stockton at Monterey, or at San Francisco if he had left Monterey, and apprise him of the perilous situation of the Americans at Los Angeles. Gillespie's dispatch bearer, John Brown, better known by his California nickname, Juan Flaco or Lean John, made one of the most wonderful rides in history. Gillespie furnished Juan Flaco with a package of cigarettees, the paper of each bearing the inscription, "Believe the bearer;" these were stamped with Gillespie's seal. Brown started from Los Angeles at 8 p. m., September 24, and claimed to have reached Yerba Buena at 8 p. m. of the 28th, a ride of six hundred and thirty miles in four days. This is incorrect. Colton, who was alcalde of Monterey at that time, notes Brown's arrival at that place on the evening of the 29th. Colton, in his "Three Years in California," says that Brown rode the whole distance (Los Angeles to Monterey) of four hundred and sixty miles in fifty-two hours, during which time he had not slept. His intelligence was for Commodore Stockton and, in the nature of the case, was not committed to paper, except a few words rolled in a cigar fastened in his hair. But the commodore had sailed for San Francisco and it was necessary he should go one hundred and forty miles further. He was quite exhausted and was allowed to sleep three hours. Before day he was up and away on his journey. Gil-

lespie, in a letter published in the *Los Angeles Star*, May 28, 1858, describing Juan Flaco's ride says: "Before sunrise of the 29th he was lying in the bushes at San Francisco, in front of the congress frigate, waiting for the early market boat to come on shore, and he delivered my dispatches to Commodore Stockton before 7 o'clock."

In trying to steal through the picket line of the Mexicans at Los Angeles, he was discovered and pursued by a squad of them. A hot race ensued. Finding the enemy gaining on him he forced his horse to leap a wide ravine. A shot from one of his pursuers mortally wounded his horse, which, after running a short distance, fell dead. Flaco, carrying his spurs and riata, made his way on foot in the darkness to Las Virgines, a distance of twenty-seven miles. Here he secured another mount and again set off on his perilous journey. The trail over which Flaco held his way was not like "the road from Winchester town, a good, broad highway leading down," but instead a Camino de heradura, bridle path, now winding up through rocky cañons, skirting along the edge of precipitous cliffs, then zigzagging down chaparral covered mountains; now over the sands of the sea beach and again across long stretches of brown mesa, winding through narrow valleys and out onto the rolling hills—a trail as nature made it, unchanged by the hand of man. Such was the highway over which Flaco's steeds "stretched away with utmost speed." Harassed and pursued by the enemy, facing death night and day, with scarcely a stop or a stay to eat or sleep, Juan Flaco rode six hundred miles.

"Of all the rides since the birth of time,  
Told in story or sung in rhyme,  
The fleetest ride that ever was sped,"

was Juan Flaco's ride from Los Angeles to San Francisco. Longfellow has immortalized the "Ride of Paul Revere," Robert Browning tells in stirring verse of the riders who brought the good news from Ghent to Aix, and Buchanan Read thrills us with the heroic measures of Sheridan's Ride. No poet has sung of Juan Flaco's wonderful ride, fleet, longer and more perilous than any of these. Flaco rode six hundred miles

through the enemy's country, to bring aid to a besieged garrison, while Revere and Jorris and Sheridan were in the country of friends or protected by an army from enemies.

Gillespie's situation was growing more and more desperate each day. B. D. Wilson, who with a company of riflemen had been on an expedition against the Indians, had been ordered by Gillespie to join him. They reached the Chino ranch, where a fight took place between them and the Californians. Wilson's men being out of ammunition were compelled to surrender. In the charge upon the adobe, where Wilson and his men had taken refuge, Carlos Ballestaros had been killed and several Californians wounded. This and Gillespie's stubborn resistance had embittered the Californians against him and his men. The Chino prisoners had been saved from massacre after their surrender by the firmness and bravery of Varela. If Gillespie continued to hold the town his obstinacy might bring down the vengeance of the Californians not only upon him and his men, but upon many of the American residents of the south, who had favored their countrymen.

Finally Flores issued his ultimatum to the Americans, surrender within twenty-four hours or take the consequences of an onslaught by the Californians, which might result in the massacre of the entire garrison. In the meantime he kept his cavalry deployed on the hills, completely investing the Americans. Despairing of assistance from Stockton, on the advice of Wilson, who had been permitted by Flores to intercede with Gillespie, articles of capitulation were drawn up and signed by Gillespie and the leaders of the Californians. On the 30th of September the Americans marched out of the city with all the honors of war, drums beating, colors flying and two pieces of artillery mounted on carts drawn by oxen. They arrived at San Pedro without molestation and four or five days later embarked on the merchant ship *Vandalia*, which remained at anchor in the bay. Gillespie in his march was accompanied by a few of the American residents and probably a dozen of the Chino prisoners, who had been exchanged for the same number of Californians, whom he had held under arrest most likely as hostages.



Gillespie<sup>8</sup> took two cannon with him when he evacuated the city, leaving two spiked and broken on Fort Hill. There seems to have been a proviso in the articles of capitulation requiring him

to deliver the guns to Flores on reaching the embarcadero. If there was such a stipulation Gillespie violated it. He spiked the guns, broke off the trunnions and rolled one of them into the bay.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE DEFEAT AND RETREAT OF MERVINE'S MEN.

THE revolt of the Californians at Los Angeles was followed by similar uprisings in the different centers of population where American garrisons were stationed. Upon the receipt of Gillespie's message Commodore Stockton ordered Captain Mervine to proceed at once to San Pedro to regain, if possible, the lost territory. Juan Flaco had delivered his message to Stockton on September 30. Early on the morning of October 1st, Captain Mervine got under way for San Pedro. "He went ashore at Sausalito," says Gillespie, "on some trivial excuse, and a dense fog coming on he was compelled to remain there until the 4th."

Of the notable events occurring during the conquest of California there are few others of which there are so contradictory accounts as that known as the battle of Dominguez Ranch, where Mervine was defeated and compelled to retreat to San Pedro. Historians differ widely in the number engaged and in the number killed. The following account of Mervine's expedition I take from a log book kept by Midshipman and Acting-Lieut. Robert C. Duvall of the Savannah. He commanded a company during the battle. This book was donated to the Historical Society of Southern California by Dr. J. E. Cowles of Los Angeles, a nephew of Lieutenant Duvall. The account given by Lieutenant Duvall is one of the fullest and most accurate in existence.

"At 9.30 a. m." (October 1, 1846), says Lieutenant Duvall, "we commenced working out of the harbor of San Francisco on the ebb tide. The ship anchored at Sausalito, where, on account of a dense fog, it remained until the 4th, when it put to sea. On the 7th the ship entered the harbor of San Pedro. At 6.30 p. m., as we

were standing in for anchorage, we made out the American merchant ship *Vandalia*, having on her decks a body of men. On passing she saluted with two guns, which was repeated with three cheers, which we returned. \* \* \* \* Brevet Capt. Archibald Gillespie came on board and reported that he had evacuated the Pueblo de Los Angeles on account of the overpowering force of the enemy and had retired with his men on board the *Vandalia* after having spiked his guns, one of which he threw into the water. He also reported that the whole of California below the pueblo had risen in arms against our authorities, headed by Flores, a Mexican captain on furlough in this country, who had but a few days ago given his parole of honor not to take up arms against the United States. We made preparations to land a force to march to the pueblo at daylight.

"October 8, at 6 a. m., all the boats left the ship for the purpose of landing the forces, numbering in all two hundred and ninety-nine men, including the volunteers under command of Captain Gillespie. At 6.30 all were landed without opposition, the enemy in small detachments retreating toward the pueblo. From their movements we apprehended that their whole force was near. Captain Mervine sent on board ship for a reinforcement of eighty men, under command of Lieut. R. B. Hitchcock. At 8 a. m. the several companies, all under command of Capt William Mervine, took up the line of march for the purpose of retaking the pueblo. The enemy retreated as our forces advanced. (On landing, William A. Smith, first cabin boy, was killed by the accidental discharge of a Colt's pistol.) The reinforcements under the com-



mand' of Lieut. R. B. Hitchcock returned on board ship. For the first four miles our march was through hills and ravines, which the enemy might have taken advantage of, but preferred to occupy as spectators only, until our approach. A few shots from our flankers (who were the volunteer riflemen) would start them off; they returned the compliment before going. The remainder of our march was performed over a continuous plain overgrown with wild mustard, rising in places to six or eight feet in height. The ground was excessively dry, the clouds of dust were suffocating and there was not a breath of wind in motion. There was no water on our line of march for ten or twelve miles and we suffered greatly from thirst.

"At 2:30 p. m. we reached our camping ground. The enemy appeared in considerable numbers. Their numbers continued to increase until sundown, when they formed on a hill near us, gradually inclining towards our camp. They were admirably formed for a cavalry charge. We drew up our forces to meet them, but finding they were disposed to remain stationary, the marines, under command of Captain Marston, the Colt's riflemen, under command of Lieut. I. B. Carter and myself, and the volunteers, under command of Capt. A. Gillespie, were ordered to charge on them, which we did. They stood their ground until our shots commenced 'telling' on them, when they took to flight in every direction. They continued to annoy us by firing into our camp through the night. About 2 a. m. they brought a piece of artillery and fired into our camp, the shot striking the ground near us. The marines, riflemen and volunteers were sent in pursuit of the gun, but could see or hear nothing of it.

"We left our camp the next morning at 6 o'clock. Our plan of march was in column by platoon. We had not proceeded far before the enemy appeared before us drawn up on each side of the road, mounted on fine horses, each man armed with a lance and carbine. They also had a field piece (a four-pounder), to which were hitched eight or ten horses, placed on the road ahead of us.

"Captain Mervine, thinking it was the enemy's intention to throw us into confusion by using

their gun on us loaded with round shot and copper grape shot and then charge us with their cavalry, ordered us to form a square—which was the order of march throughout the battle. When within about four hundred yards of them the enemy opened on us with their artillery. We made frequent charges, driving them before us, and at one time causing them to leave some of their cannon balls and cartridges; but owing to the rapidity with which they could carry off the gun, using their lassos on every part, enabled them to choose their own distance, entirely out of all range of our muskets. Their horsemen kept out of danger, apparently content to let the gun do the fighting. They kept up a constant fire with their carbines, but these did no harm. The enemy numbered between one hundred and seventy-five and two hundred strong.

"Finding it impossible to capture the gun, the retreat was sounded. The captain consulted with his officers on the best steps to be taken. It was decided unanimously to return on board ship. To continue the march would sacrifice a number of lives to no purpose, for, admitting we could have reached the pueblo, all communications would be cut off with the ship, and we would further be constantly annoyed by their artillery without the least chance of capturing it. It was reported that the enemy were between five and six hundred strong at the city and it was thought he had more artillery. On retreating they got the gun planted on a hill ahead of us.

"The captain made us an address, saying to the troops that it was his intention to march straight ahead in the same orderly manner in which we had advanced, and that sooner than he would surrender to such an enemy, he would sacrifice himself and every other man in his command. The enemy fired into us four times on the retreat, the fourth shot falling short, the report of the gun indicating a small quantity of powder, after which they remained stationary and manifested no further disposition to molest us. We proceeded quietly on our march to the landing, where we found a body of men under command of Lieutenant Hitchcock with two nine-pounder cannon gotten from the Vandalia

to render us assistance in case we should need it.

"We presented truly a pitiable condition, many being barely able to drag one foot after the other from excessive fatigue, having gone through the exertions and excitement in battle and afterwards performing a march of eighteen or twenty miles without rest. This is the first battle I have ever been engaged in, and, having taken particular notice of those around me, I can assert that no men could have acted more bravely. Even when their shipmates were falling by their sides, I saw but one impulse and that was to push forward, and when retreat was ordered I noticed a general reluctance to turn their backs to the enemy.

"The following is a list of the killed and wounded: Michael Hoey, ordinary seaman, killed; David Johnson, ordinary seaman, killed; William H. Berry, ordinary seaman, mortally wounded; Charles Sommers, musician, mortally wounded; John Tyre, seaman, severely wounded; John Anderson, seaman, severely wounded; recovery doubtful. The following-named were slightly wounded: William Conland, marine; Hiram Rockvill, marine; H. Linland, marine; James Smith, marine.

"On the following morning we buried the bodies of William A. Smith, Charles Sommers, David Johnson and Michael Hoey on an island in the harbor.

"At 11 a. m. the captain called a council of commissioned officers regarding the proper course to adopt in the present crisis, which decided that no force should be landed, and that the ship remain here until further orders from the commodore, who is daily expected."

Entry in the log for Sunday, 11th: "William H. Berry, ordinary seaman, departed this life from the effect of wounds received in battle. Sent his body for interment to Dead Man's Island, so named by us. Mustered the command at quarters, after which performed divine service."

From this account it will be seen that the number killed and died of wounds received in battle was four; number wounded six, and one accidentally killed before the battle. On October 22d, Henry Lewis died and was buried on the island. Lewis' name does not appear in the list

of wounded. It is presumable that he died of disease. Six of the crew of the Savannah were buried on Dead Man's Island, four of whom were killed in battle. Lieutenant Duvall gives the following list of the officers in the "Expedition on the march to retake Pueblo de Los Angeles:" Capt. William Mervine, commanding; Capt. Ward Marston, commanding marines; Brevet Capt. A. H. Gillespie, commanding volunteers; Lieut. Henry W. Queen, adjutant; Lieut. B. F. Pinckney, commanding first company; Lieut. W. Rinckindoff, commanding second company; Lieut. I. B. Carter, Colt's riflemen; Midshipman R. D. Minor, acting lieutenant second company; Midshipman S. P. Griffin, acting lieutenant first company; Midshipman P. G. Walmough, acting lieutenant second company; Midshipman R. C. Duvall, acting lieutenant Colt's riflemen; Captain Clark and Captain Goodsall, commanding pikemen; Lieutenant Hensley, first lieutenant volunteers; Lieutenant Russeau, second lieutenant volunteers.

The piece of artillery that did such deadly execution on the Americans was the famous Old Woman's gun. It was a bronze four-pounder, or pedréro (swivel-gun) that for a number of years had stood on the plaza in front of the church, and was used for firing salutes on feast days and other occasions. When on the approach of Stockton's and Fremont's forces Castro abandoned his artillery and fled, an old lady, Dona Clara Cota de Reyes, declared that the gringos should not have the church's gun; so, with the assistance of her daughters, she buried it in a cane patch near her residence, which stood on the east side of Alameda street, near First. When the Californians revolted against Gillespie's rule the gun was unearthed and used against him. The Historical Society of Southern California has in its possession a brass grapeshot, one of a charge that was fired into the face of Fort Hill at Gillespie's men when they were posted on the hill. This gun was in the exhibit of trophies at the New Orleans Exposition in 1885. The label on it read: "Trophy 53, No. 63, Class 7. Used by Mexico against the United States at the battle of Dominguez' Ranch, October 9, 1846; at San Gabriel and the Mesa, January 8 and 9, 1847; used by the United

States forces against Mexico at Mazatlan, November 11, 1847; Urios (crew all killed or wounded), Palos Prietos, December 13, 1847, and Lower California, at San José, February 15, 1848."

Before the battle the old gun had been mounted on forward axle of a Jersey wagon, which a man by the name of Hunt had brought across the plains the year before. It was lashed to the axle by means of rawhide thongs, and was drawn by riatas, as described by Lieutenant Duvall. The range was obtained by raising or lowering the pole of the wagon. Ignacio Aguilar acted as gunner, and having neither lanyard or pent-stock to fire it, he touched off the gun with the lighted end of a cigarette. Never before or since, perhaps, was a battle won with such crude artillery. José Antonio Carrillo was in command of the Californians. During the skirmishing of the first day he had between eighty and ninety men. During the night of the 8th Flores joined him with a force of sixty men. Next morning Flores returned to Los Angeles, taking with him twenty men. Carrillo's force in the battle numbered about one hundred and twenty men. Had Mervine known that the Californians had fired their last shot (their powder being exhausted) he could have pushed on and captured the pueblo.

The expulsion of Gillespie's garrison from Los Angeles and the defeat of Mervine's force raised the spirits of the Californians, and there was great rejoicing at the pueblo. Detachments of Flores' army were kept at Sepulveda's rancho, the Palos Verdes, and at Temple's rancho of the Cerritos, to watch the Savannah and report any attempt at landing. The leaders of the revolt were not so sanguine of success as the rank and file. They were without means to procure arms and supplies. There was a scarcity of ammunition, too. An inferior article of gunpowder was manufactured in limited quantities at San Gabriel. The only uniformity in weapons was in lances. These were rough, home-made affairs, the blade beaten out of a rasp or file, and the shaft a willow pole about eight feet long. These weapons were formidable in a charge against infantry, but easily parried by a swordsman in a cavalry charge.

After the defeat of Mervine, Flores set about reorganizing the territorial government. He called together the departmental assembly. It met at the capital (Los Angeles) October 26th. The members present, Figueroa, Botello, Guerra and Olvera, were all from the south. The assembly decided to fill the place of governor, vacated by Pico, and that of comandante-general, left vacant by the flight of Castro.

José Maria Flores, who was now recognized as the leader of the revolt against American rule, was chosen to fill both offices, and the two offices, as had formerly been the custom, were united in one person. He chose Narciso Botello for his secretary. Flores, who was Mexican born, was an intelligent and patriotic officer. He used every means in his power to prepare his forces for the coming conflict with the Americans, but with little success. The old jealousy of the hijos del pais against the Mexican would crop out, and it neutralized his efforts. There were bickerings and complaints in the ranks and among the officers. The natives claimed that a Californian ought to be chief in command.

The feeling of jealousy against Flores at length culminated in open revolt. Flores had decided to send the prisoners taken at the Chino fight to Mexico. His object was twofold—first, to enhance his own glory with the Mexican government, and, secondly, by showing what the Californians had already accomplished to obtain aid in the coming conflict. As most of these men were married to California wives, and by marriage related to many of the leading California families of the south, there was at once a family uproar and fierce denunciations of Flores. But as the Chino prisoners were foreigners, and had been taken while fighting against the Mexican government, it was necessary to disguise the hostility to Flores under some other pretext. He was charged with the design of running away to Sonora with the public funds. On the night of December 3, Francisco Rico, at the head of a party of Californians, took possession of the cuartel, or guard house, and arrested Flores. A special session of the assembly was called to investigate the charges.

Flores expressed his willingness to give up

his purpose of sending the Chino prisoners to Mexico, and the assembly found no foundation to the charge of his design of running away with the public funds, nor did they find any funds to run away with. Flores was liberated, and Rico imprisoned in turn.

Flores was really the last Mexican governor of California. Like Pico, he was elected by the territorial legislature, but he was not confirmed by the Mexican congress. Generals Scott and Taylor were keeping President Santa Anna and

his congress on the move so rapidly they had no time to spare for California affairs.

Flores was governor from October 26, 1846, to January 8, 1847.

With a threatened invasion by the Americans and a divided people within, it was hard times in the old pueblo. The town had to supply the army with provisions. The few who possessed money hid it away and all business was suspended except preparations to meet the invaders.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### THE FINAL CONQUEST OF CALIFORNIA.

COMMODORE STOCKTON, convinced that the revolt of the Californians was a serious affair, ordered Fremont's battalion, which had been recruited to one hundred and sixty men, to proceed to the south to co-operate with him in quelling the rebellion. The battalion sailed on the *Sterling*, but shortly after putting to sea, meeting the *Vandalia*, Fremont learned of Mervine's defeat and also that no horses could be procured in the lower country; the vessel was put about and the battalion landed at Monterey, October 28. It was decided to recruit the battalion to a regiment and mounting it to march down the coast. Recruiting was actively begun among the newly arrived immigrants. Horses and saddles were procured by giving receipts on the government, payable after the close of the war or by confiscation if it brought returns quicker than receipts.

The report of the revolt in the south quickly spread among the Californians in the north and they made haste to resist their spoilers. Manuel Castro was made comandante of the military forces of the north, headquarters at San Luis Obispo. Castro collected a force of about one hundred men, well mounted but poorly armed. His purpose was to carry on a sort of guerrilla warfare, capturing men and horses from the enemy whenever an opportunity offered.

Fremont, now raised to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the regular army with head-

quarters at Monterey, was rapidly mobilizing his motley collection of recruits into a formidable force. Officers and men were scouring the country for recruits, horses, accouterments and supplies. Two of these recruiting squads encountered the enemy in considerable force and an engagement known as the battle of Natividad ensued. Capt. Charles Burroughs with thirty-four men and two hundred horses, recruited at Sacramento, arrived at San Juan Bautista, November 15, on his way to Monterey on the same day Captain Thompson, with about the same number of men recruited at San José, reached San Juan. The Californians, with the design of capturing the horses, made a night march from their camp on the Salinas. At Gomez rancho they took prisoner Thomas O. Larkin, the American consul, who was on his way from Monterey to San Francisco on official business. On the morning of the 16th the Americans began their march for Monterey. At Gomez rancho their advance learned of the presence of the enemy and of the capture of Larkin. A squad of six or eight scouts was sent out to find the Californians. The scouts encountered a detachment of Castro's force at Encinalitos (Little Oaks) and a fight ensued. The main body of the enemy came up and surrounded the grove of oaks. The scouts, though greatly outnumbered, were well armed with long range rifles and held the enemy at bay, until Captains Burroughs

and Thompson brought up their companies. Burroughs, who seems to have been the ranking officer, hesitated to charge the Californians, who had the superior force, and besides he was fearful of losing his horses and thus delaying Fremont's movements. But, taunted with cowardice and urged on by Thompson, a fire eater, who was making loud protestations of his bravery, Burroughs ordered a charge. The Americans, badly mounted, were soon strung out in an irregular line. The Californians, who had made a feint of retreating, turned and attacked with vigor, Captain Burroughs and four or five others were killed. The straggling line fell back on the main body and the Californians, having expended their ammunition, retreated. The loss in killed and wounded amounted to twelve or fifteen on each side.

The only other engagement in the north was the bloodless battle of Santa Clara. Fremont's methods of procuring horses, cattle and other supplies was to take them and give in payment demands on the government, payable after the close of the war. After his departure the same method was continued by the officers of the garrisons at San Francisco, San José and Monterey. Indeed, it was their only method of procuring supplies. The quartermasters were without money and the government without credit. On the 8th of December Lieutenant Bartlett, also alcalde of Yerba Buena, with a squad of five men started down the peninsula toward San José to purchase supplies. Francisco Sanchez, a rancher, whose horse and cattle corrals had been raided by former purchasers, with a band of Californians waylaid and captured Bartlett and his men. Other California rancheros who had lost their stock in similar raids rallied to the support of Sanchez and soon he found himself at the head of one hundred men. The object of their organization was rather to protect their property than to fight. The news soon spread that the Californians had revolted and were preparing to massacre the Americans. Captain Weber of San José had a company of thirty-three men organized for defense. There was also a company of twenty men under command of Captain Aram stationed at the ex-mission of Santa Clara. On the 29th

of December, Capt. Ward Marston with a detachment of thirty-four men and a field piece in charge of Master de Long and ten sailors was sent to Santa Clara. The entire force collected at the seat of war numbered one hundred and one men. On January 2 the American force encountered the Californians, one hundred strong, on the plains of Santa Clara. Firing at long range began and continued for an hour or more. Sanchez sent in a flag of truce asking an armistice preparatory to the settlement of difficulties. January 3, Captain Maddox arrived from Monterey with fifty-nine mounted men, and on the 7th Lieutenant Grayson came with fifteen men. On the 8th a treaty of peace was concluded, by which the enemy surrendered Lieutenant Bartlett and all the other prisoners, as well as their arms, including a small field piece and were permitted to go to their homes. Upon "reliable authority" four Californians were reported killed, but their graves have never been discovered nor did their living relatives, so far as known, mourn their loss.

Stockton with his flagship, the Congress, arrived at San Pedro on the 23d of October, 1846. The Savannah was still lying at anchor in the harbor. The commodore had now at San Pedro a force of about eight hundred men; but, notwithstanding the contemptuous opinion he held of the Californian soldiers, he did not march against the pueblo. Stockton in his report says: "Elated by this transient success (Mervine's defeat), which the enemy with his usual want of veracity magnified into a great victory, they collected in large bodies on all the adjacent hills and would not permit a hoof except their own horses to be within fifty miles of San Pedro." But "in the face of their boasting insolence" Stockton landed and again hoisted "the glorious stars and stripes in the presence of their horse covered hills." "The enemy had driven off every animal, man and beast from that section of the country; and it was not possible by any means in our power to carry provisions for our march to the city." The city was only thirty miles away and American soldiers have been known to carry rations in their haversacks for a march of one hundred miles. The "transient success" of the insolent enemy



had evidently made an impression on Stockton. He estimated the California force in the vicinity of the landing at eight hundred men, which was just seven hundred too high. He determined to approach Los Angeles by way of San Diego, and on the last day of October he sailed for that port. B. D. Wilson, Stephen C. Foster and others attribute Stockton's abandonment of an attack on Los Angeles from San Pedro to a trick played on him by José Antonio Carrillo. Carrillo was in command of the detachment stationed at the Cerritos and the Palos Verdes. Carrillo was anxious to obtain an interview with Stockton and if possible secure a cessation of hostilities until the war then progressing in Mexico should be decided, thus settling the fate of California. B. D. Wilson, one of the Chino prisoners, was sent with a Mexican sergeant to raise a white flag as the boats of the Congress approached the landing and present Carrillo's proposition for a truce. Carrillo, with the intention of giving Stockton an exaggerated idea of the number of his troops and thus obtaining more favorable terms in the proposed treaty, collected droves of wild horses from the plains; these his caballeros kept in motion, passing and repassing through a gap in the hills, which was in plain view from Stockton's vessel. Owing to the dust raised by the cavalcade it was impossible to discover that most of the horses were riderless. The troops were signalled to return to the vessel, and the commodore shortly afterwards sailed to San Diego. Carrillo always regretted that he made too much demonstration.

As an illustration of the literary trash that has been palmed off for California history, I give an extract from Frost's *Pictorial History of California*, a book written the year after the close of the Mexican war by Prof. John Frost, a noted compiler of histories, who writes LL. D. after his name. It relates to Stockton's exploits at San Pedro. "At the Rancho Sepulveda (the Palos Verdes) a large force of Californians were posted, Commodore Stockton sent one hundred men forward to receive the fire of the enemy and then fall back on the main body without returning it. The main body of Stockton's army was formed in a

triangle with the guns hid by the men. By the retreat of the advance party the enemy were decoyed close to the main force, when the wings (of the triangle) were extended and a deadly fire from the artillery opened upon the astonished Californians. More than one hundred were killed, the same number wounded and one hundred prisoners taken." The mathematical accuracy of Stockton's artillerists was truly astonishing. They killed a man for every one wounded and took a prisoner for every man they killed. As Flores' army never amounted to more than three hundred, if we are to believe Frost, Stockton had all the enemy "present or accounted for." This silly fabrication of Frost's runs through a number of so-called histories of California. Stockton was a brave man and a very energetic commander, but he would boast of his achievements, and his reports are unreliable.

As previously mentioned, Fremont after his return to Monterey proceeded to recruit a force to move against Los Angeles by land from Monterey. His recruits were principally obtained from the recently arrived immigrants. Each man was furnished with a horse and was to receive \$25 a month. A force of about four hundred and fifty was obtained. Fremont left Monterey November 17 and rendezvoused at San Juan Bautista, where he remained to the 29th of the month organizing his battalion. On the 29th of November he began his march southward to co-operate with Stockton against Flores.

After the expulsion of Gillespie and his men from Los Angeles, detachments from Flores' army were sent to Santa Barbara and San Diego to recapture these places. At Santa Barbara Fremont had left nine men of his battalion under Lieut. Theodore Talbot to garrison the town. A demand was made on the garrison to surrender by Colonel Garfias of Flores' army. Two hours were given the Americans to decide. Instead of surrendering they fell back into the hills, where they remained three or four days, hoping that reinforcements might be sent them from Monterey. Their only subsistence was the flesh of an old gray mare of Daniel Hill's that they captured, brought into camp and killed. They secured one of Micheltorena's cholos that



had remained in the country and was living in a cañon among the hills for a guide. He furnished them a horse to carry their blankets and conducted them through the mountains to the San Joaquin valley. Here the guide left them with the Indians, he returning to Santa Barbara. The Indians fed them on chia (wild flaxseed), mush and acorn bread. They traveled down the San Joaquin valley. On their journey they lived on the flesh of wild horses, seventeen of which they killed. After many hardships they reached Monterey on the 8th of November, where they joined Fremont's battalion.

Captain Merritt, of Fremont's battalion, had been left at San Diego with forty men to hold the town when the battalion marched north to co-operate with Stockton against Los Angeles. Immediately after Gillespie's retreat, Francisco Rico was sent with fifty men to capture the place. He was joined by recruits at San Diego. Merritt being in no condition to stand a siege, took refuge on board the American whale ship Stonington, which was lying at anchor. After remaining on board the Stonington ten days, taking advantage of the laxity of discipline among the Californians, he stole a march on them, recapturing the town and one piece of artillery. He sent Don Miguel de Pedrorena, who was one of his allies, in a whale boat with four sailors to San Pedro to obtain supplies and assistance. Pedrorena arrived at San Pedro on the 13th of October with Merritt's dispatches. Captain Mervine chartered the whale ship Magnolia, which was lying in the San Pedro harbor, and dispatched Lieutenant Minor, Midshipman Duvall and Morgan with thirty-three sailors and fifteen of Gillespie's volunteers to reinforce Merritt. They reached San Diego on the 16th. The combined forces of Minor and Merritt, numbering about ninety men, put in the greater part of the next two weeks in dragging cannon from the old fort and mounting them at their barracks, which were located on the hill at the edge of the plain on the west side of the town, convenient to water. They succeeded in mounting six brass nine-pounders and building two bastions of adobes, taken from an old house. There was constant skirmishing between the hostile parties,

but few fatalities. The Americans claimed to have killed three of the enemy, and one American was ambushed and killed.

The Californians kept well out of range, but prevented the Americans from obtaining supplies. Their provisions were nearly exhausted, and when reduced to almost the last extreme they made a successful foraging expedition and procured a supply of mutton. Midshipman Duvall thus describes the adventure: "We had with us an Indian (chief of a numerous tribe) who, from his knowledge of the country, we thought could avoid the enemy; and getting news of a number of sheep about thirty-five miles to the south on the coast, we determined to send him and his companion to drive them onto an island which at low tide connected with the mainland. In a few days a signal was made on the island, and the boats of the whale ship Stonington, stationed off the island, were sent to it. Our good old Indian had managed, through his cunning and by keeping concealed in ravines, to drive onto the island about six hundred sheep, but his companion had been caught and killed by the enemy. I shall never forget his famished appearance, but pride in his Indian triumph could be seen playing in his dark eyes.

"For thirty or forty days we were constantly expecting, from the movements of the enemy, an attack, soldiers and officers sleeping on their arms and ready for action. About the 1st of November, Commodore Stockton arrived, and, after landing Captain Gillespie with his company and about forty-three marines, he suddenly disappeared, leaving Lieutenant Minor governor of the place and Captain Gillespie commandant."\*

Foraging continued, the whale ship Stonington, which had been impressed into the government service, being used to take parties down the coast, who made raids inland and brought back with them cattle and horses.

It was probably on one of these excursions that the flag-making episode occurred, of which there are more versions than Homer had birth-places. The correct version of the story is as follows: A party had been sent under com-

---

\*Log Book of Acting Lieutenant Duvall.

mand of Lieutenant Hensley to Juan Bandini's rancho in Lower California to bring up bands of cattle and horses. Bandini was an adherent of the American cause. He and his family returned with the cavalcade to San Diego. At their last camping place before reaching the town, Hensley, in a conversation with Bandini, regretted they had no flag with them to display on their entry into the town. Señora Bandini volunteered to make one, which she did from red, white and blue dresses of her children. This flag, fastened to a staff, was carried at the head of the cavalcade when it made its triumphal entry into San Diego. The Mexican government confiscated Bandini's ranchos in Lower California on account of his friendship to the Americans during the war.

Skirmishing continued almost daily. José Antonio Carrillo was now in command of the Californians, their force numbering about one hundred men. Commodore Stockton returned and decided to fortify. Midshipman Duvall, in the Log Book referred to in the previous chapter, thus describes the fort: "The commodore now commenced to fortify the hill which overlooked the town by building a fort, constructed by placing three hundred gallon casks full of sand close together. The inclosure was twenty by thirty yards. A bank of earth and small gravel was thrown up in front as high as the top of the casks and a ditch dug around on the outside. Inside a ball-proof vault of ketch was built out of plank and lined on the inside with adobes, on top of which a swivel was mounted. The entrance was guarded by a strong gate, with a drawbridge in front across the ditch or moat. The whole fortification was completed and the guns mounted on it in about three weeks. Our men working on the fort were on short allowance of beef and wheat, and for a time without bread, tea, sugar or coffee, many of them being destitute of shoes, but there were few complaints.

"About the 1st of December, information having been received that General Kearny was at Warner's Pass, about eighty miles distant, with one hundred dragoons on his march to San Diego, Commodore Stockton immediately sent an escort of fifty men under command of Cap-

tain Gillespie, accompanied by Past Midshipmen Beale and Duncan, having with them one piece of artillery. They reached General Kearny without molestation. On the march the combined force was surprised by about ninety-three Californians at San Pasqual, under command of Andres Pico, who had been sent to that part of the country to drive off all the cattle and horses to prevent us from getting them. In the battle that ensued General Kearny lost in killed Captains Johnston and Moore and Lieutenant Hammond, and fifteen dragoons. Seventeen dragoons were severely wounded. The enemy captured one piece of artillery. General Kearny and Captains Gillespie and Gibson were severely wounded; also one of the engineer officers. Some of the dragoons have since died."

\* \* \*

"After the engagement General Kearny took position on a hill covered with large rocks. It was well suited for defense. Lieutenant Godey of Gillespie's volunteers, the night after the battle, escaped through the enemy's line of sentries and came in with a letter from Captain Turner to the commodore. Whilst among the rocks, Past Midshipman Beale and Kit Carson managed, under cover of night, to pass out through the enemy's ranks, and after three days' and nights' hard marching through the mountains without water, succeeded in getting safely into San Diego, completely famished. Soon after arriving Lieutenant Beale fainted away, and for some days entirely lost his reason."

On the night of Beale's arrival, December 9, about 9 p. m., detachments of two hundred sailors and marines from the Congress and Portsmouth, under the immediate command of Captain Zeilin, assisted by Lieutenants Gray, Hunter, Renshaw, Parrish, Thompson and Tilghman and Midshipmen Duvall and Morgan, each man carrying a blanket, three pounds of jerked beef and the same of hard-tack, began their march to relieve General Kearny. They marched all night and camped on a chaparral covered mountain during the day. At 4 p. m. of the second night's march they reached Kearny's camp, surprising him. Godey, who had been sent ahead to inform Kearny that assistance was coming, had been captured by the

enemy. General Kearny had burnt and destroyed all his baggage and camp equipage, saddles, bridles, clothing, etc., preparatory to forcing his way through the enemy's line. Burdened with his wounded, it is doubtful whether he could have escaped. Midshipman Duvall says: "It would not be a hazard of opinion to say he would have been overpowered and compelled to surrender." The enemy disappeared on the arrival of reinforcements. The relief expedition, with Kearny's men, reached San Diego after two days' march.

A brief explanation of the reason why Kearny was at San Pasqual may be necessary. In June, 1846, Gen. Stephen W. Kearny, commander of the Army of the West, as his command was designated, left Fort Leavenworth with a force of regulars and volunteers to take possession of New Mexico. The conquest of that territory was accomplished without a battle. Under orders from the war department, Kearny began his march to California with a part of his force to co-operate with the naval forces there. October 6, near Socorro, N. M., he met Kit Carson with an escort of fifteen men en route from Los Angeles to Washington, bearing dispatches from Stockton, giving the report of the conquest of California. Kearny required Carson to turn back and act as his guide. Carson was very unwilling to do so, as he was within a few days' journey of his home and family, from whom he had been separated for nearly two years. He had been guide for Fremont on his exploring expedition. He, however, obeyed Kearny's orders.

General Kearny sent back about three hundred of his men, taking with him one hundred and twenty. After a toilsome march by way of the Pima villages, Tucson, the Gila and across the Colorado desert, they reached the Indian village of San Pasqual (about forty miles from San Diego), where the battle was fought. It was the bloodiest battle of the conquest; Kearny's men, at daybreak, riding on broken down mules and half broken horses, in an irregular and disorderly line, charged the Californians. While the American line was stretched out over the plain Capt. Andres Pico, who was in command, wheeled his column and charged

the Americans. A fierce hand to hand fight ensued, the Californians using their lances and lariats, the Americans clubbed guns and sabers. Of Kearny's command eighteen men were killed and nineteen wounded; three of the wounded died. Only one, Capt. Abraham R. Johnston (a relative of the author's), was killed by a gunshot; all the others were lanced. The mules to one of the howitzers became unmanageable and ran into the enemy's lines. The driver was killed and the gun captured. One Californian was captured and several slightly wounded; none were killed. Less than half of Kearny's one hundred and seventy men\* took part in the battle. His loss in killed and wounded was fifty per cent of those engaged. Dr. John S. Griffin, for many years a leading physician of Los Angeles, was the surgeon of the command.

The foraging expeditions in Lower California having been quite successful in bringing in cattle, horses and mules, Commodore Stockton hastened his preparation for marching against Los Angeles. The enemy obtained information of the projected movement and left for the pueblo.

"The Cyane having arrived," says Duvall, "our force was increased to about six hundred men, most of whom, understanding the drill, performed the evolutions like regular soldiers. Everything being ready for our departure, the commodore left Captain Montgomery and officers in command of the town, and on the 29th of December took up his line of march for Los Angeles. General Kearny was second in command and having the immediate arrangement of the forces, reserving for himself the prerogative which his rank necessarily imposed upon him. Owing to the weak state of our oxen we had not crossed the dry bed of the river San Diego before they began breaking down, and the carts, which were thirty or forty in number, had to be dragged by the men. The general urged on the commodore that it was useless to commence such a march as was before us with our present means of transportation, but the commodore insisted on performing at least one day's march

\*General Kearny's original force of one hundred and twenty had been increased by Gillespie's command, numbering fifty men.

even if we should have to return the next day. We succeeded in reaching the valley of the Soledad that night by dragging our carts. Next day the commodore proposed to go six miles farther, which we accomplished, and then continued six miles farther. Having obtained some fresh oxen, by assisting the carts up hill we made ten or twelve miles a day. At San Luis Rey we secured men, carts and oxen, and after that our days' marches ranged from fifteen to twenty-two miles a day.

"The third day out from San Luis Rey a white flag was seen ahead, the bearer of which had a communication from Flores, signing himself 'Commander-in-Chief and Governor of California,' asking for a conference for the purpose of coming to terms, which would be alike 'honorable to both countries.' The commodore refused to answer him in writing, saying to the bearer of the truce that his answer was, 'he knew no such person as Governor Flores; that he himself was the only governor in California; that he knew a rebel by that name, a man who had given his parole of honor not to take up arms against the government of the United States, who, if the people of California now in arms against the forces of the United States would deliver up, he (Stockton) would treat with them on condition that they surrender their arms and retire peaceably to their homes and he would grant them, as citizens of the United States, protection from further molestation.' This the embassy refused to entertain, saying 'they would prefer to die with Flores than to surrender on such terms.'"

\* \* \*

"On the 8th of January, 1847, they met us on the banks of the river San Gabriel with between five and six hundred men mounted on good horses and armed with lances and carbines, having also four pieces of artillery planted on the heights about three hundred and fifty yards distant from the river. Owing to circumstances which have occurred since the surrender of the enemy, I prefer not mentioning the particulars of this day's battle and also that of the day following, or of referring to individuals concerned in the successful management of our forces." (The circumstance to which Lieutenant Duvall

refers was undoubtedly the quarrel between Stockton and Kearny after the capture of Los Angeles.) "It is sufficient to say that on the 8th of January we succeeded in crossing the river and driving the enemy from the heights. Having resisted all their charges, dismounted one of their pieces and put them to flight in every direction, we encamped on the ground they had occupied during the fight.

"The next day the Californians met us on the plains of the mesa. For a time the fighting was carried on by both sides with artillery, but that proving too hot for them they concentrated their whole force in a line ahead of us and at a given signal divided from the center and came down on us like a tornado, charging us on all sides at the same time; but they were effectually defeated and fled in every direction in the utmost confusion. Many of their horses were left dead on the field. Their loss in the two battles, as given by Andres Pico, second in command, was eighty-three killed and wounded; our loss, three killed (one accidentally), and fifteen or twenty wounded, none dangerously. The enemy abandoned two pieces of artillery in an Indian village near by."

I have given at considerable length Midshipman Duvall's account of Stockton's march from San Diego and of the two battles fought, not because it is the fullest account of those events, but because it is original historical matter, never having appeared in print before, and also because it is the observations of a participant written at the time the events occurred. In it the losses of the enemy are greatly exaggerated, but that was a fault of his superior officers as well. Commodore Stockton, in his official reports of the two battles, gives the enemy's loss in killed and wounded "between seventy and eighty." And General Kearny, in his report of the battle of San Pasqual, claimed it as a victory, and states that the enemy left six dead on the field. The actual loss of the Californians in the two battles (San Gabriel river and La Mesa) was three killed and ten or twelve wounded.\*

\*The killed were Ignacio Sepulveda, Francisco Rubio, and El Guaymeno, a Yaqui Indian.

While the events recorded in this chapter were transpiring at San Diego and its vicinity, what was the state of affairs in the capital, Los Angeles? After the exultation and rejoicing over the expulsion of Gillespie's garrison, Mervine's defeat and the victory over Kearny at San Pasqual there came a reaction. Dissension continued between the leaders. There was lack of arms and laxity of discipline. The army was but little better than a mob. Obedience to orders of a superior was foreign to the nature of a Californian. His wild, free life in the saddle made him impatient of all restraint. Then the impossibility of successful resistance against the Americans became more and more apparent as the final conflict approached. Fremont's army was moving down on the doomed city from the north, and Stockton's was coming up from the south. Either one of these, in numbers, exceeded the force that Flores could bring into action; combined they would crush him out of existence. The California troops were greatly discouraged and it was with great difficulty that the officers kept their men together. There was another and more potent element of disintegration. Many of the wealthier natives and all the foreigners, regarding the contest as loopeless, secretly favored the American cause, and it was only through fear of loss of property that they furnished Flores and his officers any supplies for the army.

During the latter part of December and the first days of January Flores' army was stationed at the San Fernando Mission, on the lookout for Fremont's battalion; but the more rapid advance of Stockton's army compelled a change of base. On the 6th and 7th of January Flores moved his army back secretly through the

Cahuenga Pass, and, passing to the southward of the city, took position where La Jaboneria (the soap factory) road crosses the San Gabriel river. Here his men were stationed in the thick willows to give Stockton a surprise. Stockton received information of the trap set for him and after leaving the Los Coyotes swung off to the right until he struck the Upper Santa Ana road. The Californians had barely time to effect a change of base and get their cannon planted when the Americans arrived at the crossing.

Stockton called the engagement there the battle of San Gabriel river; the Californians call it the battle of Paso de Bartolo, which is the better name. The place where the battle was fought is on bluff just south of the Upper Santa Ana road, near where the Southern California railroad crosses the old San Gabriel river. (The ford or crossing was formerly known as Pico's Crossing.) There was, at the time of the battle, but one San Gabriel river. The new river channel was made in the great flood of 1868. What Stockton, Emory, Duvall and other American officers call the battle of the Plains of the Mesa the Californians call the battle of La Mesa, which is most decidedly a better name than the "Plains of the Plain." It was fought at a ravine, the Canada de Los Alisos, near the southeastern corner of the Los Angeles city boundary. In these battles the Californians had four pieces of artillery, two iron nine-pounders, the old woman's gun and the howitzer captured from Kearny. Their powder was very poor. It was made at San Gabriel. It was owing to this that they did so little execution in the fight. That the Californians escaped with so little punishment was probably due to the wretched marksmanship of Stockton's sailors and marines.



## CHAPTER XX.

## CAPTURE AND OCCUPATION OF THE CAPITAL.

AFTER the battle of La Mesa, the Americans, keeping to the south, crossed the Los Angeles river at about the point where the south boundary line of the city crosses it and camped on the right bank. Here, under a willow tree, those killed in battle were buried. Lieutenant Emory, in his "Notes of a Military Reconnaissance," says: "The town, known to contain great quantities of wine and aguardiente, was four miles distant (four miles from the battlefield). From previous experience of the difficulty of controlling men when entering towns, it was determined to cross the river San Fernando (Los Angeles), halt there for the night and enter the town in the morning, with the whole day before us.

"After we had pitched our camp, the enemy came down from the hills, and four hundred horsemen with four pieces of artillery drew off towards the town, in order and regularity, whilst about sixty made a movement down the river on our rear and left flank. This led us to suppose they were not yet whipped, as we thought, and that we should have a night attack.

"January 10 (1847)—. Just as we had raised our camp, a flag of truce, borne by Mr. Celis, a Castilian; Mr. Workman, an Englishman, and Alvarado, the owner of the rancho at the Alisos, was brought into camp. They proposed, on behalf of the Californians, to surrender their dear City of the Angels provided we would respect property and persons. This was agreed to, but not altogether trusting to the honesty of General Flores, who had once broken his parole, we moved into the town in the same order we should have done if expecting an attack. It was a wise precaution, for the streets were full of desperate and drunken fellows, who brandished their arms and saluted us with every term of reproach. The crest, overlooking the town, in rifle range, was covered with horsemen engaged in the same hospitable manner.

"Our men marched steadily on, until crossing the ravine leading into the public square (plaza), when a fight took place amongst the Californians on the hill; one became disarmed and to avoid death rolled down the hill towards us, his adversary pursuing and lancing him in the most cold-blooded manner. The man tumbling down the hill was supposed to be one of our vaqueros, and the cry of 'rescue him' was raised. The crew of the Cyane, nearest the scene, at once and without any orders, halted and gave the man that was lancing him a volley; strange to say, he did not fall. The general gave the jack tars a cursing, not so much for the firing without orders, as for their bad marksmanship."

Shortly after the above episode, the Californians did open fire from the hill on the vaqueros in charge of the cattle. (These vaqueros were Californians in the employ of the Americans and were regarded by their countrymen as traitors.) A company of riflemen was ordered to clear the hill. A single volley effected this, killing two of the enemy. This was the last bloodshed in the war; and the second conquest of California was completed as the first had been by the capture of Los Angeles. Two hundred men, with two pieces of artillery, were stationed on the hill.

The Angeleños did not exactly welcome the invaders with "bloody hands to inhospitable graves," but they did their best to let them know they were not wanted. The better class of the native inhabitants closed their houses and took refuge with foreign residents or went to the ranchos of their friends in the country. The fellows of the baser sort, who were in possession of the city, exhausted their vocabularies of abuse on the invading gringos. There was one paisano who excelled all his countrymen in this species of warfare. It is a pity his name has not been preserved in history with that of



other famous scolds and kickers. He rode by the side of the advancing column up Main street, firing volleys of invective and denunciation at the hated gringos. At certain points of his tirade he worked himself to such a pitch of indignation that language failed him; then he would solemnly go through the motions of "Make ready, take aim!" with an old shotgun he carried, but when it came to the order "Fire!" discretion got the better of his valor; he lowered his gun and began again, firing invective at the gringo soldiers; his mouth would go off if his gun would not.

Commodore Stockton's headquarters were in the Abila house, the second house on Olvera street, north of the plaza. The building is still standing; but has undergone many changes in fifty years. A rather amusing account was recently given me by an old pioneer of the manner in which Commodore Stockton got possession of the house. The widow Abila and her daughters, at the approach of the American army, had abandoned their house and taken refuge with Don Luis Vignes of the Aliso. Vignes was a Frenchman and friendly to both sides. The widow left a young Californian in charge of her house (which was finely furnished), with strict orders to keep it closed. Stockton had with him a fine brass band, something new in California. When the troops halted on the plaza, the band began to play. The boyish guardian of the Abila casa could not resist the temptation to open the door and look out. The enchanting music drew him to the plaza. Stockton and his staff, hunting for a place suitable for headquarters, passing by, found the door invitingly open, entered, and, finding the house deserted, took possession. The recreant guardian returned to find himself dispossessed and the house in possession of the enemy. "And the band played on."

It is a fact not generally known that there were two forts planned and partially built on Fort Hill during the war for the conquest of California. The first was planned by Lieut. William H. Emory, topographical engineer of General Kearny's staff, and work was begun on it by Commodore Stockton's sailors and marines. The second was planned by Lieut. J. W. Davidson, of the First United States Dragoons, and

built by the Mormon battalion. The first was not completed and not named. The second was named Fort Moore. Their location seems to have been identical. The first was designed to hold one hundred men. The second was much larger. Flores' army was supposed to be in the neighborhood of the city ready to make a dash into it, so Stockton decided to fortify.

"On January 11th," Lieutenant Emory writes, "I was ordered to select a site and place a fort capable of containing a hundred men. With this in view a rapid reconnaissance of the town was made and the plan of a fort sketched, so placed as to enable a small garrison to command the town and the principal avenues to it, the plan was approved."

"January 12. I laid off the work and before night broke the first ground. The population of the town and its dependencies is about three thousand; that of the town itself about fifteen hundred. \* \* \* Here all the revolutions have had their origin, and it is the point upon which any Mexican force from Sonora would be directed. It was therefore desirable to establish a fort which, in case of trouble, should enable a small garrison to hold out till aid might come from San Diego, San Francisco or Monterey, places which are destined to become centers of American settlements."

"January 13. It rained steadily all day and nothing was done on the work. At night I worked on the details of the fort."

"January 15. The details to work on the fort were by companies. I sent to Captain Tilghman, who commanded on the hill, to detach one of the companies under his command to commence the work. He furnished, on the 16th, a company of artillery (seamen from the Congress) for the day's work, which was performed bravely, and gave me great hopes of success."

On the 18th Lieutenant Emory took his departure with General Kearny for San Diego. From there he was sent with despatches, via Panama, to the war department. In his book he says: "Subsequent to my departure the entire plan of the fort was changed, and I am not the projector of the work finally adopted for defense of that town."

As previously stated, Fremont's battalion began its march down the coast on the 29th of November, 1846. The winter rains set in with great severity. The volunteers were scantily provided with clothing and the horses were in poor condition. Many of the horses died of starvation and hard usage. The battalion encountered no opposition from the enemy on its march and did no fighting. On the 11th of January, a few miles above San Fernando, Colonel Kearny received a message from General Kearny informing him of the defeat of the enemy and the capture of Los Angeles. That night the battalion encamped in the mission buildings at San Fernando. From the mission that evening Jesus Pico, a cousin of Gen. Andres Pico, set out to find the Californian army and open negotiations with its leaders. Jesus Pico, better known as Tortoi, had been arrested at his home near San Luis Obispo, tried by court-martial and sentenced to be shot for breaking his parole. Fremont, moved by the pleadings of Pico's wife and children, pardoned him. He became a warm admirer and devoted friend of Fremont's.

He found the advance guard of the Californians encamped at Verdugas. He was detained here, and the leading officers of the army were summoned to a council. Pico informed them of Fremont's arrival and the number of his men. With the combined forces of Fremont and Stockton against them, their cause was hopeless. He urged them to surrender to Fremont, as they could obtain better terms from him than from Stockton.

General Flores, who held a commission in the Mexican army, and who had been appointed by the territorial assembly governor and comandante-general by virtue of his rank, appointed Andres Pico general and gave him command of the army. The same night he took his departure for Mexico, by way of San Geronio Pass, accompanied by Colonel Garfias, Diego Sepulveda, Manuel Castro, Segura, and about thirty privates. General Pico, on assuming command, appointed Francisco Rico and Francisco de La Guerra to go with Jesus Pico to confer with Colonel Fremont. Fremont appointed as

B. Reading, Major William H. Russell and Capt. Louis McLane. On the return of Guerra and Rico to the Californian camp, Gen. Andres Pico appointed as commissioners, José Antonio Carrillo, commander of the cavalry squadron, and Agustin Olvera, diputado of the assembly, and moved his army near the river at Cahuenga. On the 13th Fremont moved his camp to the Cahuenga. The commissioners met in the deserted ranch-house, and the treaty was drawn up and signed.

The principal conditions of the treaty or capitulation of "Cahuenga," as it was termed, were that the Californians, on delivering up their artillery and public arms, and promising not again to take arms during the war, and conforming to the laws and regulations of the United States, shall be allowed peaceably to return to their homes. They were to be allowed the same rights and privileges as are allowed to citizens of the United States, and were not to be compelled to take an oath of allegiance until a treaty of peace was signed between the United States and Mexico, and were given the privilege of leaving the country if they wished to. An additional section was added to the treaty on the 16th at Los Angeles releasing the officers from their paroles. Two cannon were surrendered, the howitzer captured from General Kearny at San Pasqual and the woman's gun that won the battle of Dominguez. On the 14th, Fremont's battalion marched through the Cahuenga Pass to Los Angeles in a pouring rainstorm, and entered it four days after its surrender to Stockton. The conquest of California was completed. Stockton approved the treaty, although it was not altogether satisfactory to him. On the 16th he appointed Colonel Fremont governor of the territory, and William H. Russell, of the battalion, secretary of state.

This precipitated a quarrel between Stockton and Kearny, which had been brewing for some time. General Kearny claimed that under his instructions from the government he should be recognized as governor. As he had directly under his command but the one company of dragoons that he brought across the plain with him, he was unable to enforce his authority. He left on the 18th for San Diego, taking with him his

officers and dragoons. On the 20th Commodore Stockton, with his sailors and marines, marched to San Pedro, where they all embarked on a man-of-war for San Diego to re-

join their ships. Shortly afterwards Commodore Stockton was superseded in the command of the Pacific squadron by Commodore Shu-  
brick.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### TRANSITION AND TRANSFORMATION.

THE capitulation of Gen. Andres Pico at Cahuenga put an end to the war in California. The instructions from the secretary of war were to pursue a policy of conciliation towards the Californians with the ultimate design of transforming them into American citizens. Colonel Fremont was left in command at Los Angeles. He established his headquarters on the second floor of the Bell block (corner of Los Angeles and Aliso streets), then the best building in the city. One company of his battalion was retained in the city; the others, under command of Captain Owens, were quartered at the Mission San Gabriel.

The Mormons had been driven out of Illinois and Missouri. A sentiment of antagonism had been engendered against them and they had begun their migration to the far west, presumably to California. They were encamped on the Missouri river at Kanessville, now Council Bluffs, preparatory to crossing the plains, when hostilities broke out between the United States and Mexico, in April, 1846. A proposition was made by President Polk to their leaders to raise a battalion of five hundred men to serve as United States volunteers for twelve months. These volunteers, under command of regular army officers, were to march to Santa Fe, or, if necessary, to California, where, at the expiration of their term of enlistment, they were to be discharged and allowed to retain their arms. Through the influence of Brigham Young and other leaders, the battalion was recruited and General Kearny, commanding the Army of the West, detailed Capt. James Allen, of the First United States Dragoons, to muster them into the service and take command of the battalion. On the 16th of July, at Council Bluffs, the bat-

talion was mustered into service and on the 14th of August it began its long and weary march. About eighty women and children, wives and families of the officers and some of the enlisted men, accompanied the battalion on its march. Shortly after the beginning of the march, Allen, who had been promoted to lieutenant-colonel, fell sick and died. The battalion was placed temporarily under the command of Lieut. A. J. Smith, of the regular army. At Santa Fe Lieut.-Col. Philip St. George Cooke took command under orders from General Kearny. The battalion was detailed to open a wagon road by the Gila route to California. About sixty of the soldiers who had become unfit for duty and all the women except five were sent back and the remainder of the force, after a toilsome journey, reached San Luis Rey, Cal., January 29, 1847, where it remained until ordered to Los Angeles, which place it reached March 17.

Captain Owens, in command of Fremont's battalion, had moved all the artillery, ten pieces, from Los Angeles to San Gabriel, probably with the design of preventing it falling into the hands of Colonel Cooke, who was an adherent of General Kearny. General Kearny, under additional instructions from the general government, brought by Colonel Mason from the war department, had established himself as governor at Monterey. With a governor in the north and one in the south, antagonistic to each other, California had fallen back to its normal condition under Mexican rule. Colonel Cooke, shortly after his arrival in the territory, thus describes the condition prevailing: "General Kearny is supreme somewhere up the coast. Colonel Fremont is supreme at Pueblo de Los Angeles; Colonel Stockton is commander-in-

chief at San Diego; Commodore Shubrick the same at Monterey; and I at San Luis Rey; and we are all supremely poor, the government having no money and no credit, and we hold the territory because Mexico is the poorest of all."

Col. R. B. Mason was appointed inspector of the troops in California and made an official visit to Los Angeles. In a misunderstanding about some official matters he used insulting language to Colonel Fremont. Fremont promptly challenged him to fight a duel. The challenge was accepted; double-barreled shot-guns were chosen as the weapons and the Rancho Rosa del Castillo as the place of meeting. Mason was summoned north and the duel was postponed until his return. General Kearny, hearing of the proposed affair of honor, put a stop to further proceedings by the duelists.

Col. Philip St. George Cooke, of the Mormon battalion, was made commander of the military district of the south with headquarters at Los Angeles. Fremont's battalion was mustered out of service. The Mormon soldiers and the two companies of United States Dragoons who came with General Kearny were stationed at Los Angeles to do guard duty and prevent any uprising of the natives.

Colonel Fremont's appointment as governor of California had never been recognized by General Kearny. So when the general had made himself supreme at Monterey he ordered Fremont to report to him at the capital and turn over the papers of his governorship. Fremont did so and passed out of office. He was nominally governor of the territory about two months. His appointment was made by Commodore Stockton, but was never confirmed by the president or secretary of war. His jurisdiction did not extend beyond Los Angeles. He left Los Angeles May 12 for Monterey. From that place, in company with General Kearny, on May 31, he took his departure for the states. The relations between the two were strained. While ostensibly traveling as one company, each officer, with his staff and escort, made separate camps. At Fort Leavenworth General Kearny placed Fremont under arrest and preferred charges against him for disobedience of orders. He was tried by court-martial at Wash-

ington and was ably defended by his father-in-law, Colonel Benton, and his brother-in-law, William Carey Jones. The court found him guilty and fixed the penalty, dismissal from the service. President Polk remitted the penalty and ordered Colonel Fremont to resume his sword and report for duty. He did so, but shortly afterward resigned his commission and left the army.

While Colonel Cooke was in command of the southern district rumors reached Los Angeles that the Mexican general, Bustamente, with a force of fifteen hundred men, was preparing to reconquer California. "Positive information," writes Colonel Cooke, under date of April 20, 1847, "has been received that the Mexican government has appropriated \$600,000 towards fitting out this force." It was also reported that cannon and military stores had been landed at San Vicente, in Lower California. Rumors of an approaching army came thick and fast. The natives were supposed to be in league with Bustamente and to be secretly preparing for an uprising. Precautions were taken against a surprise. A troop of cavalry was sent to Warner's ranch to patrol the Sonora road as far as the desert. The construction of a fort on the hill fully commanding the town, which had previously been determined upon, was begun and a company of infantry posted on the hill.

On the 23d of April, three months after work had ceased on Emory's fort, the construction of the second fort was begun and pushed vigorously. Rumors continued to come of the approach of the enemy. May 3, Colonel Cooke writes: "A report was received through the most available sources of information that General Bustamente had crossed the Gulf of California near its head, in boats of the pearl fishers, and at last information was at a rancho on the western road, seventy leagues below San Diego." Colonel Stevenson's regiment of New York volunteers had recently arrived in California. Two companies of that regiment had been sent to Los Angeles and two to San Diego. The report that Colonel Cooke had received reinforcement and that Los Angeles was being fortified was supposed to have frightened

Bustamente into abandoning his invasion of California. Bustamente's invading army was largely the creation of somebody's fertile imagination. The scare, however, had the effect of hurrying up work on the fort. May 13, Colonel Cooke resigned and Col. J. B. Stevenson succeeded him in the command of the southern military district.

Colonel Stevenson continued work on the fort and on the 1st of July work had progressed so far that he decided to dedicate and name it on the 4th. He issued an official order for the celebration of the anniversary of the birthday of American independence at this port, as he called Los Angeles. "At sunrise a Federal salute will be fired from the field work on the hill which commands this town and for the first time from this point the American standard will be displayed. At 11 o'clock all the troops of the district, consisting of the Mormon battalion, the two companies of dragoons and two companies of the New York volunteers, were formed in a hollow square at the fort. The Declaration of Independence was read in English by Captain Stuart Taylor and in Spanish by Stephen C. Foster. The native Californians, seated on their horses in rear of the soldiers, listened to Don Esteban as he rolled out in sonorous Spanish the Declaration's arraignment of King George III, and smiled. They had probably never heard of King George or the Declaration of Independence, either, but they knew a *pronunciamiento*, when they heard it, and after a *pronunciamiento* in their governmental system came a revolution, therefore they smiled at the prospect of a gringo revolution. "At the close of this ceremony (reading of the Declaration) the field work will be dedicated and appropriately named; and at 12 o'clock a national salute will be fired. The field work at this post having been planned and the work conducted entirely by Lieutenant Davidson of the First Dragoons, he is requested to hoist upon it for the first time on the morning of the 4th the American standard." \* \* \* The commander directs that from and after the 4th instant the fort shall bear the name of Moore. Benjamin D. Moore, after whom the fort was named, was captain of Company A, First United States Dragoons. He was killed by a

lance thrust in the disastrous charge at the battle of San Pasqual. This fort was located on what is now called Fort Hill, near the geographical center of Los Angeles. It was a breastwork about four hundred feet long with bastions and embrasures for cannon. The principal embrasure commanded the church and the plaza, two places most likely to be the rallying points in a rebellion. It was built more for the suppression of a revolt than to resist an invasion. It was in a commanding position; two hundred men, about its capacity, could have defended it against a thousand if the attack came from the front; but as it was never completed, in an attack from the rear it could easily have been captured with an equal force.

Col. Richard B. Mason succeeded General Kearny as commander-in-chief of the troops and military governor of California. Col. Philip St. George Cooke resigned command of the military district of the south May 13, joined General Kearny at Monterey and went east with him. As previously stated, Col. J. D. Stevenson, of the New York volunteers, succeeded him. His regiment, the First New York, but really the Seventh, had been recruited in the eastern part of the state of New York in the summer of 1846, for the double purpose of conquest and colonization. The United States government had no intention of giving up California once it was conquered, and therefore this regiment came to the coast well provided with provisions and implements of husbandry. It came to California via Cape Horn in three transports. The first ship, the Perkins, arrived at San Francisco, March 6, 1847; the second, the Drew, March 19; and the third, the Loo Choo, March 26. Hostilities had ceased in California before their arrival. Two companies, A and B, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Burton, were sent to Lower California, where they saw hard service and took part in several engagements. The other companies of the regiment were sent to different towns in Alta California to do garrison duty.

Another military organization that reached California after the conquest was Company F of the Third United States Artillery. It landed at Monterey January 28, 1847. It was com-



manded by Capt. C. Q. Thompkins. With it came Lieuts. E. O. C. Ord, William T. Sherman and H. W. Halleck, all of whom became prominent in California affairs and attained national reputation during the Civil war. The Mormon battalion was mustered out in July, 1847. One company under command of Captain Hunt re-enlisted. The others made their way to Utah, where they joined their brethren who the year before had crossed the plains and founded the City of Salt Lake. The New York volunteers were discharged in August, 1848. After the treaty of peace, in 1848, four companies of United States Dragoons, under command of Major L. P. Graham, marched from Chihuahua, by way of Tucson, to California. Major Graham was the last military commander of the south.

Commodore W. Branford Shubrick succeeded Commodore Stockton in command of the naval forces of the north Pacific coast. Jointly with General Kearny he issued a circular or proclamation to the people of California, printed in English and Spanish, setting forth "That the president of the United States, desirous to give and secure to the people of California a share of the good government and happy civil organization enjoyed by the people of the United States, and to protect them at the same time from the attacks of foreign foes and from internal commotions, has invested the undersigned with separate and distinct powers, civil and military; a cordial co-operation in the exercise of which, it is hoped and believed, will have the happy results desired.

"To the commander-in-chief of the naval forces the president has assigned the regulation of the import trade, the conditions on which vessels of all nations, our own as well as foreign, may be admitted into the ports of the territory, and the establishment of all port regulations. To the commanding military officer the president has assigned the direction of the operations on land and has invested him with administrative functions of government over the people and territory occupied by the forces of the United States.

"Done at Monterey, capital of California, this 1st day of March, A. D. 1847. W. Branford

Shubrick, commander-in-chief of the naval forces. S. W. Kearny, Brig.-Gen. United States Army, and Governor of California."

Under the administration of Col. Richard B. Mason, the successor of General Kearny as military governor, the reconstruction, or, more appropriately, the transformation period began. The orders from the general government were to conciliate the people and to make no radical changes in the form of government. The Mexican laws were continued in force. Just what these laws were, it was difficult to find out. No code commissioner had codified the laws and it sometimes happened that the judge made the law to suit the case. Under the old régime the alcalde was often law-giver, judge, jury and executioner, all in one. Occasionally there was friction between the military and civil powers, and there were rumors of insurrections and invasions, but nothing came of them. The Californians, with easy good nature so characteristic of them, made the best of the situation. "A thousand things," says Judge Hays, "combined to smooth the asperities of war. Fremont had been courteous and gay; Mason was just and firm. The natural good temper of the population favored a speedy and perfect conciliation. The American officers at once found themselves happy in every circle. In suppers, balls, visiting in town and country, the hours glided away with pleasant reflections."

There were, however, a few individuals who were not happy unless they could stir up dissensions and cause trouble. One of the chief of these was Serbulo Varela, agitator and revolutionist. Varela, for some offense not specified in the records, had been committed to prison by the second alcalde of Los Angeles. Colonel Stevenson turned him out of jail, and Varela gave the judge a tongue lashing in refuse Castilian. The judge's official dignity was hurt. He sent a communication to the ayuntamiento saying: "Owing to personal abuse which I received at the hands of a private individual and from the present military commander, I tender my resignation."

The ayuntamiento sent a communication to Colonel Stevenson asking why he had turned Varela out of jail and why he had insulted the



judge. The colonel curtly replied that the military would not act as jailers over persons guilty of trifling offenses while the city had plenty of persons to do guard duty at the jail. As to the abuse of the judge, he was not aware that any abuse had been given, and would take no further notice of him unless he stated the nature of the insult offered him. The council decided to notify the governor of the outrage perpetrated by the military commander, and the second alcalde said since he could get no satisfaction for insults to his authority from the military despot, he would resign; but the council would not accept his resignation, so he refused to act, and the city had to worry along with one alcalde.

Although foreigners had been coming to California ever since 1814, their numbers had not increased very rapidly. Nearly all of these had found their way there by sea. Those who had become permanent residents had married native Californian women and adopted the customs of the country. Capt. Jedediah S. Smith, in 1827, crossed the Sierra Nevada mountains from California and by way of the Humboldt, or, as he named it, the Mary River, had reached the Great Salt Lake. From there through the South Pass of the Rocky mountains the route had been traveled for several years by the fur trappers. This latter became the great emigrant route to California a few years later. A southern route by way of Santa Fe had been marked out and the Pattee party had found their way to the Colorado by the Gila route, but so far no emigrant trains had come from the States to California with women and children. The first of these mixed trains was organized in western Missouri in May, 1841. The party consisted of sixty-nine persons, including men, women and children. This party divided at Soda Springs, half going to Oregon and the others keeping on their way to California. They reached the San Joaquin valley in November, 1841, after a toilsome journey of six months. The first settlement they found was Dr. Marsh's ranch in what is now called Contra Costa county. Marsh gave them a cordial reception at first, but afterwards treated them meanly.

Fourteen of the party started for the Pueblo de San José. At the Mission of San José,

twelve miles from the Pueblo, they were all arrested by order of General Vallejo. One of the men was sent to Dr. Marsh to have him come forthwith and explain why an armed force of his countrymen were roaming around the country without passports. Marsh secured their release and passports for all the party. On his return home he charged the men who had remained at his ranch \$5 each for a passport, although the passports had cost him nothing. As there was no money in the party, each had to put up some equivalent from his scanty possessions. Marsh had taken this course to reimburse himself for the meal he had given the half-starved emigrants the first night of their arrival at his ranch.

In marked contrast with the meanness of Marsh was the liberality of Captain Sutter. Sutter had built a fort at the junction of the American river and the Sacramento in 1839 and had obtained extensive land grants. His fort was the frontier post for the overland emigration. Gen. John Bidwell, who came with the first emigrant train to California, in a description of "Life in California Before the Gold Discovery," says: "Nearly everybody who came to California then made it a point to reach Sutter's Fort. Sutter was one of the most liberal and hospitable of men. Everybody was welcome, one man or a hundred, it was all the same."

Another emigrant train, known as the Workman-Rowland party, numbering forty-five persons, came from Santa Fe by the Gila route to Los Angeles. About twenty-five of this party were persons who had arrived too late at Westport, Mo., to join the northern emigrant party, so they went with the annual caravan of St. Louis traders to Santa Fe and from there, with traders and trappers, continued their journey to California. From 1841 to the American conquest immigrant trains came across the plains every year.

One of the most noted of these, on account of the tragic fate that befell it, was the Donner party. The nucleus of this party, George and Jacob Donner and James K. Reed, with their families, started from Springfield, Ill., in the spring of 1846. By accretions and combinations, when it reached Fort Bridger, July 25, it had

increased to eighty-seven persons—thirty-six men, twenty-one women and thirty children, under the command of George Donner. A new route called the Hastings Cut-Off, had just been opened by Lansford W. Hastings. This route passed to the south of Great Salt Lake and struck the old Fort Hall emigrant road on the Humboldt. It was claimed that the "cut-off" shortened the distance three hundred miles. The Donner party, by misrepresentations, were induced to take this route. The cut-off proved to be almost impassable. They started on the cut-off the last day of July, and it was the end of September when they struck the old emigrant trail on the Humboldt. They had lost most of their cattle and were nearly out of provisions. From this on, unmerciful disaster followed them fast and faster. In an altercation, Reed, one of the best men of the party, killed Snyder. He was banished from the train and compelled to leave his wife and children behind. An old Belgian named Hardcoop and Wolfinger, a German, unable to keep up, were abandoned to die on the road. Pike was accidentally shot by Foster. The Indians stole a number of their cattle, and one calamity after another delayed them. In the latter part of October they had reached the Truckee. Here they encountered a heavy snow storm, which blocked all further progress. They wasted their strength in trying to ascend the mountains in the deep snow that had fallen. Finally, finding this impossible, they turned back and built cabins at a lake since known as Donner Lake, and prepared to pass the winter. Most of their oxen had strayed away during the storm and perished. Those still alive they killed and preserved the meat.

A party of fifteen, ten men and five women,

known as the "Forlorn Hope," started, December 16, on snowshoes to cross the Sierras. They had provisions for six days, but the journey consumed thirty-two days. Eight of the ten men perished, and among them the noble Stanton, who had brought relief to the emigrants from Sutter's Fort before the snows began to fall. The five women survived. Upon the arrival of the wretched survivors of the "Forlorn Hope," the terrible sufferings of the snow-bound immigrants were made known at Sutter's Fort, and the first relief party was organized, and on the 5th of February started for the lake. Seven of the thirteen who started succeeded in reaching the lake. On the 19th they started back with twenty-one of the immigrants, three of whom died on the way. A second relief, under Reed and McCutchen, was organized. Reed had gone to Yerba Buena to seek assistance. A public meeting was called and \$1,500 subscribed. The second relief started from Johnston's Ranch, the nearest point to the mountains, on the 23d of February and reached the camp on March 1st. They brought out seventeen. Two others were organized and reached Donner Lake, the last on the 17th of April. The only survivor then was Keseburg, a German, who was hated by all the company. There was a strong suspicion that he had killed Mrs. Donner, who had refused to leave her husband (who was too weak to travel) with the previous relief. There were threats of hanging him. Keseburg had saved his life by eating the bodies of the dead. Of the original party of eighty-seven, a total of thirty-nine perished from starvation. Most of the survivors were compelled to resort to cannibalism. They were not to blame if they did.

## CHAPTER XXII.

## MEXICAN LAWS AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS.

UPON the departure of General Kearny, May 31, 1847, Col. Richard B. Mason became governor and commander-in-chief of the United States forces in California by order of the president. Stockton, Kearny and Fremont had taken their departure, the dissensions that had existed since the conquest of the territory among the conquerors ceased, and peace reigned.

There were reports of Mexican invasions and suspicions of secret plottings against gringo rule, but the invaders came not and the plottings never produced even the mildest form of a Mexican revolution. Mexican laws were administered for the most part by military officers. The municipal authorities were encouraged to continue in power and perform their governmental functions, but they were indifferent and sometimes rebelled. Under Mexican rule there was no trial by jury. The alcalde acted as judge and in criminal cases a council of war settled the fate of the criminal. The Rev. Walter Colton, while acting as alcalde of Monterey, in 1846-47, impaneled the first jury ever summoned in California. "The plaintiff and defendant," he writes, "are among the principal citizens of the country. The case was one involving property on the one side and integrity of character on the other. Its merits had been pretty widely discussed, and had called forth an unusual interest. One-third of the jury were Mexicans, one-third Californians and the other third Americans. This mixture may have the better answered the ends of justice, but I was apprehensive at one time it would embarrass the proceedings; for the plaintiff spoke in English, the defendant in French; the jury, save the Americans, Spanish, and the witnesses, all the languages known to California. By the tact of Mr. Hartnell, who acted as interpreter, and the absence of young lawyers, we got along very well.

"The examination of witnesses lasted five or six hours. I then gave the case to the jury, stating the questions of fact upon which they were to render their verdict. They retired for an hour and then returned, when the foreman handed in their verdict, which was clear and explicit, though the case itself was rather complicated. To this verdict both parties bowed without a word of dissent. The inhabitants who witnessed the trial said it was what they liked, that there could be no bribery in it, that the opinion of twelve honest men should set the case forever at rest. And so it did, though neither party completely triumphed in the issue. One recovered his property, which had been taken from him by mistake, the other his character, which had been slandered by design."

The process of Americanizing the people was no easy undertaking. The population of the country and its laws were in a chaotic condition. It was an arduous task that Colonel Mason and the military commanders at the various pueblos had to perform, that of evolving order out of the chaos that had been brought about by the change in nations. The native population neither understood the language nor the customs of their new rules, and the newcomers among the Americans had very little toleration for the slow-going Mexican ways and methods they found prevailing. To keep peace between the factions required more tact than knowledge of law, military or civil, in the commanders.

Los Angeles, under Mexican domination, had been the storm center of revolutions, and here under the new régime the most difficulty was encountered in transforming the quondam revolutionists into law-abiding and peaceful American citizens. The ayuntamiento was convened in 1847, after the conquest, and continued in power until the close of the year. When the time came round for the election of a new ayun-

tamiento there was trouble. Stephen C. Foster, Colonel Stevenson's interpreter, submitted a paper to the council stating that the government had authorized him to get up a register of voters. The ayuntamiento voted to return the paper just as it was received. Then the colonel made a demand of the council to assist Stephen in compiling a register of voters. Regidor Chavez took the floor and said such a register should not be gotten up under the auspices of the military, but, since the government had so disposed, thereby outraging this honorable body, no attention should be paid to said communication. But the council decided that the matter did not amount to much, so they granted the request, much to the disgust of Chavez. The election was held and a new ayuntamiento elected. At the last meeting of the old council, December 29, 1847, Colonel Stevenson addressed a note to it requesting that Stephen C. Foster be recognized as first alcalde and judge of the first instance. The council decided to turn the whole business over to its successor, to deal with as it sees fit.

Colonel Stevenson's request was made in accordance with the wish of Governor Mason that a part of the civil offices be filled by Americans. The new ayuntamiento resented the interference. How the matter terminated is best told in Stephen C. Foster's own words: "Colonel Stevenson was determined to have our inauguration done in style. So on the day appointed, January 1, 1848, he, together with myself and colleague, escorted by a guard of soldiers, proceeded from the colonel's quarters to the alcalde's office. There we found the retiring ayuntamiento and the new one awaiting our arrival. The oath of office was administered by the retiring first alcalde. We knelt to take the oath, when we found they had changed their minds, and the alcalde told us that if two of their number were to be kicked out they would all go. So they all marched out and left us in possession. Here was a dilemma, but Colonel Stevenson was equal to the emergency. He said he could give us a swear as well as the alcalde. So we stood up and he administered to us an oath to support the constitution of the United States and administer justice in ac-

cordance with Mexican law. I then knew as much about Mexican law as I did about Chinese, and my colleague knew as much as I did. Guerrero gathered up the books that pertained to his office and took them to his house, where he established his office, and I took the archives and records across the street to a house I had rented, and there I was duly installed for the next seventeen months, the first American alcalde and carpet-bagger in Los Angeles."

Colonel Stevenson issued a call for the election of a new ayuntamiento, but the people stayed at home and no votes were cast. At the close of the year the voters had gotten over their pet and when a call was made a council was elected, but only Californians (*hijos del pais*) were returned. The ayuntamientos continued to be the governing power in the pueblos until superseded by city and county governments in 1850.

The most difficult problem that General Kearny in his short term had to confront and, unsolved, he handed down to his successor, Colonel Mason, was the authority and jurisdiction of the alcaldes. Under the Mexican régime these officers were supreme in the pueblo over which they ruled. For the Spanish transgressor fines of various degrees were the usual penalty; for the mission neophyte, the lash, well laid on, and labor in the chain gang. There was no written code that defined the amount of punishment; the alcalde meted out justice and sometimes injustice, as suited his humor. Kearny appointed John H. Nash alcalde of Sonoma. Nash was a somewhat erratic individual, who had taken part in the Bear Flag revolution. When the offices of the prospective Pacific Republic were divided among the revolutionists, he was to be the chief justice. After the collapse of that short-lived republic, Nash was elected alcalde. His rule was so arbitrary and his decisions so biased by favoritism or prejudice that the American settlers soon protested and General Kearny removed him or tried to. He appointed L. W. Boggs, a recently arrived immigrant, to the office. Nash refused to surrender the books and papers of the office. Lieut. W. T. Sherman was detailed by Colonel Mason, after his succession to the office of governor, to

proceed to Sonoma and arrest Nash. Sherman quietly arrested him at night and before the bellicose alcalde's friends (for he had quite a following) were aware of what was going on, marched him off to San Francisco. He was put on board the Dale and sent to Monterey. Finding that it was useless for him to resist the authority of the United States, its army and navy as well, Nash expressed his willingness to submit to the inevitable, and surrendered his office. He was released and ceased from troubling." Another strenuous alcalde was William Blackburn, of Santa Cruz. He came to the country in 1845, and before his elevation to the honorable position of a judge of the first instance he had been engaged in making shingles in the redwoods. He had no knowledge of law and but little acquaintance with books of any kind. His decisions were always on the side of justice, although some of the penalties imposed were somewhat irregular.

In Alcalde Blackburn's docket for August 14, 1847, appears this entry: "Pedro Gomez was tried for the murder of his wife, Barbara Gomez, and found guilty. The sentence of the court is that the prisoner be conducted back to prison, there to remain until Monday, the 16th of August, and then be taken out and shot." August 17, sentence carried into effect on the 16th accordingly. WILLIAM BLACKBURN, Alcalde.

It does not appear in the records that Blackburn was the executioner. He proceeded to dispose of the two orphaned children of the murderer. The older daughter he indentured to Jacinto Castro "to raise until she is twenty-one years of age, unless sooner married, said Jacinto Castro, obligating himself to give her a good education, three cows and calves at her marriage or when of age." The younger daughter was disposed of on similar terms to A. Rodriguez. Colonel Mason severely reprimanded Blackburn, but the alcalde replied that there was no use making a fuss over it; the man was guilty, he had a fair trial before a jury and deserved to die. Another case in his court illustrates the versatility of the judge. A Spanish boy, out of revenge, sheared the mane and tail of a neighbor's horse. The offense was proved,

but the judge was sorely perplexed when he came to sentence the culprit. He could find no law in his law books to fit the case. After pondering over the question a while, he gave this decision: "I find no law in any of the statutes to fit this case, except in the law of Moses, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' Let the prisoner be taken out in front of this office and there sheared close." The sentence was immediately executed.

Another story is told of Blackburn, which may or may not be true. A mission Indian who had committed murder took the right of sanctuary in the church, and the padre refused to give him up. Blackburn wrote to the governor, stating the case. The Indian, considering himself safe while with the padre, left the church in company with the priest. Blackburn seized him, tried him and hung him. He then reported to the governor: "I received your order to suspend the execution of the condemned man, but I had hung him. When I see you I will explain the affair."

Some of the military commanders of the presidios and pueblos gave Governor Mason as much trouble as the alcaldes. These, for the most part, were officers of the volunteers who had arrived after the conquest. They were unused to "war's alarms," and, being new to the country and ignorant of the Spanish language, they regarded the natives with suspicion. They were on the lookout for plots and revolutions. Sometimes they found these incubating and undertook to crush them, only to discover that the affair was a hoax or a practical joke. The Cañon Perdido (lost cañon) of Santa Barbara episode is a good illustration of the trouble one "finicky" man can make when entrusted with military power.

In the winter of 1847-48 the American bark Elisabeth was wrecked on the Santa Barbara coast. Among the flotsam of the wreck was a brass cannon of uncertain calibre; it might have been a six, a nine or a twelve pounder. What the capacity of its bore matters not, for the gun unloaded made more noise in Santa Barbara than it ever did when it belched forth shot and shell in battle. The gun, after its rescue from a watery grave, lay for some time on the beach,



devoid of carriage and useless, apparently, for offense or defense.

One dark night a little squad of native Californians stole down to the beach, loaded the gun in an ox cart, hauled it to the estero and hid it in the sands. What was their object in taking the gun no one knows. Perhaps they did not know themselves. It might come handy in a revolution, or maybe they only intended to play a practical joke on the gringos. Whatever their object, the outcome of their prank must have astonished them. There was a company (F) of Stevenson's New York volunteers stationed at Santa Barbara, under command of Captain Lippett. Lippett was a fussy, nervous individual who lost his head when anything unusual occurred. In the theft of the cannon he thought he had discovered a California revolution in the formative stages, and he determined to crush it in its infancy. He sent post haste a courier to Governor Mason at Monterey, informing him of the prospective uprising of the natives and the possible destruction of the troops at Santa Barbara by the terrible gun the enemy had stolen.

Colonel Mason, relying on Captain Lippett's report, determined to give the natives a lesson that would teach them to let guns and revolutions alone. He issued an order from headquarters at Monterey, in which he said that ample time having been allowed for the return of the gun, and the citizens having failed to produce it, he ordered that the town be laid under a contribution of \$500, assessed in the following manner: A capitation tax of \$2 on all males over twenty years of age; the balance to be paid by the heads of families and property-holders in the proportion of the value of their respective real and personal estate in the town of Santa Barbara and vicinity. Col. J. D. Stevenson was appointed to direct the appraisement of the property and the collection of the assessment. If any failed to pay his capitation, enough of his property was to be seized and sold to pay his enforced contribution.

The promulgation of the order at Santa Barbara raised a storm of indignation at the old pueblo. Colonel Stevenson came up from Los Angeles and had an interview with Don Pablo

de La Guerra, a leading citizen of Santa Barbara. Don Pablo was wrathfully indignant at the insult put upon his people, but after talking over the affair with Colonel Stevenson, he became somewhat mollified. He invited Colonel Stevenson to make Santa Barbara his headquarters and inquired about the brass band at the lower pueblo. Stevenson took the hint and ordered up the band from Los Angeles. July 4th had been fixed upon as the day for the payment of the fines, doubtless with the idea of giving the Californians a little celebration that would remind them hereafter of Liberty's natal day. Colonel Stevenson contrived to have the band reach Santa Barbara on the night of the 3d. The band astonished Don Pablo and his family with a serenade. The Don was so delighted that he hugged the colonel in the most approved style. The band serenaded all the Dons of note in town and tooted until long after midnight, then started in next morning and kept it up till ten o'clock, the time set for each man to contribute his "dos pesos" to the common fund. By that time every hombre on the list was so filled with wine, music and patriotism that the greater portion of the fine was handed over without protest. The day closed with a grand ball. The beauty and the chivalry of Santa Barbara danced to the music of a gringo brass band and the brass cannon for the nonce was forgotten.

But the memory of the city's ransom rankled, and although an American band played Spanish airs, American injustice was still remembered. When the city's survey was made in 1850 the nomenclature of three streets, Cañon Perdido (Lost Cannon street), Quinientos (Five Hundred street) and Mason street kept the cannon episode green in the memory of the Barbareños. When the pueblo, by legislative act, became a ciudad, the municipal authorities selected this device for a seal: In the center a cannon emblazoned, encircled with these words, Vale Quinientos Pesos—Worth \$500, or, more liberally translated, Good-bye, \$500, which, by the way, as the sequel of the story will show, is the better translation. This seal was used from the incorporation of the city in 1850 to 1860, when another design was chosen.



After peace was declared, Colonel Mason sent the \$500 to the prefect at Santa Barbara, with instructions to use it in building a city jail; and although there was pressing need for a jail, the jail was not built. The prefect's needs were pressing, too. Several years passed; then the city council demanded that the prefect turn the money into the city treasury. He replied that the money was entrusted to him for a specific purpose, and he would trust no city treasurer with it. The fact was that long before he had lost it in a game of monte.

Ten years passed, and the episode of the lost cannon was but a dimly remembered story of the olden time. The old gun reposed peacefully in its grave of sand and those who buried it had forgotten the place of its interment. One stormy night in December, 1858, the estero (creek) cut a new channel to the ocean. In the morning, as some Barbareños were surveying the changes caused by the flood, they saw the muzzle of a large gun protruding from the cut in the bank. They unearthed it, cleaned off the sand and discovered that it was El Cañon Perdido, the lost cannon. It was hauled up State street to Cañon Perdido, where it was mounted on an improvised carriage. But the sight of it was a reminder of an unpleasant incident. The finders sold it to a merchant for \$80. He shipped it to San Francisco and sold it at a handsome profit for old brass.

Governor Pio Pico returned from Mexico to California, arriving at San Gabriel July 17, 1848. Although the treaty of peace between the United States and Mexico had been signed and proclaimed, the news had not reached California. Pico, from San Fernando, addressed letters to Colonel Stevenson at Los Angeles and Governor Mason at Monterey, stating that as Mexican governor of California he had come back to the country with the object of carrying out the armistice which then existed between the United States and Mexico. He further stated that he had no desire to impede the establishment of peace between the two countries; and that he wished to see the Mexicans and Americans treat each other in a spirit of fraternity. Mason did not like Pico's assumption of the title of Mexican governor of California, al-

though it is not probable that Pico intended to assert any claim to his former position. Governor Mason sent a special courier to Los Angeles with orders to Colonel Stevenson to arrest the ex-governor, who was then at his Santa Margarita rancho, and send him to Monterey, but the news of the ratification of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo reached Los Angeles before the arrest was made, and Pico was spared this humiliation.

The treaty of peace between the United States and Mexico was signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo, a hamlet a few miles from the City of Mexico, February 2, 1848; ratifications were exchanged at Queretaro, May 30 following, and a proclamation that peace had been established between the two countries was published July 4, 1848. Under this treaty the United States assumed the payment of the claims of American citizens against Mexico, and paid, in addition, \$15,000,000 to Mexico for Texas, New Mexico and Alta California. Out of what was the Mexican territory of Alta California there has been carved all of California, all of Nevada, Utah and Arizona and part of Colorado and Wyoming. The territory acquired by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was nearly equal to the aggregated area of the thirteen original states at the time of the Revolutionary war.

The news of the treaty of peace reached California August 6, 1848. On the 7th Governor Mason issued a proclamation announcing the ratification of the treaty. He announced that all residents of California, who wished to become citizens of the United States, were absolved from their allegiance to Mexico. Those who desired to retain their Mexican citizenship could do so, provided they signified such intention within one year from May 30, 1848. Those who wished to go to Mexico were at liberty to do so without passports. Six months before, Governor Mason had issued a proclamation prohibiting any citizen of Sonora from entering California except on official business, and then only under flag of truce. He also required all Sonorans in the country to report themselves either at Los Angeles or Monterey.

The war was over; and the treaty of peace had made all who so elected, native or foreign

born, American citizens. Strict military rule was relaxed and the people henceforth were to be self-governing. American and Californian were one people and were to enjoy the same rights and to be subject to the same penalties. The war ended, the troops were no longer needed. Orders were issued to muster out the volunteers. These all belonged to Stevenson's New York regiment. The last company of the Mormon battalion had been discharged in April.

The New York volunteers were scattered all along the coast from Sonoma to Cape St. Lucas, doing garrison duty. They were collected at different points and mustered out. Although those stationed in Alta California had done no fighting, they had performed arduous service in keeping peace in the conquered territory. Most of them remained in California after their discharge and rendered a good account of themselves as citizens.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### GOLD! GOLD! GOLD!

SEBASTIAN VISCAINO, from the bay of Monterey, writing to the King of Spain three hundred years ago, says of the Indians of California: "They are well acquainted with gold and silver, and said that these were found in the interior." Viscaino was endeavoring to make a good impression on the mind of the king in regard to his discoveries, and the remark about the existence of gold and silver in California was thrown to excite the cupidity of his Catholic majesty. The traditions of the existence of gold in California before any was discovered are legion. Most of these have been evolved since gold was actually found. Col. J. J. Warner, a pioneer of 1831, in his *Historical Sketch of Los Angeles County*, briefly and very effectually disposes of these rumored discoveries. He says: "While statements respecting the existence of gold in the earth of California and its procurement therefrom have been made and published as historical facts, carrying back the date of the knowledge of the auriferous character of this state as far as the time of the visit of Sir Francis Drake to this coast, there is no evidence to be found in the written or oral history of the missions, the acts and correspondence of the civil or military officers, or in the unwritten and traditional history of Upper California that the existence of gold, either with ores or in its virgin state, was ever suspected by any inhabitant of California previous to 1841, and, furthermore, there is conclusive testimony

that the first known grain of native gold dust was found upon or near the San Francisco ranch, about forty-five miles north-westerly from Los Angeles City, in the month of June, 1841. This discovery consisted of grain gold fields (known as placer mines), and the auriferous fields discovered in that year embraced the greater part of the country drained by the Santa Clara river from a point some fifteen or twenty miles from its mouth to its source, and easterly beyond Mount San Bernardino."

The story of the discovery as told by Warner and by Don Abel Stearns agrees in the main facts, but differing materially in the date. Stearns says gold was first discovered by Francisco Lopez, a native of California, in the month of March, 1842, at a place called San Francisquito, about thirty-five miles northwest from this city (Los Angeles). The circumstances of the discovery by Lopez, as related by himself, are as follows: "Lopez, with a companion, was out in search of some stray horses, and about midday they stopped under some trees and tied their horses out to feed, they resting under the shade, when Lopez, with his sheath-knife, dug up some wild onions, and in the dirt discovered a piece of gold, and, searching further, found some more. He brought these to town, and showed them to his friends, who at once declared there must be a placer of gold. This news being circulated, numbers of the citizens went to the place, and commenced prospecting in the neigh-

borhood, and found it to be a fact that there was a placer of gold."

Colonel Warner says: "The news of this discovery soon spread among the inhabitants from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles, and in a few weeks hundreds of people were engaged in washing and winnowing the sands and earth of these gold fields."

Warner visited the mines a few weeks after their discovery. He says: "From these mines was obtained the first parcel of California gold dust received at the United States mint in Philadelphia, and which was sent with Alfred Robinson, and went in a merchant ship around Cape Horn." This shipment of gold was 18.34 ounces before and 18.1 ounces after melting; fineness, .925; value, \$344.75, or over \$19 to the ounce, a very superior quality of gold dust. It was deposited in the mint July 8, 1843.

It may be regarded as a settled historical fact that the first authenticated discovery of gold in Alta California was made on the San Francisco rancho in the San Feliciano Cañon, Los Angeles county. This cañon is about ten miles northwest of Newhall station on the Southern Pacific railroad, and about forty miles northwest of Los Angeles.

The date of the discovery is in doubt. A petition to the governor (Alvarado) asking permission to work the placers, signed by Francisco Lopez, Manuel Cota and Domingo Bermudez is on file in the California archives. It recites: "That as Divine Providence was pleased to give us a placer of gold on the 9th of last March in the locality of San Francisco rancho, that belongs to the late Don Antonio del Valle." This petition fixes the day of the month the discovery was made, but unfortunately omits all other dates. The evidence is about equally divided between the years 1841 and 1842.

It is impossible to obtain definite information in regard to the yield of the San Fernando placers, as these mines are generally called. William Heath Davis, in his "Sixty Years in California," states that from \$80,000 to \$100,000 was taken out for the first two years after their discovery. He says that Mellus at one time shipped \$5,000 of dust on the ship Alert. Bancroft says: "That by December, 1843, two thou-

sand ounces of gold had been taken from the San Fernando mines." Don Antonio Coronel informed the author that he, with the assistance of three Indian laborers, in 1842, took out \$600 worth of dust in two months. De Mofras, in his book, states that Carlos Baric, a Frenchman, in 1842, was obtaining an ounce a day of pure gold from his placer.

These mines were worked continuously from the time of their discovery until the American conquest, principally by Sonorians. The discovery of gold at Coloma, January 24, 1848, drew away the miners, and no work was done on these mines between 1848 and 1854. After the latter dates work was resumed, and in 1855, Francisco Garcia, working a gang of Indians, is reported to have taken out \$65,000 in one season. The mines are not exhausted, but the scarcity of water prevents working them profitably.

It is rather a singular coincidence that the exact dates of both the first and second authenticated discoveries of gold in California are still among the undecided questions of history. In the first, we know the day but not the year; in the second, we know the year but not the day of the month on which Marshall picked up the first nuggets in the millrace at Coloma. For a number of years after the anniversary of Marshall's discovery began to be observed the 19th of January was celebrated. Of late years January 24 has been fixed upon as the correct date, but the Associated Pioneers of the Territorial Days of California, an association made up of men who were in the territory at the time of Marshall's discovery or came here before it became a state, object to the change. For nearly thirty years they have held their annual dinners on January 18, "the anniversary of the discovery of gold at Sutter's sawmill, Coloma, Cal." This society has its headquarters in New York City. In a circular recently issued, disapproving of the change of date from the 18th to the 24th, the trustees of that society say: "Upon the organization of this society, February 11, 1875, it was decided to hold its annual dinners on the anniversary of the discovery of gold at Sutter's sawmill, Coloma, Cal. Through the Hon. Newton Booth, of the United States Senate, this infor-

mation was sought, with the result of a communication from the secretary of the state of California to the effect 'that the archives of the state of California recorded the date as of January 18, 1848. Some years ago this date was changed by the society at San Francisco to that of January 24, and that date has been adopted by other similar societies located upon the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. This society took the matter under advisement, with the result that the new evidence upon which it was proposed to change the date was not deemed sufficient to justify this society in ignoring its past records, founded on the authority of the state of California; therefore it has never accepted the new date.'

Marshall himself was uncertain about the exact date. At various times he gave three different dates—the 18th, 19th and 20th, but never moved it along as far as the 24th. In the past thirty years three different dates—the 18th, 19th and 24th of January—have been celebrated as the anniversary of Marshall's gold discovery.

The evidence upon which the date was changed to the 24th is found in an entry in a diary kept by H. W. Bigler, a Mormon, who was working for Marshall on the millrace at the time gold was discovered. The entry reads: "January 24. This day some kind of metal that looks like goold was found in the tailrace." On this authority about ten years ago the California Pioneers adopted the 24th as the correct date of Marshall's discovery.

While written records, especially if made at the time of the occurrence of the event, are more reliable than oral testimony given long after, yet when we take into consideration the conflicting stories of Sutter, Marshall, the Winners and others who were immediately concerned in some way with the discovery, we must concede that the Territorial Pioneers have good reasons to hesitate about making a change in the date of their anniversary. In Dr. Trywhitt Brook's "Four Months Among the Gold Finders," a book published in London in 1849, and long since out of print, we have Sutter's version of Marshall's discovery given only three months after that discovery was made: Dr. Brooks

visited Sutter's Fort early in May, 1848, and received from Sutter himself the story of the find. Sutter stated that he was sitting in his room at the fort, one afternoon, when Marshall, whom he supposed to be at the mill, forty miles up the American river, suddenly burst in upon him. Marshall was so wildly excited that Sutter, suspecting that he was crazy, looked to see whether his rifle was in reach. Marshall declared that he had made a discovery that would give them both millions and millions of dollars. Then he drew his sack and poured out a handful of nuggets on the table. Sutter, when he had tested the metal and found that it was gold, became almost as excited as Marshall. He eagerly asked if the workmen at the mill knew of the discovery. Marshall declared that he had not spoken to a single person about it. They both agreed to keep it secret. Next day Sutter and Marshall arrived at the sawmill. The day after their arrival, they prospected the bars of the river and the channels of some of the dry creeks and found gold in all.

"On our return to the mill," says Sutter, "we were astonished by the work-people coming up to us in a body and showing us some flakes of gold similar to those we had ourselves procured. Marshall tried to laugh the matter off with them, and to persuade them that what they had found was only some shining mineral of trifling value; but one of the Indians, who had worked at a gold mine in the neighborhood of La Paz, Lower California, cried out: 'Ora! Ora!' (gold! gold!), and the secret was out."

Captain Sutter continues: "I heard afterward that one of them, a sly Kentuckian, had dogged us about and, that, looking on the ground to see if he could discover what we were in search of, he lighted on some of the flakes himself."

If this account is correct, Bigler's entry in his diary was made on the day that the workmen found gold, which was five or six days after Marshall's first find, and consequently the 24th is that much too late for the true date of the discovery. The story of the discovery given in the "Life and Adventures of James W. Marshall," by George Frederick Parsons, differs materially from Sutter's account. The date of the discovery given in that book is January 19,

1848. On the morning of that day Marshall, after shutting off the water, walked down the tailrace to see what sand and gravel had been removed during the night. (The water was turned into the tailrace during the night to cut it deeper.) While examining a mass of debris, "his eye caught the glitter of something that lay lodged in a crevice on a ruffle of soft granite some six inches under water." Picking up the nugget and examining it, he became satisfied that it must be one of three substances—mica, sulphurets of copper, or gold. Its weight satisfied him that it was not mica. Knowing that gold was malleable, he placed the specimen on a flat rock and struck it with another; it bent, but did not crack or break. He was satisfied that it was gold. He showed the nugget to his men. In the course of a few days he had collected several ounces of precious metal. "Some four days after the discovery it became necessary for him to go below, for Sutter had failed to send a supply of provisions to the mill, and the men were on short commons. While on his way down he discovered gold in a ravine at a place afterwards known as Mormon island. Arrived at the fort, he interviewed Sutter in his private office and showed him about three ounces of gold nuggets. Sutter did not believe it to be gold, but after weighing it in scales against \$3.25 worth of silver, all the coin they could raise at the fort, and testing it with nitric acid obtained from the gun shop, Sutter became convinced and returned to the mill with Marshall. So little did the workmen at the mill value the discovery that they continued to work for Sutter until the mill was completed, March 11, six weeks after the nuggets were found in the tailrace.

The news of the discovery spread slowly. It was two months in reaching San Francisco, although the distance is not over one hundred and twenty-five miles. The great rush to the mines from San Francisco did not begin until the middle of May, nearly four months after the discovery. On the 10th of May, Dr. Brooks, who was in San Francisco, writes: "A number of people have actually started off with shovels, mattocks and pans to dig the gold themselves. It is not likely, however, that this will be allowed, for Captain Folsom has already written to Colonel Mason

about taking possession of the mine on behalf of the government, it being, he says, on public land."

As the people began to realize the richness and extent of the discovery, the excitement increased rapidly. May 17, Dr. Brooks writes: "This place (San Francisco) is now in a perfect furore of excitement; all the workpeople have struck. Walking through the town to-day, I observed that laborers were employed only upon about half a dozen of the fifty new buildings which were in course of being run up. The majority of the mechanics at this place are making preparations for moving off to the mines, and several people of all classes—lawyers, storekeepers, merchants, etc., are smitten with the fever; in fact, there is a regular gold mania springing up. I counted no less than eighteen houses which were closed, the owners having left. If Colonel Mason is moving a force to the American Fork, as is reported here, their journey will be in vain."

Colonel Mason's soldiers moved without orders—they nearly all deserted, and ran off to the mines.

The first newspaper announcement of the discovery appeared in *The Californian* of March 15, 1848, nearly two months after the discovery. But little attention was paid to it. In the issue of April 19, another discovery is reported. The item reads: "New gold mine. It is stated that a new gold mine has been discovered on the American Fork of the Sacramento, supposed to be on the land of W. A. Leidesdorff, of this place. A specimen of the gold has been exhibited, and is represented to be very pure." On the 29th of May, *The Californian* had suspended publication. "Othello's occupation is gone," wails the editor. "The majority of our subscribers and many of our advertising patrons have closed their doors and places of business and left town, and we have received one order after another conveying the pleasant request that the printer will please stop my paper or my ad, as I am about leaving for Sacramento."

The editor of the other paper, *The California Star*, made a pilgrimage to the mines in the latter part of April, but gave them no extended write-up. "Great country, fine climate," he wrote on his return. "Full flowing streams, mighty



timber, large crops, luxuriant clover, fragrant flowers, gold and silver," were his comments on what he saw. The policy of both papers seems to have been to ignore as much as possible the gold discovery. To give it publicity was for a time, at least, to lose their occupation.

In *The Star* of May 20, 1848, its eccentric editor, E. C. Kemble, under the caption "El Dorado Anew," discourses in a dubious manner upon the effects of the discovery and the extent of the gold fields: "A terrible visitant we have had of late. A fever which has well-nigh depopulated a town, a town hard pressing upon a thousand souls, and but for the gracious interposition of the elements, perhaps not a goose would have been spared to furnish a quill to pen the melancholy fate of the remainder. It has preyed upon defenseless old age, subdued the elasticity of careless youth and attacked indiscriminately sex and class, from town councilman to tow-frocked cartman, from tailor to tippler, of which, thank its pestilential powers, it has beneficially drained (of tipplers, we mean) every villainous pulperia in the place.

"And this is the gold fever, the only form of that popular southerner, yellow jack, with which we can be alarmingly threatened. The insatiate maw of the monster, not appeased by the easy conquest of the rough-fisted yeomanry of the north, must needs ravage a healthy, prosperous place beyond his dominion and turn the town topsy-turvy in a twinkling.

"A fleet of launches left this place on Sunday and Monday last bound up the Sacramento river, close stowed with human beings, led by love of filthy lucre to the perennial yielding gold mines of the north. When any man can find two ounces a day and two thousand men can find their hands full, of work, was there ever anything so superlatively silly!

"Honestly, though, we are inclined to believe the reputed wealth of that section of country, thirty miles in extent, all sham, a superb take-in as was ever got up to guzzle the gullible. But it is not improbable that this mine, or, properly, placer of gold can be traced as far south as the city of Los Angeles, where the precious metal has been found for a number of years in the bed of a stream issuing from its mountains, said

to be a continuation of this gold chain which courses southward from the base of the snowy mountains. But our best information respecting the metal and the quantity in which it is gathered varies much from many reports current, yet it is beyond a question that no richer mines of gold have ever been discovered upon this continent.

"Should there be no paper forthcoming on Saturday next, our readers may assure themselves it will not be the fault of us individually. To make the matter public, already our devil has rebelled, our pressman (poor fellow) last seen was in search of a pickaxe, and we feel like Mr. Hamlet, we shall never again look upon the likes of him. Then, too, our compositors have, in defiance, sworn terrible oaths against type-sticking as vulgar and unfashionable. Hope has not yet fled us, but really, in the phraseology of the day, 'things is getting curious.'"

And things kept getting more and more curious. The rush increased. The next issue of *The Star* (May 27) announces that the Sacramento, a first-class craft, left here Thursday last thronged with passengers for the gold mines, a motley assemblage, composed of lawyers, merchants, grocers, carpenters, cartmen and cooks, all possessed with the desire of becoming rich. The latest accounts from the gold country are highly flattering. Over three hundred men are engaged in washing gold, and numbers are continually arriving from every part of the country. Then the editor closes with a wail: "Persons recently arrived from the country speak of ranches deserted and crops neglected and suffered to waste. The unhappy consequence of this state of affairs is easily foreseen. One more twinkle, and *The Star* disappeared in the gloom. On June 14 appeared a single sheet, the size of foolscap. The editor announced: "In fewer words than are usually employed in the announcement of similar events, we appear before the remnant of a reading community on this occasion with the material or immaterial information that we have stopped the paper, that its publication ceased with the last regular issue (June 7). On the approach of autumn, we shall again appear to announce *The Star's* reditus. We have done. Let our parting word be hasto



luego." (*Star and Californian* reappeared November 14, 1848. *The Star* had absorbed *The Californian*. E. C. Kemble was its editor and proprietor.)

Although there was no paper in existence on the coast to spread the news from the gold fields, it found its way out of California, and the rush from abroad began. It did not acquire great force in 1848, but in 1849 the immigration to California exceeded all previous migrations in the history of the race.

Among the first foreigners to rush to the mines were the Mexicans of Sonora. Many of these had had some experience in placer mining in their native country, and the report of rich placers in California, where gold could be had for the picking up, aroused them from their lazy self-content and stimulated them to go in search of it. Traveling in squads of from fifty to one hundred, they came by the old Auza trail across the Colorado desert, through the San Gorgonio Pass, then up the coast and on to the mines. They were a job lot of immigrants, poor in purse and poor in brain. They were despised by the native Californians and maltreated by the Americans. Their knowledge of mining came in play, and the more provident among them soon managed to pick up a few thousand dollars, and then returned to their homes, plutocrats. The improvident gambled away their earnings and remained in the country to add to its criminal element. The Oregonians came in force, and all the towns in California were almost depopulated of their male population. By the close of 1848, there were ten thousand men at work in the mines.

The first official report of the discovery was sent to Washington by Thomas O. Larkin, June 1, and reached its destination about the middle of September. Lieutenant Beale, by way of Mexico, brought dispatches dated a month later, which arrived about the same time as Larkin's report. These accounts were published in the eastern papers, and the excitement began.

In the early part of December, Lieutenant Loeser arrived at Washington with Governor Mason's report of his observations in the mines made in August. But the most positive evidence was a tea caddy of gold dust containing about

two hundred and thirty ounces that Governor Mason had caused to be purchased in the mines with money from the civil service fund. This the lieutenant had brought with him. It was placed on exhibition at the war office. Here was tangible evidence of the existence of gold in California, the doubters were silenced and the excitement was on and the rush began.

By the 1st of January, 1849, vessels were fitting out in every seaport on the Atlantic coast and the Gulf of Mexico. Sixty ships were announced to sail from New York in February and seventy from Philadelphia and Boston. All kinds of crafts were pressed into the service, some to go by way of Cape Horn, others to land their passengers at Vera Cruz, Nicaragua and Panama, the voyagers to take their chances on the Pacific side for a passage on some unknown vessel.

With opening of spring, the overland travel began. Forty thousand men gathered at different points on the Missouri river, but principally at St. Joseph and Independence. Horses, mules, oxen and cows were used for the propelling power of the various forms of vehicles that were to convey the provisions and other impedimenta of the army of gold seekers. By the 1st of May the grass was grown enough on the plains to furnish feed for the stock, and the vanguard of the grand army of gold hunters started. For two months, company after company left the rendezvous and joined the procession until for one thousand miles there was an almost unbroken line of wagons and pack trains. The first half of the journey was made with little inconvenience, but on the last part there was great suffering and loss of life. The cholera broke out among them, and it is estimated that five thousand died on the plains. The alkali desert of the Humboldt was the place where the immigrants suffered most. Exhausted by the long journey and weakened by lack of food, many succumbed under the hardship of the desert journey and died. The crossing of the Sierras was attended with great hardships. From the loss of their horses and oxen, many were compelled to cross the mountains on foot. Their provisions exhausted, they would have perished but for relief sent out from California. The

greatest sufferers were the woman and children, who in considerable numbers made the perilous journey.

The overland immigration of 1850 exceeded that of 1849. According to record kept at Fort Laramie, there passed that station during the season thirty-nine thousand men, two thousand five hundred women and six hundred children, making a total of forty-two thousand one hundred persons. These immigrants had with them when passing Fort Laramie twenty-three thousand horses, eight thousand mules, three thousand six hundred oxen, seven thousand cows and nine thousand wagons.

Besides those coming by the northern route, that is by the South Pass and the Humboldt river, at least ten thousand found their way to the land of gold by the old Spanish trail, by the Gila route and by Texas, Coahuila and Chihuahua into Arizona, and thence across the Colorado desert to Los Angeles, and from there by the coast route or the San Joaquin valley to the mines.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company had been organized before the discovery of gold in California. March 3, 1847, an act of Congress was passed authorizing the secretary of the navy to advertise for bids to carry the United States mails by one line of steamers between New York and Chagres, and by another line between Panama and Astoria, Ore. On the Atlantic side the contract called for five ships of one thousand five hundred tons burden, on the Pacific side two of one thousand tons each, and one of six hundred tons. These were deemed sufficient for the trade and travel between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States. The Pacific Mail Steamship Company was incorporated April 12, 1848, with a capital stock of \$500,000. October 6, 1848, the California, the first steamer for the Pacific, sailed from New York, and was followed in the two succeeding months by the Oregon and the Panama. The California sailed before the news of the gold discovery had reached New York, and she had taken no passengers. When she arrived at Panama, January 30, 1849, she encountered a rush of fifteen hundred gold hunters, clamorous for a passage. These had reached Chagres on sailing vessels, and ascended the

Chagres river in bongos or dugouts to Gorgona, and from thence by land to Panama. The California had accommodations for only one hundred, but four hundred managed to find some place to stow themselves away. The price of tickets rose to a fabulous sum, as high as \$1,000 having been paid for a steerage passage. The California entered the bay of San Francisco February 28, 1849, and was greeted by the boom of cannon and the cheers of thousands of people lining the shores of the bay. The other two steamers arrived on time, and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company became the predominant factor in California travel for twenty years, or up to the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in 1869. The charges for fare on these steamers in the early '50s were prohibitory to men of small means. From New York to Chagres in the saloon the fare was \$150, in the cabin \$120. From Panama to San Francisco in the saloon, \$250; cabin, \$200. Add to these the expense of crossing the isthmus, and the argonaut was out a goodly sum when he reached the land of the golden fleece, indeed, he was often fleeced of his last dollar before he entered the Golden Gate.

The first effect of the gold discovery on San Francisco, as we have seen, was to depopulate it, and of necessity suspend all building operations. In less than three months the reaction began, and the city experienced one of the most magical booms in history. Real estate doubled in some instances in twenty-four hours. The *Californian* of September 3, 1848, says: "The vacant lot on the corner of Montgomery and Washington streets was offered the day previous for \$5,000 and next day sold readily for \$10,000." Lumber went up in value until it was sold at a dollar per square foot. Wages kept pace with the general advance. Sixteen dollars a day was mechanic's wages, and the labor market was not overstocked even at these high rates. With the approach of winter, the gold seekers came flocking back to the city to find shelter and to spend their suddenly acquired wealth. The latter was easily accomplished, but the former was more difficult. Any kind of a shelter that would keep out the rain was utilized for a dwelling. Rows of tents that circled around the business por-

tion, shanties patched together from pieces of packing boxes and sheds thatched with brush from the chaparral-covered hills constituted the principal dwellings at that time of the future metropolis of California. The yield of the mines for 1848 has been estimated at ten million dollars. This was the result of only a few months' labor of not to exceed at any time ten thousand men. The rush of miners did not reach the mines until July, and mining operations were mainly suspended by the middle of October.

New discoveries had followed in quick succession Marshall's find at Coloma until by the close of 1848 gold placers had been located on all the principal tributaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. Some of the richest yields were obtained from what was known as "Dry Diggins." These were dry ravines from which pay dirt had to be packed to water for washing or the gold separated by dry washing, tossing the earth into the air until it was blown away by the wind, the gold, on account of its weight, remaining in the pan.

A correspondent of the *Californian*, writing August 15, 1848, from what he designates as "Dry Diggins," gives this account of the richness of that gold field: "At the lower mines (Mormon Island) the miners count the success of the day in dollars; at the upper mines near the mill (Coloma), in ounces, and here in pounds. The only instrument used at first was a butcher knife, and the demand for that article was so great that \$40 has been refused for one.

"The earth is taken out of the ravines which make out of the mountains and is carried in wagons or packed on horses from one to three miles to water and washed. Four hundred dollars is the average to the cart load. In one instance five loads yielded \$16,000. Instances are known here where men have carried the earth on their backs and collected from \$800 to \$1,500 a day."

The rapidity with which the country was explored by prospectors was truly remarkable. The editor of the *Californian*, who had suspended the publication of his paper on May 29 to visit the mines, returned and resumed it on July 15 (1848). In an editorial in that issue he gives his observations: "The country from the Ajuba (Yuba) to the San Joaquin rivers, a distance of one hundred and twenty miles, and from the base toward the summit of the mountains as far as Snow Hill, about seventy miles, has been explored, and gold found in every part. There are probably three thousand men, including Indians, engaged in collecting gold. The amount collected by each man who works ranges from \$10 to \$350 per day. The publisher of this paper, while on a tour alone to the mining district, collected, with the aid of a shovel, pick and pan, from \$44 to \$128 a day, averaging about \$100. The largest piece of gold known to be found weighed four pounds." Among other remarkable yields the *Californian* reports these: "One man dug \$12,000 in six days, and three others obtained thirty-six pounds of pure metal in one day."

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### MAKING A STATE.

COL. R. B. MASON, who had been the military governor of California since the departure of General Kearny in May, 1847, had grown weary of his task. He had been in the military service of his country thirty years and wished to be relieved. His request was granted, and on the 12th of April, 1849, Brevet Brigadier General Bennett Riley,

his successor, arrived at Monterey and the next day entered upon his duties as civil governor. Gen. Persifer F. Smith, who had been appointed commander of the Pacific division of the United States army, arrived at San Francisco February 26, 1849, and relieved Colonel Mason of his military command. A brigade of troops six hundred and fifty strong had been sent to

California for military service on the border and to maintain order. Most of these promptly deserted as soon as an opportunity offered and found their way to the mines.

Colonel Mason, who under the most trying circumstances had faithfully served his government and administered justice to the people of California, took his departure May 1, 1849. The same year he died at St. Louis of cholera.

A year had passed since the treaty of peace with Mexico had been signed, which made California United States territory, but Congress had done nothing toward giving it a government. The anomalous condition existed of citizens of the United States, living in the United States, being governed by Mexican laws administered by a mixed constituency of Mexican-born and American-born officials. The proslavery element in Congress was determined to foist the curse of human slavery on a portion of the territory acquired from Mexico, but the discovery of gold and the consequent rush of freemen to the territory had disarranged the plans of the slave-holding faction in Congress, and as a consequence all legislation was at a standstill.

The people were becoming restive at the long delay. The Americanized Mexican laws and forms of government were unpopular and it was humiliating to the conqueror to be governed by the laws of the people conquered. The question of calling a convention to form a provisional government was agitated by the newspapers and met a hearty response from the people. Meetings were held at San José, December 11, 1848; at San Francisco, December 21, and at Sacramento, January 6, 1849, to consider the question of establishing a provisional government. It was recommended by the San José meeting that a convention be held at that place on the second Monday of January. The San Francisco convention recommended the 5th of March; this the Monterey committee considered too early as it would take the delegates from below fifteen days to reach the pueblo of San José. There was no regular mail and the roads in February (when the delegates would have to start) were impassable. The committee recommended May 1 as the earliest

date for the meeting to consider the question of calling of a convention. Sonoma, without waiting, took the initiative and elected ten delegates to a provisional government convention. There was no unanimity in regard to the time of meeting or as to what could be done if the convention met. It was finally agreed to postpone the time of meeting to the first Monday of August, when, if Congress had done nothing towards giving California some form of government better than that existing, the convention should meet and organize a provisional government.

The local government of San Francisco had become so entangled and mixed up by various councils that it was doubtful whether it had any legal legislative body. When the term of the first council, which had been authorized by Colonel Mason in 1848, was about to expire an election was held December 27, to choose their successors. Seven new councilmen were chosen. The old council declared the election fraudulent and ordered a new one. An election was held, notwithstanding the protest of a number of the best citizens, and another council chosen. So the city was blessed or cursed with three separate and distinct councils. The old council voted itself out of existence and then there were but two, but that was one too many. Then the people, disgusted with the condition of affairs, called a public meeting, at which it was decided to elect a legislative assembly of fifteen members, who should be empowered to make the necessary laws for the government of the city. An election was held on the 21st of February, 1849, and a legislative assembly and justices elected. Then Alcalde Levenworth refused to turn over the city records to the Chief Magistrate-elect Norton. On the 22d of March the legislative assembly abolished the office of alcalde, but Levenworth still held on to the records. He was finally compelled by public opinion and a writ of replevin to surrender the official records to Judge Norton. The confusion constantly arising from the attempt to carry on a government that was semi-military and semi-Mexican induced Governor Riley to order an election to be held August 1st, to elect delegates to a convention to meet in Monterey September 1st,

1849, to form a state constitution or territorial organization to be ratified by the people and submitted to Congress for its approval. Judges, prefects and alcaldes were to be elected at the same time in the principal municipal districts. The constitutional convention was to consist of thirty-seven delegates, apportioned as follows: San Diego two, Los Angeles four, Santa Barbara two, San Luis Obispo two, Monterey five, San José five, San Francisco five, Sonoma four, Sacramento four, and San Joaquin four. Instead of thirty-seven delegates as provided for in the call, forty-eight were elected and seated.

The convention met September 1, 1849, at Monterey in Colton Hall. This was a stone building erected by Alcalde Walter Colton for a town hall and school house. The money to build it was derived partly from fines and partly from subscriptions, the prisoners doing the greater part of the work. It was the most commodious public building at that time in the territory.

Of the forty-eight delegates elected twenty-two were natives of the northern states; fifteen of the slave states; four were of foreign birth, and seven were native Californians. Several of the latter neither spoke nor understood the English language and William E. P. Hartnell was appointed interpreter. Dr. Robert Semple of Bear Flag fame was elected president, William G. Marcy and J. Ross Browne reporters.

Early in the session the slavery question was disposed of by the adoption of a section declaring that neither slavery or involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crimes, shall ever be tolerated in this state. The question of fixing the boundaries of the future state excited the most discussion. The pro-slavery faction was led by William M. Gwin, who had a few months before migrated from Tennessee to California with the avowed purpose of representing the new state in the United States senate. The scheme of Gwin and his southern associates was to make the Rocky mountains the eastern boundary. This would create a state with an area of about four hundred thousand square miles. They reasoned that when the admission of the state came before congress the southern members would oppose the admission

of so large an area under a free state constitution and that ultimately a compromise might be effected. California would be split in two from east to west, the old dividing line, the parallel of 36° 30', would be established and Southern California come into the Union as a slave state. There were at that time fifteen free and fifteen slave states. If two states, one free and one slave, could be made out of California, the equilibrium between the opposing factions would be maintained. The Rocky mountain boundary was at one time during the session adopted, but in the closing days of the session the free state men discovered Gwin's scheme and it was defeated. The present boundaries were established by a majority of two.

A committee had been appointed to receive propositions and designs for a state seal. Only one design was offered. It was presented by Caleb Lyon of Lyondale, as he usually signed his name, but was drawn by Major Robert S. Garnett, an army officer. It contained a figure of Minerva in the foreground, a grizzly bear feeding on a bunch of grapes; a miner with an uplifted pick; a gold rocker and pan; a view of the Golden Gate with ships riding at anchor in the Bay of San Francisco; the peaks of the Sierra Nevadas in the distance; a sheaf of wheat; thirty-one stars and above all the word "Eureka" (I have found it), which might apply either to the miner or the bear. The design seems to have been an attempt to advertise the resources of the state. General Vallejo wanted the bear taken out of the design, or if allowed to remain, that he be made fast by a lasso in the hands of a vaquero. This amendment was rejected, as was also one submitted by O. M. Wozencraft to strike out the figures of the gold digger and the bear and introduce instead bales of merchandise and bags of gold. The original design was adopted with the addition of the words, "The Great Seal of the State of California." The convention voted to give Lyon \$1,000 as full compensation for engraving the seal and furnishing the press and all appendages.

Garnett, the designer of the seal, was a Virginian by birth. He graduated from West Point in 1841, served through the Mexican war and through several of the Indian wars on the



Pacific coast. At the breaking out of the rebellion in 1861 he joined the Confederates and was made a brigadier general. He was killed at the battle of Carrick's Ford July 15, 1861.

The constitution was completed on the 11th of October and an election was called by Governor Riley to be held on the 13th of November to vote upon the adoption of the constitution and to elect state officers, a legislature and members of congress.

At the election Peter H. Burnett, recently from Oregon territory, who had been quite active in urging the organization of a state government, was chosen governor; John McDougall, lieutenant governor, and George W. Wright and Edward Gilbert members of congress. San José had been designated by the constitutional convention the capital of the state pro tem.

The people of San José had pledged themselves to provide a suitable building for the meeting of the legislature in hopes that their town might be made the permanent capital. They were unable to complete the building designed for a state capital in time for the meeting. The uncomfortable quarters furnished created a great deal of dissatisfaction. The legislature consisted of sixteen senators and thirty-six assemblymen. There being no county organization, the members were elected by districts. The representation was not equally distributed; San Joaquin district had more senators than San Francisco. The senate and assembly were organized on the 17th of December. E. K. Chamberlain of San Diego was elected president pro tem. of the senate and Thomas J. White of Sacramento speaker of the assembly. The governor and lieutenant-governor were sworn in on the 20th. The state government being organized the legislature proceeded to the election of United States senators. The candidates were T. Butler King, John C. Fremont, William M. Gwin, Thomas J. Henly, John W. Geary, Robert Semple and H. W. Halleck. Fremont received twenty-nine out of forty-six votes on the first ballot and was declared elected. Of the aspirants, T. Butler King and William M. Gwin represented the ultra pro-slavery element. King was a cross-

roads politician from down in Georgia, who had been sent to the coast as a confidential agent of the government. The officers of the army and navy were enjoined to "in all matters aid and assist him in carrying out the views of the government and be guided by his advice and council in the conduct of all proper measures within the scope of those instructions." He made a tour of the mines, accompanied by General Smith and his staff; Commodore Ap Catesby Jones and staff and a cavalry escort under Lieutenant Stoneman. He wore a black stovepipe hat and a dress coat. He made himself the laughing stock of the miners and by traveling in the heat of the day contracted a fever that very nearly terminated his existence. He had been active so far as his influence went in trying to bring California into the Union with the hope of representing it in the senate. Gwin had come a few months before from Mississippi with the same object in view. Although the free state men were in the majority in the legislature they recognized the fact that to elect two senators opposed to the extension of slavery would result in arraying the pro-slavery faction in congress against the admission of the state into the Union. Of the two representatives of the south, Gwin was the least objectionable and on the second ballot he was elected. On the 21st Governor Burnett delivered his message. It was a wordy document, but not marked by any very brilliant ideas or valuable suggestions. Burnett was a southerner from Missouri. He was hobbled on the subject of the exclusion of free negroes. The African, free to earn his own living unrestrained by a master, was, in his opinion, a menace to the perpetuity of the commonwealth.

On the 22d the legislature elected the remaining state officers, viz.: Richard Roman, treasurer; John I. Houston, controller; E. J. C. Kewen, attorney general; Charles J. Whiting, surveyor-general; S. C. Hastings, chief justice; Henry Lyons and Nathaniel Bennett, associate justices. The legislature continued in session until April 22, 1850. Although it was nicknamed the "Legislature of a thousand drinks," it did a vast amount of work and did most of it well. It was not made up of hard



drinkers. The majority of its members were above the average legislator in intelligence, temperance and patriotism. The members were not there for pay or for political preferment. They were there for the good of their adopted state and labored conscientiously for its benefit. The opprobrious nickname is said to have originated thus: A roystering individual by the name of Green had been elected to the senate from Sacramento as a joke. He regarded the whole proceedings as a huge joke. He kept a supply of liquors on hand at his quarters and when the legislature adjourned he was in the habit of calling: "Come, boys, let us take a thousand drinks."

The state had set up housekeeping without a cent on hand to defray expenses. There was not a quire of paper, a pen, nor an inkstand belonging to the state and no money to buy supplies. After wrestling with the financial problem some time an act authorizing a loan of \$200,000 for current expenses was passed. Later on in the session another act was passed authorizing the bonding of the state for \$300,000 with interest at the rate of three per cent a month. The legislature divided the state into twenty-seven counties, created nine judicial districts, passed laws for the collection of revenue, taxing all real and personal property and imposing a poll tax of \$5 on all male inhabitants over twenty-one and under fifty years of age.

California was a self-constituted state. It had organized a state government and put it into successful operation without the sanction of congress. Officials, state, county and town, had been elected and had sworn to support the constitution of the state of California and yet there was really no state of California. It had not been admitted into the Union. It was only a state de facto and it continued in that condition nine months before it became a state de jure.

When the question of admitting California into the Union came before congress it evoked a bitter controversy. The senate was equally divided, thirty senators from the slave states and the same number from the free. There were among the southern senators some broad minded and patriotic men, willing to do what was right, but they were handicapped by an

ultra pro-slavery faction, extremists, who would willingly sacrifice the Union if by that they could extend and perpetuate that sum of all villainies, human slavery. This faction in the long controversy resorted to every known parliamentary device to prevent the admission of California under a free state constitution. To admit two senators from a free state would destroy the balance of power. That gone, it could never be regained by the south. The north was increasing in power and population, while the south, under the blighting influence of slavery, was retrograding.

Henry Clay, the man of compromises, undertook to bridge over the difficulty by a set of resolutions known as the Omnibus bill. These were largely concessions to the slave holding faction for the loss of the territory acquired by the Mexican war. Among others was this, that provision should be made by law for the restitution of fugitive slaves in any state or territory of the Union. This afterward was embodied into what was known as the fugitive slave law and did more perhaps than any other cause to destroy the south's beloved institution.

These resolutions were debated through many months and were so amended and changed that their author could scarcely recognize them. Most of them were adopted in some form and effected a temporary compromise.

On August 13th the bill for the admission of California finally came to a vote. It passed the senate, thirty-four ayes to eighteen noes. Even then the opposition did not cease. Ten of the southern pro-slavery extremists, led by Jefferson Davis, joined in a protest against the action of the majority, the language of which was an insult to the senate and treason to the government. In the house the bill passed by a vote of one hundred and fifty ayes to fifty-six ultra southern noes. It was approved and signed by President Fillmore September 9, 1850. On the 11th of September the California senators and congressmen presented themselves to be sworn in. The slave holding faction in the senate, headed by Jefferson Davis, who had been one of the most bitter opponents to the admission, objected. But their protest availed them nothing. Their ascendancy was gone. We

might sympathize with them had their fight been made for a noble principle, but it was not. From that day on until the attempt was made in 1861 these men schemed to destroy the Union. The admission of California as a free state was the beginning of the slave holders' rebellion.

The news of the admission of California reached San Francisco on the morning of October 18, by the mail steamer Oregon, nearly six weeks after congress had admitted it. Business was at once suspended, the courts were adjourned and the people went wild with excitement. Messengers, mounted on fleet steeds, spread the news throughout the state. Newspapers from the states containing an account of the proceedings of congress at the time of admission sold for \$5 each. It was decided to hold a formal celebration of the event on the 29th and preparations were begun for a grand demonstration. Neither labor nor money was spared to make the procession a success. The parade was cosmopolitan in the fullest meaning of that word. There were people in it from almost every nation under the sun. The Chinese made quite an imposing spectacle in the parade. Dressed in rich native costumes, each carrying a gaudily painted fan, they marched under command of their own marshals, Ah He and Ah Sing. At their head proudly marched a color bearer carrying a large blue silk banner, inscribed the "China boys." Following them came a triumphal car, in which was seated thirty boys in black trousers and white shirts, representing the thirty states. In the center of this group, seated on a raised platform, was a young girl robed in white with gold and silver gauze floating about her and supporting a breast plate, upon which was inscribed "California, the Union, it must and shall be preserved." The California pioneers carried a banner on which was represented a New Englander in the act of stepping ashore and facing a native Californian with lasso and serape. In the center the state seal and the inscription, "Far west, Eureka 1846, California pioneers, organized August, 1850." Army and navy officers, soldiers, sailors and marines, veterans of the Mexican war, municipal officers, the fire de-

partment, secret and benevolent societies and associations, with a company of mounted native Californians bearing a banner with thirty-one stars on a blue satin ground with the inscription in gold letters, California, E Pluribus Unum, all these various organizations and orders with their marshals and aids mounted on gaily caparisoned steeds and decked out with their gold and silver trimmed scarfs, made an imposing display that has seldom if ever been equaled since in the metropolis of California.

At the plaza a flag of thirty-one stars was raised to the mast head. An oration was delivered by Judge Nathaniel Bennett and Mrs. Wills recited an original ode of her own composition. The rejoicing over, the people settled down to business. Their unprecedented action in organizing a state government and putting it into operation without the sanction of congress had been approved and legalized by that body.

Like the Goddess Minerva, represented on its great seal, who sprung full grown from the brain of Jupiter, California was born a fully matured state. She passed through no territorial probation. No state had such a phenomenal growth in its infancy. No state before or since has met with such bitter opposition when it sought admission into the family of states. Never before was there such a medley of nationalities—Yankees, Mexicans, English, Germans, French, Spaniards, Peruvians, Polynesians, Mongolians—organized into a state and made a part of the body politic *nolens volens*.

The constitutional convention of 1849 did not definitely fix the state capital. San José was designated as the place of meeting for the legislature and the organization of the state government. San José had offered to donate a square of thirty-two acres, valued at \$60,000, for capitol grounds and provide a suitable building for the legislature and state officers. The offer was accepted, but when the legislature met there December 15, 1849, the building was unfinished and for a time the meetings of the legislature were held at a private residence. There was a great deal of complaining and dissatisfaction. The first capitol of the state was a two-story adobe building 40x60, which had been intended for a hotel. It was destroyed by fire April 29,

1853. The accommodations at San José were so unsatisfactory that the legislature decided to locate the capital at some other point. Propositions were received from Monterey, from Reed of San José, from Stevenson & Parker of New York of the Pacific and from Gen. M. G. Vallejo. Vallejo's proposition was accepted. He offered to donate one hundred and fifty-six acres of land in a new town that he proposed to lay out on the straits of Carquinez (now Vallejo) for a capital site and within two years to give \$370,000 in money for the erection of public buildings. He asked that his proposition be submitted to a vote of the people at the next general election. His proposition was accepted by the legislature. At the general election, October 7, 1850, Vallejo received seventy-four hundred and seventy-seven votes; San José twelve hundred and ninety-two, and Monterey three hundred and ninety-nine. The second legislature convened at San José. General Vallejo exerted himself to have the change made in accordance with the previous proposition. The citizens of San José made an effort to retain the capital, but a bill was passed making Vallejo the permanent seat of government after the close of the session, provided General Vallejo should give bonds to carry out his proposals. In June Governor McDougal caused the governmental archives to be removed from San José to Vallejo.

When the members of the third legislature met at the new capital January 2, 1852, they found a large unfurnished and partly unfinished wooden building for their reception. Hotel accommodations could not be obtained and there was even a scarcity of food to feed the hungry lawmakers. Sacramento offered its new court house and on the 16th of January the legislature convened in that city. The great flood of

March, 1852, inundated the city and the lawmakers were forced to reach the halls of legislation in boats and again there was dissatisfaction. Then Benicia came to the front with an offer of her new city hall, which was above high water mark. General Vallejo had become financially embarrassed and could not carry out his contract with the state, so it was annulled. The offer of Benicia was accepted and on May 18, 1853, that town was declared the permanent capital.

In the legislature of 1854 the capital question again became an issue. Offers were made by several aspiring cities, but Sacramento won with the proffer of her court house and a block of land between I and J, Ninth and Tenth streets. Then the question of the location of the capital got into the courts. The supreme court decided in favor of Sacramento. Before the legislature met again the court house that had been offered to the state burned down. A new and more commodious one was erected and rented to the state at \$12,000 a year. Oakland made an unsuccessful effort to obtain the capital. Finally a bill was passed authorizing the erection of a capitol building in Sacramento at a cost not to exceed \$500,000. Work was begun on the foundation in October, 1860. The great flood of 1861-62 inundated the city and ruined the foundations of the capitol. San Francisco made a vigorous effort to get the capital removed to that city, but was unsuccessful. Work was resumed on the building, the plans were changed, the edifice enlarged, and, finally, after many delays, it was ready for occupancy in December, 1869. From the original limit of half a million dollars its cost when completed had reached a million and a half. The amount expended on the building and grounds to date foots up \$2,600,000.

## CHAPTER XXV.

## THE ARGONAUTS.

WHEN or by whom the name argonaut was first applied to the early California gold seekers I have not been able to ascertain. The earliest allusion to the similarity of Jason's voyage after the Golden Fleece and the miners' rush to the gold fields of California is found in a caricature published in the *London Punch* in 1849. On the shore of an island is a guide board bearing the inscription "California;" near it is a miner digging gold and presumably singing at his work. In a boat near the shore is a fat individual, a typical "Johnny Bull." He is struggling desperately with two individuals who are holding him back from leaping into the water, so fascinated is he by the song of the miner. Under the drawing are the words, "The Song of the Sirens."

If we include among the argonauts all who traveled by land or voyaged by sea in search of the golden fleece in the days of '49 we will have a motley mixture. The tales of the fabulous richness of the gold fields of California spread rapidly throughout the civilized world and drew to the territory all classes and conditions of men, the bad as well as the good, the indolent as well as the industrious, the vicious as well as the virtuous. They came from Europe, from South America and from Mexico. From Australia and Tasmania came the ex-convict and the ticket-of-leave man; from the isles of the sea came the Polynesian, and from Asia the Hindoo and the "Heathen Chinese."

The means of reaching the land of gold were as varied as the character of the people who came. Almost every form of vehicle was pressed into service on land. One individual, if not more, made the trip trundling his impedimenta in a wheelbarrow. Others started out in carriages, intent on making the journey in comfort and ease, but finished on foot, weary, worn and ragged. When the great rush came old sailing vessels that had long been deemed unseaworthy

were fitted out for the voyage to California. It must have been the providence that protects fools which prevented these from going to the bottom of the ocean. With the desperate chances that the argonauts took on these old tubs, it is singular that there were so few shipwrecks and so little loss of life. Some of these were such slow sailers that it took them the greater part of a year to round Cape Horn and reach their destination. On one of these some passengers, exasperated at its slowness, landed near Cape St. Lucas and made the long journey up the peninsula of Lower California and on to San Francisco on foot, arriving there a month before their vessel. Another party undertook to make the voyage from Nicaragua in a whale boat and actually did accomplish seven hundred miles of it before they were picked up in the last extremities by a sailing vessel.

The Sierra Nevada region, in which gold was first found, comprised a strip about thirty miles wide and two hundred miles long from north to south in the basins of the Feather, Yuba, Bear, American, Cosumne, Mokelumne, Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Merced rivers, between the elevations of one thousand and five thousand feet. In all these streams miners washed gold in 1848. The placer mines on the Upper Sacramento and in the Shasta region were discovered and worked late in the fall of 1848. The Klamath mines were discovered later.

The southern mines, those on the San Joaquin, Fresno, Kern and San Gabriel rivers, were located between 1851 and 1855. Gold was found in some of the ravines and creeks of San Diego county. Practically the gold belt of California extends from the Mexican line to Oregon, but at some points it is rather thin. The first gold digging was done with butcher knives, the gold hunter scratching in the sand and crevices of the rock to find nuggets. Next the gold pan came into use and the miners became experts

in twirling the pan in a pool of water, so as to wash out the sand and gravel and leave the gold dust in the pan. Isaac Humphreys, who had mined gold in Georgia, was the first person to use a rocker or gold cradle in California. Although a very simple piece of machinery those who reached the mines early found it quite an expensive one. Dr. Brooks in his diary, under date of June 11, 1848, writes: "On Tuesday we set to work upon our cradle. We resolved upon the construction of two and for this purpose went down to the store in a body to see about the boards. We found timber extravagantly dear, being asked \$40 a hundred feet. The next question was as to whether we should hire a carpenter. We were told there was one or two in the diggings, who might be hired, though at a very extravagant rate. Accordingly Bradley and I proceeded to see one of these gentlemen, and found him washing away with a hollow log and a willow branch sieve. He offered to help us at the rate of \$35 a day, we finding provisions and tools, and could not be brought to charge less. We thought this by far too extravagant and left him, determined to undertake the work ourselves. After two days' work of seven men they produced two rough cradles and found that three men with a cradle or rocker could wash out as much gold in a day as six could with pans in the same time."

A rocker or gold cradle had some resemblance to a child's cradle with similar rockers and was rocked by means of a perpendicular handle fastened to the cradle box. The cradle box consisted of a wooden trough about twenty inches wide and forty inches long with sides four or five inches high. The lower end was left open. On the upper end sat the hopper, a box twenty inches square with sides four inches high and a bottom of sheet iron or zinc pierced with holes one-half inch in diameter. Where zinc or iron could not be obtained a sieve of willow rods was used. Under the hopper was an apron of canvas, which sloped down from the lower end of the hopper to the upper end of the cradle box. A wooden riffle bar an inch square was nailed across the bottom of the cradle box about its middle, and another at its lower end. Under the cradle box were nailed rockers, and near

the middle an upright handle by which motion was imparted. If water and pay dirt were convenient two men were sufficient to operate the machine. Seated on a stool or rock the operator rocked with one hand, while with a long handled dipper he dipped water from a pool and poured it on the sand and gravel in the hopper. When the sand and earth had been washed through the holes in the sieve the rocks were emptied and the hopper filled again from the buckets of pay dirt supplied by the other partner. The gold was caught on the canvas apron by the riffle bars, while the thin mud and sand were washed out of the machine by the water.

In the dry diggings a method of separating the gold from the earth was resorted to principally by Sonorans. The pay dirt was dug and dried in the sun, then pulverized by pounding into fine dust. With a batéa or bowl-shaped Indian basket filled with this dust, held in both hands, the Mexican skillfully tossed the earth in the air, allowing the wind to blow away the dust and catching the heavier particles and the gold in the basket, repeating the process until there was little left but the gold.

The Long Tom was a single sluice with a sieve and a box underneath at the end and riffle bars to stop the gold. The pay dirt was shoveled in at the upper end and a rapid current of water washed away the sand and earth, the gold falling into the receptacle below. Ground sluicing was resorted to where a current of water from a ditch could be directed against a bank of earth or hill with a sloping bedrock. The stream of water washing against the upper side of the bank caved it down and carried the loose earth through a string of sluices, depositing the gold in the riffle bars in the bottom of the sluices.

In the creeks and gulches where there was not much fall, sluice mining was commonly resorted to. A string of sluice boxes was laid, each fitting into the upper end of the one below, and in the lower ones riffle bars were placed to stop the gold. The sluice boxes were placed on trestles four feet from the ground and given an incline of five or six inches to the rod. The gravel from the bedrock up as far as there was any pay dirt was shoveled into the upper boxes and a rapid current of water flowing through the



boxes carried away the gravel and rocks, the gold remaining in the riffles. Quicksilver was placed between the riffles to catch the fine gold. The gold amalgamated with quicksilver was cleaned out of the boxes at the end of the day's work and separated from the quicksilver in a retort. These were the principal methods of mining used by the argonauts. The machinery and appliances were simple and inexpensive. Hydraulic mining came in later, when larger capital was required and the mines had fallen into the hands of corporations.

When the news spread throughout the states of the wonderful "finds" of gold in California, the crudest ideas prevailed in regard to how the precious metal was to be extracted from the earth. Gold mining was an almost unknown industry in the United States. Only in a few obscure districts of North Carolina and Georgia had gold been found, and but very few people outside of these districts had ever visited the mines. Not one in ten thousand of those who joined the rush to California in 1849 had ever seen a grain of virgin gold. The idea prevailed among the gold seekers that the gold being found in grains it could be winnowed from the sand and earth in which it was found like wheat is separated from chaff. Imbued with this idea Yankee ingenuity set to work to invent labor-saving machines that would accomplish the work quickly and enrich the miner proportionally. The ships that bore the argonauts from their native land carried out a variety of these gold machines, all guaranteed to wrest from the most secret recesses the auriferous deposits in nature's treasure vaults. These machines were of all varieties and patterns. They were made of copper, iron, zinc and brass. Some were operated by means of a crank, others had two cranks, while others were worked with a treadle. Some required that the operator should stand, others allowed the miner to sit in an arm chair and work in comfort.

Haskins, in his "Argonauts of California," describes one of these machines that was brought around the Horn in the ship he came on: "It was in the shape of a huge fanning mill, with sieves properly arranged for sorting

the gold ready for bottling. All chunks too large for the bottle would be consigned to the pork barrel." (The question of bringing home the gold in bottles or barrels had been seriously discussed and decided in favor of barrels because these could be rolled and thus save cost of transportation from the mines.)

"This immense machine which, during our passage, excited the envy and jealousy of all who had not the means and opportunity of securing a similar one required, of course, the services of a hired man to turn the crank, whilst the proprietor would be busily engaged in shoveling in pay dirt and pumping water; the greater portion of the time, however, being required, as was firmly believed, in corking the bottles and fitting the heads in the barrels. This machine was owned by a Mr. Allen of Cambridge, Mass., who had brought with him a colored servant to manage and control the crank portion of the invaluable institution.

"Upon landing we found lying on the sand and half buried in the mud hundreds of similar machines, bearing silent witness at once to the value of our gold saving machines without the necessity of a trial."

Nor was it the argonaut alone who came by sea that brought these machines. Some of these wonderful inventions were hauled across the plains in wagons, their owners often sacrificing the necessities of life to save the prized machine. And, when, after infinite toil and trouble, they had landed their prize in the mines, they were chagrined to find it the subject of jest and ridicule by those who had some experience in mining.

The gold rush came early in the history of California placer mining. The story of a rich strike would often depopulate a mining camp in a few hours. Even a bare rumor of rich diggings in some indefinite locality would send scores of miners tramping off on a wild goose chase into the mountains. Some of these rushes originated through fake stories circulated for sinister purpose; others were caused by exaggerated stories of real discoveries.

One of the most famous fakes of early days was the Gold Lake rush of 1850. This wonderful lake was supposed to be located about two



hundred miles northeast of Marysville, on the divide between the Feather and the Yuba rivers. The *Sacramento Transcript* of June 19, 1850, says: "We are informed by a gentleman from Marysville that it is currently reported there that the Indians upon this lake use gold for their commonest purposes; that they have a ready way of knocking out square blocks, which they use for seats and couches upon which to place their beds, which are simply bundles of wild oats, which grow so profusely in all sections of the state. According to report also they use for fishhooks crooked pieces of gold and kill their game with arrows made of the same material. They are reported to be thunderstruck at the movements of the whites and their eagerness to collect and hoard the materials of the very ground upon which they tread.

"A story is current that a man at Gold Lake saw a large piece of gold floating on the lake which he succeeded in getting ashore. So clear are the waters that another man saw a rock of gold on the bottom. After many efforts he succeeded in lassoing the rock. Three days afterward he was seen standing holding on to his rope."

The *Placer Times* of Marysville reports that the specimens brought into Marysville are of a value from \$1,500 down. Ten ounces is reported as no unusual yield to the pan. The first party of sixty which started out under guidance of one who had returned successful were assured that they would not get less than \$500 each per day. We were told that two hundred had left town with a full supply of provisions and four hundred mules. Mules and horses have doubled in value. Many places of business are closed. The diggings at the lake are probably the best ever discovered." The *Times* of June 19 says: "It is reported that up to last Thursday two thousand persons had taken up their journey. Many who were working good claims deserted them for the new discovery. Mules and horses were about impossible to obtain. Although the truth of the report rests on the authority of but two or three who have returned from Gold Lake, yet few are found who doubt the marvelous revelations. A party of Kanakas are said to have wintered

at Gold Lake, subsisting chiefly on the flesh of their animals. They are said to have taken out \$75,000 the first week. When a conviction takes such complete possession of a whole community, who are fully conversant with all the exaggerations that have had their day, it is scarcely prudent to utter even a qualified dissent from what is universally believed."

The denouement of the Gold Lake romance may be found in the *Transcript* of July 1, 1850. "The Gold Lake excitement, so much talked of and acted upon of late, has almost subsided. A crazy man comes in for a share of the responsibility. Another report is that they have found one of the pretended discoverers at Marysville and are about to lynch him. Indeed, we are told that a demonstration against the town is feared by many. People who have returned after traveling some one hundred and fifty to two hundred miles say that they left vast numbers of people roaming between the sources of the Yuba and the Feather rivers."

Scarcely had the deluded argonauts returned from a bootless search for the lake of gold when another rumored discovery of gold fields of fabulous richness sent them rushing off toward the sea coast. Now it was Gold Bluff that lured them away. On the northwest coast of California, near the mouth of the Klamath river, precipitous bluffs four hundred feet high mark the coast line of the ocean. A party of prospectors in the fall of 1850, who had been up in the Del Norte country, were making their way down to the little trading and trapping station of Trinidad to procure provisions. On reaching the bluffs, thirty miles above Trinidad, they were astonished to find stretching out before them a beach glittering with golden sands. They could not stop to gather gold; they were starving. So, scraping up a few handfuls of the glittering sands, they hastened on. In due time they reached San Francisco, where they exhibited their sand, which proved to be nearly half gold. The report of the wonderful find was spread by the newspapers and the excitement began. Companies were formed and claims located at long range. One company of nine locators sent an expert to examine their claims. He, by a careful mathematical calculation, as-

certained that the claim would yield forty-three million dollars to each partner. As there were fifteen miles of gold beach, the amount of gold in the sands was sufficient to demonetize the precious metal. A laudable desire to benefit the human race possessed some of the claim owners. They formed joint stock companies with shares at \$100 each. Gold Bluff mining stock went off like the proverbial hot cakes and prospectors went off as rapidly. Within two days after the expert's wonderful story was spread abroad nine ships were fitted out for Gold Bluff. The first to arrive off the Bluff was the vessel containing a party of the original discoverers. In attempting to land in a boat, the boat was upset in the breakers and five of the six occupants were drowned, Bertram, the leader of the party making the discovery, alone escaping. The vessel put back to Trinidad and the gold hunters made their way up the coast to the Bluff. But alas for their golden dreams! Where they had hoped to gather gold by the ship load no gold was found. Old ocean had gathered it back into his treasure vaults.

The bubble burst as suddenly as it had expanded. And yet there was gold at Gold Bluff and there is gold there yet. If the ocean could be drained or coffer dammed for two hundred miles along the gold coast of northern California and Oregon, all the wealth of Alaska would be but the panning out of a prospect hole compared to the richness that lies hidden in the sands of Gold Beach. For years after the bursting of the Gold Bluff bubble, when the tide was low, the sands along Gold Beach were mined with profit.

The Kern river excitement in the spring of 1855 surpassed everything that had preceded it. Seven years of mining had skimmed the richness of the placers. The northern and central gold fields of California had been thoroughly prospected. The miners who had been accustomed to the rich strikes of early years could not content themselves with moderate returns. They were on the qui vive for a rich strike and ready for a rush upon the first report of one. The first discoveries on the Kern river were made in the summer of 1854, but no excitement followed immediately. During the fall and win-

ter rumors were set afloat of rich strikes on the head waters of that stream. The stories grew as they traveled. One that had a wide circulation and was readily accepted ran about as follows: "A Mexican doctor had appeared in Mariposa loaded down with gold nuggets. He reported that he and four companions had found a region paved with gold. The very hills were yellow with outcroppings. While gloating over their wealth and loading it into sacks the Indians attacked them and killed his four companions. He escaped with one sack of gold. He proposed to organize a company large enough to exterminate the Indians and then bring out the gold on pack mules." This as well as other stories as improbable were spread broadcast throughout the state. Many of the reports of wonderful strikes were purposely magnified by merchants and dealers in mining supplies who were overstocked with unsalable goods; and by transportation companies with whom business was slack. Their purpose was accomplished and the rush was on. It began in January, 1855. Every steamer down the coast to Los Angeles was loaded to the guards with adventurers for the mines. The sleepy old metropolis of the cow counties waked up to find itself suddenly transformed into a bustling mining camp. The *Southern Californian* of February 8, 1855, thus describes the situation: "The road from our valley is literally thronged with people on their way to the mines. Hundreds of people have been leaving not only the city, but every portion of the county. Every description of vehicle and animal has been brought into requisition to take the exultant seekers after wealth to the goal of their hopes. Immense ten-mule wagons strung out one after another; long trains of pack mules and men mounted and on foot, with picks and shovels; boarding-house keepers with their tents; merchants with their stocks of miners' necessities and gamblers with their 'papers' are constantly leaving for the Kern river mines. The wildest stories are afloat. If the mines turn out \$10 a day to the man everybody ought to be satisfied. The opening of these mines has been a Godsend to all of us, as the business of the entire country was on the point of taking to a

tree. The great scarcity of money is seen in the present exorbitant rates of interest which it commands; 8, 10 and even 15 per cent a month is freely paid and the supply even at these rates is too meager to meet the demands." As the rush increased our editor grows more jubilant. In his issue of March 7, he throws out these headlines: "Stop the Press! Glorious News from Kern River! Bring Out the Big Gun! There are a thousand gulches rich with gold and room for ten thousand miners. Miners averaged \$50 a day. One man with his own hands took out \$160 in a day. Five men in ten days took out \$4,500."

Another stream of miners and adventurers was pouring into the mines by way of the San Joaquin valley. From Stockton to the Kern river, a distance of three hundred miles, the road was crowded with men on foot, on stages, on horseback and on every form of conveyance that would take them to the new El Dorado. In four months five or six thousand men had found their way into the Kern river basin. There was gold there, but not enough to go around. A few struck it rich, the many struck nothing but "hard luck" and the rush out began. Those who had ridden into the valley footed it out, and those who had footed it in on sole leather footed it out on their natural soles.

After the wild frenzy of Kern river, the press of the state congratulated the public with the assurance that the era of wild rushes was past—"what had been lost in money had been gained in experience." As if prospectors ever profited by experience! Scarcely had the victims of Kern river resumed work in the old creeks and cañons they had deserted to join in the rush when a rumor came, faint at first, but gathering strength at each repetition, that rich diggings had been struck in the far north. This time it is Frazer river. True, Frazer river is in the British possessions, but what of that? There are enough miners in California to seize the country and hold it until the cream of the mines has been skimmed. Rumors of the richness of mines increased with every arrival of a steamer from the north. Captains, pursers, mates, cooks and waiters all confirmed the stories of rich strikes. Doubters asserted that the

dust and nuggets exhibited had made the trip from San Francisco to Victoria and back. But they were silenced by the assurance that the transportation company was preparing to double the number of its vessels on that route. Commodore Wright was too smart to run his steamers on fake reports, and thus the very thing that should have caused suspicion was used to confirm the truth of the rumors. The doubters doubted no more, but packed their outfits for Frazer river. California was played out. Where could an honest miner pan out \$100 a day in California now? He could do it every day in Frazer; the papers said so. The first notice of the mines was published in March, 1858. The rush began the latter part of April and in four months thirty thousand men, one-sixth of the voting population of the state, had rushed to the mines.

The effect of the craze was disastrous to business in California. Farms were abandoned and crops lost for want of hands to harvest them. Rich claims in old diggings were sold for a trifle of their value. Lots on Montgomery street that a few years later were worth \$1,500 a front foot were sold for \$100. Real estate in the interior towns was sacrificed at 50 to 75 per cent less than it was worth before the rush began. But a halt was called in the mad rush. The returns were not coming in satisfactorily. By the middle of July less than \$100,000 in dust had reached San Francisco, only about \$3 for each man who had gone to the diggings. There was gold there and plenty of it, so those interested in keeping up the excitement said: "The Frazer river is high; wait till it subsides." But it did not subside, and it has not subsided since. If the Frazer did not subside the excitement did, and that suddenly. Those who had money enough or could borrow from their friends got away at once. Those who had none hung around Victoria and New Westminster until they were shipped back at the government's expense. The Frazer river craze was the last of the mad, unreasoning "gold rushes." The Washoe excitement of '59 and the "Ho! for Idaho of 1863-64" had some of the characteristics of the early gold rushes, but they soon settled down to steady business and the yield from these fairly

recompensed those who were frugal and industrious.

Never before perhaps among civilized people was there witnessed such a universal leveling as occurred in the first years of the mining excitement in California. "As the labor required was physical instead of mental, the usual superiority of head workers over hand workers disappeared entirely. Men who had been governors and legislators and judges in the old states worked by the side of outlaws and convicts; scholars and students by the side of men who could not read or write; those who had been masters by the side of those who had been slaves; old social distinctions were obliterated; everybody did business on his own account, and not one man in ten was the employe and much less the servant of another. Social distinctions appeared to be entirely obliterated and no man was considered inferior to another. The hard-fisted, unshaven and patch-covered miner was on terms of perfect equality with the well-dressed lawyer, surgeon or merchant; and in general conferences, discussions and even con-

versations the most weather-beaten and strongly marked face, or, in other words, the man who had seen and experienced the most, notwithstanding his wild and tattered attire, was listened to with more attention and respectful consideration than the man of polished speech and striking antithesis. One reason of this was that in those days the roughest-looking man not infrequently knew more than anybody else of what was wanted to be known, and the raggedest man not infrequently was the most influential and sometimes the richest man in the locality."\*

This independent spirit was characteristic of the men of '48 and '49. Then nearly everybody was honest and theft was almost unknown. With the advent of the criminal element in 1850 and later there came a change. Before that a pan of gold dust could be left in an open tent unguarded, but with the coming of the Sydney ducks from Australia and men of their class it became necessary to guard property with sedulous care.

---

\* Hittell's History of California, Vol. III.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### SAN FRANCISCO.

**I**N 1835 Capt. William A. Richardson built the first house on the Yerba Buena cove.

It was a shanty of rough board, which he replaced a year later with an adobe building. He was granted a lot in 1836 and his building stood near what is now the corner of Dupont and Clay streets. Richardson had settled at Sausalito in 1822. He was an Englishman by birth and was one of the first foreigners to settle in California.

Jacob P. Leese, an American, in partnership with Spear & Hinckley, obtained a lot in 1836 and built a house and store near that of Captain Richardson. There is a tradition that Mr. Leese began his store building on the first of July and finished it at ten o'clock on the morning of July 4, and for a house warming celebrated the glorious Fourth in a style that astonished the natives up and down the coast. The house was sixty feet long and twenty-five broad, and, if

completed in three days, Mr. Leese certainly deserves the credit of having eclipsed some of the remarkable feats in house building that were performed after the great fires of San Francisco in the early '50s. Mr. Leese and his neighbor, Captain Richardson, invited all the high-toned Spanish families for a hundred miles around to the celebration. The Mexican and American flags floated over the building and two six-pounders fired salutes. At five o'clock the guests sat down to a sumptuous dinner which lasted, toasts and all, till 10 o'clock, and then came dancing; and, as Mr. Leese remarks in his diary: "Our Fourth ended on the evening of the fifth." Mr. Leese was an energetic person. He built a house in three days, gave a Fourth of July celebration that lasted two days, and inside of a week had a store opened and was doing a thriving business with his late guests. He fell in love with the same energy that he did busi-

ness. Among the guests at his 4th of July celebration were the Vallejos, the nabobs of Sonoma. Leese courted one of the girls and in a few months after the celebration married her. Their daughter, Rosalie Leese, was the first child born in Yerba Buena. Such was the beginning of San Francisco.

This settlement was on a crescent-shaped cove that lay between Clark's Point and the Rincon. The locality was known as Yerba Buena (good herb), a species of mint to which the native Californians attributed many medicinal virtues. The peninsula still bore the name that had been applied to it when the mission and presidio were founded, San Francisco. Yerba Buena was a local appellation and applied only to the little hamlet that had grown up on the cove. This settlement, although under the Mexican government, was not a Mexican town. The foreign element, the American predominating, had always been in the ascendancy. At the time of the conquest, among its two hundred inhabitants, were representatives of almost every civilized nation on the globe. It was a cosmopolitan town. In a very short time after the conquest it began to take on a new growth and was recognized as the coming metropolis of California. The curving beach of the cove at one point (Jackson street) crossed the present line of Montgomery street.

Richardson and Leese had built their stores and warehouses back from the beach because of a Mexican law that prohibited the building of a house on the beach where no custom house existed. All houses had to be built back a certain number of varas from high-water mark. This regulation was made to prevent smuggling. Between the shore line of the cove and anchorage there was a long stretch of shallow water. This made transportation of goods from ship to shore very inconvenient and expensive. With the advent of the Americans and the inauguration of a more progressive era it became necessary for the convenient landing of ships and for the discharging and receiving of their cargoes that the beach front of the town should be improved by building wharves and docks. The difficulty was to find the means to do this. The general government of the United States could

not undertake it. The war with Mexico was still in progress. The only available way was to sell off beach lots to private parties, but who was to give title was the question. Edwin Bryant, February 22, 1847, had succeeded Washington Bartlett as alcalde. Bryant was a progressive man, and, recognizing the necessity of improvement in the shipping facilities of the town, he urged General Kearny, the acting governor, to relinquish, on the part of the general government, its claim to the beach lands in front of the town in favor of the municipality under certain conditions. General Kearny really had no authority to relinquish the claim of the general government to the land, for the simple reason that the general government had not perfected a claim. The country was held as conquered territory. Mexico had made no concession of the land by treaty. It was not certain that California would be ceded to the United States. Under Mexican law the governor of the territory, under certain conditions, had the right to make grants, and General Kearny, assuming the power given a Mexican governor, issued the following decree: "I, Brig.-Gen. S. W. Kearny, Governor of California, by virtue of authority in me vested by the President of the United States of America, do hereby grant, convey, and release unto the Town of San Francisco, the people or corporate authorities thereof, all the right, title and interest of the Government of the United States and of the Territory of California in and to the Beach and Water Lots on the East front of said Town of San Francisco included between the points known as the Rincon and Fort Montgomery, excepting such lots as may be selected for the use of the United States Government by the senior officers of the army and navy now there; provided, the said ground hereby ceded shall be divided into lots and sold by public auction to the highest bidder, after three months' notice previously given; the proceeds of said sale to be for the benefit of the town of San Francisco. Given at Monterey, capital of California, this 10th day of March, 1847, and the seventy-first year of the independence of the United States."

S. W. KEARNY,  
Brig.-Gen'l & Gov. of California.



In pursuance of this decree, Alcalde Bryant advertised in the *Californian* that the ground described in the decree, known as Water Lots, would be surveyed and divided into convenient building lots and sold to the highest bidder on the 29th of June (1847). He then proceeds in the advertisement to boom the town. "The site of the town of San Francisco is known by all navigators and mercantile men acquainted with the subject to be the most commanding commercial position on the entire western coast of the Pacific ocean, and the Town itself is no doubt destined to become the commercial emporium of the western side of the North American continent." The alcaldes' assertions must have seemed rather extravagant to the dwellers in the little burgh on the cove of Yerba Buena. But Bryant was a far-seeing man and proved himself in this instance to be a prophet.

It will be noticed that both General Kearny and Alcalde Bryant call the town San Francisco. Alcalde Bartlett, the predecessor in office of Alcalde Bryant, had changed its name just before he was recalled to his ship. He did not like the name Yerba Buena, so he summarily changed it. He issued a proclamation setting forth that hereafter the town should be known as San Francisco. Having proclaimed a change of name, he proceeded to give his reasons: Yerba Buena was a paltry cognomen for a certain kind of mint found on an island in the bay; it was a merely local name, unknown beyond the district, while San Francisco had long been familiar on the maps. "Therefore it is hereby ordained, etc." Bartlett builded better than he knew. It would have been a sad mistake for the city to have carried the "outlandish name which Americans would mangle in pronouncing," as the alcalde said.

The change was made in the latter part of January, 1847, but it was some time before the new name was generally adopted.

The *California Star*, Sam Brannan's paper, which had begun to shine January 9, 1847, in its issue of March 20, alluding to the change, says: "We acquiesce in it, though we prefer the old name. When the change was first attempted we viewed it as a mere assumption of authority, without law of precedent, and there-

fore we adhered to the old name—Yerba Buena."

"It was asserted by the late alcalde, Washington Bartlett, that the place was called San Francisco in some old Spanish paper which he professed to have in his possession; but how could we believe a man even about that which it is said 'there is nothing in it,' who had so often evinced a total disregard for his own honor and character and the honor of the country which gave him birth and the rights of his fellow citizens in the district?" Evidently the editor had a grievance and was anxious to get even with the alcalde. Bartlett demanded an investigation of some charges made against his administration. He was cleared of all blame. He deserves the thanks of all Californians in summarily suppressing Yerba Buena and preventing it from being fastened on the chief city of the state.

There was at that time (on paper) a city of Francisca. The city fathers of this budding metropolis were T. O. Larkin and Robert Semple. In a half-column advertisement in the *Californian* of April 20, 1847, and several subsequent issues, headed "Great Sale of City Lots," they set forth the many advantages and merits of Francisca. The streets are eighty feet wide, the alleys twenty feet wide, and the lots fifty yards front and forty yards back. The whole city comprises five square miles."

"Francisca is situated on the Straits of Carquinez, on the north side of the Bay of San Francisco, about thirty miles from the mouth of the bay and at the head of ship navigation. In front of the city is a commodious bay, large enough for two hundred ships to ride at anchor, safe from any wind." \* \* \* "The entire trade of the great Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys, a fertile country of great width and near seven hundred miles long from north to south, must of necessity pass through the narrow channel of Carquinez and the bay and country is so situated that every person who passes from one side of the bay to the other will find the nearest and best way by Francisca." Francisca, with its manifold natural advantages, ought to have been a great city, the metropolis of California, but the Fates were against it. Alcalde



Bartlett, probably without any design of doing so, dealt it a fearful blow when he dubbed the town of the good herb, San Francisco. Two cities with names so nearly alike could not live and thrive in the same state. Francisca became Benicia. The population of San Francisco (or Yerba Buena, as it was then called) at the time that Captain Montgomery raised the stars and stripes and took possession of it probably did not exceed two hundred. Its change of masters accelerated its growth. The *Californian* of September 4, 1847 (fourteen months after it came under the flag of the United States), gives the following statistics of its population and progress: Total white male population, 247; female, 123; Indians, male, 26; female, 8; South Sea Islanders, male, 39; female 1; negroes, male, 9; female 1; total population, 454.

Nearly every country on the globe had representatives in its population, and the various vocations by which men earn a living were well represented. Minister, one; doctors, three; lawyers, three; surveyors, two; agriculturists, eleven; bakers, seven; blacksmiths, six; brewer, one; butchers, seven; cabinetmakers, two; carpenters, twenty-six; cigarmaker, one; coopers, three; clerks, thirteen; gardener, one; grocers, five; gunsmiths, two; hotel-keepers, three; laborers, twenty; masons, four; merchants, eleven; miner, one; morocco case maker, one; navigators (inland), six; navigator (ocean), one; painter, one; printer, one; soldier, one; shoemakers, four; silversmith, one; tailors, four; tanners, two; watchmaker, one; weaver, one. Previous to April 1, 1847, according to the *Californian*, there had been erected in the town seventy-nine buildings, classified as follows: Shanties, twenty-two; frame buildings, thirty-one; adobe buildings, twenty-six. Since April 1, seventy-eight buildings have been erected, viz.: Shanties, twenty; frame buildings, forty-seven; adobe buildings, eleven. "Within five months last past," triumphantly adds the editor of the *Californian*, "as many buildings have been built as were erected in all the previous years of the town's existence."

The town continued to grow with wonderful rapidity throughout the year 1847, considering that peace had not yet been declared and the

destiny of California was uncertain. According to a school census taken in March, 1848, by the Board of Trustees, the population was: Males, five hundred and seventy-five; females, one hundred and seventy-seven; and "children of age to attend school," sixty, a total of eight hundred and twelve. Building kept pace with the increase of population until the "gold fever" became epidemic. Dr. Brooks, writing in his diary May 17, says: "Walking through the town to-day, I observed that laborers were employed only upon about half a dozen of the fifty new buildings which were in the course of being run up."

The first survey of lots in the town had been made by a Frenchman named Vioget. No names had been given to the streets. This survey was made before the conquest. In 1847, Jasper O'Farrell surveyed and platted the district extending about half a mile in the different directions from the plaza. The streets were named, and, with a very few changes, still retain the names then given. In September the council appointed a committee to report upon the building of a wharf. It was decided to construct two wharves, one from the foot of Clay street and the other from the foot of Broadway. Money was appropriated to build them and they had been extended some distance seaward when the rush to the mines suspended operations. After considerable agitation by the two newspapers and canvassing for funds, the first school-house was built. It was completed December 4, 1847, but, for lack of funds, or, as the *Star* says, for lack of energy in the council, school was not opened on the completion of the house. In March the council appropriated \$400 and April 1, 1848, Thomas Douglas, a graduate of Yale College, took charge of the school. San Francisco was rapidly developing into a progressive American city. Unlike the older towns of California, it had but a small Mexican population. Even had not gold been discovered, it would have grown into a commercial city of considerable size.

The first effect of the gold discovery and the consequent rush to the mines was to bring everything to a standstill. As Kemble, of the *Star*, puts it, it was "as if a curse had arrested

our onward course of enterprise; everything wears a desolate and sombre look; everywhere all is dull, monotonous, dead." The return of the inhabitants in a few months and the influx of new arrivals gave the town a boom in the fall of 1848. Building was only limited by the lack of material, and every kind of a makeshift was resorted to to provide shelter against winter rains. From the many attempts at describing the town at this stage of its development, I select this from "Sights in the Gold Regions," a book long since out of print. Its author, T. T. Johnson, arrived at San Francisco April 1, 1849. "Proceeding on our survey, we found the streets, or, properly, the roads, laid out regularly, those parallel with the water being a succession of terraces, and these ascending the hills or along their sides being in some instances cut down ten or twelve feet below the surface. Except a portion of the streets fronting upon the cove, they are all of hard-beaten, sandy clay, as solid as if macadamized. About three hundred houses, stores, shanties and sheds, with a great many tents, composed the town at that period. The houses were mostly built of rough boards and unpainted; brown cottons or calico nailed against the beams and joists answered for wall and ceiling of the better class of tenements. With the exception of the brick warehouse of Howard and Mellus, the establishments of the commercial houses of which we had heard so much were inferior to the outhouses of the country seats on the Hudson; and yet it would puzzle the New York Exchange to produce merchant princes of equal importance." \* \* \* "We strolled among the tents in the outskirts of the town. Here was 'confusion worse confounded,' chiefly among Mexicans, Peruvians and Chilians. Every kind, size, color and shape of tent pitched helter-skelter and in the most awkward manner were stowed full of everything under the sun."

In the first six months of 1849 fifteen thousand souls were added to the population of San Francisco; in the latter half of that year about four thousand arrived every month by sea alone. At first the immigrants were from Mexico, Chile, Peru and the South American ports generally; but early in the spring the Americans

began to arrive, coming by way of Panama and Cape Horn, and later across the plains. Europe sent its contingent by sea via Cape Horn; and China, Australia and the Hawaiian Islands added to the city's population an undesirable element. A large majority of those who came by sea made their way to the mines, but many soon returned to San Francisco, some to take their departure for home, others to become residents. At the end of the year San Francisco had a population of twenty-five thousand. The following graphic description of life in San Francisco in the fall of '49 and spring of '50 I take from a paper, "Pioneer Days in San Francisco," written by John Williamson Palmer, and published in the Century Magazine (1890): "And how did they all live? In frame houses of one story, more commonly in board shanties and canvas tents, pitched in the midst of sand or mud and various rubbish and strange filth and fleas; and they slept on rude cots or on soft planks, under horse blankets, on tables, counters, floors, on trucks in the open air, in bunks braced against the weather-boarding, forty of them in one loft; and so they tossed and scratched and swore and laughed and sang and skylarked, those who were not tired or drunk enough to sleep. And in the working hours they bustled, and jostled, and tugged, and sweated, and made money, always made money. They labored and they lugged; they worked on lighters, drove trucks, packed mules, rang bells, carried messages, 'waited' in restaurants, 'marked' for billiard tables, served drinks in bar rooms, 'faked' on the plaza, 'cried' at auctions, toted lumber for houses, ran a game of faro or roulette in the El Dorado or the Bella Union, or manipulated three-card monte on the head of a barrel in front of the Parker House; they speculated, and, as a rule, gambled.

"Clerks in stores and offices had munificent salaries. Five dollars a day was about the smallest stipend even in the custom house, and one Baptist preacher was paid \$10,000 a year. Laborers received \$1 an hour; a pick or a shovel was worth \$10; a tin pan or a wooden bowl \$5, and a butcher knife \$30. At one time carpenters who were getting \$12 a day struck

for \$16. Lumber rose to \$500 per thousand feet, and every brick in a house cost a dollar one way or another. Wheat, flour and salt pork sold at \$40 a barrel; a small loaf of bread was fifty cents and a hard-boiled egg a dollar. You paid \$3 to get into the circus and \$55 for a private box at the theater. Forty dollars was the price for ordinary coarse boots, and a pair that came above the knees and would carry you gallantly through the quagmires brought a round hundred. When a shirt became very dirty the wearer threw it away and bought a new one. Washing cost \$15 a dozen in 1849.

"Rents were simply monstrous; \$3,000 a month in advance for a 'store' hurriedly built of rough boards. Wright & Co. paid \$75,000 for the wretched little place on the corner of the plaza that they called the Miners' Bank, and \$36,000 was asked for the use of the Old Adobe as a custom-house. The Parker House paid \$120,000 a year in rents, nearly one-half of that amount being collected from gamblers who held the second floor; and the canvas tent next door used as a gambling saloon, and called the El Dorado, was good for \$40,000 a year. From 10 to 15 per cent a month was paid in advance for the use of money borrowed on substantial security. The prices of real estate went up among the stars; \$8,000 for a fifty-vara lot that had been bought in 1849 for \$20. A lot purchased two years before for a barrel of aguardiente sold for \$18,000. Yet, for all that, everybody made money.

"The aspect of the streets of San Francisco at this time was such as one may imagine of an unsightly waste of sand and mud churned by the continual grinding of heavy wagons and trucks and the tugging and floundering of horses, mules and oxen; thoroughfares irregular and uneven, ungraded, unpaved, unplanked, obstructed by lumber and goods, alternate lumps and holes, the actual dumping-places of the town, handy receptacles for the general sweepings and rubbish and indescribable offal and filth, the refuse of an indiscriminate population 'pigging' together in shanties and tents. And these conditions extended beyond the actual settlement into the chaparral and under-

brush that covered the sand hills on the north and west.

"The flooding rains of winter transformed what should have been thoroughfares into treacherous quagmires set with holes and traps fit to smother horse and man. Loads of brush-wood and branches of trees cut from the hills were thrown into these swamps; but they served no more than a temporary purpose and the inmates of tents and houses made such bridges and crossings as they could with boards, boxes and barrels. Men waded through the slough and thought themselves lucky when they sank no deeper than their waists."

It is said that two horses mired down in the mud of Montgomery street were left to die of starvation, and that three drunken men were suffocated between Washington and Jackson streets. It was during the winter of '49 that the famous sidewalk of flour sacks, cooking stoves and tobacco boxes was built. It extended from Simmons, Hutchinson & Co.'s store to Adams Express office, a distance of about seventy-five yards. The first portion was built of Chilean flour in one hundred pound sacks, next came the cooking stoves in a long row, and then followed a double row of tobacco boxes of large size, and a yawning gap of the walk was bridged by a piano. Chile flour, cooking stoves, tobacco and pianos were cheaper material for building walks, owing to the excessive supply of these, than lumber at \$600 a thousand.

In the summer of '49 there were more than three hundred sailing vessels lying in the harbor of San Francisco, from which the sailors had deserted to go to the mines. Some of these vessels rotted where they were moored. Some were hauled up in the sand or mud flats and used for store houses, lodging houses and saloons. As the water lots were filled in and built upon, these ships sometimes formed part of the line of buildings on the street. The brig Euphemia was the first jail owned by the city; the store ship Apollo was converted into a lodging house and saloon, and the Niantic Hotel at the corner of Sansome and Clay streets was built on the hull of the ship Niantic. As the wharves were extended out into the bay the space between was filled in from the sand hills

and houses built along the wharves. In this way the cove was gradually filled in. The high price of lumber and the great scarcity of houses brought about the importation from New York, Boston, Philadelphia and London of houses ready framed to set up. For a time immense profits were made in this, but an excessive shipment like that of the articles of which the famous sidewalk was made brought down the price below cost, and the business ceased.

The first of the great fires that devastated San Francisco occurred on Christmas eve, 1849. It started in Denison's Exchange, a gambling house on the east side of the plaza. It burned the greater part of the block between Washington and Clay streets and Kearny and Montgomery streets. The loss was estimated at a million and a quarter dollars. The second great fire occurred on May 4, 1850. It burned over the three blocks between Montgomery and Dupont streets, bounded by Jackson and Clay streets, and the north and east sides of Portsmouth square. The loss was estimated at \$4,000,000. It started in the United States Exchange, a gambling den, at four o'clock in the morning, and burned for seven hours. The fire was believed to be of incendiary origin and several suspicious characters were arrested, but nothing could be proved against them. A number of the lookers-on refused to assist in arresting the progress of the flames unless paid for their labor; and \$3 an hour was demanded and paid to some who did.

On the 14th of June, 1850, a fire broke out in the Sacramento House, on the east side of Kearny street, between Clay and Sacramento. The entire district from Kearny street between Clay and California to the water front was burned over, causing a loss of \$3,000,000. Over three hundred houses were destroyed. The fourth great fire of the fateful year of 1850 occurred September 17. It started on Jackson street and destroyed the greater part of the blocks between Dupont and Montgomery streets from Washington to Pacific streets. The loss in this was not so great from the fact that the district contained mostly one-story houses. It was estimated at half a million dollars. December 14

of the same year a fire occurred on Sacramento street below Montgomery. Although the district burned over was not extensive, the loss was heavy. The buildings were of corrugated iron, supposed to be fireproof, and were filled with valuable merchandise. The loss amounted to \$1,000,000. After each fire, building was resumed almost before the embers of the fire that consumed the former buildings were extinguished. After each fire better buildings were constructed. A period of six months' exemption had encouraged the inhabitants of the fire-afflicted city to believe that on account of the better class of buildings constructed the danger of great conflagrations was past, but the worst was yet to come. At 11 p. m. May 3, 1851, a fire, started by incendiaries, broke out on the south side of the plaza. A strong northwest wind swept across Kearny street in broad sheets of flame, first southeastward, then, the wind changing, the flames veered to the north and east. All efforts to arrest them were useless; houses were blown up and torn down in attempts to cut off communication, but the engines were driven back step by step, while some of the brave firemen fell victims to the fire fiend. The flames, rising aloft in whirling volumes, swept away the frame houses and crumbled up with intense heat the supposed fireproof structures. After ten hours, when the fire abated for want of material to burn, all that remained of the city were the sparsely settled outskirts. All of the business district between Pine and Pacific streets, from Kearny to the Battery on the water front, was in ruins. Over one thousand houses had been burned. The loss of property was estimated at \$10,000,000, an amount greater than the aggregate of all the preceding fires. A number of lives were lost. During the progress of the fire large quantities of goods were stolen by bands of thieves. The sixth and last of the great conflagrations that devastated the city occurred on the 22d of June, 1851. The fire started in a building on Powell street and ravaged the district between Clay and Broadway, from Powell to Sansome. Four hundred and fifty houses were burned, involving a loss of \$2,500,000. An improved fire department, more stringent building regulations and a bet-

ter water supply combined to put an end to the era of great fires.

After the great fires of 1851 had swept over the city there was practically nothing left of the old metropolis of the early gold rush. The hastily constructed wooden shanties were gone; the corrugated iron building imported from New York and London, and warranted to be fireproof, had proved to be worthless to withstand great heat; the historic buildings had disappeared; the new city that, Phoenix-like, arose from the ashes of the old was a very different city from its predecessor that had been wiped from the earth by successive conflagrations. Stone and brick buildings covered the former site of wooden structures. The unsightly mud flats between the wharves were filled in from the sand hills and some of the streets paved. The year 1853 was memorable for the rapid progress of the city. Assessed property values increased from \$18,000,000 to \$28,000,000. Real estate values went soaring upward and the city was on the high tide of prosperity; but a reaction came in 1855. The rush to the mines had ceased, immigration had fallen off, and men had begun to retrench and settle down to steady business habits. Home productions had replaced imports, and the people were abandoning mining for farms. The transition from gold mining to grain growing had begun. All these affected the city and real estate declined. Lots that sold for \$8,000 to \$10,000 in 1853 could be bought for half that amount in 1855. Out of one thousand business houses, three hundred were vacant. Another influence that helped to bring about a depression was the growing political

corruption and the increased taxation from speculations of dishonest officials.

The defalcations and forgeries of Harry Meigs, which occurred in 1854, were a terrible blow to the city. Meigs was one of its most trusted citizens. He was regarded as the embodiment of integrity, the stern, incorruptible man, the watch-dog of the treasury. By his upright conduct he had earned the sobriquet of Honest Harry Meigs. Over-speculation and reaction from the boom of 1853 embarrassed him. He forged a large amount of city scrip and hypothecated it to raise money. His forgeries were suspected, but before the truth was known he made his escape on the barque *America* to Costa Rica and from there he made his way to Peru. His forgeries amounted to \$1,500,000, of which \$1,000,000 was in controller's warrants, to which he forged the names of Mayor Garrison and Controller Harris. The vigilance committee of 1856 cleared the political atmosphere by clearing the city, by means of hemp and deportation, of a number of bad characters. The city was just beginning to regain its former prosperity when the Frazer river excitement brought about a temporary depression. The wild rush carried away about one-sixth of its population. These all came back again, poorer and perhaps wiser; at least, their necessities compelled them to go to work and weaned them somewhat of their extravagant habits and their disinclination to work except for the large returns of earlier days. Since 1857 the growth of the city has been steady, unmarked by real estate booms; nor has it been retarded by long periods of financial depression.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### CRIME, CRIMINALS AND VIGILANCE COMMITTEES.

**T**HERE was but little crime in California among its white inhabitants during the Spanish and Mexican eras of its history. The conditions were not conducive to the development of a criminal element. The inhabitants were a pastoral people, pursuing an outdoor vocation, and there were no large towns or cities where the viciously inclined could con-

gregate and find a place of refuge from justice. "From 1819 to 1846, that is, during the entire period of Mexican domination under the Republic," says Bancroft, "there were but six murders among the whites in all California." There were no lynchings, no mobs, unless some of the revolutionary uprisings might be called such, and but one vigilance committee.



San Francisco is credited with the origin of that form of popular tribunal known as the vigilance committee. The name "vigilance committee" originated with the uprising, in 1851, of the people of that city against the criminal element; but, years before there was a city of San Francisco, Los Angeles had originated a tribunal of the people, had taken criminals from the lawfully constituted authorities and had tried and executed them. The causes which called into existence the first vigilance committee in California were similar to those that created the later ones, namely, laxity in the administration of the laws and distrust in the integrity of those chosen to administer them. During the "decade of revolutions," that is, between 1830 and 1840, the frequent change of rulers and the struggles of the different factions for power engendered in the masses a disregard, not only for their rulers, but for law and order as well. Criminals escaped punishment through the law's delays. No court in California had power to pass sentence of death on a civilian until its findings had been approved by the superior tribunal of Mexico. In the slow and tedious processes of the different courts, a criminal stood a good show of dying of old age before his case reached final adjudication. The first committee of vigilance in California was organized at Los Angeles, in the house of Juan Temple, April 7, 1836. It was called "Junta Defensora de La Seguridad Publica," United Defenders of the Public Security (or safety). Its motto, which appears in the heading of its "acta," and is there credited as a quotation from Montesquieu's Exposition of the Laws, Book 26, Chapter 23, was, "Salus populi suprema lex est" (The safety of the people is the supreme law). There is a marked similarity between the proceedings of the Junta Defensora of 1836 and the San Francisco vigilance committee of 1856; it is not probable, however, that any of the actors in the latter committee participated in the former. Although there is quite a full account of the proceedings of the Junta Defensora in the Los Angeles city archives, no historian heretofore except Bancroft seems to have found it.

The circumstances which brought about the organization of the Junta Defensora are as fol-

lows: The wife of Domingo Feliz (part owner of the Los Feliz Rancho), who bore the poetical name of Maria del Rosario Villa, became infatuated with a handsome but disreputable Sonoran vaquero, Gervacio Alispaz by name. She abandoned her husband and lived with Alispaz as his mistress at San Gabriel. Feliz sought to reclaim his erring wife, but was met by insults and abuse from her paramour, whom he once wounded in a personal altercation. Feliz finally invoked the aid of the authorities. The woman was arrested and brought to town. A reconciliation was effected between the husband and wife. Two days later they left town for the rancho, both riding one horse. On the way they were met by Alispaz, and in a personal encounter Feliz was stabbed to death by the wife's paramour. The body was dragged into a ravine and covered with brush and leaves. Next day, March 29, the body was found and brought to the city. The murderer and the woman were arrested and imprisoned. The people were filled with horror and indignation, and there were threats of summary vengeance, but better counsel prevailed.

On the 30th the funeral of Feliz took place, and, like that of James King of William, twenty years later, was the occasion for the renewal of the outcry for vengeance. The attitude of the people became so threatening that on the 1st of April an extraordinary session of the ayuntamiento was held. A call was made upon the citizens to form an organization to preserve the peace. A considerable number responded and were formed into military patrols under the command of Don Juan B. Leandry. The illustrious ayuntamiento resolved "that whomsoever shall disturb the public tranquillity shall be punished according to law." The excitement apparently died out, but it was only the calm that precedes the storm. The beginning of the Easter ceremonies was at hand, and it was deemed a sacrilege to execute the assassins in holy week, so all further attempts at punishment were deferred until April 7, the Monday after Easter, when at dawn, by previous understanding, a number of the better class of citizens met at the house of Juan Temple, which stood on the present site of the Downey Block. An or-



ganization was effected. Victor Prudon, a native of Breton, France, but a naturalized citizen of California, was elected president; Manuel Arzaga, a native of California, was elected secretary, and Francisco Araujo, a retired army officer, was placed in command of the armed force. Speeches were made by Prudon, and by the military commandant and others, setting forth the necessity of their organization and justifying their actions. It was unanimously decided that both the man and the woman should be shot; their guilt being evident, no trial was deemed necessary.

An address to the authorities and the people was formulated. A copy of this is preserved in the city archives. It abounds in metaphors. It is too long for insertion here. I make a few extracts: " \* \* \* Believing that immorality has reached such an extreme that public security is menaced and will be lost if the dike of a solemn example is not opposed to the torrent of atrocious perfidy, we demand of you that you execute or deliver to us for immediate execution the assassin, Gervacio Alispaz, and the unfaithful Maria del Rosario Villa, his accomplice. \* \* \* Nature trembles at the sight of these venomous reptiles and the soil turns barren in its refusal to support their detestable existence. Let the infernal pair perish! It is the will of the people. We will not lay down our arms until our petition is granted and the murderers are executed. The proof of their guilt is so clear that justice needs no investigation. Public vengeance demands an example and it must be given. The blood of the Alvarez, of the Patinos, of the Jenkins, is not yet cold—they, too, being the unfortunate victims of the brutal passions of their murderers. Their bloody ghosts shriek for vengeance. Their terrible voices re-echo from their graves. The afflicted widow, the forsaken orphan, the aged father, the brother in mourning, the inconsolable mother, the public—all demand speedy punishment of the guilty. We swear that outraged justice shall be avenged to-day or we shall die in the attempt. The blood of the murderers shall be shed to-day or ours will be to the last drop. It will be published throughout the world that judges in Los Angeles tolerate murderers, but that there are

virtuous citizens who sacrifice their lives in order to preserve those of their countrymen."

"A committee will deliver to the First Constitutional Alcalde a copy of these resolutions, that he may decide whatever he finds most convenient, and one hour's time will be given him in which to do so. If in that time no answer has been received, then the judge will be responsible before God and man for what will follow. Death to the murderers!

"God and liberty. Angeles, April 7, 1836."

Fifty-five signatures are attached to this document; fourteen of these are those of naturalized foreigners and the remainder those of native Californians. The junta was made up of the best citizens, native and foreign. An extraordinary session of the ayuntamiento was called. The members of the junta, fully armed, marched to the city hall to await the decision of the authorities. The petition was discussed in the council, and, in the language of the archives: "This Illustrious Body decided to call said Breton Prudon to appear before it and to compel him to retire with the armed citizens so that this Illustrious Body may deliberate at liberty."

"This was done, but he declined to appear before this body, as he and the armed citizens were determined to obtain Gervacio Alispaz and Maria del Rosario Villa. The ayuntamiento decided that as it had not sufficient force to compel the armed citizens to disband, they being in large numbers and composed of the best and most respectable men of the town, to send an answer saying that the judges could not accede to the demand of the armed citizens."

The members of the Junta Defensora then marched in a body to the jail and demanded the keys of the guard. These were refused. The keys were secured by force and Gervacio Alispaz taken out and shot. The following demand was then sent to the first alcalde, Manuel Requena:

"It is absolutely necessary that you deliver to this junta the key of the apartment where Maria del Rosario Villa is kept.

"God and liberty.

"VICTOR PRUDON, President.

"MANUEL ARZAGA, Secretary."

To this the alcalde replied: "Maria del Rosario Villa is incarcerated at a private dwelling, whose owner has the key, with instructions not to deliver the same to any one. The prisoner is left there at the disposition of the law only.

"God and liberty.

"MANUEL REQUENA, Alcalde."

The key was obtained. The wretched Maria was taken to the place of execution on a carreta and shot. The bodies of the guilty pair were brought back to the jail and the following communication sent to the alcalde:

"Junta of the Defenders of Public Safety.

"To the 1st Constitutional Alcalde:

"The dead bodies of Gervacio Alispaz and Maria del Rosario Villa are at your disposal. We also forward you the jail keys that you may deliver them to whomsoever is on guard. In case you are in need of men to serve as guards, we are all at your disposal.

"God and liberty. Angeles, April 7, 1836.

"VICTOR PRUDON, Pres.

"MANUEL ARZAGA, Sec."

A few days later the Junta Defensora de La Seguridad Publica disbanded; and so ended the only instance in the seventy-five years of Spanish and Mexican rule in California, of the people, by popular tribunal, taking the administration of justice out of the hands of the legally constituted authorities.

The tales of the fabulous richness of the gold fields of California were quickly spread throughout the world and drew to the territory all classes and conditions of men, the bad as well as the good, the vicious as well as the virtuous; the indolent, the profligate and the criminal came to prey upon the industrious. These conglomerate elements of society found the Land of Gold practically without law, and the vicious among them were not long in making it a land without order. With that inherent trait, which makes the Anglo-Saxon wherever he may be an organizer, the American element of the gold seekers soon adjusted a form of government to suit the exigencies of the land and the people. There may have been too much lynching, too much vigilance committee in it and too little

respect for lawfully constituted authorities, but it was effective and was suited to the social conditions existing.

In 1851 the criminal element became so dominant as to seriously threaten the existence of the chief city, San Francisco. Terrible conflagrations had swept over the city in May and June of that year and destroyed the greater part of the business portion. The fires were known to be of incendiary origin. The bold and defiant attitude of the vicious classes led to the organization by the better element, of that form of popular tribunal called a committee of vigilance. The law abiding element among the citizens disregarding the legally constituted authorities, who were either too weak or too corrupt to control the law-defying, took the power in their own hands, organized a vigilance committee and tried and executed by hanging four notorious criminals, namely: Jenkins, Stuart, Whitaker and McKenzie.

During the proceedings of the vigilance committee a case of mistaken identity came near costing an innocent man his life. About 8 o'clock in the evening of February 18, two men entered the store of a Mr. Jansen on Montgomery street and asked to see some blankets. As the merchant stooped to get the blankets one of the men struck him with a sling shot and both of them beat him into insensibility. They then opened his desk and carried away all the gold they could find, about \$2,000. The police arrested two men on suspicion of being the robbers. One of the men was identified as James Stuart, a noted criminal, who had murdered Sheriff Moore at Auburn. He gave the name of Thomas Burdue, but this was believed to be one of Stuart's numerous aliases. The men were identified by Mr. Jansen as his assailants. They were put on trial. When the court adjourned over to the next day a determined effort was made by the crowd to seize the men and hang them. They were finally taken out of the hands of the officers and given a trial by a jury selected by a committee of citizens. The jury failed to agree, three of the jury being convinced that the men were not Jansen's assailants. Then the mob made a rush to hang the jury, but were kept back by a show of revolvers. The prison-

ers were turned over to the court. One of them, Wildred, broke jail and escaped. Burdue was tried, convicted and sentenced to fourteen years' imprisonment. Before the sentence of the court was executed he was taken to Marysville and arraigned for the murder of Sheriff Moore. A number of witnesses swore positively that the man was Stuart; others swore even more positively that he was not. A close examination revealed that the prisoner bore every distinguishing mark on his person by which Stuart could be identified. He was convicted and sentenced to be hanged in thirty days. In the meantime the vigilance committee of 1856 was organized and the real Stuart accidentally fell into the hands of the vigilantes at San Francisco. He was arrested for a theft he had not committed and recognized by one of the committee's guards that he had formerly employed in the mines. By adroit questioning he was forced to confess that he was the real Stuart, the murderer of Sheriff Moore and the assailant of Jansen. His confederate in the robbery was Whitaker, one of the four hanged by the committee. Burdue was finally released, after having twice stood under the shadow of the gallows for the crimes of his double. The confessions of Stuart and Whitaker implicated a number of their pals. Some of these were convicted and sent to prison and others fled the country; about thirty were banished. Nearly all of the criminals were ex-convicts from Australia and Tasmania.

The vigorous measures adopted by the committee purified the city of the vicious class that had preyed upon it. Several of the smaller towns and some of the mining camps organized vigilance committees and a number of the knaves who had fled from San Francisco met a deserved fate in other places.

In the early '50s the better elements of San Francisco's population were so engrossed in business that they had no time to spare to look after its political affairs; and its government gradually drifted into the hands of vicious and corrupt men. Many of the city authorities had obtained their offices by fraud and ballot stuffing and "instead of protecting the community against scoundrels they protected the scoundrels against the community." James King of Will-

iam, an ex-banker and a man of great courage and persistence, started a small paper called the *Daily Evening Bulletin*. He vigorously assailed the criminal elements and the city and county officials. His denunciations aroused public sentiment. The murder of United States Marshal Richardson by a gambler named Cora still further inflamed the public mind. It was feared that by the connivance of some of the corrupt county officials Cora would escape punishment. His trial resulted in a hung jury. There was a suspicion that some of the jurymen were bribed. King continued through the *Bulletin* to hurl his most bitter invectives against the corrupt officials. They determined to silence him. He published the fact that James Casey, a supervisor from the twelfth ward, was an ex-convict of Sing Sing prison. Casey waylaid King at the corner of Montgomery and Washington streets and in a cowardly manner shot him down. The shooting occurred on the 14th of May, 1856. Casey immediately surrendered himself to a deputy sheriff, Lafayette M. Byrne, who was near. King was not killed, but an examination of the wound by the physicians decided that there was no hopes of his recovery. Casey was conducted to the city prison and as a mob began to gather, for greater safety he was taken to the county jail. A crowd pursued him crying, "Hang him," "kill him." At the jail the mob was stopped by an array of deputy sheriffs, police officers and a number of Casey's friends, all armed. The excitement spread throughout the city. The old vigilance committee of 1851, or rather a new organization out of the remnant of the old, was formed. Five thousand men were enrolled in a few days. Arms were procured and headquarters established on Sacramento street between Davis and Front. The men were divided into companies. William T. Coleman, chairman of the vigilance committee of 1851, was made president or No. 1, and Isaac Bluxome, Jr., the secretary, was No. 33. Each man was known by number. Charles Doane was elected chief marshal of the military division.

The *San Francisco Herald* (edited by John Nugent), then the leading paper of the city, came out with a scathing editorial denouncing the

vigilance committee. The merchants at once withdrew their advertising patronage. Next morning the paper appeared reduced from forty columns to a single page, but still hostile to the committee. It finally died for want of patronage.

On Sunday, May 18, 1856, the military division was ready to storm the jail if necessary to obtain possession of the prisoners, Casey and Cora. The different companies, marching from their headquarters by certain prescribed routes, all reached the jail at the same time and completely invested it. They had with them two pieces of artillery. One of these guns was planted so as to command the door of the jail. There were fifteen hundred vigilantes under arms. A demand was made on Sheriff Scannell for the prisoners, Cora and Casey. The prison guard made no resistance, the prisoners were surrendered and taken at once to the vigilantes' headquarters.

On the 20th of May the murderers were put on trial; while the trial was in progress the death of King was announced. Both men were convicted and sentenced to be hanged. King's funeral, the largest and most imposing ever seen in San Francisco, took place on the 23d. While the funeral cortege was passing through the streets Casey and Cora were hanged in front of the windows of the vigilance headquarters. About an hour before his execution Cora was married to a notorious courtesan, Arabella Ryan, but commonly called Belle Cora. A Catholic priest, Father Accolti, performed the ceremony.

Governor J. Neely Johnson, who at first seemed inclined not to interfere with the vigilantes, afterwards acting under the advice of David S. Terry, Volney E. Howard and others of dominant pro-slavery faction, issued a proclamation commanding the committee to disband, to which no attention was paid. The governor then appointed William T. Sherman major-general. Sherman called for recruits to suppress the uprising. Seventy-five or a hundred, mostly gamblers, responded to his call. General Wool, in command of the troops in the department of the Pacific, refused to loan Governor Johnson arms to equip his "law and order" recruits and

General Sherman resigned. Volney E. Howard was then appointed major-general. His principal military service consisted in proclaiming what he would do to the "pork merchants" who constituted the committee. He did nothing except to bluster. A squad of the vigilance police attempted to arrest a man named Maloney. Maloney was at the time in the company of David S. Terry (then chief justice of the state) and several other members of the "law and order" party. They resisted the police and in the melee Terry stabbed the sergeant of the squad, Sterling A. Hopkins, and then he and his associates made their escape to the armory of the San Francisco Blues, one of their strongholds.

When the report of the stabbing reached headquarters the great bell sounded the alarm and the vigilantes in a very brief space of time surrounded the armory building and had their cannon planted to batter it down. Terry, Maloney, and the others of their party in the building, considering discretion the better part of valor, surrendered and were at once taken to Fort Gunnybags,\* the vigilantes' headquarters. The arms of the "law and order" party at their various rendezvous were surrendered to the vigilantes and the companies disbanded.

Terry was closely confined in a cell at the headquarters of the committee; Hopkins, after lingering some time between life and death, finally recovered. Terry was tried for assault on Hopkins and upon several other persons, was found guilty, but, after being held as a prisoner for some time, was finally released. He at once joined Johnson and Howard at Sacramento, where he felt much safer than in San Francisco. He gave the vigilantes no more trouble.

On the 29th of July, Hethrington and Brace were hanged from a gallows erected on Davis street, between Sacramento and Commercial. Both of these men had committed murder. These were the last executions by the committee. The committee transported from the state thirty disreputable characters and a number deported themselves. A few, and among them the

---

\*The vigilantes built around the building which they used for headquarters a breastwork made of gunny-sacks filled with sand. Cannon were planted at the corners of the redout.

notorious Ned McGowan, managed to keep concealed until the storm was over. A few of the expatriated returned after the committee dissolved and brought suit for damages, but failed to recover anything. The committee had paid the fare of the exiles. It was only the high toned rascals who were given a cabin passage that brought the suits. The committee finished its labors and dissolved with a grand parade on the 18th of August (1856). It did a good work. For several years after, San Francisco from being one of the worst, became one of the best governed cities in the United States. The committee was made up of men from the northern and western states. The so-called "law and order" party was mostly composed of the pro-slavery office-holding faction that ruled the state at that time.

When the vigilance committees between 1851 and 1856 drove disreputable characters from San Francisco and the northern mines, many of them drifted southward and found a lodgment for a time in the southern cities and towns. Los Angeles was not far from the Mexican line, and any one who desired to escape from justice, fleet mounted, could speedily put himself beyond the reach of his pursuers. All these causes and influences combined to produce a saturnalia of crime that disgraced that city in the early '50s.

Gen. J. H. Bean, a prominent citizen of Southern California, while returning to Los Angeles from his place of business at San Gabriel late one evening in November, 1852, was attacked by two men, who had been lying in wait for him. One seized the bridle of his horse and jerked the animal back on his haunches; the other seized the general and pulled him from the saddle. Bean made a desperate resistance, but was overpowered and stabbed to death. The assassination of General Bean resulted in the organization of a vigilance committee and an effort was made to rid the country of desperadoes. A number of arrests were made. Three suspects were tried by the committee for various crimes. One, Cipiano Sandoval, a poor cobbler of San Gabriel, was charged with complicity in the murder of General Bean. He strenuously maintained that he was innocent. He, with the

other two, were sentenced to be hanged. On the following Sunday morning the doomed men were conducted to the top of Fort Hill, where the gallows stood. Sandoval made a brief speech, again declaring his innocence. The others awaited their doom in silence. The trap fell and all were launched into eternity. Years afterward one of the real murderers on his deathbed revealed the truth and confessed his part in the crime. The poor cobbler was innocent.

In 1854 drunkenness, gambling, murder and all forms of immorality and crime were rampant in Los Angeles. The violent deaths, it is said, averaged one for every day in the year. It was a common question at the breakfast table, "Well, how many were killed last-night?" Little or no attention was paid to the killing of an Indian or a half breed; it was only when a gente de razon was the victim that the community was aroused to action.

The Kern river gold rush, in the winter of 1854-55, brought from the northern mines fresh relays of gamblers and desperadoes and crime increased. The *Southern Californian* of March 7, 1855, commenting on the general lawlessness prevailing, says: "Last Sunday night was a brisk night for killing. Four men were shot and killed and several wounded in shooting afrays."

A worthless fellow by the name of David Brown, who had, without provocation, killed a companion named Clifford, was tried and sentenced to be hanged with one Felipe Alvitre, a Mexican, who had murdered an American named Ellington, at El Monte. There was a feeling among the people that Brown, through quibbles of law, would escape the death penalty, and there was talk of lynching. Stephen C. Foster, the mayor, promised that if justice was not legally meted out to Brown by the law, then he would resign his office and head the lynching party. January 10, 1855, an order was received from Judge Murray, of the supreme court, staying the execution of Brown, but leaving Alvitre to his fate. January 12 Alvitre was hanged by the sheriff in the jail yard in the presence of an immense crowd. The gallows were taken down and the guards dismissed. The crowd gathered



outside the jail yard. Speeches were made. The mayor resigned his office and headed the mob. The doors of the jail were broken down; Brown was taken across Spring street to a large gateway opening into a corral and hanged from the crossbeam. Foster was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote at a special election. The city marshal, who had opposed the action of the vigilantes, was compelled to resign.

During 1855 and 1856 lawlessness increased. There was an organized band of about one hundred Mexicans, who patrolled the highways, robbing and murdering. They threatened the extermination of the Americans and there were fears of a race war, for many who were not members of the gang sympathized with them. In 1856 a vigilance committee was organized with Myron Norton as president and H. N. Alexander as secretary. A number of disreputable characters were forced to leave town. The banditti, under their leaders, Pancho Daniel and Juan Flores, were plundering and committing outrages in the neighborhood of San Juan Capistrano.

On the night of January 22, 1857, Sheriff James R. Barton left Los Angeles with a posse, consisting of William H. Little, Charles K. Baker, Charles F. Daley, Alfred Hardy and Frank Alexander with the intention of capturing some of the robbers. At Sepulveda's ranch next morning the sheriff's party was warned that the robbers were some fifty strong, well armed and mounted, and would probably attack them. Twelve miles further the sheriff and his men encountered a detachment of the banditti. A short, sharp engagement took place. Barton, Baker, Little and Daley were killed. Hardy and Alexander made their escape by the fleetness of their horses. When the news reached Los Angeles the excitement became intense. A public meeting was held to devise plans to rid the community not only of the roving gang of murderers, but also of the criminal classes in the city, who were known to be in sympathy with the banditti. All suspicious houses were searched and some fifty persons arrested. Several companies were organized; the infantry to guard the city and the mounted men to scour the country. Companies were also formed at

San Bernardino and El Monte, while the military authorities at Fort Tejon and San Diego despatched soldiers to aid in the good work of exterminating crime and criminals.

The robbers were pursued into the mountains and nearly all captured. Gen. Andres Pico, with a company of native Californians, was most efficient in the pursuit. He captured Silvas and Ardillero, two of the most noted of the gang, and hanged them where they were captured. Fifty-two were lodged in the city jail. Of these, eleven were hanged for various crimes and the remainder set free. Juan Flores, one of the leaders, was condemned by popular vote and on February 14, 1857, was hanged near the top of Fort Hill in the presence of nearly the entire population of the town. He was only twenty-one years of age. Pancho Daniel, another of the leaders, was captured on the 19th of January, 1858, near San José. He was found by the sheriff, concealed in a haystack. After his arrest he was part of the time in jail and part of the time out on bail. He had been tried three times, but through law quibbles had escaped conviction. A change of venue to Santa Barbara had been granted. The people determined to take the law in their own hands. On the morning of November 30, 1858, the body of Pancho was hanging from a beam across the gateway of the jail yard. Four of the banditti were executed by the people of San Gabriel, and Leonardo Lopez, under sentence of the court, was hanged by the sheriff. The gang was broken up and the moral atmosphere of Los Angeles somewhat purified.

November 17, 1862, John Rains of Cucamonga ranch was murdered near Azusa. December 9, 1863, the sheriff was taking Manuel Cerradel to San Quentin to serve a ten years' sentence. When the sheriff went aboard the tug boat Cricket at Wilmington, to proceed to the Senator, quite a number of other persons took passage. On the way down the harbor, the prisoner was seized by the passengers, who were vigilantes, and hanged to the rigging; after hanging twenty minutes the body was taken down, stones tied to the feet and it was thrown overboard. Cerradel was implicated in the murder of Rains.



In the fall of 1863 lawlessness had again become rampant in Los Angeles; one of the chiefs of the criminal class was a desperado by the name of Boston Daimwood. He was suspected of the murder of a miner on the desert and was loud in his threats against the lives of various citizens. He and four other well-known criminals, Wood, Chase, Ybarra and Olivas, all of whom were either murderers or horse thieves, were lodged in jail. On the 21st of November two hundred armed citizens battered down the doors of the jail, took the five wretches out and hanged them to the portico of the old court house on Spring street, which stood on the present site of the Phillips block.

On the 24th of October, 1871, occurred in Los Angeles a most disgraceful affair, known as the Chinese massacre. It grew out of one of those interminable feuds between rival tongs of highbinders, over a woman. Desultory firing had been kept up between the rival factions throughout the day. About 5:30 p. m. Policeman Bilderrain visited the seat of war, an old adobe house on the corner of Arcadia street and "Nigger alley," known as the Coroner building. Finding himself unable to quell the disturbance he called for help. Robert Thompson, an old resident of the city, was among the first to reach the porch of the house in answer to the police call for help. He received a mortal wound from a bullet fired through the door of a Chinese store. He died an hour later in Wollweber's drug store. The Chinese in the meantime barricaded the doors and windows of the old adobe and prepared for battle. The news of the fight and of the killing of Thompson spread throughout the city and an immense crowd gathered in the streets around the building with the intention of wreaking vengeance on the Chinese.

The first attempt by the mob to dislodge the Chinamen was by cutting holes through the flat brea covered roof and firing pistol shots into the interior of the building. One of the besieged crawled out of the building and attempted to escape, but was shot down before half way across Negro alley. Another attempted to escape into Los Angeles street; he was seized,

dragged to the gate of Tomlinson's corral on New High street, and hanged.

About 9 o'clock a part of the mob had succeeded in battering a hole in the eastern end of the building; through this the rioters, with demoniac howlings, rushed in, firing pistols to the right and left. Huddled in corners and hidden behind boxes they found eight terror-stricken Chinamen, who begged piteously for their lives. These were brutally dragged out and turned over to the fiendish mob. One was dragged to death by a rope around his neck; three, more dead than alive from kicking and beating, were hanged to a wagon on Los Angeles street; and four were hanged to the gateway of Tomlinson's corral. Two of the victims were mere boys. While the shootings and hangings were going on thieves were looting the other houses in the Chinese quarters. The houses were broken into, trunks, boxes and other receptacles rifled of their contents, and any Chinamen found in the buildings were dragged forth to slaughter. Among the victims was a doctor, Gene Tung, a quiet, inoffensive old man. He pleaded for his life in good English, offering his captors all his money, some \$2,000 to \$3,000. He was hanged, his money stolen and one of his fingers cut off to obtain a ring he wore. The amount of money stolen by the mob from the Chinese quarters was variously estimated at from \$40,000 to \$50,000.

About 9:30 p. m. the law abiding citizens, under the leadership of Henry Hazard, R. M. Widney, H. C. Austin, Sheriff Burns and others, had rallied in sufficient force to make an attempt to quell the mob. Proceeding to Chinatown they rescued several Chinamen from the rioters. The mob finding armed opposition quickly dispersed.

The results of the mob's murderous work were ten men hanged on Los Angeles street, some to wagons and some to awnings; five hanged at Tomlinson's corral and four shot to death in Negro alley, nineteen in all. Of all the Chinamen murdered, the only one known to be implicated in the highbinder war was Ah Choy. All the other leaders escaped to the country before the attack was made by the mob. The

grand jury, after weeks of investigation, found indictments against one hundred and fifty persons alleged to have been actively engaged in the massacre. The jury's report severely censured "the officers of this county, as well as of this city, whose duty it is to preserve peace," and declared that they "were deplorably inefficient in the performance of their duty during the scenes of confusion and bloodshed which disgraced our city, and has cast a reproach upon the people of Los Angeles county." Of all those indicted but six were convicted. These were sentenced to from four to six years in the state's prison, but through some legal technicality they were all released after serving a part of their sentence.

The last execution in Los Angeles by a vigilance committee was that of Michael Lachenias, a French desperado, who had killed five or six men. The offense for which he was hanged was the murder of Jacob Bell, a little inoffensive man, who owned a small farm near that of Lachenias, south of the city. There had been a slight difference between them in regard to the use of water from a zanja. Lachenias, without a word of warning, rode up to Bell, where he was at work in his field, drew a revolver and shot him dead. The murderer then rode into town and boastfully informed the people of what he had done and told them where they would find Bell's body. He then surrendered himself to the officers and was locked up in jail.

Public indignation was aroused. A meeting was held in Stearns' hall on Los Angeles street. A vigilance committee was formed and the details of the execution planned. On the morning of the 17th of December, 1870, a body of three hundred armed men marched to the jail, took Lachenias out and proceeded with him to Tomlinson's corral on Temple and New High streets, and hanged him. The crowd then quietly dispersed.

A strange metamorphosis took place in the character of the lower classes of the native Californians after the conquest. (The better classes were not changed in character by the changed conditions of the country, but throughout were true gentlemen and most worthy and honorable

citizens.) Before the conquest by the Americans they were a peaceful and contented people. There were no organized bands of outlaws among them. After the discovery of gold the evolution of a banditti began and they produced some of the boldest robbers and most daring highwaymen the world has seen.

The injustice of their conquerors had much to do with producing this change. The Americans not only took possession of their country and its government, but in many cases they despoiled them of their ancestral acres and their personal property. Injustice rankles; and it is not strange that the more lawless among the native population sought revenge and retaliation. They were often treated by the rougher American element as aliens and intruders, who had no right in the land of their birth. Such treatment embittered them more than loss of property. There were those, however, among the natives, who, once entered upon a career of crime, found robbery and murder congenial occupations. The plea of injustice was no extenuation for their crimes.

Joaquin Murieta was the most noted of the Mexican and Californian desperadoes of the early '50s. He was born in Sonora of good family and received some education. He came to California with the Sonoran migration of 1849, and secured a rich claim on the Stanislaus. He was dispossessed of this by half a dozen American desperadoes, his wife abused and both driven from the diggings. He next took up a ranch on the Calaveras, but from this he was driven by two Americans. He next tried mining in the Murphy diggings, but was unsuccessful. His next occupation was that of a monte player. While riding into town on a horse borrowed from his half-brother he was stopped by an American, who claimed that the horse was stolen from him. Joaquin protested that the horse was a borrowed one from his half-brother and offered to procure witnesses to prove it. He was dragged from the saddle amid cries of "hang the greaser." He was taken to the ranch of his brother. The brother was hanged to the limb of a tree, no other proof of his crime being needed than the assertion of the American that the horse was his. Joaquin was stripped, bound

to the same tree and flogged. The demon was aroused within him, and no wonder, he vowed revenge on the men who had murdered his brother and beaten him. Faithfully he carried out his vow of vengeance. Had he doomed only these to slaughter it would have been but little loss, but the implacable foe of every American, he made the innocent suffer with the guilty. He was soon at the head of a band of desperadoes, varying in numbers from twenty to forty. For three years he and his band were the terror of the state. From the northern mines to the Mexican border they committed robberies and murders. Claudio and some of his subordinates were killed, but the robber chief seemed to bear a charmed life. Large rewards were offered for him dead or alive and numerous attempts were made to take him. Capt. Harry Love at the head of a band of rangers August, 1853, came upon Joaquin and six of his gang in a camp near the Tejon Pass. In the fight that ensued Joaquin and Three Fingered Jack were killed. With the loss of their leaders the organization was broken up.

The last organized band of robbers which terrorized the southern part of the state was that of Vasquez. Tiburcio Vasquez was born in Monterey county, of Mexican parents, in 1837. Early in life he began a career of crime. After committing a number of robberies and thefts he was captured and sent to San Quentin for horse stealing. He was discharged in 1863, but continued his disreputable career. He united with Procopio and Soto, two noted bandits. Soto was killed by Sheriff Morse of Alameda county in a desperate encounter. Vasquez and his gang of outlaws committed robberies throughout the southern part of the state, ranging from Santa Clara and Alameda counties to the Mexican line. Early in May, 1874, Sheriff William Rowland of Los Angeles county, who had repeatedly tried to capture Vasquez, but whose plans had been foiled by the bandit's

spies, learned that the robber chief was making his headquarters at the house of Greek George, about ten miles due west of Los Angeles, toward Santa Monica, in a cañon of the Cahuenga mountains. The morning of May 15 was set for the attack. To avert suspicion Sheriff Rowland remained in the city. The attacking force, eight in number, were under command of Under-Sheriff Albert Johnson, the other members of the force were Major H. M. Mitchell, attorney-at-law; J. S. Bryant, city constable; E. Harris, policeman; W. E. Rogers, citizen; B. F. Hartley, chief of police; and D. K. Smith, citizen, all of Los Angeles, and a Mr. Beers, of San Francisco, special correspondent of the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

At 4 a. m. on the morning of the 15th of May the posse reached Major Mitchell's bee ranch in a small cañon not far from Greek George's. From this point the party reconnoitered the bandit's hiding place and planned an attack. As the deputy sheriff and his men were about to move against the house a high box wagon drove up the cañon from the direction of Greek George's place. In this were two natives; the sheriff's party climbed into the high wagon box and, lying down, compelled the driver to drive up to the back of Greek George's house, threatening him and his companion with death on the least sign of treachery. Reaching the house they surrounded it and burst in the door. Vasquez, who had been eating his breakfast, attempted to escape through a small window. The party opened fire on him. Being wounded and finding himself surrounded on all sides, he surrendered. He was taken to the Los Angeles jail. His injuries proved to be mere flesh wounds. He received a great deal of maudlin sympathy from silly women, who magnified him into a hero. He was taken to San José, tried for murder, found guilty and hanged, March 19, 1875. His band was thereupon broken up and dispersed.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

## FILIBUSTERS AND FILIBUSTERING.

THE rush of immigration to California in the early '50s had brought to the state a class of adventurers who were too lazy or too proud to work. They were ready to engage in almost any lawless undertaking that promised plunder and adventure. The defeat of the pro-slavery politicians in their attempts to fasten their "peculiar institution" upon any part of the territory acquired from Mexico had embittered them. The more unscrupulous among them began to look around for new fields, over which slavery might be extended. As it could be made profitable only in southern lands, Cuba, Mexico and Central America became the arenas for enacting that form of piracy called "filibustering." The object of these forays, when organized by Americans, was to seize upon territory as had been done in Texas and erect it into an independent government that ultimately would be annexed to the United States and become slave territory. Although the armed invasion of countries with which the United States was at peace was a direct violation of its neutrality laws, yet the federal office-holders in the southern states and in California, all of whom belonged to the pro-slavery faction, not only made no attempt to prevent these invasions, but secretly aided them or at least sympathized with them to the extent of allowing them to recruit men and depart without molestation. There was a glamour of romance about these expeditions that influenced unthinking young men of no fixed principles to join them; these were to be pitied. But the leaders of them and their abettors were cold, selfish, scheming politicians, willing, if need be, to overthrow the government of the nation and build on its ruins an oligarchy of slave holders.

The first to organize a filibuster expedition in California was a Frenchman. Race prejudices were strong in early mining days. The United

States had recently been at war with Mexico. The easy conquest of that country had bred a contempt for its peoples. The Sonoran migration, that begun soon after the discovery of gold in California, brought a very undesirable class of immigrants to the state. Sailing vessels had brought from the west coast of South America another despised class of mongrel Spanish. It exasperated the Americans to see these people digging gold and carrying it out of the country. This antagonism extended, more or less, to all foreigners, but was strongest against men of the Latin races. Many Frenchmen, through emigration schemes gotten up in Paris, had been induced to come to California. Some of these were men of education and good standing, but they fell under the ban of prejudices and by petty persecutions were driven out of the mines and forced to earn a precarious living in the cities. There was a great deal of dissatisfaction among the Frenchmen with existing conditions in California, and they were ready to embark in any scheme that promised greater rewards. Among the French population of San Francisco was a man of noble family, Count Gaston Roaul de Raousset-Boulbon. He had lost his ancestral lands and was in reduced circumstances. He was a man of education and ability, but visionary. He conceived the idea of establishing a French colony on the Sonora border and opening the mines that had been abandoned on account of Apache depredations. By colonizing the border he hoped to put a stop to American encroachments. He divulged his scheme to the French consul, Dillon, at San Francisco, who entered heartily into it. Raousset was sent to the City of Mexico, where he obtained from President Arista the desired concession of land and the promise of financial assistance from a leading banking house there on condition that he proceed at

once to Sonora with an armed company of Frenchmen. Returning to San Francisco he quickly recruited from among the French residents two hundred and fifty men and with these he sailed for Guaymas, where he arrived early in June, 1852. He was well received at first, but soon found himself regarded with suspicion. He was required by the authorities to remain at Guaymas. After a month's detention he was allowed to proceed through Hermosilla to the Arizona border.

When about one hundred miles from Arispe he received an order from General Blanco, then at Hermosilla, to report to him. While halting at El Caric to consider his next move he received a reinforcement of about eighty French colonists, who had come to the country the year before under command of Pindray. Pindray had met his death in a mysterious manner. It was supposed that he was poisoned. The colonist had remained in the country. Raousset sent one of his men, Garnier, to interview Blanco. General Blanco gave his ultimatum—First, that the Frenchmen should become naturalized citizens of Mexico; or, secondly, they should wait until letters of security could be procured from the capital, when they might proceed to Arizona and take possession of any mines they found; or, lastly, they might put themselves under the leadership of a Mexican officer and then proceed. Raousset and his followers refused to accede to any of these propositions. Blanco began collecting men and munitions of war to oppose the French. Raousset raised the flag of revolt and invited the inhabitants to join him in gaining the independence of Sonora. After drilling his men a few weeks and preparing for hostilities he began his march against Hermosilla, distant one hundred and fifty miles. He met with no opposition, the people along his route welcoming the French. General Blanco had twelve hundred men to defend the city. But instead of preparing to resist the advancing army he sent delegates to Raousset to offer him money to let the city alone. Raousset sent back word that at 8 o'clock he would begin the attack; and at 11 would be master of the city. He was as good as his word. The Frenchmen charged the Mexicans and although the opposing force num-

bered four to one of the assailants, Raousset's men captured the town and drove Blanco's troops out of it. The Mexican loss was two hundred killed and wounded. The French loss seventeen killed and twenty-three wounded. Raousset's men were mere adventurers and were in the country without any definite purpose. Could he have relied on them, he might have captured all of Sonora.

He abandoned Hermosilla. Blanco, glad to get rid of the filibusters on any terms, raised \$11,000 and chartered a vessel to carry them back to San Francisco. A few elected to remain. Raousset went to Mazatlan and a few months later he reached San Francisco, where he was lionized as a hero. Upon an invitation from Santa Ana, who had succeeded Arista as president, he again visited the Mexican capital in June, 1853. Santa Ana was profuse in promises. He wanted Raousset to recruit five hundred Frenchmen to protect the Sonora frontier against the Indians, promising ample remuneration and good pay for their services. Raousset, finding that Santa Ana's promises could not be relied upon, and that the wily schemer was about to have him arrested, made his escape to Acapulco, riding several horses to death to reach there ahead of his pursuers. He embarked immediately for San Francisco.

In the meantime another filibuster, William Walker, with forty-one followers had landed at La Paz November 3, 1853, and proclaimed a new nation, the Republic of Lower California. Santa Ana, frightened by this new invasion, began making overtures through the Mexican consul, Luis del Valle, at San Francisco to secure French recruits for military service on the Mexican frontier. Del Valle applied to the French consul, Dillon, and Dillon applied to Raousset. Raousset soon secured eight hundred recruits and chartered the British ship *Challenge* to take them to Guaymas. Then the pro-slavery federal officials at San Francisco were aroused to action. The neutrality laws were being violated. It was not that they cared for the laws, but they feared that this new filibustering scheme might interfere with their pet, Walker, who had, in addition to the Republic of Lower California, founded another nation, the Republic of Sonora,



in both of which he had decreed slavery. The ship was seized, but after a short detention was allowed to sail with three hundred Frenchmen.

Del Valle was vigorously prosecuted by the federal authorities for violation of a section of the neutrality laws, which forbade the enlistment within the United States of soldiers to serve under a foreign power. Dillon, the French consul, was implicated and on his refusal to testify in court he was arrested. He fell back on his dignity and asserted that his nation had been insulted through him and closed his consulate. For a time there were fears of international trouble.

Del Valle was found guilty of violating the neutrality laws, but was never punished. The pro-slavery pet, Walker, and his gang were driven out of Mexico and the federal officials had no more interest in enforcing neutrality laws. Meanwhile Raousset, after great difficulties, had joined the three hundred Frenchmen at Guaymas. A strip of northern Sonora had been sold under what is known as the Gadsden purchase to the United States. There was no longer any opportunity to secure mines there from Mexico, but Raousset thought he could erect a barrier to any further encroachments of the United States and eventually secure Mexico for France. His first orders on reaching Guaymas was to the commander of the French, Desmaris, was to attack the Mexican troops and capture the city. His order did not reach Desmaris. His messenger was arrested and the Mexican authorities begun collecting forces to oppose Raousset. Having failed to receive reinforcements, and his condition becoming unendurable, he made an attack on the Mexican forces, twelve hundred strong. After a brave assault he was defeated. He surrendered to the French consul on the assurance that his life and that of his men would be spared. He was treacherously surrendered by the French consul to the Mexican general. He was tried by a court-martial, found guilty and sentenced to be shot. On the morning of August 12, 1854, he was executed. His misguided followers were shipped back to San Francisco. So ended the first California filibuster.

The first American born filibuster who organized one of these piratical expeditions was William Walker, a native of Tennessee. He came to California with the rush of 1850. He had started out in life to be a doctor, had studied law and finally drifted into journalism. He belonged to the extreme pro-slavery faction. He located in San Francisco and found employment on the *Herald*. His bitter invective against the courts for their laxity in punishing crime raised the ire of Judge Levi Parsons, who fined Walker \$500 for contempt of court and ordered him imprisoned until the fine was paid. Walker refused to pay the fine and went to jail. He at once bounded into notoriety. He was a martyr to the freedom of the press. A public indignation meeting was called. An immense crowd of sympathizers called on Walker in jail. A writ of habeas corpus was sued out and he was released from jail and discharged. In the legislature of 1852 he tried to have Parson impeached, but failed. He next opened a law office in Marysville.

The success of Raousset-Boulbon in his first expedition to Sonora had aroused the ambition of Walker to become the founder of a new government. His first efforts were directed towards procuring from Mexico a grant on the Sonora border; this was to be colonized with Americans, who would protect the Mexican frontier from Apache incursion. This was a mere subterfuge and the Mexican authorities were not deceived by it—he got no grant. To forestall Raousset-Boulbon, who was again in the field with his revolutionary scheme, Walker opened a recruiting office. Each man was to receive a square league of land and plunder galore. The bait took, meetings were held, scrip sold and recruits flocked to Walker. The brig *Arrow* was chartered to carry the liberators to their destination. The pro-slavery officials, who held all the offices, winked at this violation of the neutrality laws. There was but one man, General Hitchcock, who dared to do his duty. He seized the vessel; it was released, and Hitchcock removed from command. Jefferson Davis was secretary of war and Hitchcock was made to feel his wrath for interfering with one of Davis' pet projects, the extension of slavery. Walker



sailed in another vessel, the *Caroline*, taking with him forty-one of his followers, well armed with rifles and revolvers to develop the resources of the country.

The vessel with Walker and his gang sneaked into La Paz under cover of a Mexican flag. He seized the unsuspecting governor and other officials and then proclaimed the Republic of Lower California. He appointed from his following a number of officials with high sounding titles. He adopted the code of Louisiana as the law of the land. This, as far as he was able, introduced into the country human slavery, which indeed was about the sole purpose of his filibustering schemes. Fearing that the Mexican government might send an expedition across the gulf to stop his marauding, he slipped out of the harbor and sailed up to Todas Santos, so as to be near the United States in case the Mexican government should make it uncomfortable for him. With this as headquarters he began preparations for an invasion of Sonora. His delectable followers appropriated to their own use whatever they could find in the poverty-stricken country. The news of the great victory at La Paz reached San Francisco and created great enthusiasm among Walker's sympathizers. His vice-president, Watkins, enrolled three hundred recruits and sent them to him, "greatly to the relief of the criminal calendar."

Walker began to drill his recruits for the conquest of Sonora. These patriots, who had rallied to the support of the new republic, under the promise of rich churches to pillage and well-stocked ranches to plunder, did not take kindly to a diet of jerked beef and beans and hard drilling under a torrid sun. Some rebelled and it became necessary for Walker to use the lash and even to shoot two of them for the good of the cause. The natives rebelled when they found their cattle and frijoles disappearing and the so-called battle of La Gualla was fought between the natives and a detachment of Walker's foragers, several of whom were killed. The news of this battle reached San Francisco and was magnified into a great victory. The new republic had been baptized in the blood of its martyrs.

After three months spent in drilling, Walker began his march to Sonora with but one hun-

dred men, and a small herd of cattle for food. Most of the others had deserted. In his journey across the desert the Indians stole some of his cattle and more of his men deserted. On reaching the Colorado river about half of his force abandoned the expedition and marched to Fort Yuma, where Major Heintzelman relieved their necessities. Walker with thirty-five men had started back for Santa Tomas. They brought up at Tia Juana, where they crossed the American line, surrendered and gave their paroles to Major McKinstry of the United States army. When Walker and his Falstaffian army reached San Francisco they were lionized as heroes. All they had done was to kill a few inoffensive natives on the peninsula and steal their cattle. Their valiant leader had proclaimed two republics and decreed (on paper) that slavery should prevail in them. He had had several of his dupes whipped and two of them shot, which was probably the most commendable thing he had done. His proclamations were ridiculous and his officers with their high sounding titles had returned from their burlesque conquest with scarcely rags enough on them to cover their nakedness. Yet, despite all this, the attempt to enlarge the area of slave territory covered him with glory and his rooms were the resort of all the pro-slavery officials of California.

The federal officials made a show of prosecuting the filibusters. Watkins, the vice-president of the Republic of Lower California and Sonora, was put on trial in the United States district court. The evidence was so plain and the proof so convincing that the judge was compelled to convict against his will. This delightful specimen of a pro-slavery justice expressed from the bench his sympathy for "those spirited men who had gone forth to upbuild the broken altars and rekindle the extinguished fires of liberty in Mexico and Lower California." With such men to enforce the laws, it was not strange that vigilance committees were needed in California. Watkins and Emory, the so-called secretary of state, were fined each \$1,500. The fines were never paid and no effort was ever made to compel their payment. The secretary of war and the secretary of the navy were put

on trial and acquitted. This ended the shameful farce.

Walker's next expedition was to Nicaragua in 1855. A revolution was in progress there. He joined forces with the Democratic party or anti-legitimists. He took but fifty-six men with him. These were called the American phalanx. His first engagement was an attack upon the fortified town of Rivas. Although his men fought bravely, they were defeated and two of his best officers, Kewen and Crocker, killed. His next fight was the battle of Virgin Bay, in which, with fifty Americans and one hundred and twenty natives, he defeated six hundred legitimists. He received reinforcements from California and reorganized his force. He seized the Accessory Transit Company's lake steamer *La Virgin* against the protest of the company, embarked his troops on board of it and by an adroit movement captured the capital city, Granada. His exploits were heralded abroad and recruits flocked to his support. The legitimist had fired upon a steamer bringing passengers up the San Juan river and killed several. Walker in retaliation ordered Mateo Mazorga, the legitimist secretary of state, whom he had taken prisoner at Granada, shot. Peace was declared between the two parties and Patricio Rivas made president. Rivas was president only in name; Walker was the real head of the government and virtually dictator.

He was now at the zenith of his power. By a series of arbitrary acts he confiscated the Accessory Transit Company's vessels and charter. This company had become a power in California travel and had secured the exclusive transit of passengers by the Nicaragua route, then the most popular route to California.

By this action he incurred the enmity of Vanderbilt, who henceforth worked for his downfall. The confiscation of the transit company's right destroyed confidence in the route, and travel virtually ceased by it. This was a blow to the prosperity of the country. To add to Walker's misfortunes, the other Central American states combined to drive the hated foreigners out of the country. He had gotten rid of Rivas and had secured the presidency for himself. He had secured the repeal of the Nic-

aragua laws against slavery and thus paved the way for the introduction of his revered institution. His army now amounted to about twelve hundred men, mostly recruited from California and the slave states. The cholera broke out among his forces and in the armies of the allies and numbers died. His cause was rapidly waning. Many of his dupes deserted. A series of disasters arising from his blundering and incapacity, resulted in his overthrow. He and sixteen of his officers were taken out of the country on the United States sloop of war, *St. Mary's*. The governor of Panama refused to allow him to land in that city. He was sent across the isthmus under guard to Aspinwall and from there with his staff took passage to New Orleans. His misguided followers were transported to Panama and found their way back to the United States.

Upon arriving at New Orleans he began recruiting for a new expedition. One hundred and fifty of his "emigrants" sailed from Mobile; the pro-slavery federal officials allowing them to depart. They were wrecked on Glover's reef, about seventy miles from Balize. They were rescued by a British vessel and returned to Mobile. Walker, with one hundred and thirty-two armed emigrants, landed at Punta Arenas, November 25, 1857, and hoisted his Nicaraguan flag and called himself commander-in-chief of the army of Nicaragua. He and his men began a career of plunder; seized the fort of Castillo on the San Juan river; captured steamers, killed several inhabitants and made prisoners of others. Commander Paulding, of the United States flagship *Wabash*, then on that coast, regarded these acts as rapine and murder, and Walker and his men as outlaws and pirates. He broke up their camp, disarmed Walker and his emigrants and sent them to the United States for trial. But instead of Walker and his followers being tried for piracy their pro-slavery abettors made heroes of them.

Walker's last effort to regain his lost prestige in Nicaragua was made in 1860. With two hundred men, recruited in New Orleans, he landed near Truxillo, in Honduras. His intention was to make his way by land to Nicaragua. He very soon found armed opposition. His new recruits

were not inclined to sacrifice themselves to make him dictator of some country that they had no interest in. So they refused to stand up against the heavy odds they encountered in every fight. Finding his situation growing desperate, he was induced to surrender himself to the captain of the British man-of-war *Icarus*. The authorities of Honduras made a demand on the captain for Walker. That British officer promptly turned the filibuster over to them. He was tried by a court-martial, hastily convened, found guilty of the offenses charged, and condemned to die. September 25, 1860, he was marched out and, in accordance with his sentence, shot to death.

Walker's career is an anomaly in the history of mankind. Devoid of all the characteristics of a great leader, without a commanding presence, puny in size, homely to the point of ugliness, in disposition, cold, cruel, selfish, heartless, stolidly indifferent to the suffering of others, living only to gratify the cravings of his inordinate ambition—it is strange that such a man could attract thousands to offer their lives for his aggrandizement and sacrifice themselves for a cause of which he was the exponent, a cause the most ignoble, the extension of human slavery, that for such a man and for such a cause thousands did offer up their lives is a sad commentary on the political morality of that time. It is said that over ten thousand men joined Walker in his filibustering schemes and that fifty-seven hundred of these found graves in Nicaragua. Of the number of natives killed in battle or who died of disease, there is no record, but it greatly exceeded Walker's losses.

While Walker was attaining some success in Nicaragua, another California filibuster entered the arena. This was Henry A. Crabb, a Stockton lawyer. Like Walker, he was a native of Tennessee, and, like him, too, he was a rabid pro-slavery advocate. He had served in the assembly and one term in the state senate. It is said he was the author of a bill to allow slaveholders who brought their slaves into California before its admission to take their human chattels back into bondage. He was originally a Whig, but had joined the Know-Nothing party and was a candidate of that party for United States senator in 1856; but his extreme southern princi-

ples prevented his election. He had married a Spanish wife, who had numerous and influential relatives in Sonora. It was claimed that Crabb had received an invitation from some of these to bring down an armed force of Americans to overthrow the government and make himself master of the country. Whether he did or did not receive such an invitation, he did recruit a body of men for some kind of service in Sonora. With a force of one hundred men, well armed with rifles and revolvers, he sailed, in January, 1857, on the steamer *Sea Bird*, from San Francisco to San Pedro and from there marched overland. As usual, no attempt was made by the federal authorities to prevent him from invading a neighboring country with an armed force.

He entered Sonora at Sonita, a small town one hundred miles from Yuma. His men helped themselves to what they could find. When approaching the town of Cavorca they were fired upon by a force of men lying in ambush. The fire was kept up from all quarters. They made a rush and gained the shelter of the houses. In the charge two of their men had been killed and eighteen wounded. In the house they had taken possession of they were exposed to shots from a church. Crabb and fifteen of his men attempted to blow open the doors of the church with gunpowder, but in the attempt, which failed, five of the men were killed, and seven, including Crabb, wounded. After holding out for five days they surrendered to the Mexicans, Gabilondo, the Mexican commander, promising to spare their lives. Next morning they were marched out in squads of five to ten and shot. Crabb was tied to a post and a hundred balls fired into him; his head was cut off and placed in a jar of mescal. The only one spared was a boy of fifteen, Charles E. Evans. A party of sixteen men whom Crabb had left at Sonita was surprised and all massacred. The boy Evans was the only one left to tell the fate of the ill-starred expedition. This put an end to filibustering expeditions into Sonora.

These armed forays on the neighboring countries to the south of the United States ceased with the beginning of the war of secession. They had all been made for the purpose of acquiring slave territory. The leaders of them

were southern men and the rank and file were mostly recruited from natives of the slave states. Bancroft truthfully says of these filibustering expeditions: "They were foul robberies, covered by the flimsiest of political and social pretenses, gilded by false aphorisms and profane distortion of sacred formulae. Liberty dragged in the mud for purposes of theft and human enslavement; the cause of humanity bandied in filthy mouths to promote atrocious butcheries; peaceful,

blooming valleys given over to devastation and ruin; happy families torn asunder, and widows and orphans cast adrift to nurse affliction; and finally, the peace of nations imperiled, and the morality of right insulted. The thought of such results should obliterate all romance, and turn pride to shame. They remain an ineffaceable stain upon the government of the most progressive of nations, and veil in dismal irony the dream of manifest destiny."

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### FROM GOLD TO GRAIN AND FRUITS.

UNDER the Spanish and Mexican jurisdictions there was but little cultivation of the soil in California. While the gardens of some of the missions, and particularly those of Santa Barbara and San Buenaventura, presented a most appetizing display of fruit and vegetables, at the ranchos there were but meager products. Gilroy says that when he came to the country, in 1814, potatoes were not cultivated and it was a rare thing outside of the mission gardens to find any onions or cabbages. A few acres of wheat and a small patch of maize or corn furnished bread, or, rather, tortillas for a family. At the missions a thick soup made of boiled wheat or maize and meat was the standard article of diet for the neophytes. This was portioned out to them in the quantity of about three pints to each person. Langsdorff, who witnessed the distribution of soup rations to the Indians at Santa Clara, says: "It appeared incomprehensible how any one could three times a day eat so large a portion of such nourishing food." The neophytes evidently had healthy appetites. Frijoles (beans) were the staple vegetable dish in Spanish families. These were served up at almost every meal. The bill of fare for a native Californian family was very simple.

A considerable amount of wheat was raised at the more favorably located missions. It was not raised for export, but to feed the neophytes.

The wheat fields had to be fenced in, or perhaps it would be more in accordance with the facts to say that the cattle had to be fenced out. As timber was scarce, adobe brick did duty for fencing as well as for house building. Sometimes the low adobe walls were made high and safe by placing on top of them a row of the skulls of Spanish cattle with the long, curving horns attached to them pointing outward. These were brought from the matanzas or slaughter corrals where there were thousands of them lying around. It was almost impossible for man or beast to scale such a fence.

The agricultural implements of the early Californians were few and simple. The Mexican plow was a forked stick with an iron point fastened to the fork or branch that penetrated the ground. It turned no furrow, but merely scratched the surface of the ground. After sowing it was a race between the weeds and the grain. It depended on the season which won. If the season was cold and backward, so that the seed did not sprout readily, the weeds got the start and won out easily. And yet with such primitive cultivation the yield was sometimes astonishing. At the Mission San Diego the crop of wheat one year produced one hundred and ninety-five fold. As the agriculturist had a large area from which to select his arable land, only the richest soils were chosen. Before the discovery of gold there was little or no market

for grain, and each *ranchero* raised only enough for his own use. For a time there was some trade with the Russians in grain to supply their settlements in Alaska, but this did not continue long.

When some of the Americans who came in the gold rush began to turn their attention to agriculture they greatly underrated the productiveness of the country. To men raised where the summer rains were needed to raise a crop it seemed impossible to produce a crop in a country that was rainless for six or eight months of the year. All attempts at agriculture hitherto had been along the rivers, and it was generally believed that the plains back from the water courses could never be used for any other purpose than cattle raising.

The mining rush of '49 found California without vegetables and fresh fruit. The distance was too great for the slow transportation of that day to ship these into the country. Those who first turned their attention to market gardening made fortunes. The story is told of an old German named Schwartz who had a small ranch a few miles below Sacramento. In 1848, when everybody was rushing to the mines, he remained on his farm, unmoved by the stories of the wonderful finds of gold. Anticipating a greater rush in 1849, he planted several acres in watermelons. As they ripened he took them up to the city and disposed of them at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5, according to size. He realized that season from his melons alone \$30,000. The first field of cabbages was grown by George H. Peck and a partner in 1850. From defective seed or some other cause the cabbage failed to come to a head. Supposing that the defect was in the climate and not in the cabbage, the honest rancher marketed his crop in San Francisco, carrying a cabbage in each hand along the streets until he found a customer. To the query why there were no heads to them the reply was, "That's the way cabbages grow in California." He got rid of his crop at the rate of \$1 apiece for each headless cabbage. But all the vegetable growing experiments were not a financial success. The high price of potatoes in 1849 started a tuber-growing epidemic in 1850. Hundreds of acres were planted to

"spuds" in the counties contiguous to San Francisco, the agriculturists paying as high as fifteen cents per pound for seed. The yield was enormous and the market was soon overstocked. The growers who could not dispose of their potatoes stacked them up in huge piles in the fields; and there they rotted, filling the country around with their effluvia. The next year nobody planted potatoes, and prices went up to the figures of '49 and the spring of '50.

The size to which vegetables grew astonished the amateur agriculturists. Beets, when allowed to grow to maturity, resembled the trunks of trees; onions looked like squash, while a patch of pumpkins resembled a tented field; and corn grew so tall that the stalks had to be felled to get at the ears. Onions were a favorite vegetable in the mining camps on account of their anti-scorbutic properties as a preventive of scurvy. The honest miner was not fastidious about the aroma. They were a profitable crop, too. One *ranchero* in the Napa valley was reported to have cleared \$8,000 off two acres of onions.

With the decline of gold mining wheat became the staple product of central California. The nearness to shipping ports and the large yields made wheat growing very profitable. In the years immediately following the Civil war the price ranged high and a fortune was sometimes made from the products of a single field. It may be necessary to explain that the field might contain anywhere from five hundred to a thousand acres. The grain area was largely extended by the discovery that land in the upper mesas, which had been regarded as only fit for pasture land, was good for cereals. The land in the southern part of the state, which was held in large grants, continued to be devoted to cattle raising for at least two decades after the American conquest. After the discovery of gold cattle raising became immensely profitable. Under the Mexican régime a steer was worth what his hide and tallow would bring or about \$2 or \$3. The rush of immigration in 1849 sent the price of cattle up until a fat bullock sold for from \$30 to \$35. The profit to a *ranchero* who had a thousand or more marketable cattle was a fortune. A good, well-stocked



cattle ranch was more valuable than a gold mine.

The enormous profits in cattle raising dazed the Californians. Had they been thrifty and economical, they might have grown rich. But the sudden influx of wealth engendered extravagant habits and when the price of cattle fell, as it did in a few years, the spendthrift customs were continued. When the cattle market was dull it was easy to raise money by mortgaging the ranch. With interest at the rate of 5 per cent per month, compounded monthly, it did not take long for land and cattle both to change hands. It is related of the former owner of the Santa Gertrudes rancho that he borrowed \$500 from a money lender, at 5 per cent a month, to beat a poker game, but did not succeed. Then he borrowed more money to pay the interest on the first and kept on doing so until interest and principal amounted to \$100,000; then the mortgage was foreclosed and property to-day worth \$1,000,000 was lost for a paltry \$500 staked on a poker game.

Gold mining continued to be the prevailing industry of northern California. The gold production reached its acme in 1853, when the total yield was \$65,000,000. From that time there was a gradual decline in production and in the number of men employed. Many had given up the hopes of striking it rich and quit the business for something more certain and less illusive. The production of gold in 1852 was \$60,000,000, yet the average yield to each man of the one hundred thousand engaged in it was only about \$600, or a little over \$2 per day to the man, scarcely living wages as prices were then. It has been claimed that the cost of producing the gold, counting all expenditures, was three times the value of that produced. Even if it did, the development of the country and impulse given to trade throughout the world would more than counterbalance the loss.

At the time of the discovery of gold nearly all of the fruit raised in California was produced at Santa Barbara and Los Angeles. In Spanish and Mexican days, Los Angeles had been the principal wine-producing district of California. Although wine, as well as other spirituous liquors, were in demand, the vineyardists found it more

profitable to ship their grapes to San Francisco than to manufacture them into wine. Grapes retailed in the city of San Francisco at from twelve and one-half to twenty-five cents a pound. The vineyards were as profitable as the cattle ranches. The mission Indians did the labor in the vineyards and were paid in *aguardiente* on Saturday night. By Sunday morning they were all drunk; then they were gathered up and put into a corral. On Monday morning they were sold to pay the cost of their dissipation. It did not take many years to kill off the Indians. The city has grown over the former sites of the vineyards.

The first orange trees were planted at the Mission San Gabriel about the year 1815 and a few at Los Angeles about the same time. But little attention was given to the industry by the Californians. The first extensive grove was planted by William Wolfskill in 1840. The impression then prevailed that oranges could be grown only on the low lands near the river. The idea of attempting to grow them on the mesa lands was scouted at by the Californians and the Americans. The success that attended the Riverside experiment demonstrated that they could be grown on the mesas, and that the fruit produced was superior to that grown on the river bottoms. This gave such an impetus to the industry in the south that it has distanced all others. The yearly shipment to the eastern markets is twenty thousand car loads. The citrus belt is extending every year.

The Californians paid but little attention to the quality of the fruit they raised. The seed fell in the ground and sprouted. If the twig survived and grew to be a tree, they ate the fruit, asking no question whether the quality might be improved. The pears grown at the missions and at some of the ranch houses were hard and tasteless. It was said they never ripened. A small black fig was cultivated in a few places, but the quantity of fruit grown outside of the mission gardens was very small.

The high price of all kinds of fruit in the early '50s induced the importation of apple, peach, pear, plum and prune trees. These thrived and soon supplied the demand. Before the advent of the railroads and the shipment east the quan-



tity of deciduous fruit produced had outgrown the demand, and there was no profit in its production. All this has been changed by eastern shipment.

Sheep were brought to the country with the first missionary expeditions. The Indian in his primitive condition did not use clothing. A coat of mud was his only garment and he was not at all particular about the fit of that. After his conversion the missionaries put clothing on him, or, rather, on part of him. He was given a shirt, which was a shirt of Nessus, being made of the coarse woolen cloth manufactured at the mission. It was irritating to the skin and compelled the poor wretches to keep up a continual scratching; at least, that is what Hugo Reid tells us. During the Civil war and for several years after, the sheep industry was very profitable. The subdivision of the great ranchos and the absorption of the land for grain growing and fruit culture have contracted the sheep ranges until there is but little left for pasture except the foothills that are too rough for cultivation.

Up to 1863 the great Spanish grants that covered the southern part of the state had, with a few exceptions, been held intact and cattle raising had continued to be the principal industry. For several seasons previous to the famine years of 1863 and 1864 there had been heavy rainfalls and consequently abundant feed. With that careless indifference that marked the business management of the native Californian, the ranges had become overstocked. When the dry year of 1863 set in, the feed on ranches was soon exhausted and the cattle starving. The second famine year following, the cattle industry was virtually wiped out of existence and the cattle-owners ruined. In Santa Barbara, where the cattle barons held almost imperial sway, and, with their army of retainers, controlled the political affairs of the county, of the two hundred thousand cattle listed on the assessment roll of 1862, only five thousand were alive when grass grew in 1865. On the Stearns' ranchos in Los Angeles county, one hundred thousand head of cattle and horses perished, and the owner of a quarter million acres and a large amount of city property could not raise money enough to pay \$1,000 taxes.

Many of the rancheros were in debt when the hard times came, and others mortgaged their land at usurious rates of interest to carry them through the famine years. Their cattle dead, they had no income to meet the interest on the cancerous mortgage that was eating up their patrimony. The result was that they were compelled either to sell their land or the mortgage was foreclosed and they lost it. This led to the subdivision of the large grants into small holdings, the new proprietors finding that there was more profit in selling them off in small tracts than in large ones. This brought in an intelligent and progressive population, and in a few years entirely revolutionized the agricultural conditions of the south. Grain growing and fruit raising became the prevailing industries. The adobe ranch house with its matanzas and its Golgotha of cattle skulls and bones gave place to the tasty farm house with its flower garden, lawn and orange grove.

The Californians paid but little attention to improving the breed of their cattle. When the only value in an animal was the hide and tallow, it did not pay to improve the breed. The hide of a long-horned, mouse-colored Spanish steer would sell for as much as that of a high-bred Durham or Holstein, and, besides, the first could exist where the latter would starve to death. After the conquest there was for some time but little improvement. Cattle were brought across the plains, but for the most part these were the mongrel breeds of the western states and were but little improvement on the Spanish stock. It was not until the famine years virtually exterminated the Spanish cattle that better breeds were introduced.

As with cattle, so also it was with horses. Little attention was given to improving the breed. While there were a few fine race horses and saddle horses in the country before its American occupation, the prevailing equine was the mustang. He was a vicious beast, nor was it strange that his temper was bad. He had to endure starvation and abuse that would have killed a more aristocratic animal. He took care of himself, subsisted on what he could pick up and to the best of his ability resented ill treatment. Horses during the Mexican régime were

used only for riding. Oxen were the draft animals. The mustang had one inherent trait that did not endear him to an American, and that was his propensity to "buck." With his nose between his knees, his back arched and his legs stiffened, by a series of short, quick jumps, he could dismount an inexperienced rider with neatness and dispatch. The Californian took delight in urging the bronco to "buck" so that he (the rider) might exhibit his skillful horsemanship. The mustang had some commendable traits as well. He was sure-footed as a goat and could climb the steep hillsides almost equal to that animal. He had an easy gait under the saddle and could measure off mile after mile without a halt. His power of endurance was wonderful. He could live off the country when apparently there was nothing to subsist on except the bare ground. He owed mankind a debt of ingratitude which he always stood ready to pay when an opportunity offered. The passing of the mustang began with the advent of the American farmer.

The founding of agricultural colonies began in the '50s. One of the first, if not the first, was the German colony of Anaheim, located thirty miles south of Los Angeles. A company of Germans organized in San Francisco in 1857 for the purpose of buying land for the cultivation of the wine grape and the manufacture of wine. The organization was a stock company. Eleven hundred acres were purchased in a Spanish grant. This was subdivided into twenty and forty acre tracts; an irrigating ditch brought in from the Santa Ana river. A portion of each subdivision was planted in vines and these were cultivated by the company until they came into bearing, when the tracts were divided among the stockholders by lot, a certain valuation being fixed on each tract. The man obtaining a choice lot paid into the fund a certain amount and the one receiving an inferior tract received a certain amount, so that each received the same value in the distribution. The colony proved quite a success, and for thirty years Anaheim was one of the largest wine-producing districts in the United States. In 1887 a mysterious disease destroyed all the vines and the vineyardists turned their attention

to the cultivation of oranges and English walnuts.

The Riverside colony, then in San Bernardino county, now in Riverside county, was founded in 1870. The projectors of the colony were eastern gentlemen. At the head of the organization was Judge J. W. North. They purchased four thousand acres of the Roubidoux or Jurupa rancho and fourteen hundred and sixty acres of government land from the California Silk Center Association. This association had been organized in 1869 for the purpose of founding a colony to cultivate mulberry trees and manufacture silk. It had met with reverses, first in the death of its president, Louis Prevost, a man skilled in the silk business, next in the revocation by the legislature of the bounty for mulberry plantations, and lastly in the subsidence of the sericulture craze. To encourage silk culture in California, the legislature, in 1866, passed an act authorizing the payment of a bounty of \$250 for every plantation of five thousand mulberry trees two years old. This greatly stimulated the planting of mulberry trees, if it did not greatly increase the production of silk. In 1869 it was estimated that in the central and southern portions of the state there were ten millions of mulberry trees in various stages of growth. Demands for the bounty poured in upon the commissioners in such numbers that the state treasury was threatened with bankruptcy. The revocation of the bounty killed the silk worms and the mulberry trees; and those who had been attacked with the sericulture craze quickly recovered. The Silk Center Association, having fallen into hard lines, offered its lands for sale at advantageous terms, and in September, 1870, they were purchased by the Southern California Colony Association. The land was bought at \$3.50 per acre. It was mesa or table land that had never been cultivated. It was considered by old-timers indifferent sheep pasture, and Roubidoux, it is said, had it struck from the tax roll because it was not worth taxing.

The company had the land subdivided and laid off a town which was first named Jurupa, but afterwards the name was changed to Riverside. The river, the Santa Ana, did not flow

past the town, but the colonists hoped to make a goodly portion of its waters do so. The lands were put on sale at reasonable prices, a ditch at a cost of \$50,000 was constructed. Experiments were made with oranges, raisin grapes and deciduous fruits, but the colony finally settled down to orange producing. In 1877 the introduction of the Bahia or navel orange gave an additional impetus to orange growing in the colony, the fruit of that species being greatly superior to any other. This fruit was propagated by budding from two trees received from Washington, D. C., by J. A. Tibbetts, of Riverside.

The Indiana colony, which later became Pasadena, was founded in 1873 by some gentlemen from Indiana. Its purpose was the growing of citrus fruits and raisin grapes, but it has grown into a city, and the orange groves, once the pride of the colony, have given place to business blocks and stately residences.

During the early '70s a number of agricultural colonies were founded in Fresno county. These were all fruit-growing and raisin-producing enterprises. They proved successful and Fresno has become the largest raisin-producing district in the state.

## CHAPTER XXX.

### THE CIVIL WAR—LOYALTY AND DISLOYALTY.

THE admission of California into the Union as a free state did not, in the opinion of the ultra pro-slavery faction, preclude the possibility of securing a part of its territory for the "peculiar institution" of the south. The question of state division which had come up in the constitutional convention was again agitated. The advocates of division hoped to cut off from the southern part, territory enough for a new state. The ostensible purpose of division was kept concealed. The plea of unjust taxation was made prominent. The native Californians who under Mexican rule paid no taxes on their land were given to understand that they were bearing an undue proportion of the cost of government, while the mining counties, paying less tax, had the greater representation. The native Californians were opposed to slavery, an open advocacy of the real purpose would defeat the division scheme.

The leading men in the southern part of the state were from the slave states. If the state were divided, the influence of these men would carry the new state into the Union with a constitution authorizing slave-holding and thus the south would gain two senators. The division question came up in some form in nearly every session of the legislature for a decade after California became a state.

In the legislature of 1854-55, Jefferson Hunt, of San Bernardino county, introduced a bill in the assembly to create and establish, "out of the territory embraced within the limits of the state of California, a new state, to be called the state of Columbia." The territory embraced within the counties of Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Joaquin, Calaveras, Amador, Tuolumne, Stanislaus, Mariposa, Tulare, Monterey, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Los Angeles, San Bernardino and San Diego, with the islands on the coast, were to constitute the new state. "The people residing within the above mentioned territory shall be and they are hereby authorized, so soon as the consent of the congress of the United States shall be obtained thereto, to proceed to organize a state government under such rules as are prescribed by the constitution of the United States." The bill met with opposition. It took in some of the mining counties whose interests were not coincident with the agricultural counties of the south. It died on the files.

At a subsequent session, a bill was introduced in the legislature to divide the state into three parts, southern, central and northern, the central state to retain the name of California. This was referred to a committee and got no farther. It was not satisfactory to the pro-slavery ele-

ment because the gain to the south would be overbalanced by the gain to the north.

The success of border ruffianism, backed by the Buchanan administration, in forcing the detestable Lecompton pro-slavery constitution on the people of Kansas, encouraged the divisionists to make another effort to divide the state. While California was a free state it had throughout its existence, up to 1857, when Broderick was elected to the senate, been represented in both houses either by slave-holders from the south or by northern "dough faces"—men of northern birth with southern principles. Most of the state offices had been filled by southern men who had come to the state to obtain office or men who had been imported by their friends or relatives to fill positions by appointment. Indeed, so notorious had this importation of office-holders become that California was often referred to as the "Virginia poorhouse." Scarcely a legislature had convened in which there was not some legislation against free negroes. A free colored man was as terrible to the chivalrous legislators as an army with banners.

The legislature of 1859 was intensely pro-slavery. The divisionists saw in it an opportunity to carry out their long-deferred scheme. The so-called Pico law, an act granting the consent of the legislature to the formation of a different government for the southern counties of this state, was introduced early in the session, passed in both houses and approved by the governor April 18, 1859. The boundaries of the proposed state were as follows: "All of that part or portion of the present territory of this state lying all south of a line drawn eastward from the west boundary of the state along the sixth standard parallel south of the Mount Diablo meridian, east to the summit of the coast range; thence southerly following said summit to the seventh standard parallel; thence due east on said standard, parallel to its intersection with the northwest boundary of Los Angeles county; thence northeast along said boundary to the eastern boundary of the state, including the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino and a part of Buena Vista, shall be

segregated from the remaining portion of the state for the purpose of the formation by congress, with the concurrent action of said portion (the consent for the segregation of which is hereby granted), of a territorial or other government under the name of the "Territory of Colorado," or such other name as may be deemed meet and proper."

Section second provided for the submitting the question of "For a Territory" or "Against a Territory" to the people of the portion sought to be segregated at the next general election; "and in case two-thirds of the whole number of voters voting thereon shall vote for a change of government, the consent hereby given shall be deemed consummated." In case the vote was favorable the secretary of state was to send a certified copy of the result of the election and a copy of the act annexed to the president of the United States and to the senators and representatives of California in congress. At the general election in September, 1859, the question was submitted to a vote of the people of the southern counties, with the following result:

	For.	Against.
Los Angeles county.....	1,407	441
San Bernardino .....	441	29
San Diego .....	207	24
San Luis Obispo.....	10	283
Santa Barbara .....	395	51
Tulare .....	17	...
Total .....	2,477	828

The bill to create the county of Buena Vista from the southern portion of Tulare failed to pass the legislature, hence the name of that county does not appear in the returns. The result of the vote showed that considerably more than two-thirds were in favor of a new state.

The results of this movement for division and the act were sent to the president and to congress, but nothing came of it. The pro-slavery faction that with the assistance of the dough-faces of the north had so long dominated congress had lost its power. The southern senators and congressmen were preparing for secession and had weightier matters to think of than the division of the state of California. Of late years, a few feeble attempts have been made to stir up

the old question of state division and even to resurrect the old "Pico law."

For more than a decade after its admission into the Union, California was a Democratic state and controlled by the pro-slavery wing of that party. John C. Fremont and William H. Gwin, its first senators, were southern born, Fremont in South Carolina and Gwin in Mississippi. Politics had not entered into their election, but the lines were soon drawn. Fremont drew the short term and his services in the senate were very brief. He confidently expected a re-election, but in this he was doomed to disappointment. The legislature of 1851, after balloting one hundred and forty-two times, adjourned without electing, leaving California with but one senator in the session of 1850-51. In the legislature of 1852 John B. Willer was elected. He was a northern man with southern principles. His chief opponent for the place was David Colbert Broderick, a man destined to fill an important place in the political history of California. He was an Irishman by birth, but had come to America in his boyhood. He had learned the stone cutters' trade with his father. His early associations were with the rougher element of New York City. Aspiring to a higher position than that of a stone cutter he entered the political field and soon arose to prominence. At the age of 26 he was nominated for Congress, but was defeated by a small majority through a split in the party. In 1849 he came to California, where he arrived sick and penniless. With F. D. Kohler, an assayer, he engaged in coining gold. The profit from buying gold dust at \$14 an ounce and making it into \$5 and \$10 pieces put him in affluent circumstances.

His first entry into politics in California was his election to fill a vacancy in the senate of the first legislature. In 1851 he became president of the senate. He studied law, history and literature and was admitted to the bar. He was appointed clerk of the supreme court and had aspirations for still higher positions. Although Senator Gwin was a Democrat, he had managed to control all the federal appointments of Fillmore, the Whig president, and he had filled the offices with pro-slavery Democrats.

No other free state in the Union had such odious laws against negroes as had California. The legislature of 1852 enacted a law "respecting fugitives from labor and slaves brought to this state prior to her admission to the Union." "Under this law a colored man or woman could be brought before a magistrate, claimed as a slave, and the person so seized not being permitted to testify, the judge had no alternative but to issue a certificate to the claimant, which certificate was conclusive of the right of the person or persons in whose favor granted, and prevented all molestation of such person or persons, by any process issued by any court, judge, justice or magistrate or other person whomsoever."\* Any one who rendered assistance to a fugitive was liable to a fine of \$500 or imprisonment for two months. Slaves who had been brought into California by their masters before it became a state, but who were freed by the adoption of a constitution prohibiting slavery, were held to be fugitives and were liable to arrest, although they had been free for several years and some of them had accumulated considerable property. By limitation the law should have become inoperative in 1853, but the legislature of that year re-enacted it, and the succeeding legislatures of 1854 and 1855 continued it in force. The intention of the legislators who enacted the law was to legalize the kidnapping of free negroes, as well as the arrest of fugitives. Broderick vigorously opposed the prosecution of the colored people and by so doing called down upon his head the wrath of the pro-slavery chivalry. From that time on he was an object of their hatred. While successive legislatures were passing laws to punish black men for daring to assert their freedom and their right to the products of their honest toil, white villains were rewarded with political preferment, provided always that they belonged to the dominant wing of the Democratic party. The Whig party was but little better than the other, for the same element ruled in both. The finances of the state were in a deplorable condition and continually growing worse. The people's money was recklessly squandered. Incompetency was

---

\*Bancroft's History of California, Vol. VI.



the rule in office and honesty the exception. Ballot box stuffing had been reduced to a mechanical science, jury bribing was one of the fine arts and suborning perjury was a recognized profession. During one election in San Francisco it was estimated that \$1,500,000 was spent in one way or another to influence voters. Such was the state of affairs just preceding the uprising of the people that evolved in San Francisco the vigilance committee of 1856.

At the state election in the fall of 1855 the Know Nothings carried the state. The native American or Know Nothing party was a party of few principles. Opposition to Catholics and foreigners was about the only plank in its platform. There was a strong opposition to foreign miners in the mining districts and the pro-slavery faction saw in the increased foreign immigration danger to the extension of their beloved institution into new territory. The most potent cause of the success of the new party in California was the hope that it might bring reform to relieve the tax burdened people. But in this they were disappointed. It was made up from the same element that had so long misgoverned the state.

The leaders of the party were either pro-slavery men of the south or northern men with southern principles. Of the latter class was J. Neely Johnson, the governor-elect. In the legislature of 1855 the contest between Gwin and Broderick, which had been waged at the polls the previous year, culminated after thirty-eight ballots in no choice and Gwin's place in the senate became vacant at the expiration of his term. In the legislature of 1856 the Know Nothings had a majority in both houses. It was supposed that they would elect a senator to succeed Gwin. There were three aspirants: H. A. Crabb, formerly a Whig; E. C. Marshall and Henry S. Foote, formerly Democrats. All were southerners and were in the new party for office. The Gwin and Broderick influence was strong enough to prevent the Know Nothing legislature from electing a senator and California was left with but one representative in the upper house of Congress.

The Know Nothing party was short lived. At the general election in 1856 the Democrats

swept the state. Broderick, by his ability in organizing and his superior leadership, had secured a majority in the legislature and was in a position to dictate terms to his opponents. Weller's senatorial term would soon expire and Gwin's already two years vacant left two places to be filled. Broderick, who had heretofore been contending for Gwin's place, changed his tactics and aspired to fill the long term. According to established custom, the filling of the vacancy would come up first, but Broderick, by superior finesse, succeeded in having the caucus nominate the successor to Weller first. Ex-Congressman Latham's friends were induced to favor the arrangement on the expectation that their candidate would be given the short term. Broderick was elected to the long term on the first ballot, January 9, 1857, and his commission was immediately made out and signed by the governor. For years he had bent his energies to securing the senatorship and at last he had obtained the coveted honor. But he was not satisfied yet. He aspired to control the federal patronage of the state; in this way he could reward his friends. He could dictate the election of his colleague for the short term. Both Gwin and Latham were willing to concede to him that privilege for the sake of an election. Latham tried to make a few reservations for some of his friends to whom he had promised places. Gwin offered to surrender it all without reservation. He had had enough of it. Gwin was elected and next day published an address, announcing his obligation to Broderick and renouncing any claim to the distribution of the federal patronage.

Then a wail long and loud went up from the chivalry, who for years had monopolized all the offices. That they, southern gentlemen of aristocratic antecedents, should be compelled to ask favors of a mudsill of the north was too humiliating to be borne. Latham, too, was indignant and Broderick found that his triumph was but a hollow mockery. But the worst was to come. He who had done so much to unite the warring Democracy and give the party a glorious victory in California at the presidential election of 1856 fully expected the approbation of President Buchanan, but when he called on



that old gentleman he was received coldly and during Buchanan's administration he was ignored and Gwin's advice taken and followed in making federal appointments. He returned to California in April, 1857, to secure the nomination of his friends on the state ticket, but in this he was disappointed. The Gwin element was in the ascendancy and John B. Weller received the nomination for governor. He was regarded as a martyr, having been tricked out of a re-election to the senate by Broderick. There were other martyrs of the Democracy, who received balm for their wounds and sympathy for their sufferings at that convention. In discussing a resolution denouncing the vigilance committee, O'Meara in his "History of Early Politics in California," says: "Col. Joseph P. Hoge, the acknowledged leader of the convention, stated that the committee had hanged four men, banished twenty-eight and arrested two hundred and eighty; and that these were nearly all Democrats.

On Broderick's return to the senate in the session of 1857-58, he cast his lot with Senator Douglas and opposed the admission of Kansas under the infamous Lecompton constitution. This cut him loose from the administration wing of the party.

In the state campaign of 1859 Broderick rallied his followers under the Anti-Lecompton standard and Gwin his in support of the Buchanan administration. The party was hopelessly divided. Two Democratic tickets were placed in the field. The Broderick ticket, with John Currey as governor, and the Gwin, with Milton Latham, the campaign was bitter. Broderick took the stump and although not an orator his denunciations of Gwin were scathing and merciless and in his fearful earnestness he became almost eloquent. Gwin in turn loosed the vials of his wrath upon Broderick and criminations and recriminations flew thick and fast during the campaign. It was a campaign of vituperation, but the first aggressor was Gwin.

Judge Terry, in a speech before the Lecompton convention at Sacramento in June, 1859, after flinging out sneers at the Republican party, characterized Broderick's party as sailing "under

the flag of Douglas, but it is the banner of the black Douglass, whose name is Frederick, not Stephen." This taunt was intended to arouse the wrath of Broderick. He read Terry's speech while seated at breakfast in the International hotel at San Francisco. Broderick denounced Terry's utterance in forcible language and closed by saying: "I have hitherto spoken of him as an honest man, as the only honest man on the bench of a miserable, corrupt supreme court, but now I find I was mistaken. I take it all back." A lawyer by the name of Perley, a friend of Terry's, to whom the remark was directed, to obtain a little reputation, challenged Broderick. Broderick refused to consider Perley's challenge on the ground that he was not his (Broderick's) equal in standing and beside that he had declared himself a few days before a British subject. Perley did not stand very high in the community. Terry had acted as a second for him in a duel a few years before.

Broderick, in his reply to Perley, said: "I have determined to take no notice of attacks from any source during the canvass. If I were to accept your challenge, there are probably many other gentlemen who would seek similar opportunities for hostile meetings for the purpose of accomplishing a political object or to obtain public notoriety. I cannot afford at the present time to descend to a violation of the Constitution and state laws to subserve either their or your purposes."

Terry a few days after the close of the campaign sent a letter to Broderick demanding a retraction of the offensive remarks. Broderick, well knowing that he would have to fight some representative of the chivalry if not several of them in succession, did not retract his remarks. He had for several years, in expectation of such a result in a contest with them, practiced himself in the use of fire arms until he had become quite expert.

A challenge followed, a meeting was arranged to take place in San Mateo county, ten miles from San Francisco, on the 12th of September. Chief of Police Burke appeared on the scene and arrested the principals. They were released by the court, no crime having been committed. They met next morning at the same place; ex-

Congressman McKibben and David D. Colton were Broderick's seconds. Calhoun Benham and Thomas Hayes were Terry's. The pistols selected belonged to a friend of Terry's. Broderick was ill, weak and nervous, and it was said that his pistol was quicker on the trigger than Terry's. When the word was given it was discharged before it reached a level and the ball struck the earth, nine feet from where he stood. Terry fired, striking Broderick in the breast. He sank to the earth mortally wounded and died three days afterwards. Broderick dead was a greater man than Broderick living. For years he had waged a contest against the representatives of the slave oligarchy in California and the great mass of the people had looked on with indifference, even urging on his pursuers to the tragic end. Now that he was killed, the cry went up for vengeance on his murderers. Terry was arrested and admitted to bail in the sum of \$10,000. The trial was put off on some pretext and some ten months later he obtained a change of venue to Marin county on the plea that he could not obtain a fair and impartial trial in San Francisco. His case was afterwards dismissed without trial by a pro-slavery judge named Hardy. Although freed by the courts he was found guilty and condemned by public opinion. He went south and joined the Confederates at the breaking out of the Civil war. He some time after the close of the war returned to California. In 1880 he was a presidential elector on the Democratic ticket. His colleagues on the ticket were elected, but he was defeated. He was killed at Lathrop by a deputy United States marshal while attempting an assault on United States Supreme Judge Field.

In the hue and cry that was raised on the death of Broderick, the chivalry read the doom of their ascendancy. Gwin, as he was about to take the steamer on his return to Washington, "had flaunted in his face a large canvas frame, on which was painted a portrait of Broderick and this: 'It is the will of the people that the murderers of Broderick do not return again to California,' and below were also these words attributed to Mr. Broderick: 'They have killed me because I was opposed to the extension of slavery, and a corrupt administration.'"

Throughout his political career Broderick was a consistent anti-slavery man and a friend of the common people. Of all the politicians of the ante-bellum period, that is, before the Civil war, he stands to-day the highest in the estimation of the people of California. Like Lincoln, he was a self-made man. From a humble origin, unaided, he had fought his way up to a lofty position. Had he been living during the war against the perpetuity of human slavery, he would have been a power in the senate or possibly a commander on the field of battle. As it was, during that struggle in his adopted state, his name became a synonym of patriotism and love for the Union.

Milton S. Latham, who succeeded John B. Weller as governor in 1860, was, like his predecessor, a northern man with southern principles. Almost from the date of his arrival in California he had been an office-holder. He was a man of mediocre ability. He was a state divisionist and would have aided in that scheme by advocating in the senate of the United States (to which body he had been elected three days after his inauguration) the segregation of the southern counties and their formation into a new state with the hopes of restoring the equilibrium between the north and the south. But the time had passed for such projects. The lieutenant-governor, John G. Downey, succeeded Latham. Downey gained great popularity by his veto of the "bulkhead bill." This was a scheme of the San Francisco Dock and Wharf Company to build a stone bulkhead around the city water front in consideration of having the exclusive privilege of collecting wharfage and tolls for fifty years. Downey lost much of his popularity, particularly with the Union men, during the Civil war on account of his sympathy with the Confederates.

At the state election in September, 1861, Leeland Stanford was chosen governor. He was the first Republican chosen to that office. He received fifty-six thousand votes. Two years before he had been a candidate for that office and received only ten thousand votes, so rapidly had public sentiment changed. The news of the firing upon Fort Sumter reached San Francisco April 24, twelve days after its oc-

currence. It came by pony express. The beginning of hostilities between the north and the south stirred up a strong Union sentiment. The great Union mass meeting held in San Francisco May 11, 1861, was the largest and most enthusiastic public demonstration ever held on the Pacific coast. The lines were sharply drawn between the friends of the government and its enemies. Former political alliances were forgotten. Most of the Anti-Lecompton or Douglas Democrats arrayed themselves on the side of the Union. The chivalry wing of the Democratic party were either open or secret sympathizers with the Confederates. Some of them were bold and outspoken in their disloyalty. The speech of Edmund Randolph at the Democratic convention July 24, 1861, is a sample of such utterances. \* \* \* "To me it seems a waste of time to talk. For God's sake, tell me of battles fought and won. Tell me of usurpers overthrown; that Missouri is, again a free state, no longer crushed under the armed heel of a reckless and odious despot. Tell me that the state of Maryland lives again; and, oh! gentlemen, let us read, let us hear, at the first moment, that not one hostile foot now treads the soil of Virginia! (Applause and cheers.) If this be rebellion, I am a rebel. Do you want a traitor, then I am a traitor. For God's sake, speed the ball; may the lead go quick to his heart, and may our country be free from the despot usurper that now claims the name of the president of the United States."\* (Cheers.) Some of the chivalry Democrats, most of whom had been holding office in California for years, went south at the breaking out of the war to fight in the armies of the Confederacy, and among these was Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, who had been superseded in the command of the Pacific Department by Gen. Edwin V. Sumner. Johnston, with a number of fellow sympathizers, went south by the overland route and was killed a year later, at the battle of Shiloh, while in command of the Confederate army.

One form of disloyalty among the class known as "copperheads" (northern men with southern principles) was the advocacy of a Pa-

cific republic. Most prominent among these was ex-Governor John B. Weller. The movement was a thinly disguised method of aiding the southern Confederacy. The flag of the inchoate Pacific republic was raised in Stockton January 16, 1861. It is thus described by the *Stockton Argus*: "The flag is of silk of the medium size of the national ensign and with the exception of the Union (evidently a misnomer in this case) which contains a lone star upon a blue ground, is covered by a painting representing a wild mountain scene, a huge grizzly bear standing in the foreground and the words 'Pacific Republic' near the upper border." The flag raising was not a success. At first it was intended to raise it in the city. But as it became evident this would not be allowed, it was raised to the mast head of a vessel in the slough. It was not allowed to float there long. The halcyards were cut and a boy was sent up the mast to pull it down. The owner of the flag was convinced that it was not safe to trifle with the loyal sentiment of the people.

At the gubernatorial election in September, 1863, Frederick F. Low, Republican, was chosen over John G. Downey, Democrat, by a majority of over twenty thousand. In some parts of the state Confederate sympathizers were largely in the majority. This was the case in Los Angeles and in some places in the San Joaquin valley. Several of the most outspoken were arrested and sent to Fort Alcatraz, where they soon became convinced of the error of their ways and took the oath of allegiance. When the news of the assassination of Lincoln reached San Francisco, a mob destroyed the newspaper plants of the *Democratic Press*, edited by Beriah Brown; the *Occidental*, edited by Zach. Montgomery; the *Nexus Letter*, edited by F. Marriott, and the *Monitor*, a Catholic paper, edited by Thomas A. Brady. These were virulent copperhead sheets that had heaped abuse upon the martyred president. Had the proprietors of these journals been found the mob would, in the excitement that prevailed, have treated them with violence. After this demonstration Confederate sympathizers kept silent.

\*Tuthill's History of California.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

## TRADE, TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION.

THE beginning of the ocean commerce of California was the two mission transport ships that came every year to bring supplies for the missions and presidios and take back what few products there were to send. The government fixed a price upon each and every article of import and export. There was no cornering the market, no bulls or bears in the wheat pit, no rise or fall in prices except when ordered by royal authority. An Arancel de Precios (fixed rate of prices) was issued at certain intervals, and all buying and selling was governed accordingly. These arancels included everything in the range of human needs—physical, spiritual or mental. According to a tariff of prices promulgated by Governor Fages in 1788, which had been approved by the audiencia and had received the royal sanction, the price of a Holy Christ in California was fixed at \$1.75, a wooden spoon six cents, a horse \$9, a deerskin twenty-five cents, red pepper eighteen cents a pound, a dozen of quail twenty-five cents, brandy seventy-five cents per pint, and so on throughout the list.

In 1785 an attempt was made to open up trade between California and China, the commodities for exchange being seal and otter skins for quicksilver. The trade in peltries was to be a government monopoly. The skins were to be collected from the natives by the mission friars, who were to sell them to a government agent at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$10 each. The neophytes must give up to the friars all the skins in their possession. All trade by citizens or soldiers was prohibited and any one attempting to deal in peltries otherwise than the regularly ordained authorities was liable, if found out, to have his goods confiscated. Spain's attempt to engage in the fur trade was not a success. The blighting monopoly of church and state nipped it in the bud. It died

out, and the government bought quicksilver, on which also it had a monopoly, with coin instead of otter skins.

After the government abandoned the fur trade the American smugglers began to gather up the peltries, and the California producer received better prices for his furs than the missionaries paid.

The Yankee smuggler had no arancel of prices fixed by royal edict. His price list varied according to circumstances. As his trade was illicit and his vessel and her cargo were in danger of confiscation if he was caught, his scale of prices ranged high. But he paid a higher price for the peltries than the government, and that was a consolation to the seller. The commerce with the Russian settlements of the northwest in the early years of the century furnished a limited market for the grain produced at some of the missions, but the Russians helped themselves to the otter and the seal of California without saying "By your leave" and they were not welcome visitors.

During the Mexican revolution, as has been previously mentioned, trade sprang up between Lima and California in tallow, but it was of short duration. During the Spanish era it can hardly be said that California had any commerce. Foreign vessels were not allowed to enter her ports except when in distress, and their stay was limited to the shortest time possible required to make repairs and take on supplies.

It was not until Mexico gained her independence and removed the proscriptive regulations with which Spain had hampered commerce that the hide droghers opened up trade between New England and California. This trade, which began in 1822, grew to considerable proportions. The hide droghers were emigrant ships as well as mercantile vessels. By

these came most of the Americans who settled in California previous to 1840. The hide and tallow trade, the most important item of commerce in the Mexican era, reached its maximum in 1834, when the great mission herds were, by order of the padres, slaughtered to prevent them from falling into the hands of the government commissioners. Thirty-two vessels came to the coast that year, nearly all of which were engaged in the hide and tallow trade.

During the year 1845, the last of Mexican rule, sixty vessels visited the coast. These were not all trading vessels; eight were men-of-war, twelve were whalers and thirteen came on miscellaneous business. The total amount received at the custom house for revenue during that year was \$140,000. The majority of the vessels trading on the California coast during the Mexican era sailed under the stars and stripes. Mexico was kinder to California than Spain, and under her administration commercial relations were established to a limited extent with foreign nations. Her commerce at best was feeble and uncertain. The revenue laws and their administration were frequently changed, and the shipping merchant was never sure what kind of a reception his cargo would receive from the custom house officers. The duties on imports from foreign countries were exorbitant and there was always more or less smuggling carried on. The people and the padres, when they were a power, gladly welcomed the arrival of a trading vessel on the coast and were not averse to buying goods that had escaped the tariff if they could do so with safety. As there was no land tax, the revenue on goods supported the expenses of the government.

Never in the world's history did any country develop an ocean commerce so quickly as did California after the discovery of gold. When the news spread abroad, the first ships to arrive came from Peru, Chile and the South Sea islands. The earliest published notice of the gold discovery appeared in the *Baltimore Sun*, September 20, 1848, eight months after it was made. At first the story was ridiculed, but as confirmatory reports came thick and fast, preparations began for a grand rush for the

gold mines. Vessels of all kinds, seaworthy and unseaworthy, were overhauled and fitted out for California. The American trade with California had gone by way of Cape Horn or the Straits of Magellan, and this was the route that was taken by the pioneers. Then there were short cuts by the way of the Isthmus of Panama, across Mexico and by Nicaragua. The first vessels left the Atlantic seaports in November, 1848. By the middle of the winter one hundred vessels had sailed from Atlantic and Gulf seaports, and by spring one hundred and fifty more had taken their departure, all of them loaded with human freight and with supplies of every description. Five hundred and forty-nine vessels arrived in San Francisco in nine months, forty-five reaching that port in one day.

April 12, 1848, before the treaty of peace with Mexico had been proclaimed by the President, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company was incorporated with a capital of \$500,000. Astoria, Ore., was to have been the Pacific terminus of the company's line, but it never got there. The discovery of gold in California made San Francisco the end of its route. The contract with the government gave the company a subsidy of \$200,000 for maintaining three steamers on the Pacific side between Panama and Astoria. The first of these vessels, the California, sailed from New York October 6, 1848, for San Francisco and Astoria via Cape Horn. She was followed in the two succeeding months by the Oregon and the Panama. On the Atlantic side the vessels of the line for several years were the Ohio, Illinois and Georgia. The vessels on the Atlantic side were fifteen hundred tons burden, while those on the Pacific were a thousand tons. Freight and passengers by the Panama route were transported across the isthmus by boats up the Chagres river to Gorgona, and then by mule-back to Panama. In 1855 the Panama railroad was completed. This greatly facilitated travel and transportation. The Atlantic terminus of the road was Aspinwall, now called Colon.

Another line of travel and commerce between the states and California in early days was the Nicaragua route. By that route passengers on the Atlantic side landed at San Juan del Norte



or Greytown. From there they took a river steamer and ascended the Rio San Juan to Lake Nicaragua, then in a larger vessel they crossed the lake to La Virgin. From there a distance of about twelve miles was made on foot or on mule-back to San Juan del Sur, where they re-embarked on board the ocean steamer for San Francisco.

The necessity for the speedy shipment of merchandise to California before the days of trans-continental railroads at a minimum cost evolved the clipper ship. These vessels entered quite early into the California trade and soon displaced the short, clumsy vessels of a few hundred tons burden that took from six to ten months to make a voyage around the Horn. The clipper ship *Flying Cloud*, which arrived at San Francisco in August, 1851, made the voyage from New York in eighty-nine days. These vessels were built long and narrow and carried heavy sail. Their capacity ranged from one to two thousand tons burden. The overland railroads took away a large amount of their business.

Capt. Jedediah S. Smith, as previously stated, was the real pathfinder of the western mountains and plains. He marked out the route from Salt Lake by way of the Rio Virgin, the Colorado and the Cajon Pass to Los Angeles in 1826. This route was extensively traveled by the belated immigrants of the early '50s. Those reaching Salt Lake City too late in the season to cross the Sierra Nevadas turned southward and entered California by Smith's trail.

The early immigration to California came by way of Fort Hall. From there it turned southerly. At Fort Hall the Oregon and California immigrants separated. The disasters that befell the Donner party were brought upon them by their taking the Hastings cut-off, which was represented to them as saving two hundred and fifty miles. It was shorter, but the time spent in making a wagon road through a rough country delayed them until they were caught by the snows in the mountains. Lassen's cut-off was another route that brought disaster and delays to many of the immigrants who were induced to take it. The route up the Platte through the

South Pass of the Rocky mountains and down the Humboldt received by far the larger amount of travel.

The old Santa Fe trail from Independence to Santa Fe, and from there by the old Spanish trail around the north bank of the Colorado across the Rio Virgin down the Mojave river and through the Cajon Pass to Los Angeles, was next in importance. Another route by which much of the southern emigration came was what was known as the Gila route. It started at Fort Smith, Ark., thence via El Paso and Tucson and down the Gila to Yuma, thence across the desert through the San Gorgono Pass to Los Angeles. In 1852 it was estimated one thousand wagons came by this route. There was another route still further south than this which passed through the northern states of Mexico, but it was not popular on account of the hostility of the Mexicans and the Apaches.

The first overland stage line was established in 1857. The route extended from San Antonio de Bexar, Tex., to San Diego, via El Paso, Mesillo, Tucson and Colorado City (now Yuma). The service was twice a month. The contract was let to James E. Burch, the Postal Department reserving "the right to curtail or discontinue the service should any route subsequently put under contract cover the whole or any portion of the route." The *San Diego Herald*, August 12, 1857, thus notes the departure of the first mail by that route: "The pioneer mail train from San Diego to San Antonio, Tex., under the contract entered into by the government with Mr. James Burch, left here on the 9th inst. (August 9, 1857) at an early hour in the morning, and is now pushing its way for the east at a rapid rate. The mail was of course carried on pack animals, as will be the case until wagons which are being pushed across will have been put on the line. \* \* \* The first mail from the other side has not yet arrived, although somewhat overdue, and conjecture is rife as to the cause of the delay." The eastern mail arrived a few days later.

The service continued to improve, and the fifth trip from the eastern terminus to San Diego "was made in the extraordinary short



time of twenty-six days and twelve hours," and the *San Diego Herald* on this arrival, October 6, 1857, rushed out an extra "announcing the very gratifying fact of the complete triumph of the southern route notwithstanding the croakings of many of the opponents of the administration in this state." But the "triumph of the southern route" was of short duration. In September, 1858, the stages of the Butterfield line began making their semi-weekly trips. This route from its western terminus, San Francisco, came down the coast to Gilroy, thence through Pacheco Pass to the San Joaquin valley, up the valley and by way of Fort Tejon to Los Angeles; from there eastward by Temecula and Warner's to Yuma, thence following very nearly what is now the route of the Southern Pacific Railroad through Arizona and New Mexico to El Paso, thence turning northward to Fort Smith, Ark. There the route divided, one branch going to St. Louis and the other to Memphis. The mail route from San Antonio to San Diego was discontinued.

The Butterfield stage line was one of the longest continuous lines ever organized. Its length was two thousand eight hundred and eighty miles. It began operation in September, 1858. The first stage from the east reached Los Angeles October 7 and San Francisco October 10. A mass-meeting was held at San Francisco the evening of October 11 "for the purpose of expressing the sense entertained by the people of the city of the great benefits she is to receive from the establishment of the overland mail." Col. J. B. Crockett acted as president and Frank M. Pixley as secretary. The speaker of the evening in his enthusiasm said: "In my opinion one of the greatest blessings that could befall California would be to discontinue at once all communication by steamer between San Francisco and New York. On yesterday we received advices from New York, New Orleans and St. Louis in less than twenty-four days via El Paso. Next to the discovery of gold this is the most important fact yet developed in the history of California." W. L. Ormsby, special correspondent of the *New York Herald*, the first and only through passenger by the over-

land mail coming in three hours less than twenty-four days, was introduced to the audience and was greeted with terrific applause. He gave a description of the route and some incidents of the journey.

The government gave the Butterfield company a subsidy of \$600,000 a year for a service of two mail coaches each way a week. In 1859 the postal revenue from this route was only \$27,000, leaving Uncle Sam more than half a million dollars out of pocket. At the breaking out of the Civil war the southern overland mail route was discontinued and a contract was made with Butterfield for a six-times-a-week mail by the central route via Salt Lake City, with a branch line to Denver. The eastern terminus was at first St. Joseph, but on account of the war it was changed to Omaha. The western terminus was Placerville, Cal., time twenty days for eight months, and twenty-three days for the remaining four months. The contract was for three years at an annual subsidy of \$1,000,000. The last overland stage contract for carrying the mails was awarded to Wells, Fargo & Co., October 1, 1868, for \$1,750,000 per annum, with deductions for carriage by railway. The railway was rapidly reducing the distance of stage travel.

The only inland commerce during the Mexican era was a few bands of mules sold to New Mexican traders and driven overland to Santa Fe by the old Spanish trail and one band of cattle sold to the Oregon settlers in 1837 and driven by the coast route to Oregon City. The Californians had no desire to open up an inland trade with their neighbors and the traders and trappers who came overland were not welcome.

After the discovery of gold, freighting to the mines became an important business. Supplies had to be taken by pack trains and wagons. Freight charges were excessively high at first. In 1848, "it cost \$5 to carry a hundred pounds of goods from Sutter's Fort to the lower mines, a distance of twenty miles, and \$10 per hundred weight for freight to the upper mines, a distance of forty miles. Two horses can draw one thousand five hundred pounds." In December, 1849, the roads were almost impassable

and teamsters were charging from \$40 to \$50 a hundred pounds for hauling freight from Sacramento to Mormon Island.

In 1855 an inland trade was opened up between Los Angeles and Salt Lake City. The first shipment was made by Banning and Alexander. The wagon train consisted of fifteen ten-mule teams heavily freighted with merchandise. The venture was a success financially. The train left Los Angeles in May and returned in September, consuming four months in the journey. The trade increased and became quite an important factor in the business of the southern part of the state. In 1859 sixty wagons were loaded for Salt Lake in the month of January, and in March of the same year one hundred and fifty loaded with goods were sent to the Mormon capital. In 1865 and 1866 there was a considerable shipment of goods from Los Angeles to Idaho and Montana by wagon trains. These trains went by way of Salt Lake. This trade was carried on during the winter months when the roads over the Sierras and the Rocky mountains were blocked with snow.

Freighting by wagon train to Washoe formed a very important part of the inland commerce of California between 1859 and 1869. The immense freight wagons called "prairie schooners" carried almost as much as a freight car. The old-time teamster, like the old-time stage driver, was a unique character. Both have disappeared. Their occupation is gone. We shall never look on their like again.

The pony express rider came early in the history of California. Away back in 1775, when the continental congress made Benjamin Franklin postmaster-general of the United Colonies, on the Pacific coast soldier couriers, fleet mounted, were carrying their monthly budgets of mail between Monterey in Alta California, and Loreto, near the southern extremity of the peninsula of Lower California, a distance of one thousand five hundred miles.

In the winter of 1859-60 a Wall street lobby was in Washington trying to get an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for carrying the mails one year between New York and San Francisco. William H. Russell, of the firm of Russell, Ma-

jors & Waddell, then engaged in running a daily stage line between the Missouri river and Salt Lake City, hearing of the lobby's efforts, offered to bet \$200,000 that he could put on a mail line between San Francisco and St. Joseph that could make the distance, one thousand nine hundred and fifty miles, in ten days. The wager was accepted. Russell and his business manager, A. B. Miller, an old plains man, bought the fleetest horses they could find in the west and employed one hundred and twenty-five riders selected with reference to their light weight and courage. It was essential that the horses should be loaded as lightly as possible. The horses were stationed from ten to twenty miles apart and each rider was required to ride seventy-five miles. For change of horses and mail bag two minutes were allowed, at each station. One man took care of the two horses kept there. Everything being arranged a start was made from St. Joseph, April 3, 1860. The bet was to be decided on the race eastward. At meridian on April 3, 1860, a signal gun on a steamer at Sacramento proclaimed the hour of starting. At that signal Mr. Miller's private saddle horse, Border Ruffian, with his rider bounded away toward the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas. The first twenty miles were covered in forty-nine minutes. All went well till the Platte river was reached. The river was swollen by recent rain. Rider and horse plunged boldly into it, but the horse mired in the quicksands and was drowned. The rider carrying the mail bag footed it ten miles to the next relay station. When the courier arrived at the sixty-mile station out from St. Joseph he was one hour behind time. The last one had just three hours and thirty minutes in which to make the sixty miles and win the race. A heavy rain was falling and the roads were slippery, but with six horses to make the distance he won with five minutes and a fraction to spare. And thus was finished the longest race for the largest stake ever run in America.

The pony express required to do its work nearly five hundred horses, about one hundred and ninety stations, two hundred station keepers and over a hundred riders. Each rider usually rode the horses on about seventy-five miles,

but sometimes much greater distances were made. Robert H. Haslam, Pony Bob, made on one occasion a continuous ride of three hundred and eighty miles and William F. Cody, now famous as Buffalo Bill, in one continuous trip rode three hundred and eighty-four miles, stopping only for meals, and to change horses.

The pony express was a semi-weekly service. Fifteen pounds was the limit of the weight of the waterproof mail bag and its contents. The postage or charge was \$5 on a letter of half an ounce. The limit was two hundred letters, but sometimes there were not more than twenty in a bag. The line never paid. The shortest time ever made by the pony express was seven days and seventeen hours. This was in March, 1861, when it carried President Lincoln's message. At first telegraphic messages were received at St. Joseph up to five o'clock p. m. of the day of starting and sent to San Francisco on the express, arriving at Placerville, which was then the eastern terminus of the line. The pony express was suspended October 27, 1861, on the completion of the telegraph.

The first stage line was established between Sacramento and Mormon Island in September, 1849, fare \$16 to \$32, according to times. Sacramento was the great distributing point for the mines and was also the center from which radiated numerous stage lines. In 1853 a dozen lines were owned there and the total capital invested in staging was estimated at \$335,000. There were lines running to Coloma, Nevada, Placerville, Georgetown, Yankee Jim's, Jackson, Stockton, Shasta and Auburn. In 1851 Stockton had seven daily stages. The first stage line between San Francisco and San José was established in April, 1850, fare \$32. A number of lines were consolidated. In 1860 the California stage company controlled eight lines northward, the longest extending seven hundred and ten miles to Portland with sixty stations, thirty-five drivers and five hundred horses, eleven drivers and one hundred and fifty horses pertaining to the rest. There were seven independent lines covering four hundred and sixty-four miles, chiefly east and south, the longest to Vir-

ginia City.\* These lines disappeared with the advent of the railroad.

The pack train was a characteristic feature of early mining days. Many of the mountain camps were inaccessible to wagons and the only means of shipping in goods was by pack train. A pack train consisted of from ten to twenty mules each, laden with from two hundred to four hundred pounds. The load was fastened on the animal by means of a pack saddle which was held in its place by a cinch tightly laced around the animal's body. The sure-footed mules could climb steep grades and wind round narrow trails on the side of steep mountains without slipping or tumbling over the cliffs. Mexicans were the most expert packers.

The scheme to utilize camels and dromedaries as beasts of burden on the arid plains of the southwest was agitated in the early fifties. The chief promoter if not the originator of the project was Jefferson Davis, afterwards president of the Southern Confederacy. During the last days of the congress of 1851, Mr. Davis offered an amendment to the army appropriation bill appropriating \$30,000 for the purchase of thirty camels and twenty dromedaries. The bill was defeated. When Davis was secretary of war in 1854, congress appropriated \$30,000 for the purchase and importation of camels and in December of that year Major C. Wayne was sent to Egypt and Arabia to buy seventy-five. He secured the required number and shipped them on the naval store ship Supply. They were landed at Indianola, Tex., February 10, 1857. Three had died on the voyage. About half of the herd were taken to Albuquerque, where an expedition was fitted out under the command of Lieutenant Beale for Fort Tejon, Cal.; the other half was employed in packing on the plains of Texas and in the Gadsen Purchase, as Southern Arizona was then called.

It very soon became evident that the camel experiment would not be a success. The American teamster could not be converted into an Arabian camel driver. From the very first meeting there was a mutual antipathy between the

---

\* Sacramento Union, January 1, 1861.

American mule whacker and the beast of the prophet. The teamsters when transformed into camel drivers deserted and the troopers refused to have anything to do with the misshapen beasts. So because there was no one to load and navigate these ships of the desert their voyages became less and less frequent, until finally they ceased altogether; and these desert ships were anchored at the different forts in the southwest. After the breaking out of the Civil war the camels at the forts in Texas and New Mexico were turned loose to shift for themselves. Those in Arizona and California were condemned and sold by the government to two Frenchmen who used them for packing, first in Nevada and later in Arizona, but tiring of the animals they turned them out on the desert. Some of these camels or possibly their descendants are still roaming over the arid plains of southern Arizona and Sonora.

The first telegraph was completed September 11, 1853. It extended from the business quarter of San Francisco to the Golden Gate and was used for signalling vessels. The first long line connected Marysville, Sacramento, Stockton and San José. This was completed October 24, 1853. Another line about the same time was built from San Francisco to Placerville by way of Sacramento. A line was built southward from San José along the Butterfield overland mail route to Los Angeles in 1860. The Overland Telegraph, begun in 1858, was completed November 7, 1861.

The first express for the States was sent under the auspices of the *California Star* (newspaper). The *Star* of March 1, 1848, contained the announcement that "We are about to send letters by express to the States at fifty cents each, papers twelve and a half cents; to start April 15; any mail arriving after that time will be returned to the writers. The *Star* refused to send copies of its rival, *The Californian*, in its express.

The first local express was started by Charles L. Cady in August, 1847. It left San Francisco every Monday and Fort Sacramento, its other terminus, every Thursday. Letters twenty-five cents. Its route was by way of Saucelito, Napa and Petaluma to Sacramento.

Weld & Co.'s express was established in October, 1849. This express ran from San Francisco to Marysville, having its principal offices in San Francisco, Benicia and Sacramento. It was the first express of any consequence established in California. Its name was changed to Hawley & Co.'s express. The first trip was made in the Mint, a sailing vessel, and took six days. Afterward it was transferred to the steamers Hartford and McKim. The company paid these boats \$800 per month for the use of one state room; later for the same accommodation it paid \$1,500 per month. The *Alta California* of January 7, 1850, says: "There are so many new express companies daily starting that we can scarcely keep the run of them."

The following named were the principal companies at that time: Hawley & Co., Angel, Young & Co., Todd, Bryan, Stockton Express, Henly, McKnight & Co., Brown, Knowlton & Co. The business of these express companies consisted largely in carrying letters to the mines. The letters came through the postoffice in San Francisco, but the parties to whom they were addressed were in the mines. While the miner would gladly give an ounce to hear from home he could not make the trip to the Bay at a loss of several hundred dollars in time and money. The express companies obviated this difficulty. The *Alta* of July 27, 1850, says: "We scarcely know what we should do if it were not for the various express lines established which enable us to hold communication with the mines. With the present defective mail communication we should scarcely ever be able to hear from the towns throughout California or from the remote portions of the Placers north or south. Hawley & Co., Todd & Bryan and Besford & Co. are three lines holding communication with different sections of the country. Adams & Co. occupy the whole of a large building on Montgomery street."

Adams & Co., established in 1850, soon became the leading express company of the coast. It absorbed a number of minor companies. It established relays of the fastest horses to carry the express to the mining towns. As early as 1852 the company's lines had penetrated the remote mining camps. Some of its riders per-

formed feats in riding that exceeded the famous pony express riders. Isaac W. Elwell made the trip between Placerville and Sacramento in two hours and fifty minutes, distance sixty-four miles; Frank Ryan made seventy-five miles in four hours and twenty minutes. On his favorite horse, Colonel, he made twenty miles in fifty-five minutes. Adams & Co. carried on a banking business and had branch banks in all the leading mining towns. They also became a po-

litical power. In the great financial crash of 1855 they failed and in their failure ruined thousands of their depositors. Wells, Fargo & Co. express was organized in 1851. It weathered the financial storm that carried down Adams & Co. It gained the confidence of the people of the Pacific coast and has never betrayed it. Its business has grown to immense proportions. It is one of the leading express companies of the world.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

### RAILROADS.

THE agitation of the Pacific railroad question began only two years after the first passenger railway was put in operation in the United States. The originator of the scheme to secure the commerce of Asia by a transcontinental railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific was Hartwell Carver, grandson of the famous explorer, Jonathan Carver. He published articles in the *New York Courier and Inquirer* in 1832 elaborating his idea, and memorialized congress on the subject. The western terminus was to be on the Columbia river. His road was to be made of stone. There were to be sleeping cars and dining cars attached to each train. In 1836, John Plumbe, then a resident of Dubuque, Iowa, advocated the building of a railroad from Lake Michigan to Oregon. At a public meeting held in Dubuque, March 26, 1838, which Plumbe addressed, a memorial to congress was drafted "praying for an appropriation to defray the expense of the survey and location of the first link in the great Atlantic and Pacific railroad, namely, from the lakes to the Mississippi." Their application was favorably received and an appropriation being made the same year, which was expended under the direction of the secretary of war, the report being of a very favorable character.\*

Plumbe received the indorsement of the Wis-

consin legislature of 1839-40 and a memorial was drafted to congress urging the continuance of the work. Plumbe went to Washington to urge his project. But the times were out of joint for great undertakings. The financial panic of 1837 had left the government revenues in a demoralized condition. Plumbe's plan was to issue stock to the amount of \$100,000,000 divided in shares of \$5 each. The government was to appropriate alternate sections of the public lands along the line of the road. Five million dollars were to be called in for the first installment. After this was expended in building, the receipts from the sale of the lands was to continue the building of the road. One hundred miles were to be built each year and twenty years was the time set for the completion of the road. A bill granting the subsidy and authorizing the building of the road was introduced in congress, but was defeated by the southern members who feared that it would foster the growth of free states.

The man best known in connection with the early agitation of the Pacific railroad scheme is Asa Whitney, of New York. For a time he acted with Carver in promulgating the project, but took up a plan of his own. Whitney wanted a strip of land sixty miles wide along the whole length of the road, which would have given about one hundred million acres of the public domain. Whitney's scheme called forth a great deal of discussion. It was feared by some

\*Bancroft's History of California, Vol. VII., p. 499.



timorous souls that such a monopoly would endanger the government and by others that it would bankrupt the public treasury. The agitation was kept up for several years. The acquisition of California and New Mexico threw the project into politics. The question of depleting the treasury or giving away the public domain no longer worried the pro-slavery politicians in congress. The question that agitated them now was how far south could the road be deflected so that it would enhance the value of the lands over which they hoped to spread their pet institution—human slavery.

Another question that agitated the members of congress was whether the road should be built by the government—should be a national road. The route which the road should take was fought over year after year in congress. The south would not permit the north to have the road for fear that freemen would absorb the public lands and build up free states. It was the old dog-in-the-manger policy so characteristic of the southern proslavery politicians.

The California newspapers early took up the discussion and routes were thick as leaves in Valambrosa. In the *Star* of May 13, 1848, Dr. John Marsh outlines a route which was among the best proposed: "From the highest point on the Bay of San Francisco to which seagoing vessels can ascend; thence up the valley of the San Joaquin two hundred and fifty miles; thence through a low pass (Walker's) to the valley of the Colorado and thence through Arizona and New Mexico by the Santa Fe trail to Independence, Mo."

Routes were surveyed and the reports of the engineers laid before congress; memorials were received from the people of California praying for a road; bills were introduced and discussed, but the years passed and the Pacific railroad was not begun. Slavery, that "sum of all villainies," was an obstruction more impassable than the mountains and deserts that intervened between the Missouri and the Pacific. Southern politicians, aided and abetted by Gwin of California neutralized every attempt.

One of the first of several local railroad projects that resulted in something more than resolutions, public meetings and the election of

a board of directors that never directed anything was the building of a railroad from San Francisco to San José. The agitation was begun early in 1850 and by February, 1851, \$100,000 had been subscribed. September 6 of that year a company was organized and the projected road given the high sounding title of the Pacific & Atlantic railroad. Attempts were made to secure subscriptions for its stock in New York and in Europe, but without success. Congress was appealed to, but gave no assistance and all that there was to the road for ten years was its name. In 1859 a new organization was effected under the name of the San Francisco & San José railroad company. An attempt was made to secure a subsidy of \$900,000 from the three counties through which the road was to pass, but this failed and the corporation dissolved. Another organization, the fourth, was effected with a capital stock of \$2,000,000. The construction of the road was begun in October, 1860, and completed to San José January 16, 1864.

The first railroad completed and put into successful operation in California was the Sacramento Valley road. It was originally intended to extend the road from Sacramento through Placer and Sutter counties to Mountain City, in Yuba county, a distance of about forty miles. It came to a final stop at a little over half that distance. Like the San José road the question of building was agitated several years before anything was really done. In 1853 the company was reorganized under the railroad act of that year. Under the previous organization subscriptions had been obtained. The *Sacramento Union* of September 19, 1852, says: "The books of the Sacramento Valley railroad company were to have been opened in San Francisco Wednesday. Upwards of \$200,000 of the necessary stock has been subscribed from here." The *Union* of September 24 announces, "That over \$600,000 had already been subscribed at San Francisco and Sacramento." Under the reorganization a new board was elected November 12, 1853. C. L. Wilson was made president; F. W. Page, treasurer, and W. H. Watson, secretary. Theodore D. Judah, afterwards famous in California railroad building, was employed as



engineer and the construction of the road began in February, 1855. It was completed to Folsom a distance of twenty-two miles from Sacramento and the formal opening of the road for business took place February 22, 1856. According to the secretary's report for 1857 the earnings of that year averaged \$18,000 per month. The total earnings for the year amounted to \$216,000; the expenses \$84,000, leaving a profit of \$132,000. The cost of the road and its equipment was estimated at \$700,000. From this showing it would seem that California's first railroad ought to have been a paying investment, but it was not. Money then was worth 5 per cent a month and the dividends from the road about 18 per cent a year. The difference between one and a half per cent and 5 per cent a month brought the road to a standstill.

Ten years had passed since California had become a state and had its representatives in congress. In all these years the question of a railroad had come up in some form in that body, yet the railroad seemingly was as far from a consummation as it had been a decade before. In 1859 the silver mines of the Washoe were discovered and in the winter of 1859-60 the great silver rush began. An almost continuous stream of wagons, pack trains, horsemen and footmen poured over the Sierra Nevadas into Carson Valley and up the slopes of Mount Davidson to Virginia City. The main line of travel was by way of Placerville, through Johnson's Pass to Carson City. An expensive toll road was built over the mountains and monster freight wagons hauled great loads of merchandise and mill machinery to the mines. "In 1863 the tolls on the new road amounted to \$300,000 and the freight bills on mills and merchandise summed up \$13,000,000.\*"

The rush to Washoe gave a new impetus to railroad projecting. A convention of the whole coast had been held at San Francisco in September, 1859, but nothing came of it beyond propositions and resolutions. Early in 1861, Theodore P. Judah called a railroad meeting at the St. Charles hotel in Sacramento. The feasibility of a road over the mountains, the large

amount of business that would come to that road from the Washoe mines and the necessity of Sacramento moving at once to secure that trade were pointed out. This road would be the beginning of a transcontinental line and Sacramento had the opportunity of becoming its terminus. Judah urged upon some of the leading business men the project of organizing a company to begin the building of a transcontinental road. The Washoe trade and travel would be a very important item in the business of the road.

On the 28th of June, 1861, the Central Pacific Railroad company was organized under the general incorporation law of the state. Leland Stanford was chosen president, C. P. Huntington, vice-president, Mark Hopkins, treasurer, James Bailey, secretary, and T. D. Judah, chief engineer. The directors were those just named and E. B. Crocker, John F. Morse, D. W. Strong and Charles Marsh. The capital stock of the company was \$8,500,000 divided into eighty-five thousand shares of \$100 each. The shares taken by individuals were few, Stanford, Huntington, Hopkins, Judah and Charles Crocker subscribing for one hundred and fifty each; Glidden & Williams, one hundred and twenty-five shares; Charles A. Lombard and Orville D. Lombard, three hundred and twenty shares; Samuel Hooper, Benjamin J. Reed, Samuel P. Shaw, fifty shares each; R. O. Ives, twenty-five shares; Edwin B. Crocker, ten shares; Samuel Brannan, two hundred shares; cash subscriptions of which 10 per cent was required by law to be paid down realizing but a few thousand dollars with which to begin so important a work as a railroad across the Sierra Nevada.\*

The total amount subscribed was \$158,000, scarcely enough to build five miles of road on the level plains if it had all been paid up. None of the men in the enterprise was rich. Indeed, as fortunes go now, none of them had more than a competence. Charles Crocker, who was one of the best off, in his sworn statement, placed the value of his property at \$25,000; C. P. Huntington placed the value of his individual possessions at \$7,222, while Leland Stanford and

\* Bancroft's History of California, Vol. VII., p. 541.

\* Bancroft's History of California, Vol. VII.

his brother together owned property worth \$32,950. The incubus that so long had prevented building a Pacific railroad was removed. The war of secession had begun. The southern senators and representatives were no longer in congress to obstruct legislation. The thirty-second and the thirty-fifth parallel roads southern schemes, were out of the way or rather the termini of these roads were inside the confederate lines.

A bill 'to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean and to secure to the government the use of the same for postal, military and other purposes passed both houses and became a law July 1, 1862. The bill provided for the building of the road by two companies. The Union Pacific (which was to be a union of several roads already projected) was given the construction of the road to the eastern boundary of California, where it would connect with the Central Pacific. Government bonds were to be given to the companies to the amount of \$16,000 per mile to the foot of the mountains and \$48,000 per mile through the mountains when forty miles of road had been built and approved by the government commissioners. In addition to the bonds the companies were to receive "every alternate section of public land designated by odd numbers to the amount of five alternate sections per mile on each side of the railroad on the line thereof and within the limits of ten miles on each side of the road not sold, reserved or otherwise disposed of by the United States." Mineral lands were exempted and any lands unsold three years after the completion of the entire road were subject to a preëmption like other public lands at a price not exceeding \$1.25 per acre, payable to the company.

The government bonds were a first mortgage on the road. The ceremony of breaking ground for the beginning of the enterprise took place at Sacramento, February 22, 1863, Governor Stanford throwing the first shovelful of earth, and work was begun on the first eighteen miles of the road which was let by contract to be finished by August, 1863. The Central Pacific company was in hard lines. Its means were not sufficient to build forty miles which must be

completed before the subsidy could be received. In October, 1863, Judah who had been instrumental in securing the first favorable legislation set out a second time for Washington to ask further assistance from congress. At New York he was stricken with a fever and died there. To him more than any other man is due the credit of securing for the Pacific coast its first transcontinental railroad. In July, 1864, an amended act was passed increasing the land grant from six thousand four hundred acres to twelve thousand eight hundred per mile and reducing the number of miles to be built annually from fifty to twenty-five. The company was allowed to bond its road to the same amount per mile as the government subsidy.

The Western Pacific, which was virtually a continuation of the Central Pacific, was organized in December, 1862, for the purpose of building a railroad from Sacramento via Stockton to San José. A branch of this line was constructed from Niles to Oakland, which was made the terminus of the Central Pacific. The Union Pacific did not begin construction until 1865, while the Central Pacific had forty-four miles constructed. In 1867 the Central Pacific had reached the state line. It had met with many obstacles in the shape of lawsuits and unfavorable comments by the press. From the state line it pushed out through Nevada and on the 28th of April, 1869, the two companies met with their completed roads at Promontory Point in Utah, fifty-three miles west of Ogden. The ceremony of joining the two roads took place May 10. The last tie, a handsomely finished piece of California laurel, was laid and Governor Stanford with a silver hammer drove a golden spike. The two locomotives, one from the east and one from the west, bumped noses and the first transcontinental railroad was completed.

The Southern Pacific Railroad company of California was incorporated in December, 1865. It was incorporated to build a railroad from some point on the bay of San Francisco through the counties of Santa Clara, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Tulare, Los Angeles to San Diego and thence easterly through San Diego to the eastern boundary of the state there to

connect with a railroad from the Mississippi river.

"In July, 1866, congress granted to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad company to aid in the construction of its road and telegraph line from Springfield, Mo., by the most eligible route to Albuquerque in New Mexico and thence by the thirty-fifth parallel route to the Pacific, an amount of land equal to that granted to the Central Pacific. By this act the Southern Pacific Railroad was authorized to connect with the Atlantic and Pacific near the boundary line of California, at such point as should be deemed most suitable by the companies and should have therefore the same amount of land per mile as the Atlantic and Pacific."\*

In 1867 the Southern Pacific company decided to change its route and instead of building down through the coast counties to go eastward from Gilroy through Pacheco's pass into the upper San Joaquin valley through Fresno, Kern and San Bernardino to the Colorado river near Fort Mojave. This contemplated change left the lower coast counties out in the cold and caused considerable dissatisfaction, and an attempt was made to prevent it from getting a land subsidy. Congress, however, authorized the change, as did the California legislature of 1870, and the road secured the land.

The San Francisco and San José Railroad came into possession of the Southern Pacific company, San Francisco donating three thousand shares of stock in that road on condition that the Southern Pacific company, after it secured the San José road, should extend it to the southeastern boundary of the state. In 1869 a proposition was made to the supervisors of San Francisco to donate \$1,000,000 in bonds of the city to the Southern Pacific company, on condition that it build two hundred miles south from Gilroy, the bonds to be delivered on the completion and stocking of each section of fifty miles of road. The bonds were voted by the people of the city. The road was built to Soledad, seventy miles from Gilroy, and then stopped. The different branch roads in the San José and Salinas valley were all consolidated

under the name of the Southern Pacific. The Central Pacific and the Southern Pacific, although apparently different organizations, were really one company.

The Southern Pacific built southward from Lathrop, a station on the Central Pacific's line, a railroad up the valley by way of Tehachapi Pass to Los Angeles. While this road was in course of construction in 1872 a proposition was made to the people of Los Angeles through the county board of supervisors to vote a subsidy equal to 5 per cent of the entire amount of the taxable property of the county on condition that the Southern Pacific build fifty miles of its main line to Yuma in the county. Part of the subsidy was to be paid in bonds of the Los Angeles & San Pedro Railroad, amounting to \$377,000 and sixty acres of land for depot purposes. The total amount of subsidy to be given was \$610,000. The proposition was accepted by the people, the railroad company in addition to its original offer agreeing to build a branch road twenty-seven miles long to Anaheim. This was done to head off the Tom Scott road which had made a proposition to build a branch road from San Diego to Los Angeles to connect with the Texas Pacific road which the year before had been granted a right of way from Marshall, Tex., to San Diego, and was preparing to build its road. The Southern Pacific completed its road to Los Angeles in September, 1876, and reached the Colorado river on its way east in April, 1877. It obtained the old franchise of the Texas Pacific and continued its road eastward to El Paso, Tex., where it made connections with roads to New Orleans and other points south and east, thus giving California its second transcontinental railroad. This road was completed to El Paso in 1881.

The Atlantic & Pacific road with which the Southern Pacific was to connect originally, suffered from the financial crash of 1873 and suspended operations for a time. Later it entered into a combination with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and St. Louis & San Francisco railroad companies. This gave the Atchison road a half interest in the charter of the Atlantic & Pacific. The two companies built a main line jointly from Albuquerque (where the Atchison

\* Bancroft, VII., p. 594.

road ended) west to the Colorado river at the Needles. Their intention was to continue the road to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The California Southern and the California Southern Extension companies were organized to extend the Atlantic & Pacific from Barstow to San Diego. These companies consolidated and completed a road from San Diego to San Bernardino September 13, 1883. The Southern Pacific interfered. It attempted to prevent the California Southern from crossing its tracks at Colton by placing a heavy engine at the point of crossing, but was compelled to move the engine to save it from demolition. It built a branch from Mojave station to connect with the Atlantic & Pacific in which it had an interest. This gave connection for the Atlantic & Pacific over the Southern Pacific lines with both Los Angeles and San Francisco. This was a serious blow to the California Southern, but disasters never come singly. The great flood of January, 1884, swept down through the Temecula Cañon and carried about thirty miles of its track out to sea. It was doubtful under the circumstances whether it would pay to rebuild it. Finally the Southern Pacific agreed to sell its extension from Barstow to the Needles to the California Southern, reserving its road from Barstow to

Mojave. Construction was begun at once on the California Southern line from Barstow to San Bernardino and in November, 1885, the road was completed from Barstow to San Diego. In October, 1886, the road passed under control of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe. In the spring of 1887 the road was extended westerly from San Bernardino to meet the San Gabriel valley road which had been built eastward from Los Angeles through Pasadena. The completed line reached Los Angeles in May, 1887, thus giving California a third transcontinental line.

After many delays the gap in the Southern Pacific coast line was closed and the first trains from the north and the south passed over its entire length between Los Angeles and San Francisco on the 31st of March, 1901, nearly thirty years after the first section of the road was built.

The Oregon & California and the Central Pacific were consolidated in 1870. The two ends of the road were united at Ashland, Ore., in 1887. The entire line is now controlled by the Southern Pacific, and, in connection with the Northern Pacific and the Oregon Railway & Navigation Road at Portland, forms a fourth transcontinental line for California.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### THE INDIAN QUESTION.

IT IS quite the fashion now with a certain school of writers, who take their history of California from "Ramona" and their information on the "Indian question" under the rule of the mission padres from sources equally fictitious, to draw invidious comparisons between the treatment of the Indian by Spain and Mexico when mission rule was dominant in California and his treatment by the United States after the conquest.

That the Indian was brutally treated and unmercifully slaughtered by the American miners and rancheros in the early '50s none will deny; that he had fared but little better under the rule

of Spain and Mexico is equally true. The tame and submissive Indians of the sea coast with whom the mission had to deal were a very different people from the mountain tribes with whom the Americans came in conflict.

We know but little of the conquistas or gentile hunts that were occasionally sent out from the mission to capture subjects for conversion. The history of these was not recorded. From "The narrative of a voyage to the Pacific and Berings strait with the Polar expedition; performed in his majesty's ship Blossom, under command of Capt. F. W. Beechey, R. N., in the years 1825-26-27-28, we have the story of one of these

conquistas or convert raids. Captain Beechey visited California in 1828. While in California he studied the missions, or at least those he visited, and after his return to England published his observations. His observations have great value. He was a disinterested observer and gave a plain, straightforward, truthful account of what he saw, without prejudice or partiality. His narrative dispels much of the romance that some modern writers throw around mission life. This conquista set out from the Mission San José.

"At a particular period of the year also, when the Indians can be spared from agricultural concerns of the establishment, many are permitted to take the launch of the mission and make excursions to the Indian territory. All are anxious to go on such occasions. Some to visit friends, some to procure the manufactures of their barbarian countrymen (which, by the by, are often better than their own) and some with a secret determination never to return. On these occasions the padres desire them to induce as many of their unconverted brethren as possible to accompany them back to the mission; of course, implying that this is to be done only by persuasion; but the boat being furnished with a cannon and musketry and in every respect equipped for war, it too often happens that the neophytes and the *gente de razon*, who superintend the direction of the boat, avail themselves of their superiority with the desire of ingratiating themselves with their master and receiving a reward. There are besides repeated acts of aggression, which it is necessary to punish, all of which furnish proselytes. Women and children are generally the first objects of capture, as their husbands and parents sometimes voluntarily follow them into captivity. These misunderstandings and captivities keep up a perpetual enmity amongst the tribes whose thirst for revenge is insatiable."

We had an opportunity of witnessing the tragical issue of one of these holiday excursions of the neophytes of the Mission San José. The launch was armed, as usual, and placed under the superintendence of an *alcalde* of the mission, who appears from one statement (for there are several), converted the party of pleasure either

into an attack for procuring proselytes or of revenge upon a particular tribe for some aggression in which they were concerned. They proceeded up the Rio San Joachin until they came to the territory of a particular tribe named Consemenes, when they disembarked with the gun and encamped for the night near the village of Los Gentiles, intending to make an attack upon them next morning, but before they were prepared the gentiles, who had been apprised of their intention and had collected a large body of their friends, became the assailants and pressed so hard upon the party that, notwithstanding they dealt death in every direction with their cannon and musketry and were inspired with confidence by the contempt in which they held the valor and tactics of their unconverted countrymen, they were overpowered by numbers and obliged to seek their safety in flight and to leave the gun in the woods. Some regained the launch and were saved and others found their way overland to the mission, but thirty-four of the party never returned to tell their tale.

"There were other accounts of the unfortunate affair, one of which accused the padre of authorizing the attack. The padre was greatly displeased at the result of the excursion, as the loss of so many Indians to the mission was of great consequence and the confidence with which the victory would inspire the Indians was equally alarming.

"He therefore joined with the converted Indians in a determination to chastise and strike terror into the victorious tribe and in concert with the governor planned an expedition against them. The mission furnished money, arms, Indians and horses and the presidio troops, headed by Alferez Sanches, a veteran, who had been frequently engaged with the Indians and was acquainted with that part of the country. The expedition set out November 19, and we heard nothing of it until the 27th, but two days after the troops had taken to the field some immense columns of smoke rising above the mountains in the direction of the Cosemmes bespoke the conflagration of the village of the persecuted gentiles; and on the day above mentioned the veteran Sanches made a triumphant entry into



the Mission of San José, escorting forty miserable women and children. The gun which had been lost in the first battle was retaken and other trophies captured.

"This victory, so glorious according to the ideas of the conquerors, was achieved with the loss of only one man on the part of the Christians, who was mortally wounded by the bursting of his own gun; but on the part of the enemy it was considerable, as Sanches the morning after the battle counted forty-one men, women and children dead. It is remarkable that none of the prisoners was wounded and it is greatly to be feared that the Christians, who could scarcely be prevented from revenging the death of their relatives upon those who were brought to the mission, glutted their brutal passions on all who fell into their hands.

"The prisoners they had captured were immediately enrolled in the list of the mission, except a nice little boy whose mother was shot while running away with him in her arms, and he was sent to the presidio and, as I heard, given to the Alférez as a reward for his services. The poor little orphan had received a slight wound in his forehead; he wept bitterly at first and refused to eat, but in time became reconciled to his fate.

"Those who were taken to the mission were immediately converted and were daily taught by the neophytes to repeat the Lord's prayer and certain hymns in the Spanish language. I happened to visit the mission about this time and saw these unfortunate beings under tuition. They were clothed in blankets and arranged in a row before a blind Indian, who understood their dialect and was assisted by an alcalde to keep order. Their tutor began by desiring them to kneel, informing them that he was going to teach them the names of the persons composing the trinity and they were to repeat in Spanish what he dictated. The neophytes being arranged, the speaker began: 'Santisima Trinidad, Dios, Jesu Christo, Espiritu Santo,' pausing between each name to listen if the simple Indians, who had never before spoken a word of Spanish, pronounced it correctly or anything near the mark. After they had repeated these names satisfactorily, their blind tutor, after a

pause, added 'Santos' and recapitulated the names of a great many saints, which finished the morning's lesson.

"They did not appear to me to pay much attention to what was going forward and I observed to the padre that I thought their teachers had an arduous task, but he said they had never found any difficulty; that the Indians were accustomed to change their own gods and that their conversion was in a measure habitual to them.

"The expenses of the late expedition fell heavily upon the mission and I was glad to find the padre thought it was paying very dear for so few converts, as in all probability it will lessen his desire to undertake another expedition and the poor Indians will be spared the horrors of being butchered by their own countrymen or dragged from their homes into captivity."

This conquista and the results that followed were very similar to some of the so-called Indian wars that took place after the American occupation. The Indians were provoked to hostilities by outrage and injustice. Then the military came down on them and wiped them out of existence.

The unsanitary condition of the Indian villages at some of the missions was as fatal as an Indian war. The Indian was naturally filthy, but in his native state he had the whole country to roam over. If his village became too filthy and the vermin in it too aggressive, he purified it by fire—burned up his wigwam. The adobe houses that took the place of the brush hovel, which made up the early mission villages, could not be burned to purify them. No doubt the heavy death rate at the missions was due largely to the uncleanly habits of the neophytes. The statistics given in the chapter on the Franciscan missions show that in all the missionary establishments a steady decline, a gradual extinction of the neophyte population, had been in progress for two to three decades before the missions were secularized. Had secularization been delayed or had it not taken place in the course of a few decades, at the rate the neophytes were dying off the missions would have become depopulated. The death rate was greater than the birth rate in all of them and the mortality among



the children was greater even than among the adults. After secularization the neophytes drifted to the cities and towns where they could more readily gratify their passion for strong drink. Their mission training and their Christianity had no restraining influence upon them. Their vicious habits, which were about the only thing they had acquired by their contact with the whites, soon put an end to them.

During the Spanish and Mexican eras Northern California remained practically a terra incognita. Two missions, San Rafael and San Francisco Solano, and the castillo at Sonora, had been established as a sort of protection to the northern frontier. A few armed incursions had been made into the country beyond these to punish Indian horse and cattle thieves. General Vallejo, who was in command of the troops on the frontera del norte, had always endeavored to cultivate friendly relations with the gentiles, but the padres disliked to have these near the missions on account of their influence on the neophytes. Near the Mission San Rafael, in 1833, occurred one of those Indian massacres not uncommon under Spanish and Mexican rule. A body of gentiles from the rancherias of Pulia, encouraged by Figueroa and Vallejo, came to the Mission San Rafael with a view to establishing friendly relations. The padre put off the interview until next day. During the night a theft was committed, which was charged to the gentiles. Fifteen of them were seized and sent as prisoners to San Francisco. Padre Mercado, fearing that their countrymen might retaliate, sent out his major doma Molina with thirty-seven armed neophytes, who surprised the gentiles in their rancheria, killed twenty-one, wounded many more and captured twenty men, women and children. Vallejo was indignant at the shameful violation of his promises of protection to the Indians. He released the prisoners at San Francisco and the captives at the mission and tried to pacify the wrathful gentiles. Padre Mercado was suspended from his ministry for a short time, but was afterward freed and returned to San Rafael.\*

There was a system of Indian slavery in ex-

istence in California under the rule of Spain and Mexico. Most of the wealthier Spanish and Mexican families had Indian servants. In the raids upon the gentiles the children taken by the soldiers were sometimes sold or disposed of to families for servants. Expeditions were gotten up upon false pretexts, while the main purpose was to steal Indian children and sell them to families for servants. This practice was carried on by the Americans, too, after the conquest.

For a time after the discovery of gold the Indians and the miners got along amicably. The first miners were mainly old Californians, used to the Indians, but with the rush of '49 came many rough characters who, by their injustice, soon stirred up trouble. Sutter had employed a large number of Indians on his ranches and in various capacities. These were faithful and honest. Some of them were employed at his mill in Coloma and in the diggings. In the spring of '49 a band of desperadoes known as the Mountain Hounds murdered eight of these at the mill. Marshall, in trying to defend them, came near being lynched by the drunken brutes.

The injustice done the Indians soon brought on a number of so-called Indian wars. These were costly affairs to the state and in less than two years had plunged the young commonwealth into a debt of nearly \$1,000,000. In a copy of the *Los Angeles Star* for February 28, 1852, I find this enumeration of the wars and the estimated cost of each: The Morehead expedition, \$120,000; General Bean's first expedition, \$66,000; General Bean's second expedition, \$50,000; the Mariposa war, \$230,000; the El Dorado war, \$300,000. The Morehead war originated out of an injustice done the Yuma Indians. These Indians, in the summer of 1849, had obtained an old scow and established a ferry across the Colorado river near the mouth of the Gila, and were making quite a paying business out of it by ferrying emigrants across the river. A party of Americans, headed by a Dr. Langdon of Louisiana, and a desperado named Jack Glanton, dispossessed the Indians of their boat, and having obtained a liberal supply of whiskey from San Diego set up in business for themselves. The Indians, watching their opportunity, while the whites were asleep or stupefied with

\* Bancroft's History of California, Vol. III.

drink, fell upon and massacred the whole party, twelve or fifteen in all, and secured some \$15,000 or \$20,000 in money. On receipt of the news, Governor Burnett ordered Major-General Bean of the state militia to march against the Yumas. Bean sent his quartermaster-general, Joseph C. Morehead. Morehead, on Bean's orders, provided necessaries for a three months' campaign at most extravagant prices, paying for them in drafts on the state treasury. Morehead started out from Los Angeles with forty men, but by the time he reached the Colorado river he had recruited his force to one hundred and twenty-five men. The liquid supplies taken along doubtless stimulated recruiting. They reached the Colorado in the summer of 1850, camped there and attacked their rations. After a month's siege (of their rations) they were ordered back and disbanded. The only loss was one man wounded (accidentally). He was sent back to Los Angeles for treatment. The doctor who treated him charged the state \$500. The man who boarded him put in a bill of \$120; and the patriot who housed him wanted \$45 for house rent. Bean's first and second expeditions were very similar in results to the Morehead campaign. The El Dorado expedition or Rogers' war, as it was sometimes called, was another of Governor Burnett's fiascos. He ordered William Rogers, sheriff of El Dorado county, to call out two hundred men at the state's expense to punish the Indians for killing some whites who had, in all probability, been the aggressors and the Indians had retaliated. It was well known that there were men in that part of the country who had wantonly killed Indians for the pleasure of boasting of their exploits.

Nor were the whites always the aggressors. There were bad Indians, savages, who killed without provocation and stole whenever an opportunity offered. In their attempts at retaliation the Indians slaughtered indiscriminately and the innocent more often were their victims than the guilty. On the side of the whites it was a war of extermination waged in many instances without regard to age or sex; on the part of the Indian it was a war of retaliation waged with as little distinction.

The extermination of the aborigines was fear-

fully rapid. Of over ten thousand Indians in Yuba, Placer, Nevada and Sierra counties in 1849 not more than thirty-eight hundred remained in 1854. Much of this decrease had been brought about by dissipation and disease engendered by contact with the whites. Reservations were established in various parts of the state, where Indians abounded, but the large salaries paid to agents and the numerous opportunities for speculation made these positions attractive to politicians, who were both incompetent and dishonest. The Indians, badly treated at the reservations, deserted them whenever an opportunity offered.

A recital of the atrocities committed upon each other in the northwestern part of the state during a period of nearly twenty years would fill a volume. The Indian with all his fiendishness was often outmatched in cruelty by his pale faced brother. The Indian Island massacre was scarcely ever equaled in the annals of Indian cruelties. Indian Island lies nearly opposite the city of Eureka in Humboldt Bay. On this island, fifty years ago, was a large rancheria of inoffensive Indians, who lived chiefly by fishing. They had not been implicated in any of the wars or raids that had disturbed that part of the country. They maintained many of their old customs and had an annual gathering, at which they performed various rites and ceremonies, accompanied by dancing. A number of the Indians from the mainland joined them at these times. Near midnight of February 25, 1860, a number of boats filled with white men sped silently out to the island. The whites landed and quietly surrounded the Indians, who were resting after their orgies, and began the slaughter with axes, knives and clubs, splitting skulls, knocking out brains and cutting the throats of men, women and children. Of the two hundred Indians on the island only four or five men escaped by swimming to the mainland. The same night a rancheria at the entrance of Humboldt Bay and another at the mouth of Eel river were attacked and about one hundred Indians slaughtered. The fiends who committed these atrocities belonged to a secret organization. No rigid investigation was ever made to find out who they were. The grand

jury mildly condemned the outrage and there the matter ended.

The Indians kept up hostilities, rendering travel and traffic unsafe on the borders of Humboldt, Klamath and Trinity counties. Governor Stanford in 1863 issued a proclamation for the enlistment of six companies of volunteers from the six northwestern counties of the state. These recruits were organized into what was known as the Mountaineer battalion with Lieut.-Col. Stephen G. Whipple in command. A number of Indian tribes united and a desultory warfare began. The Indians were worsted in nearly every engagement. Their power was broken and in February, 1865, fragments of the different tribes were gathered into the Hoopa Valley reservation. The Mountaineer battalion in what was known as the "Two Years' War" settled the Indian question from Shasta to the sea for all time.

The Modoc war was the last of the Indian disturbances in the state. The Modocs inhabited the country about Rhett Lake and Lost river in the northeast part of the state, bordering on Oregon. Their history begins with the massacre of an immigrant train of sixty-five persons, men, women and children, on their way from Oregon to California. This brought upon them a reprisal by the whites in which forty-one out of forty-six Indians who had been invited by Benjamin Wright to a pow wow after they had laid aside their arms were set upon by Wright and his companions with revolvers and all killed but five. In 1864 a treaty had been made with the Modocs by which they were to reside on the Klamath reservation. But tiring of reservation life, under their leader, Captain Jack, they returned to their old homes on Lost river. A company of United States troops and several volunteers who went along to see the fun were sent to bring them back to the reservation. They refused to go and a fight ensued in which four of the volunteers and one of the regulars were killed, and the troops retreated. The Modocs after killing several settlers gathered at the lava beds near Rhett Lake and prepared for war.

Lieutenant-Colonel Wheaton with about four hundred men attacked the Indians in the lava

beds January 17, 1873. Captain Jack had but fifty-one men. When Wheaton retreated he had lost thirty-five men killed and a number wounded, but not an Indian had been hurt. A few days after the battle a peace commission was proposed at Washington. A. B. Meacham, Jesse Applegate and Samuel Case were appointed. Elijah Steele of Yreka, who was on friendly terms with the Indians, was sent for. He visited the lava beds with the interpreter, Fairchild, and had a big talk. He proposed to them to surrender and they would be sent to Angel Island near San Francisco, fed and cared for and allowed to select any reservation they wished. Steele, on his return to camp, reported that the Indians accepted the terms, but Fairchild said they had not and next day on his return Steele found out his mistake and barely escaped with his life. Interviews continued without obtaining any definite results, some of the commission became disgusted and returned home. General Canby, commanding the department, had arrived and taken charge of affairs. Commissioner Case resigned and Judge Rosborough was appointed in his place and the Rev. E. Thomas, a doctor of divinity in the Methodist church, was added to the commission. A man by the name of Riddle and his wife Toby, a Modoc, acted as go-betweens and negotiations continued.

A pow wow was arranged at the council tent at which all parties were to meet unarmed, but Toby was secretly informed that it was the intention of the Modocs to massacre the commissioners as had been done to the Indian commissioners twenty years before by Benjamin Wright and his gang. On April 10, while Meacham and Dyer, the superintendent of the Klamath reservation, who had joined the commissioners, were away from camp, the Rev. Dr. Thomas made an agreement with a delegation from Captain Jack for the commission and General Canby to meet the Indians at the council tent. Meacham on his return opposed the arrangement, fearing treachery. The doctor insisted that God had done a wonderful work in the Modoc camp, but Meacham shocked the pious doctor by saying "God had not been in the Modoc camp this winter."

Two of the Indian leaders, Boston Charley and Bogus Charley, came to headquarters to accompany the commission. Riddle and his wife, Toby, bitterly opposed the commissioners' going, telling them they would be killed, and Toby going so far as to seize Meacham's horse to prevent him from going, telling him, "You get kill." Canby and the doctor insisted upon going, despite all protests, the doctor saying, "Let us go as we agreed and trust in God." Meacham and Dyer secured derringers in their side pockets before going. When the commissioners, the interpreters, Riddle and his wife, reached the council tent they found Captain Jack, Schonchin John, Black Jim, Shancknasty Jim, Ellen's Man and Hooker Jim sitting around a fire at the council tent. Concealed behind some rocks a short distance away were two young Indians with a number of rifles. The two Charleys, Bogus and Boston, who had come with the commissioners from headquarters, informed the Indians that the commissioners were not armed. The interview began. The Indians were very insolent. Suddenly, at a given signal, the Indians uttered a war whoop, and Captain Jack drew a revolver from under his coat and shot General Canby. Boston Charley shot Dr. Thomas, who fell, rose again, but was shot down while begging for his life. The young Indians had brought up the rifles and a fusillade was begun upon the others. All escaped without injury except Meacham, who, after running some distance, was felled by a bullet fired by Hooker Jim, and left for dead. He was saved from being scalped by the bravery of Toby. He recovered, however, although badly disfigured. While this

was going on, Curly Haired Doctor and several other Modocs, with a white flag, inveigled Lieutenants Boyle and Sherwood beyond the lines. Seeing the Indians were armed, the officers turned to flee, when Curly Haired Jack fired and broke Lieutenant Sherwood's thigh. He died a few days later. The troops were called to arms when the firing began, but the Indians escaped to the lava beds. After a few days' preparation, Colonel Gillem, who was in command, began an attack on the Indian stronghold. Their position was shelled by mountain howitzers. In the fighting, which lasted four days, sixteen soldiers were killed and thirteen wounded. In a reconnaissance under Captain Thomas a few days later, a body of seventy troops and fourteen Warm Spring Indians ran into an ambush of the Indians and thirteen soldiers, including Thomas, were killed. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis was placed in command. The Indians were forced out of the lava beds, their water supply having been cut off. They quarreled among themselves, broke up into parties, were chased down and all captured. Captain Jack and Schonchin John, the two leaders, were shackled together. General Davis made preparations to hang these and six or eight others, but orders from Washington stopped him. The leading Indians were tried by court-martial. Captain Jack, Schonchin John, Black Jim and Boston Charley were hung, two others were sentenced to imprisonment for life. The other Modocs, men, women and children, were sent to a fort in Nebraska and afterwards transferred to the Quaw Paw Agency in Indian Territory. This ended the Modoc war and virtually put an end to the Modoc Indians.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### SOME POLITICAL HISTORY.

THE first Chinese emigrants to California arrived in the brig *Eagle*, from Hong Kong, in the month of February, 1848. They were two men and one woman. This was before the discovery of gold was known abroad. What brought these waifs from the Flowery

Kingdom to California does not appear in the record. February 1, 1849, there were fifty-four Chinamen and one Chinawoman in the territory. January 1, 1850, seven hundred and eighty-nine men and two women had arrived. January 1, 1851, four thousand and eighteen men and seven

women; a year later their numbers had increased to eight thousand one hundred and twenty-one men and eight women; May 7, 1852, eleven thousand seven hundred and eighty men and seven women had found their way to the land of gold. The *Alta California*, from which I take these figures, estimated that between seven and ten thousand more would arrive in the state before January 1, 1853. The editor sagely remarks: "No one fears danger or misfortune from their excessive numbers." There was no opposition to their coming; on the contrary, they were welcomed and almost lionized. The *Alta* of April 27, 1851, remarks: "An American barque yesterday brought eighty worshippers of the sun, moon and many stars. These Celestials make excellent citizens and we are pleased to notice their daily arrival in large numbers." The *Alta* describes a Great Chinese meeting on Portsmouth Square, which took place in 1851. It seems to have been held for the purpose of welcoming the Chinese to California and at the same time doing missionary work and distributing religious tracts among them. The report says: "A large assemblage of citizens and several ladies collected on the plaza to witness the ceremonies. Ah Hee assembled his division and Ah Sing marched his into Kearny street, where the two divisions united and then marched to the square. Many carried fans. There were several peculiar looking Chinamen among them. One, a very tall, old Celestial with an extensive tail, excited universal attention. He had a huge pair of spectacles upon his nose, the glasses of which were about the size of a telescope lens. He also had a singularly colored fur mantle or cape upon his shoulders and a long sort of robe. We presume he must be a mandarin at least.

"Vice Consul F. A. Woodworth, His Honor, Major J. W. Geary, Rev. Albert Williams, Rev. A. Fitch and Rev. F. D. Hunt were present. Ah Hee acted as interpreter. The Rev. Hunt gave them some orthodox instruction in which they were informed of the existence of a country where the China boys would never die; this made them laugh quite heartily. Tracts, scriptural documents, astronomical works, almanacs and other useful religious and instructive docu-

ments printed in Chinese characters were distributed among them."

I give the report of another meeting of "The Chinese residents of San Francisco," taken from the *Alta* of December 10, 1849. I quote it to show how the Chinese were regarded when they first came to California and how they were flattered and complimented by the presence of distinguished citizens at their meetings. Their treatment a few years later, when they were mobbed and beaten in the streets for no fault of theirs except for coming to a Christian country, must have given them a very poor opinion of the white man's consistency. "A public meeting of the Chinese residents of the town was held on the evening of Monday, November 19, at the Canton Restaurant on Jackson street. The following preamble and resolutions were presented and adopted:

"Whereas, It becomes necessary for us, strangers as we are in a strange land, unacquainted with the language and customs of our adopted country, to have some recognized counselor and advisor to whom we may all appeal with confidence for wholesome instruction, and,

"Whereas, We should be at a loss as to what course of action might be necessary for us to pursue therefore,

"Resolved, That a committee of four be appointed to wait upon Selim E. Woodworth, Esq., and request him in behalf of the Chinese residents of San Francisco to act in the capacity of arbiter and advisor for them."

"Mr. Woodworth was waited upon by Ah Hee, Jon Ling, Ah Ting and Ah Toon and kindly consented to act. The whole affair passed off in the happiest manner. Many distinguished guests were present, Hon. J. W. Geary, alcalde; E. H. Harrison, ex-collector of the port, and others."

At the celebration of the admission of California into the Union the "China Boys" were a prominent feature. One report says: "The Celestials had a banner of crimson satin on which were some Chinese characters and the inscription 'China Boys.' They numbered about fifty and were arrayed in the richest stuff and commanded by their chief, Ah Sing."

While the "China Boys" were feted and flat-



tered in San Francisco they were not so enthusiastically welcomed by the miners. The legislature in 1850 passed a law fixing the rate of license for a foreign miner at \$20 per month. This was intended to drive out and keep out of the mines all foreigners, but the rate was so excessively high that it practically nullified the enforcement of the law and it was repealed in 1851. As the Chinese were only allowed peaceable possession of mines that would not pay white man's wages they did not make fortunes in the diggings. If by chance the Asiatics should happen to strike it rich in ground abandoned by white men there was a class among the white miners who did not hesitate to rob the Chinamen of their ground.

As a result of their persecution in the mines the Chinese flocked to San Francisco and it was not long until that city had more "China Boys" than it needed in its business. The legislature of 1855 enacted a law that masters, owners or consignors of vessels bringing to California persons incompetent to become citizens under the laws of the state should pay a fine of \$50 for every such person landed. A suit was brought to test the validity of the act; it was declared unconstitutional. In 1858 the foreign miner's tax was \$10 per month and as most of the other foreigners who had arrived in California in the early '50s had by this time become citizens by naturalization the foreigners upon whom the tax bore most heavily were the Chinese who could not become citizens. As a consequence many of them were driven out of the mines and this again decreased the revenue of the mining counties, a large part of which was made up of poll tax and license.

The classes most bitterly opposed to the Chinese in the mines were the saloon-keepers, the gamblers and their constituents. While the Chinaman himself is a most inveterate gambler and not averse to strong drink he did not divest himself of his frugal earnings in the white man's saloon or gambling den, and the gentry who kept these institutions were the first, like Bill Nye in Bret Harte's poem, to raise the cry, "We are ruined by Chinese cheap labor." While the southern politicians who were the rulers of the state before the Civil war were

opposed to the Chinese and legislated against them, it was not done in the interest of the white laborer, for at one time they had made an attempt to introduce the coolie system, which was to have been a substitute for their beloved institution—slavery. They could not endure the presence of an inferior race not in bondage. The most intolerant and the most bitter opponents of the Chinese then and later when opposition had intensified were certain servile classes of Europeans who in their native countries had always been kept in a state of servility to the aristocracy, but when raised to the dignity of American citizens by naturalization proceeded to celebrate their release from their former serfdom by persecuting the Chinese, whom they regarded as their inferiors. The outcry these people made influenced politicians, who pandered to them for the sake of their votes to make laws and ordinances that were often burlesques on legislation.

In 1870 the legislature enacted a law imposing a penalty of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000 or imprisonment upon any one bringing to California any subject of China or Japan without first presenting evidence of his or her good character to the commissioner of immigration. The supreme court decided the law unconstitutional. Laws were passed prohibiting the employment of Chinese on the public works; prohibiting them from owning real estate and from obtaining licenses for certain kinds of business. The supervisors of San Francisco passed an ordinance requiring that the hair of any male prisoner convicted of an offense should be cut within one inch of his head. This, of course, was aimed at Chinese convicts and intended to deprive them of their queues and degrade them in the estimation of their people. It was known as the Pig Tail Ordinance; the mayor vetoed it. Another piece of class legislation by the San Francisco supervisors imposed a license of \$15 a quarter on laundries using no horses, while a laundry using a one-horse wagon paid but \$2 per quarter. The Chinese at this time (1876) did not use horses in their laundry business. The courts decided against this ordinance.

Notwithstanding the laws and ordinances

against them the Chinese continued to come and they found employment of some kind to keep them from starving. They were industrious and economical; there were no Chinese tramps. Although they filled a want in the state, cheap and reliable labor, at the beginning of its railroad and agricultural development, they were not desirable citizens. Their habits and morals were bad. Their quarters in the cities reeked with filth and immorality. They maintained their Asiatic customs and despised the "white devils" among whom they lived, which, by the way, was not strange considering the mobbing and maltreatment they received from the other aliens. They made merchandise of their women and carried on a revolting system of female slavery.

The Burlingame treaty guaranteed mutual protection to the citizens of China and the United States on each other's soil; to freedom in religious opinions; to the right to reside in either country at will and other privileges accorded to civilized nations. Under this treaty the Chinese could not be kept out of California and agitation was begun for the modification or entire abrogation of the treaty.

For a number of years there had been a steady decline in the price of labor. Various causes had contributed to this. The productiveness of the mines had decreased; railroad communication with the east had brought in a number of workmen and increased competition; the efforts of the labor unions to decrease the hours of labor and still keep up the wages at the old standard had resulted in closing up some of the manufacturing establishments, the proprietors finding it impossible to compete with eastern factories. All these and other causes brought about a depression in business and brought on in 1877-78 a labor agitation that shook the foundations of our social fabric. The hard times and decline in wages was charged against the Chinese. No doubt the presence of the Mongolians in California had considerable to do with it and particularly in the lower grades of employment but the depression was mainly caused from over-production and the financial crisis of 1873, which had affected the whole United States. Another cause local to California was the wild

mania for stock gambling that had prevailed in California for a number of years. The bonanza kings of the Washoe by getting up corners in stocks running up fraudulent values and then unloading on outside buyers had impoverished thousands of people of small means and enriched themselves without any return to their dupes.

Hard times always brings to the front a class of noisy demagogues who with no remedy to prescribe increase the discontent by vituperative abuse of everybody outside of their sympathizers. The first of the famous sand lot mass meetings of San Francisco was held July 23, 1877, on a vacant lot on the Market street side of the city hall. Harangues were made and resolutions passed denouncing capitalists, declaring against subsidies to steamship and railroad lines, declaring that the reduction of wages was part of a conspiracy for the destruction of the republic and that the military should not be employed against strikers. An anti-coolie club was formed and on that and the two succeeding evenings a number of Chinese laundries were destroyed. In a fight between the police (aided by the committee of safety) and the rioters several of the latter were killed. Threats were made to destroy the railroad property and burn the vessels of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company unless the Chinese in their employ were immediately discharged.

Among the agitators that this ebullition of discontent threw to the front was an Irish drayman named Dennis Kearney. He was shrewd enough to see that some notoriety and political capital could be made by the organization of a Workingmen's party.

On the 5th of October a permanent organization of the Workingmen's party of California was effected. Dennis Kearney was chosen president, J. G. Day, vice-president, and H. L. Knight, secretary. The principles of the party were the condensed essence of selfishness. The working classes were to be elevated at the expense of every other. "We propose to elect none but competent workmen and their friends to any office whatever." "The rich have ruled us till they have ruined us." "The republic must and shall be preserved, and only workmen will do it." "This party will exhaust all peaceable means of

attaining its ends, but it will not be denied justice when it has the power to enforce it." "It will encourage no riot or outrage, but it will not volunteer to repress or put down or arrest, or prosecute the hungry and impatient who manifest their hatred of the Chinamen by a crusade against John or those who employ him." These and others as irrelevant and immaterial were the principles of the Workingmen's party that was to bring the millennium. The movement spread rapidly, clubs were formed in every ward in San Francisco and there were organizations in all the cities of the state. The original leaders were all of foreign birth, but when the movement became popular native born demagogues, perceiving in it an opportunity to obtain office, abandoned the old parties and joined the new.

Kearney now devoted his whole time to agitation, and the applause he received from his followers pampered his inordinate conceit. His language was highly incendiary. He advised every workman to own a musket and one hundred rounds of ammunition and urged the formation of military companies. He posed as a reformer and even hoped for martyrdom. In one of his harangues he said: "If I don't get killed I will do more than any reformer in the history of the world. I hope I will be assassinated, for the success of the movement depends on that." The incendiary rant of Kearney and his fellows became alarming. It was a tame meeting, at which no "thieving millionaire, scoundrelly official or extortionate railroad magnate" escaped lynching by the tongues of laborite reformers. The charitable people of the city had raised by subscription \$20,000 to alleviate the prevailing distress among the poor. It was not comforting to a rich man to hear himself doomed to "hemp! hemp! hemp!" simply because by industry, economy and enterprise he had made a fortune. It became evident that if Kearney and his associates were allowed to talk of hanging men and burning the city some of their dupes would put in practice the teachings of their leaders. The supervisors, urged on by the better class of citizens, passed an ordinance called by the sand-lotters "Gibbs' gag law." On the 29th of October, Kearney and

his fellow agitators, with a mob of two or three thousand followers, held a meeting on Nob Hill, where Stanford, Crocker, Hopkins and other railroad magnates had built palatial residences. He roundly denounced as thieves the nabobs of Nob Hill and declared that they would soon feel the power of the workingmen. When his party was thoroughly organized they would march through the city and compel the thieves to give up their plunder; that he would lead them to the city hall, clear out the police, hang the prosecuting attorney, burn every book that had a particle of law in it, and then enact new laws for the workingmen. These and other utterances equally inflammatory caused his arrest while addressing a meeting on the borders of the Barbary coast. Trouble was expected, but he quietly submitted and was taken to jail and a few days later Day, Knight, C. C. O'Donnell and Charles E. Pickett were arrested on charges of inciting riot and taken to jail. A few days in jail cooled them off and they began to "squeal." They addressed a letter to the mayor, saying their utterances had been incorrectly reported by the press and that if released they were willing to submit to any wise measure to allay the excitement. They were turned loose after two weeks' imprisonment and their release was celebrated on Thanksgiving Day, November 29, by a grand demonstration of sand lotters—seven thousand of whom paraded the streets.

It was not long before Kearney and his fellows were back on the sand lots hurling out threats of lynching, burning and blowing up. On January 5 the grand jury presented indictments against Kearney, Wellock, Knight, O'Donnell and Pickett. They were all released on the rulings of the judge of the criminal court on the grounds that no actual riot had taken place.

The first victory of the so-called Workingmen's party was the election of a state senator in Alameda county to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Senator Porter. An individual by the name of John W. Bones was elected. On account of his being long and lean he was known as Barebones and sometimes Praise God Barebones. His only services in the senate were the perpetration of some doggerel verses and a

speech or two on Kearney's theme, "The Chinese Must Go." At the election held June 19, 1878, to choose delegates to a constitutional convention of the one hundred and fifty-two delegates the Workingmen elected fifty-seven, thirty-one of whom were from San Francisco. The convention met at Sacramento, September 28, 1878, and continued to sit in all one hundred and fifty-seven days. It was a mixed assemblage. There were some of the ablest men in the state in it, and there were some of the most narrow minded and intolerant bigots there. The Workingmen flocked by themselves, while the non-partisans, the Republicans and Democrats, for the most part, acted in unison. Opposition to the Chinese, which was a fundamental principle of the Workingmen's creed, was not confined to them alone; some of the non-partisans were as bitter in their hatred of the Mongolians as the Kearneyites. Some of the crudities proposed for insertion in the new constitution were laughable for their absurdity. One sand lotter proposed to amend the bill of rights, that all men are by nature free and independent, to read, "All men who are capable of becoming citizens of the United States are by nature free and independent." One non-partisan wanted to incorporate into the fundamental law of the state Kearney's slogan, "The Chinese Must Go."

After months of discussion the convention evolved a constitution that the ablest men in that body repudiated, some of them going so far as to take the stump against it. But at the election it carried by a large majority. Kearney continued his sand lot harangues. In the summer of 1879 he made a trip through the southern counties of the state, delivering his diatribes against the railroad magnates, the land monopolists and the Chinese. At the town of Santa Ana, now the county seat of Orange county, in his harangue he made a vituperative attack upon the McFadden Brothers, who a year or two before had built a steamer and run it in opposition to the regular coast line steamers until forced to sell it on account of losses incurred by the competition. Kearney made a number of false and libelous statements in regard to the transaction. While he was waiting for the stage to San Diego in front of the hotel he was con-

fronted by Rule, an employee of the McFadden's, with an imperious demand for the name of Kearney's informant. Kearney turned white with fear and blubbered out something about not giving away his friends. Rule struck him a blow that sent him reeling against the building. Gathering himself together he made a rush into the hotel, drawing a pistol as he ran. Rule pursued him through the dining room and out across a vacant lot and into a drug store, where he downed him and, holding him down with his knee on his breast, demanded the name of his informer. One of the slandered men pulled Rule off the "martyr" and Kearney, with a face resembling a beefsteak, took his departure to San Diego. From that day on he ceased his vituperative attacks on individuals. He had met the only argument that could convince him of the error of his ways. He lost caste with his fellows. This braggadocio, who had boasted of leading armies to conquer the enemies of the Workingmen, with a pistol in his hand had ignominiously fled from an unarmed man and had taken a humiliating punishment without a show of resistance. His following began to desert him and Kearney went if the Chinese did not. The Workingmen's party put up a state ticket in 1879, but it was beaten at the polls and went to pieces. In 1880 James Angell of Michigan, John F. Swift of California, and William H. Trescott of South Carolina were appointed commissioners to proceed to China for the purpose of forming new treaties. An agreement was reached with the Chinese authorities by which laborers could be debarred for a certain period from entering the United States. Those in the country were all allowed the rights that aliens of other countries had. The senate ratified the treaty May 5th, 1881.

The following is a list of the governors of California, Spanish, Mexican and American, with date of appointment or election: Spanish: Gaspar de Portolá, 1767; Felipe Barri, 1771; Felipe de Neve, 1774; Pedro Fages, 1790; José Antonio Romeu, 1790; José Joaquín de Arrillaga, 1792; Diego de Borica, 1794; José Joaquín de Arrillaga, 1800; José Arguello, 1814; Pablo Vicente de Sola, 1815. Mexican governors: Pablo Vicente de Sola, 1822; Luis

Arguello, 1823; José Maria Echeandia, 1825; Manuel Victoria, 1831; Pio Pico, 1832; José Maria Echeandia, Agustin Zamorano, 1832; José Figueroa, 1833; José Castro, 1835; Nicolas Gutierrez, 1836; Mariano Chico, 1836; Nicolas Gutierrez, 1836; Juan B. Alvarado, 1836; Manuel Micheltorena, 1842; Pio Pico, 1845. American military governors: Commodore Robert F. Stockton, 1846; Col. John C. Fremont, January, 1847; Gen. Stephen W. Kearny, March 1, 1847; Col. Richard B. Mason, May 31, 1847; Gen. Bennet Riley, April 13, 1849. American governors elected: Peter H. Burnett, 1849. John McDougal, Lieutenant-governor, became governor on resignation of P. H. Burnett in January, 1851; John Bigler, 1851; John Bigler,

1853; J. Neely Johnson, 1855; John B. Weller, 1857; M. S. Latham, 1859; John G. Downey, lieutenant-governor, became governor in 1859 by election of Latham to United States senate; Leland Stanford, 1861; Frederick F. Low, 1863; Henry H. Haight, 1867; Newton Booth, 1871; Romualdo Pacheco, lieutenant governor, became governor February, 1875, on election of Booth to the United States senate; William Irwin, 1875; George C. Perkins, 1879; George Stoneman, 1882; Washington Bartlett, 1886; Robert W. Waterman, lieutenant-governor, became governor September 12, 1887, upon the death of Governor Bartlett; H. H. Markham, 1890; James H. Budd, 1894; Henry T. Gage, 1898.

## CHAPTER XXXV.

### EDUCATION AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

THE Franciscans, unlike the Jesuits, were not the patrons of education. They bent all their energies towards proselyting. Their object was to fit their converts for the next world. An ignorant soul might be as happy in paradise as the most learned. Why educate the neophyte? He was converted, baptized and when granted absolution had his passport to heaven. There were no public schools at the missions. A few of the brightest of the neophytes, who were trained to sing in the church choirs, were taught to read, but the great mass of them, even those of the third generation, born and reared at the missions, were as ignorant of book learning as were their great-grandfathers, who ran naked among the oak trees of the mesas and fed on acorns.

Nor was there much attention paid to education among the *gente de razon* of the presidios and pueblos. But few of the common people could read and write. Their ancestors had made their way in the world without book learning. Why should the child know more than the parent? And trained to have great filial regard for his parent, it was not often that the progeny aspired to rise higher in the scale

of intelligence than his progenitor. Of the eleven heads of families who founded Los Angeles, not one could sign his name to the title deed of his house lot. Nor were these an exceptionally ignorant collection of hombres. Out of fifty men comprising the Monterey company in 1785, but fourteen could write. In the company stationed at San Francisco in 1794 not a soldier among them could read or write; and forty years later of one hundred men at Sonoma not one could write his name.

The first community want the American pioneers supplied was the school house. Wherever the immigrants from the New England and the middle states planted a settlement, there, at the same time, they planted a school house. The first community want that the Spanish pabladores (colonists) supplied was a church. The school house was not wanted or if wanted it was a long felt want that was rarely or never satisfied. At the time of the acquisition of California by the Americans, seventy-seven years from the date of its first settlement, there was not a public school house owned by any presidio, pueblo or city in all its territory.

The first public school in California was



opened in San José in December, 1794, seventeen years after the founding of that pueblo. The pioneer teacher of California was Manuel de Vargas, a retired sergeant of infantry. The school was opened in the public granary. Vargas, in 1795, was offered \$250 to open a school in San Diego. As this was higher wages than he was receiving he accepted the offer. José Manuel Toca, a *gamute* or ship boy, arrived on a Spanish transport in 1795 and the same year was employed at Santa Barbara as schoolmaster at a yearly salary of \$125. Thus the army and the navy pioneered education in California.

Governor Borica, the founder of public schools in California, resigned in 1800 and was succeeded by Arrillaga. Governor Arrillaga, if not opposed to, was at least indifferent to the education of the common people. He took life easy and the schools took long vacations; indeed, it was nearly all vacation during his term. Governor Sola, the successor of Arrillaga, made an effort to establish public schools, but the indifference of the people discouraged him. In the lower pueblo, Los Angeles, the first school was opened in 1817, thirty-six years after the founding of the town. The first teacher there was Maximo Piña, an invalid soldier. He received \$140 a year for his services as schoolmaster. If the records are correct, his was the only school taught in Los Angeles during the Spanish régime. One year of schooling to forty years of vacation, there was no educational cramming in those days. The schoolmasters of the Spanish era were invalid soldiers, possessed of that dangerous thing, a "little learning;" and it was very little indeed. About all they could teach was reading, writing and the doctrina Christiana. They were brutal tyrants and their school government a military despotism. They did not spare the rod or the child, either. The rod was too mild an instrument of punishment. Their implement of torture was a cat-o'-ninetails, made of hempen cords with iron points. To fail in learning the doctrina Christiana was an unpardonable sin. For this, for laughing aloud, playing truant or other offenses no more heinous, the guilty boy "was stretched face downward upon a bench with a handkerchief

thrust into his mouth as a gag and lashed with a dozen or more blows until the blood ran down his little lacerated back." If he could not imbibe the Christian doctrine in any other way, it was injected into him with the points of the lash.

Mexico did better for education in California than Spain. The school terms were lengthened and the vacation shortened proportionally. Governor Echeandia, a man hated by the friars, was an enthusiastic friend of education. "He believed in the gratuitous and compulsory education of rich and poor, Indians and *gente de razon* alike." He held that learning was the corner-stone of a people's wealth and it was the duty of the government to foster education. When the friars heard of his views "they called upon God to pardon the unfortunate ruler unable to comprehend how vastly superior a religious education was to one merely secular.\* Echeandia made a brave attempt to establish a public school system in the territory. He demanded of the friars that they establish a school at each mission for the neophytes; they promised, but, with the intention of evading, a show was made of opening schools. Soon it was reported that the funds were exhausted and the schools had to close for want of means to support them. Nor was Echeandia more successful with the people. He issued an order to the commanding officers at the presidios to compel parents to send their children to school. The school at Monterey was opened, the alcalde acting as schoolmaster. The school furniture consisted of one table and the school books were one arithmetic and four primers. The school funds were as meager as the school furniture. Echeandia, unable to contend against the enmity of the friars, the indifference of the parents and the lack of funds, reluctantly abandoned his futile fight against ignorance.

One of the most active and earnest friends of the public schools during the Mexican era was the much abused Governor Micheltorena. He made an earnest effort to establish a public school system in California. Through his efforts schools were established in all the principal

\* Bancroft's California Pastoral.

towns and a guarantee of \$500 from the territorial funds promised to each school. Micheltorena promulgated what might be called the first school law of California. It was a decree issued May 1, 1844, and consisted of ten articles, which prescribed what should be taught in the schools, school hours, school age of the pupils and other regulations. Article 10 named the most holy virgin of Guadalupe as patroness of the schools. Her image was to be placed in each school. But, like all his predecessors, Micheltorena failed: the funds were soon exhausted and the schools closed.

Even had the people been able to read there would have been nothing for them to read but religious books. The friars kept vigilant watch that no interdicted books were brought into the country. If any were found they were seized and publicly burned. Castro, Alvarado and Valero were at one time excommunicated for reading Rousseau's works, Telemachus and other books on the prohibited list. Alvarado having declined to pay Father Duran some money he owed him because it was a sin to have anything to do with an excommunicated person, and therefore it would be a sin for the father to take money from him, the padre annulled the sentence, received the money and gave Alvarado permission to read anything he wished.

During the war for the conquest of California and for some time afterwards the schools were all closed. The wild rush to the gold mines in 1848 carried away the male population. No one would stay at home and teach school for the paltry pay given a schoolmaster. The ayuntamiento of Los Angeles in the winter of 1849-50 appointed a committee to establish a school. After a three months' hunt the committee reported "that an individual had just presented himself who, although he did not speak English, yet could he teach the children many useful things; and besides the same person had managed to get the refusal of Mrs. Pollerena's house for school purpose." At the next meeting of the ayuntamiento the committee reported that the individual who had offered to teach had left for the mines and neither a school house nor a schoolmaster could be found.

In June, 1850, the ayuntamiento entered into

a contract with Francisco Bustamente, an ex-soldier, "to teach to the children first, second and third lessons and likewise to read script, to write and count and so much as I may be competent to teach them orthography and good morals." Bustamente was to receive \$60 per month and \$20 for house rent. This was the first school opened in Los Angeles after the conquest.

"The first American school in San Francisco and, we believe, in California, was a merely private enterprise. It was opened by a Mr. Marston from one of the Atlantic states in April, 1847, in a small shanty which stood on the block between Broadway and Pacific streets, west of Dupont street. There he collected some twenty or thirty pupils, whom he continued to teach for almost a whole year, his patrons paying for tuition."\*

In the fall of 1847 a school house was built on the southwest corner of Portsmouth square, fronting on Clay street. The money to build it was raised by subscription. It was a very modest structure—box shaped with a door and two windows in the front and two windows in each end. It served a variety of purposes besides that of a school house. It was a public hall for all kinds of meetings. Churches held service in it. The first public amusements were given in it. At one time it was used for a court room. The first meeting to form a state government was held in it. It was finally degraded to a police office and a station house. For some time after it was built no school was kept in it for want of funds.

On the 21st of February, 1848, a town meeting was called for the election of a board of school trustees and Dr. F. Fourguard, Dr. J. Townsend, C. L. Ross, J. Serrini and William H. Davis were chosen. On the 3d of April following these trustees opened a school in the school house under the charge of Thomas Douglas, A. M., a graduate of Yale College and an experienced teacher of high reputation. The board pledged him a salary of \$1,000 per annum and fixed a tariff of tuition to aid towards its payment; and the town council, afterwards,

\*Annals of San Francisco.

to make up any deficiency, appropriated to the payment of the teacher of the public school in this place \$200 at the expiration of twelve months from the commencement of the school. "Soon after this Mr. Marston discontinued his private school and Mr. Douglas collected some forty pupils."\*

The school flourished for eight or ten weeks. Gold had been discovered and rumors were coming thick and fast of fortunes made in a day. A thousand dollars a year looked large to Mr. Douglas when the contract was made, but in the light of recent events it looked rather small. A man in the diggings might dig out \$1,000 in a week. So the schoolmaster laid down the pedagogical birch, shouldered his pick and hied himself away to the diggings. In the rush for gold, education was forgotten. December 12, 1848, Charles W. H. Christian reopened the school, charging tuition at the rate of \$10. Evidently he did not teach longer than it took him to earn money to reach the mines. April 23, 1849, the Rev. Albert Williams, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, obtained the use of the school house and opened a private school, charging tuition. He gave up school teaching to attend to his ministerial duties. In the fall of '49 John C. Pelton, a Massachusetts schoolmaster, arrived in San Francisco and December 26 opened a school with three pupils in the Baptist church on Washington street. He fitted up the church with writing tables and benches at his own expense, depending on voluntary contributions for his support. In the spring of 1850 he applied to the city council for relief and for his services and that of his wife he received \$500 a month till the summer of 1851, when he closed his school.

Col. T. J. Nevins, in June, 1850, obtained rent free the use of a building near the present intersection of Mission and Second streets for school purposes. He employed a Mr. Samuel Newton as teacher. The school was opened July 13. The school passed under the supervision of several teachers. The attendance was small at first and the school was supported by contributions, but later the council voted an ap-

propriation. The school was closed in 1851. Colonel Nevins, in January, 1851, secured a fifty-vara lot at Spring Valley on the Presidio road and built principally by subscription a large school building, employed a teacher and opened a free school, supported by contributions. The building was afterwards leased to the city to be used for a free school, the term of the lease running ninety-nine years. This was the first school building in which the city had an ownership. Colonel Nevins prepared an ordinance for the establishment, regulation and support of free common schools in the city. The ordinance was adopted by the city council September 25, 1851, and was the first ordinance establishing free schools and providing for their maintenance in San Francisco.

A bill to provide for a public school system was introduced in the legislature of 1850, but the committee on education reported that it would be two or three years before any means would become available from the liberal provisions of the constitution; in the meantime the persons who had children to educate could do it out of their own pockets. So all action was postponed and the people who had children paid for their tuition or let them run without schooling.

The first school law was passed in 1851. It was drafted mainly by G. B. Lingley, John C. Pelton and the superintendent of public instruction, J. G. Marvin. It was revised and amended by the legislatures of 1852 and 1853. The state school fund then was derived from the sale and rental of five hundred thousand acres of state land; the estates of deceased persons escheated to the state; state poll tax and a state tax of five cents on each \$100 of assessed property. Congress in 1853 granted to California the 16th and 36th sections of the public lands for school purposes. The total amount of this grant was six million seven hundred and sixty-five thousand five hundred and four acres, of which forty-six thousand and eighty acres were to be deducted for the founding of a state university or college and six thousand four hundred acres for public buildings.

The first apportionment of state funds was made in 1854. The amount of state funds for

\* Annals of San Francisco.

that year was \$52,961. The county and municipal school taxes amounted to \$157,702. These amounts were supplemented by rate bills to the amount of \$42,557. In 1856 the state fund had increased to \$69,961, while rate bills had decreased to \$28,619. That year there were thirty thousand and thirty-nine children of school age in the state, of these only about fifteen thousand were enrolled in the schools.

In the earlier years, following the American conquest, the schools were confined almost entirely to the cities. The population in the country districts was too sparse to maintain a school. The first school house in Sacramento was built in 1849. It was located on I street. C. H. T. Palmer opened school in it in August. It was supported by rate bills and donations. He gathered together about a dozen pupils. The school was soon discontinued. Several other parties in succession tried school keeping in Sacramento, but did not make a success of it. It was not until 1851 that a permanent school was established. A public school was taught in Monterey in 1849 by Rev. Willey. The school was kept in Colton Hall. The first public school house in Los Angeles was built in 1854. Hugh Overns taught the first free school there in 1850.

The amount paid for teachers' salaries in 1854 was \$85,860; in 1900 it reached \$4,850,804. The total expenditures for school purposes in 1854 amounted to \$275,606; in 1900 to \$6,195,438. The first high school in the state was established in San Francisco in 1856. In 1900 there were one hundred and twenty high schools with an attendance of twelve thousand one hundred and seventy-nine students. Two million dollars were invested in high school buildings, furniture and grounds. Five hundred teachers were employed in these schools.

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC.

This institution was chartered in August, 1851, as the California Wesleyan College, which name was afterwards changed by act of the legislature to that it now bears. The charter was obtained under the general law of the state as it then was, and on the basis of a subscription of \$27,500 and a donation of some ten acres of land adjacent to the village of Santa Clara. A

school building was erected in which the preparatory department was opened in May, 1852, under the charge of Rev. E. Banister as principal, aided by two assistant teachers, and before the end of the first session had over sixty pupils. Near the close of the following year another edifice was so far completed that the male pupils were transferred to it, and the Female Collegiate Institute, with its special course of study, was organized and continued in the original building. In 1854 the classes of the college proper were formed and the requisite arrangement with respect to president, faculty, and course of study made. In 1858 two young men, constituting the first class, received the degree of A. B., they being the first to receive that honor from any college in California. In 1865 the board of trustees purchased the Stockton rancho, a large body of land adjoining the town of Santa Clara. This was subdivided into lots and small tracts and sold at a profit. By this means an endowment was secured and an excellent site for new college building obtained.

#### THE COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA.

The question of founding a college or university in California had been discussed early in 1849, before the assembling of the constitutional convention at San José. The originator of the idea was the Rev. Samuel H. Willey, D. D., of the Presbyterian church. At that time he was stationed at Monterey. The first legislature passed a bill providing for the granting of college charters. The bill required that application should be made to the supreme court, which was to determine whether the property possessed by the proposed college was worth \$20,000, and whether in other respects a charter should be granted. A body of land for a college site had been offered by James Stokes and Kimball H. Dimmick to be selected from a large tract they owned on the Guadalupe river, near San José. When application was made for a college charter the supreme court refused to give a charter to the applicants on the plea that the land was unsurveyed and the title not fully determined.

The Rev. Henry Durant, who had at one time been a tutor in Yale College, came to California

in 1853 to engage in teaching. At a meeting of the presbytery of San Francisco and the Congregational Association of California held in Nevada City in May, 1853, which Mr. Durant attended, it was decided to establish an academy at Oakland. There were but few houses in Oakland then and the only communication with San Francisco was by means of a little steamer that crossed the bay two or three times a day. A house was obtained at the corner of Broadway and Fifth street and the academy opened with three pupils. A site was selected for the school, which, when the streets were opened, proved to be four blocks, located between Twelfth and Fourteenth, Franklin and Harrison streets. The site of Oakland at that time was covered with live oaks and the sand was knee deep. Added to other discouragements, titles were in dispute and squatters were seizing upon the vacant lots. A building was begun for the school, the money ran out and the property was in danger of seizure on a mechanics' lien, but was rescued by the bravery and resourcefulness of Dr. Durant.

In 1855 the College of California was chartered and a search begun for a permanent site. A number were offered at various places in the state. The trustees finally selected the Berkeley site, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres on Strawberry creek near Oakland, opposite the Golden Gate. The college school in Oakland was flourishing. A new building, Academy Hall, was erected in 1858. A college faculty was organized. The Rev. Henry Durant and the Rev. Martin Kellogg were chosen professors and the first college class was organized in June, 1860. The college classes were taught in the buildings of the college school, which were usually called the College of California. The college classes were small and the endowment smaller. The faculty met with many discouragements. It became evident that the institution could never become a prominent one in the educational field with the limited means of support it could command. In 1863 the idea of a state university began to be agitated. A bill was passed by the state legislature in 1866, devoting to the support of a narrow polytechnical school, the federal land grants to California for

the support of agricultural schools and a college of mechanics. The trustees of the College of California proposed in 1867 to transfer to the state the college site at Berkeley, opposite the Golden Gate, together with all the other assets remaining after the debts were paid, on condition that the state would build a University of California on the site at Berkeley, which should be a classical and technological college.

#### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

A bill for the establishing of a state university was introduced in the legislature March 5, 1868, by Hon. John W. Dwinelle of Alameda county. After some amendments it was finally passed, March 21, and on the 27th of the same month a bill was passed making an appropriation for the support of the institution.

The board of regents of the university was organized June 9, 1868, and the same day Gen. George B. McClellan was elected president of the university, but at that time being engaged in building Stevens Battery at New York he declined the honor. September 23, 1869, the scholastic exercises of the university were begun in the buildings of the College of California in Oakland and the first university class was graduated in June, 1873. The new buildings of the university at Berkeley were occupied in September, 1873. Prof. John Le Conte was acting president for the first year. Dr. Henry Durant was chosen to fill that position and was succeeded by D. C. Gilman in 1872. The cornerstone of the Agricultural College, called the South Hall, was laid in August, 1872, and that of the North Hall in the spring of 1873.

The university, as now constituted, consists of Colleges of Letters, Social Science, Agriculture, Mechanics, Mining, Civil Engineering, Chemistry and Commerce, located at Berkeley; the Lick Astronomical Department at Mount Hamilton; and the professional and affiliated colleges in San Francisco, namely, the Hastings College of Law, the Medical Department, the Post-Graduate Medical Department, the College of Dentistry and Pharmacy, the Veterinary Department and the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art. The total value of the property belonging to the university at this time is about \$5,000,000



and the endowment funds nearly \$3,000,000. The total income in 1900 was \$475,254.

#### LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY.

"When the intention of Senator Stanford to found a university in memory of his lamented son was first announced, it was expected from the broad and comprehensive views which he was known to entertain upon the subject, that his plans, when formed, would result in no ordinary college endowment or educational scheme, but when these plans were laid before the people their magnitude was so far beyond the most extravagant of public anticipation that all were astonished at the magnificence of their aggregate, the wide scope of their detail and the absolute grandeur of their munificence. The brief history of California as an American state comprises much that is noble and great, but nothing in that history will compare in grandeur with this act of one of her leading citizens. The records of history may be searched in vain for a parallel to this gift of Senator Stanford to the state of his adoption. \* \* \* By this act Senator Stanford will not only immortalize the memory of his son, but will erect for himself a monument more enduring than brass or marble, for it will be enshrined in the hearts of succeeding generations for all time to come."\*

Senator Stanford, to protect the endowments he proposed to make, prepared a bill, which was passed by the legislature, approved by the governor and became a law March 9, 1885. It is entitled "An act to advance learning, the arts and sciences and to promote the public welfare, by providing for the conveyance, holding and protection of property, and the creation of trusts for the founding, endowment, erection and maintenance within this state of universities, colleges, schools, seminaries of learning, mechanical institutes, museums and galleries of art."

Section 2 specifies how a grant for the above purposes may be made: "Any person desiring in his lifetime to promote the public welfare by founding, endowing and having maintained within this state a university, college, school,

seminary of learning, mechanical institute, museum or gallery of art or any or all thereof, may, to that end, and for such purpose, by grant in writing, convey to a trustee, or any number of trustees named in such grant (and their successors), any property, real or personal, belonging to such person, and situated or being within this state; provided, that if any such person be married and the property be community property, then both husband and wife must join in such grant." The act contains twelve sections. After the passage of the act twenty-four trustees were appointed. Among them were judges of the supreme and superior courts, a United States senator and business men in various lines.

Among the lands deeded to the university by Senator Stanford and his wife were the Palo Alto estate, containing seventy-two hundred acres. This ranch had been devoted principally to the breeding and rearing of thoroughbred horses. On this the college buildings were to be erected. The site selected was near the town of Palo Alto, which is thirty-four miles south from San Francisco on the railroad to San José, in Santa Clara county.

Another property donated was the Vina rancho, situated at the junction of Deer creek with the Sacramento river in Tehama county. It consisted of fifty-five thousand acres, of which thirty-six thousand were planted to vines and orchard and the remainder used for grain growing and pasture.

The third rancho given to the support of the university was the Gridley ranch, containing about twenty-one thousand acres. This was situated in Butte county and included within its limits some of the richest wheat growing lands in the state. At the time it was donated its assessed value was \$1,000,000. The total amount of land conveyed to the university by deed of trust was eighty-three thousand two hundred acres.

The name selected for the institution was Leland Stanford Junior University. The cornerstone of the university was laid May 14, 1887, by Senator and Mrs. Leland Stanford. The site of the college buildings is about one mile west from Palo Alto. In his address to the trustees

\* Monograph of Leland Stanford Junior University.

November 14, 1885, Senator Stanford said: "We do not expect to establish a university and fill it with students at once. It must be the growth of time and experience. Our idea is that in the first instance we shall require the establishment of colleges for both sexes; then of primary schools, as they may be needed; and out of all these will grow the great central institution for more advanced study." The growth of the university has been rapid. In a very few years after its founding it took rank with the best institutions of learning in the United States.

#### NORMAL SCHOOLS.

The legislature of 1862 passed a bill authorizing the establishment of a state normal school for the training of teachers at San Francisco or at such other place as the legislature may hereafter direct. The school was established and conducted for several years at San Francisco, but was eventually moved to San José, where a site had been donated. A building was erected and the school became a flourishing institution. The first building was destroyed by fire and the present handsome and commodious building erected on a new site. The first normal school established in the state was a private one, conducted by George W. Minns. It was started in

San Francisco in 1857, but was discontinued after the organization of the state school in 1863, Minns becoming principal. A normal school was established by the legislature at Los Angeles in 1881. It was at first a branch of the state school at San José and was under control of the same board of trustees and the same principal. Later it was made an independent institution with a board and principal of its own.

Normal schools have been established at Chico (1889), San Diego (1897) and San Francisco (1899). The total number of teachers employed in the five state normal schools in 1900 was one hundred and one, of whom thirty-seven were men and sixty-four women. The whole number of students in these at that time was two thousand and thirty-nine, of whom two hundred and fifty-six were men and one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine women.

The total receipts for the support of these schools from all sources were for the year ending June 30, 1900, \$251,217; the total expenditures for the same time were \$206,001; the value of the normal school property of the state is about \$700,000. The educational system and facilities of California, university, college, normal school and public school, rank with the best in the United States.

## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### CITIES OF CALIFORNIA—THEIR ORIGIN AND GROWTH.

**A**LTHOUGH Spain and Mexico possessed California for seventy-seven years after the date of the first settlement made in it, they founded but few towns and but one of those founded had attained the dignity of a city at the time of the American conquest. In a previous chapter I have given sketches of the founding of the four presidios and three pueblos under Spanish rule. Twenty missions were established under the rule of Spain and one under the Mexican Republic. While the country increased in population under the rule of Mexico, the only new settlement that was formed was the mission at Solano.

Pueblos grew up at the presidios and some of the mission settlements developed into towns. The principal towns that have grown up around the mission sites are San Juan Capistrano, San Gabriel, San Buenaventura, San Miguel, San Luis Obispo, Santa Clara and San Rafael.

The creation of towns began after the Americans got possession of the country. Before the treaty of peace between the United States and Mexico had been made, and while the war was in progress, two enterprising Americans, Robert Semple and T. O. Larkin, had created on paper an extensive city on the Straits of Carquinez. The city of Francisca "comprises five miles,"

so the proprietors of the embryo metropolis announced in the *Californian* of April 20, 1847, and in subsequent numbers. According to the theory of its promoters, Francisca had the choice of sites and must become the metropolis of the coast. "In front of the city," says their advertisement, "is a commodious Bay, large enough for two hundred ships to ride at anchor safe from any wind. The country around the city is the best agricultural portion of California on both sides of the Bay; the straits being only one mile wide, an easy crossing may always be made. The entire trade of the great Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys (a fertile country of great width and nearly seven hundred miles long from North to South) must of necessity pass through the narrow channel of Carquinez and the Bay, and the country is so situated that every person who passes from one side of the Bay to the other will find the nearest and best way by Francisca."

In addition to its natural advantages the proprietors offered other attractions and inducements to settlers. They advertised that they would give "seventy-five per cent of the net proceeds of the ferries and wharves for a school fund and the embellishment of the city"; "they have also laid out several entire squares for school purposes and several others for public walks" (parks). Yet, notwithstanding all the superior attractions and natural advantages of Francisca, people would migrate to and locate at the wind-swept settlement on the Cove of Yerba Buena. And the town of the "good herb" took to itself the name of San Francisco and perforce compelled the Franciscans to become Benicians. Then came the discovery of gold and the consequent rush to the mines, and although Francisca, or Benicia, was on the route, or one of the routes, somehow San Francisco managed to get all the profit out of the trade and travel to the mines.

The rush to the land of gold expanded the little settlement formed by Richardson and Leese on the Cove of Yerba Buena into a great city that in time included within its limits the mission and the presidio. The consolidation of the city and county governments gave a simpler form of municipal rule and gave the city room

to expand without growing outside of its municipal jurisdiction. The decennial Federal census from 1850 to the close of the century indicates the remarkable growth of San Francisco. Its population in 1850 was 21,000; in 1860, 56,802; in 1870, 149,473; in 1880, 234,000; in 1890, 298,997; in 1900, 342,742.

#### LOS ANGELES.

The only settlement under Mexican domination that attained the dignity of a ciudad, or city, was Los Angeles. Although proclaimed a city by the Mexican Congress, more than ten years before the Americans took possession of the country, except in official documents, it was usually spoken of as *el pueblo*—the town. Its population at the time of its conquest by the Americans numbered about sixteen hundred. The first legislature gave it a city charter, although fifteen years before it had been raised to the dignity of a city; the lawmakers for some reason cut down its area from four square leagues to four square miles. This did not affect its right to its pueblo lands. After the appointment of a land commission, in 1851, it laid claim to sixteen square leagues, but failed to substantiate its claim. Its pueblo area of four square leagues (Spanish) was confirmed to it by the commission. Within the past seven years, by annexation, its area has been increased from the original four square leagues, or about twenty-seven miles, to thirty-seven square miles. Its increase in population during the past twenty years has been the greatest of any of the large cities of the state. In 1880 it had 11,183 inhabitants; in 1890, 50,353; in 1900, 102,429. Its growth since 1900 has exceeded that of any similar period in its history. Its estimated population January, 1903, is 125,000.

#### OAKLAND.

Oakland, the third city in population among the cities of California, is the youngest of the large cities. It is purely American by birth. Its site during Spanish and Mexican rule was uninhabited and was covered with oak trees and chaparral. The territory which Oakland covers was part of a five-league grant made to Luis Maria Peralta, a Spanish soldier, who came to

the presidio of San Francisco in 1790. August 16, 1820, Governor Sola granted him the Rancho San Antonio. His military service had extended over a period of forty years. In 1842 he divided the grant among his five sons, the portion embraced in Oakland falling to the allotment of Vicente.

The first permanent settlers and the fathers of Oakland were Moore, Carpentier and Adams, who squatted on the land in the summer of 1850. The Peraltas made an attempt to evict them, but failed. This trio of squatters obtained a lease from Peralta, laid out a town and sold lots, giving quit-claim deeds. They erected houses and are considered the founders of the town. Other squatters followed their example and possessed themselves of the Peraltas' land. This involved the settlers in litigation, and it was many years before titles were perfected. The Peralta litigants finally won.

May 4, 1852, the town of Oakland was incorporated. March 25, 1854, it was incorporated as a city and Horace W. Carpentier was elected the first mayor. The first ferry charter was granted in 1853. Defective titles and the water-front war between the city authorities and H. W. Carpentier retarded its growth for a number of years. In 1860 its population was about 1,500. The completion of the overland railroad, which made Oakland its western terminus, greatly accelerated its growth. The water-front war was continued; instead of Carpentier, the city now had the Central Pacific Railroad Company to contend with. The controversy was finally ended in 1882, and the city won. The population of Oakland in 1890 was 48,682; in 1900, 66,960. According to a recent census (November, 1902), it exceeds 88,000.

#### SACRAMENTO.

Sutter built his fort near the junction of the Sacramento and American rivers in 1839. It was then the most northerly settlement in California and became the trading post for the northern frontier. It was the outpost to which the tide of overland immigration flowed before and after the discovery of gold. Sutter's settlement was also known as New Helvitia. After the discovery of gold at Coloma it was, during

1848, the principal supply depot for the mines. Sutter had a store at the fort and did a thriving business. Sam Brannan, in June, 1848, established a store outside of the fort, in a long adobe building. His sales amounted to over \$100,000 a month. His profits were enormous. Gold dust was a drug on the market and at one time passed for \$8 an ounce, less than half its value. In September, 1848, Priest, Lee & Co. established a business house at the fort and did an immense business. The fort was not well located for a commercial center. It was too far away from the river by which all the freight from San Francisco was shipped. The land at the embarcadero was subject to overflow and was deemed unsuited for the site of a city. Sutterville was laid out on rising ground three miles below. A survey of lots was extended from the fort to the embarcadero and along the river bank. This embryo town at the embarcadero took the name of Sacramento from the river. Then began a rivalry between Sutterville and Sacramento. The first house in Sacramento, corner of Front and I streets, was erected in January, 1849. The proprietors of Sutterville, McDougall & Co., made an attempt to attract trade and building to their town by giving away lots, but Sutter beat them at that game, and Sacramento surged ahead. Sam Brannan and Priest, Lee & Co. moved their stores into Sacramento. The fort was deserted and Sutterville ceased to contend for supremacy. In four months lots had advanced from \$50 to \$1,000 and business lots to \$3,000. A regular steamboat service on the river was inaugurated in August, 1849, and sailing vessels that had come around the Horn to avoid trans-shipment worked their way up the river and landed their goods at the embarcadero. The first number of the *Placer Times* was issued April 28, 1849. The steamboat rates of passage between San Francisco and Sacramento were: Cabin, \$30; steerage, \$20; freight, \$2.50 per one hundred pounds. By the winter of 1849 the population of the town had reached five thousand and a year later it had doubled. Lots in the business section were held at \$30,000 to \$50,000 each. The great flood of 1849-50, when four-fifths of the city was under water, somewhat dampened the enthusi-

asm of the citizens, but did not check the growth of the city. Sacramento became the trading center of the mines. In 1855 its trade, principally with the mines, amounted to \$6,000,000. It was also the center of the stage lines, a dozen of which led out from it.

It became the state capital in 1853, and although disastrous floods drove the legislators from the capital several times, they returned when the waters subsided. The great flood of 1861-62 inundated the city and compelled an immense outlay for levees and for raising the grades of the streets. Sacramento was made the terminus of the Central Pacific Railroad system, and its immense workshops are located there. Its growth for the past thirty years has been slow but steady. Its population in 1890 was 26,386; in 1900, 29,282.

#### SAN JOSE.

The early history of San José has been given in the chapter on Pueblos. After the American conquest the place became an important business center. It was the first state capital and the removal of the capital for a time checked its progress. In 1864 it was connected with San Francisco by railroad. The completion of the railroad killed off its former port, Alviso, which had been laid out as a city in 1849. Nearly all the trade and travel before the railroad was built had gone by way of Alviso down the bay to San Francisco. San José and its suburb, Santa Clara, early became the educational centers of California. The first American college founded in the state was located at Santa Clara and the first normal school building erected in the state was built at San José. The population of San José in 1880 was 12,570; in 1900, 21,500.

#### STOCKTON.

In 1844 the Rancho Campo de los Franceses, Camp of the French, or French Camp, on which the city of Stockton is located, was granted to William Gulnac by Governor Micheltorena. It contained eleven leagues of 48,747 acres of land. Capt. Charles M. Weber, the founder of Stockton, was a partner of Gulnac, but not being a Mexican citizen, he could not obtain a land grant. After Gulnac obtained the grant he con-

veyed a half interest in it to Weber. Weber shortly afterward purchased his partner's interest and became sole owner of the grant. Some attempts were made to stock it with cattle, but Indian depredations prevented it. In 1847, after the country had come into the possession of the Americans, Weber removed from San José, which had been his place of residence since his arrival in California in 1841, and located on his ranch at French Camp. He erected some huts for his vaqueros and fortified his corral against Indians. In 1848 the site of the city was surveyed and platted under the direction of Captain Weber and Maj. R. P. Hammond. The rancho was surveyed and sectionized and land offered on most advantageous terms to settlers. Captain Weber was puzzled to find a fitting name for his infant metropolis. He hesitated between Tuleburgh and Castoria (Spanish for beaver). Tules were plentiful and so were beaver, but as the town grew both would disappear, so he finally selected Stockton, after Commodore Stockton, who promised to be a godfather to the town, but proved to be a very indifferent stepfather; he never did anything for it. The discovery of gold in the region known as the southern mines brought Stockton into prominence and made it the metropolis of the southern mining district. Captain Weber led the party that first discovered gold on the Mokelumne river. The freight and travel to the mines on the Mokelumne, Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers passed through Stockton, and its growth was rapid. In October, 1849, the *Alta California* reports lots in it selling from \$2,500 to \$6,000 each, according to situation. At that time it had a population of about one thousand souls and a floating population, that is, men coming and going to the mines, of about as many more. The houses were mostly cotton-lined shacks. Lumber was \$1 a foot and carpenters' wages \$16 per day. There was neither mechanics nor material to build better structures. Every man was his own architect and master builder. Cloth was scarce and high and tacks at one time were worth \$5 a package; even a cloth house was no cheap affair, however flimsy and cheap it might appear. On the morning of December 23, 1849, the business portion of the town was swept out



of existence by fire. Rebuilding was begun almost before the embers of the departed city were cold and a better city arose from the ashes of the first. After the wild rush of mining days was over, Stockton drifted into a center of agricultural trade and it also became a manufacturing city. Its growth has been steady, devoid of booms or periods of inflation, followed by collapse. Its population in 1890 was 14,424; in 1900, 17,506.

#### SAN DIEGO.

In former chapters I have described the founding of the presidio and mission of San Diego. A pueblo of twenty-five or thirty houses grew up around the presidio. This is what is known as Old San Diego. In 1850 it was incorporated as a city. March 18, 1850, Alcalde Sutherland granted to William Heath Davis and five associates one hundred and sixty acres of land a few miles south of Old Town, in consideration that they build a wharf and create a "new port." The town of New San Diego was laid out, the wharf was built, several houses erected, and government barracks constructed. A newspaper was established and the Panama steamers anchored at the wharf. San Diego was riding high on the wave of prosperity. But the wave broke and left San Diego stranded on the shore of adversity. In 1868, A. E. Horton came to San Diego. He bought about nine hundred acres of pueblo lands along the bay at twenty-six cents an acre. He subdivided it, gave away lots, built houses and a wharf and soon infused life into the sleepy pueblo. In 1884 the Southern California Railroad was completed into the city. In 1887 San Diego experienced a wonderful real estate boom and its growth for several years was marvelous. Then it came to a standstill, but has again started on the highway to prosperity. Its population in 1890 was 16,159; in 1900, 17,700.

#### FRESNO CITY.

Fresno City was founded by the Southern Pacific Railroad in May, 1872. The road at that time was in the course of construction. The outlook for a populous town was not brilliant. Stretching for miles away from the town site in different directions was an arid-looking plain.

The land was fertile enough when well watered; but the few settlers had no capital to construct irrigating canals.

In 1875 began the agricultural colony era. The land was divided into twenty-acre tracts. A number of persons combined together and by their united capital and community labor constructed irrigating canals and brought the land under cultivation. The principal product is the raisin grape. Fresno City became the county seat of Fresno county in 1874. It is now the largest and most important city of the Upper San Joaquin Valley. Its population in 1890 was 10,818; in 1900, 12,470.

#### VALLEJO.

Vallejo was founded for the state capital. It was one of several towns which had that temporary honor in the early '50s, when the state capitol was on wheels, or at least on the move. The original name of the place was Eureka. General Vallejo made a proposition to the legislature of 1850 to grant the state one hundred and fifty-six acres of land and to donate and pay to the state within two years after the acceptance of his proposition \$370,000, to be used in the erection of public buildings. The legislature accepted his proposition. The location of the state capital was submitted to a vote of the people at the election on October 7, 1850, and Vallejo received more votes than the aggregated vote of all its competitors. Buildings were begun, but never completed. The legislature met there twice, but on account of insufficient accommodations sought other places where they were better cared for. General Vallejo's proposition at his own request was cancelled. In 1854 Mare Island, in front of Vallejo, was purchased by the general government for a United States navy yard and naval depot. The government works gave employment to large numbers of men and involved the expenditure of millions of dollars. The town began to prosper and still continues to do so. Its population in 1890 was 6,343; in 1900, 7,965.

#### NEVADA CITY.

No mining town in California was so well and so favorably known in the early '50s as Nevada

City. The first discovery of gold near it was made in September, 1849; and the first store and cabin erected. Rumors of rich strikes spread abroad and in the spring of 1850 the rush of gold-seekers came. In 1851 it was estimated that within a circuit of seven miles there was a population of 30,000. In 1856 the business section was destroyed by fire. It was then the third city in population in the state. It has had its periods of expansion and contraction, but still remains an important mining town. Its population in 1880 was 4,022; in 1890, 2,524; in 1900, 3,250.

#### GRASS VALLEY.

The first cabin in Grass Valley was erected in 1849. The discoveries of gold quartz raised great expectations. A quartz mill was erected in 1850, but this new form of mining not being understood, quartz mining was not a success; but with improved machinery and better methods, it became the most important form of mining. Grass Valley prospered and surpassed its rival, Nevada City. Its population in 1900 was 4,719.

#### EUREKA.

In the two hundred years that Spain and Mexico held possession of California its northwest coast remained practically a terra incognita, but it did not remain so long after the discovery of gold. Gold was discovered on the head waters of the Trinity river in 1849 and parties of prospectors during 1849 and 1850 explored the country between the head waters of the Trinity and Klamath rivers and the coast. Rich mines were found and these discoveries led to the founding of a number of towns on the coast which aspired to be the entrepôts for the supplies to the mines. The most successful of these proved to be Eureka, on Humboldt Bay. It was the best located for commerce and soon outstripped its rivals, Arcata and Bucksport. Humboldt county was formed in 1854, and Eureka, in 1856, became the county seat and was incorporated as a city. It is the largest shipping point for lumber on the coast. It is also the commercial center of a rich agricultural and dairying district. Its population in 1880 was 2,639; in 1890, 4,858; in 1900, 7,327.

#### MARYSVILLE.

The site on which Marysville stands was first known as New Mecklenburg and was a trading post of two houses. In October, 1848, M. C. Nye purchased the rancho and opened a store at New Mecklenburg. The place then became known as Nye's rancho. In 1849 a town was laid out and named Yubaville. The name was changed to Marysville in honor of the wife of the proprietor of the town Covilland. His wife was Mary Murphy, of the Donner party. Marysville, being at the head of the navigation of the north fork of the Sacramento, became the entrepot for mining supplies to the miners in the rich Yuba mines. After the decline of mining it became an agricultural center for the upper portion of the Sacramento. Its population in 1880 was 4,300; in 1890, 3,991; in 1900, 3,397.

#### REDDING.

The *Placer Times* of May 8, 1850, contains this notice of Reading, now changed to Redding: "Reading was laid off early in 1850 by P. B. Reading at the headwaters of the Sacramento within forty-five miles of the Trinity diggings. Reading is located in the heart of a most extensive mining district, embracing as it does, Cottonwood, Clear, Salt, Dry, Middle and Olney creeks, it is in close proximity to the Pitt and Trinity rivers. The pet steamer, Jack Hayes, leaves tomorrow morning (May 9, 1850) for Reading. It has been hitherto considered impossible to navigate the Sacramento to this height." The town grew rapidly at first, like all mining towns, and like most of such towns it was swept out of existence by fire. It was devastated by fire in December, 1852, and again in June, 1853. Its original name, Reading, got mixed with Fort Redding and it now appears on all railroad maps and guides as Redding. Its population in 1890 was 1,821; in 1900, 2,940.

#### PASADENA.

Pasadena is a child of the colony era of the early '70s. Its original name was the Indiana Colony. In 1873 a number of persons formed a company for the purchasing of a large tract of land and subdividing it among them. They in-

incorporated under the title of the San Gabriel Orange Grove Association and purchased four thousand acres in the San Pasqual rancho, situated about nine miles east of Los Angeles city. This was divided on the basis of one share of stock being equivalent to fifteen acres. Each stockholder received in proportion to his investment. The colonists turned their attention to the cultivation of vineyards and orange orchards. In 1875 the name was changed to Pasadena, an Algonquin word meaning Crown of the Valley. The colony had become quite noted for its production of oranges. In 1887 the great real estate boom struck it and the cross roads village suddenly developed into a city. It has become famous as a tourist winter resort. Its population in 1890 was 4,882; in 1900, 9,117.

#### POMONA.

Pomona was founded by the Los Angeles Immigration and Land Co-Operative Association. This company bought twenty-seven hundred acres of the Rancho San José, lying along the eastern border of Los Angeles county. The town was laid off in the center of the tract. The remainder of the tract was divided into forty-acre lots. The town made a rapid growth at first, but disaster overtook it. First the dry season of 1876-77, and next a fire that swept it almost out of existence. In 1880 its population had dwindled to one hundred and eighty persons. In about 1881 it began to revive and it has made a steady growth ever since. It is the commercial center of a large orange growing district. Its population in 1890 was 3,634; in 1900, 5,526.

#### SAN BERNARDINO.

San Bernardino was originally a Mormon colony. In 1851 one hundred and fifty families were sent from Salt Lake to found a colony or a stake of Zion. The object of locating a colony at this point was to keep open a line of communication with some seaport. San Bernardino was near the old Spanish trail which led out through the Cajon pass. Goods could be transported to Salt Lake from San Pedro at all seasons of the year, which could not be done to Salt Lake

over the central route westward or eastward during the winter. The leaders of the Mormon colony, Lyman and Rich, bought the San Bernardino rancho from the Lugos. A portion of the land was subdivided into small tracts and sold to the settlers. The Mormons devoted themselves to the cultivation of wheat, of which they raised a large crop the first year and received as high as \$5 per bushel. The colony prospered for a time, but in 1857 the settlers, or all of them that would obey the call, were called to Salt Lake by Brigham Young to take part in the threatened war with the United States. The faithful sold their lands for whatever they could get and departed. The gentiles bought them and the character of the settlement changed. The city of San Bernardino has an extensive trade with the mining districts to the east of it. Its population in 1890 was 4,012; in 1900, 6,150.

#### RIVERSIDE.

Riverside had its origin in the colony era. It began its existence as the Southern California Colony Association. In 1870 an association, of which Judge John W. North and Dr. James P. Greves were leaders, purchased four thousand acres of the Roubidoux rancho and adjoining lands, aggregating in all about nine thousand acres. This was subdivided into small tracts and sold to settlers at a low price. A town was laid off and named Jurupa, but this being difficult of pronunciation its name was changed to Riverside, which eventually became the name of the settlement as well. An extensive irrigating system was constructed and the cultivation of citrus fruits became the leading industry. The Bahia or Washington navel orange has made Riverside famous in orange culture. It was propagated by budding from two small trees sent by the Department of Agriculture to a citizen of Riverside. The city of Riverside in area is one of the largest cities of the state. Its boundaries include fifty-six square miles. Its corporate lines take in most of the orange groves of the settlement. By this means municipal regulations against insect pests can be better enforced. The population of Riverside in 1890 was 4,683; in 1900, 7,973.





W. J. Newport



## WILLIAM J. NEWPORT.

WILLIAM J. NEWPORT, banker, rancher, stock-breeder and veteran of the Civil war, was born near Lebanon, Warren county, Ohio, February 27, 1846, and died at his home near Hanford, Kings county, Cal., June 6, 1904. He was a descendant of David Newport, a native of Scotland, who immigrated to the United States in young manhood, settling in Pennsylvania, where he resided for many years. He afterward became a pioneer of Ohio, making his home in what is now Warren county, where he became a citizen of prominence and influence. He lived to be eighty-six years of age. His son, James T., who was born in Pennsylvania, served in the war of 1812, and afterward became a captain in the Ohio state militia. He lived to be seventy-six or seventy-seven years of age. His son, Joseph Corwin Newport, father of William J. Newport, was born on the Warren county farm in 1816. He became widely known as a horticulturist, accomplishing much toward the advancement of the science of pomology in Ohio. He married Elizabeth Montgomery, a native of New Jersey or Pennsylvania, and a daughter of William Montgomery, who came from Ireland to the United States as a boy, locating in Pennsylvania. Joseph C. Newport lived to be seventy-five years of age, and he and his wife celebrated their golden wedding in California in 1888. Mrs. Newport, who is now eighty-six years of age, resides in Lebanon, Ohio, and retains her mental faculties to a rare degree.

The boyhood of William J. Newport was passed uneventfully on the farm in Warren county, Ohio, and with the exception of the rumblings of discontent and apprehension between the north and south, little happened to break the monotony of hard work and irregular attendance at the district schools. In 1863, at the age of seventeen years, Mr. Newport enlisted in Company B, Second Ohio Heavy Artillery, under Colonel Gibson, and at once entered into active service for the Union. Under Gen. George H. Thomas he participated in the battle at Franklin, Tenn., Cleveland, Tenn., and Bull's Gap, besides numerous minor engagements. His command was attached to the Army of the Cumberland, and under General Sherman participated in the March to the Sea and in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., at the close of the war. Fortunately Mr. Newport escaped many of the penalties of warfare, having suffered neither serious illness nor injury. He was honorably discharged from the service at Colum-

bus, Ohio, August 25, 1865. Returning home, he assisted his father in the work upon the farm, but soon found his surroundings irksome in comparison with the sterner realities of life as he had learned to view them.

In 1866 Mr. Newport removed to eastern Kansas, locating near Fort Scott, and during the following winter and spring he attended the Quincy Business College at Quincy, Ill. In the fall of 1868 he went to St. Paul, Minn., and for two or three years worked in the lumber camps in that vicinity. Still remaining dissatisfied with the middle west, he determined to embrace the first favorable opportunity to see the Pacific coast. In pursuance of this plan he came to California in 1873 and soon after his arrival rented a ranch in the Two Rock valley, near Petaluma, Sonoma county. So encouraging were the results of this independent venture, that in 1876 he established a home of his own, marrying Elizabeth M. Railsback, a native of Warren county, Ind., the daughter of William and Mary (Rhode) Railsback, both of whom were of German extraction. Mrs. Newport's mother died when she was nine years old, and her father when she was twenty-three. Six children were born of this union, namely: Ada L., a graduate of the University of California, class of 1902, now a teacher in the Hanford high school; Augusta E., who is engaged in teaching vocal music; Walter Rollin, a merchant of Hanford; Ernest C., who was educated at the Lick Polytechnic School, and apprenticed himself with the Union Iron Works of San Francisco; and Rofa B. and Mildred R., who are at home.

In no way did the progressive and liberal mind of Mr. Newport find a more satisfactory outlet than in the rearing and education of his children, who, upon the foundation of strong inherited tendencies, have worked their way into positions of more than ordinary merit and responsibility. The two eldest were born in Petaluma and the others were born on the farm now occupied by the family, which Mr. Newport purchased in 1878.

When Mr. Newport purchased the property mentioned, he set about at once to develop it, engaging in general farming and stock and fruit raising. In 1880 he and his brother, John B., purchased a threshing machine, which they operated throughout this section of the country for four years. They built and conducted the first cook-house, or boarding car, for employes, thus relieving the farmers and inaugurating in south-

ern California a system which has since been generally adopted.

Subsequently William J. Newport became sole owner of the machine, operating it for the ensuing four years alone. From that time forward he engaged exclusively in the cultivation of fruit and the raising of grain and stock. At the time of his death his ranch consisted of one hundred and twenty acres, forty of which were devoted to fruit. He was a model farmer, painstaking and thrifty, taking vastly more pleasure in his work than most men thus engaged. His undertakings were rewarded by success, and he gladly paid the price of ceaseless vigilance for the good fortune bestowed upon him. He was a great friend and admirer of the horse, and it is no exaggeration to say that he bought, sold and bred more draft horses than any other individual in Kings county, importing the sires, and paying especial attention to animals especially adapted to work in California. Several years ago he abandoned grain-raising for fruit-culture. He has owned and improved a number of orchards and vineyards in Kings county, but a short time prior to his death he disposed of all but his home farm, which is one of the most valuable and highly improved in this section of California.

To so broad-minded a man as Mr. Newport, events occurring outside his own particular domain naturally enlisted his support and co-operation. The development of Kings county was a matter in which he exhibited the keenest pride, and in innumerable ways he assisted in its march of progress. In 1887 he became one of the organizers of the Bank of Hanford, in which he served for several years as a director. He was also one of the founders of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Hanford, organized in 1891, and from July 13, 1897, to July 15, 1902, he served as its president, but declined the honor at the latter date on account of the pressure of personal business matters. At the time of his death he was still a member of its board of directors. His political sympathies were always with the Republican party. Though he was averse to public life, he felt it his duty to serve as supervisor of Tulare county from 1886 to 1890, in response to a strong popular demand; and in 1893, when Kings county was separated from Tulare county, he was appointed a member of the commission on organization by Governor Markham. He was deeply interested in the development of the oil fields of Kern and Fresno counties, and was the owner of valuable properties in both counties. Earlier in life he assisted for some time in the operation of a lumber mill in the Sierra forests, and was identified with the lumber industry of Tulare county. In 1890 the old cabin which had been the home of his family for many years was removed from its site, and in

its place a handsome modern residence was erected. The death of Mr. Newport was keenly felt by his comrades in McPherson Post No. 51, G. A. R., whose commander he had been since the last annual meeting of that organization.

In closing this memoir of one of the most influential and highly respected residents of Kings county, it is but proper to record the fact that no citizen of Hanford stood higher in the esteem of thoughtful people than he. Throughout his useful career he gave frequent evidence of the possession of those traits of character upon which rest the wealth and stability of communities. Those who knew him best have paid him the tribute of saying that he exhibited an unselfish public spirit, a generosity of heart and a high-mindedness of motive in all acts, public or private, which entitle him to rank forever among the most thoroughly representative men of Kings county. The record of his upright and highly useful career, perpetuated in the annals of the state of California, should prove a source of inspiration to the younger generations, and of gratification and pride to his descendants.

---

JAMES B. STEARNS. Oakdale in 1886 bore slight resemblance to the thriving, bustling town which today evidences not only progress, but promise, and which counts among its chief upbuilders men expert in all lines of commercial and industrial enterprise. As in all parts of the west there were openings for ability and far-sightedness, for thoroughness and high citizenship, and the advent of men representing these commendable attributes found appreciation and sure financial reward awaiting them. In January, 1886, James B. Stearns, a rugged Canadian of New England ancestry, joined the forces of industry in Oakdale, and ever since that time his name has been associated with the most earnest and capable efforts along the lines of blacksmithing, carriage and implement construction in Stanislaus county. The senior member at present of the firm of Stearns & Harray, his has the distinction of being not only the largest, but the oldest and most reliable of any similarly engaged concern in this part of the state.

The early life of this honored citizen presents the interesting development of all who have struggled with the absence of money and influence, and who have attained their goal solely through their own efforts. He was trained to the self-sacrifice and early assumption of responsibility common in all large families of moderate means, and as the fourth oldest of twelve children, felt the pressure of an inadequate treasury. Born in Lachute, province of Quebec, November 24, 1856, he is descended on both sides

of his family from English ancestry, on the paternal side from a forefather who early settled in Connecticut, and on the maternal side from a pioneer of the province of Quebec. His father and grandfather were both farmers near Lachute, and his mother, formerly Sarah Ann Banning, came from a farm in the vicinity of the quaint old town. His mother and several of the children still live in Ontario, Canada, himself and brother Albert, the latter a carriage manufacturer of Sacramento, being the only ones to come to the coast. Interspersed with his farm work, Mr. Stearns attended the public schools of the northern province, and at the age of sixteen apprenticed for three years to a carriage-maker at Russell, Ontario. After a year at school he worked at his trade in Ontario, Canada, and in 1876 located in Rochelle, Ogle county, Ill., where he found steady employment at carriage-making for four years. He then engaged in blacksmithing and carriage-making at Ashton, Lee county, Ill., and in December, 1884, yielded to a long dormant desire to cast his fortunes with the now famed coast country. Remaining in Davisville, Yolo county, for a number of months, he came to Oakdale in January, 1886, soon after purchasing an interest in a carriage manufactory with a Mr. Wilbert, operating the same under the firm name of Wilbert & Stearns. In 1888 the interest of Mr. Wilbert reverted to M. J. Nightingale, and Nightingale & Stearns continued in partnership until the substitution of J. M. Harray in 1893. Stearns & Harray have acquired a reputation second to none on the coast for thoroughness and practicability, and have enlarged their business until they now occupy a building 100 feet square and two stories high, the machinery of which is operated by electric power. Their carriages, wagons, plows, harrows, and carpentering tools, are unexcelled, and are made of the finest materials procurable in the west. Both men have a thorough understanding of their business, and in addition realize the importance of fairness and honesty in dealing with their many patrons and friends. They represent the conservative, substantial business men of the coast, and their ability to represent the best in their line has long since passed the era of experiment.

Mr. Stearns is a public-spirited and liberal gentleman, taking a keen interest in many avenues of activity which want of time alone prevents his active participation in. The Republican party has profited by his able leadership as a member of the county committee, and he has otherwise invested the undertakings of his party with dignity and practical usefulness. He is an influential factor in the Methodist Church, of which he has been a trustee for many years, and of which he is now chairman of the board.

Through his marriage in Lee county, Ill., with Frances Lundy, a native of Pennsylvania, and daughter of William Lundy, a California settler of 1882, two children have been born into his family, Eva Bell and Edna Adella. Mr. Stearns is affable and approachable, kind and considerate to his many employees, and in his life and character furnishes an example of the strong, moderate and successful promoter of western enterprises.

---

DAVID L. JONES. The substantial, capable and progressive citizens of San Joaquin county have no better representative than David L. Jones, who occupies a noteworthy position among the enterprising, practical and business-like farmers, who are so ably conducting the agricultural interests of this part of the state. A son of the late John W. Jones, he was born on his father's farm, in that part of the valley now called Escalon, January 13, 1867. His grandfather, Electus Jones, was of Welsh ancestry. He was public-spirited and patriotic, and after serving as a soldier in the Revolution settled as a planter in North Carolina.

Born on the parental plantation in North Carolina, John W. Jones was there bred to agricultural pursuits. In the earlier part of his career he took up land in Missouri, and having cleared a farm remained there until 1852. Joining an ox-team train in that year, he made an overland trip to California, being six months in crossing the plains. Recognizing the fact that the many miners flocking here from all parts of the Union must be fed, he wisely decided that more money could be made by tilling the soil than in digging for gold. Locating accordingly on the Stanislaus river, he raised a good crop of grain the first season, dragging in the seed with a brush. The crop which he harvested he readily sold to the men traveling to the southern mines, receiving five cents a pound for the grain. Removing to the present site of Escalon in 1853, he erected a good dwelling-house, and began his career as a grain raiser in earnest, having at first a small ranch. At the end of each harvesting season, with the money that he received for his wheat, he purchased more land, until his home farm contained one thousand acres. In addition to this, he bought land in Stanislaus and Tulare counties, becoming one of the most extensive landholders in the state, at one time having a clear title to thirty-seven thousand acres. He made two return trips to the east, and on each occasion brought back with him large herds of cattle to stock his ranches. He made a specialty of raising sheep, being thus actively engaged when wool was selling at high prices, and made a good deal of money in his operations. He was a man of

marked ability and integrity, and stood very high in the community. He died in Escalon, in the brick residence that he occupied, September 10, 1893, aged seventy-two years. He was keenly interested in the welfare of his adopted town and county, and was a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

John W. Jones was twice married. His first wife, who died while crossing the plains, in 1852, bore him six children, of whom but one is living, namely: Mrs. Edna M. Bledsoe, of Modesto. His second marriage was with Catherine M. Dunlap, who was born in Springfield, Ill., which was also the place of birth of her father, John W. Dunlap, a pioneer stockman and farmer of Knights Ferry, this state. She died on the home farm, in Escalon, September 25, 1880, at the age of forty-eight years. Of the eight children born of this union, three are living, namely: David L., the special subject of this sketch; Alice D., residing with her brother David; and James W., living on the old home farm.

After leaving the district schools, David L. Jones completed his early education at the Lytton Springs College, in Sonoma county. Choosing as his life-work the independent vocation to which he was reared, he began farming for himself at the age of twenty-one years, assuming possession of the ranch which he now owns and occupies. It is well situated on the river road, about three miles from the village of Escalon, and contains one thousand acres of land, which he devotes, principally, to the raising of stock and grain. Mr. Jones has met with characteristic success as an agriculturist, and has added valuable improvements to his estate, having an orange grove and a good orchard, and, in 1890, having erected a large two-story residence.

In Oakland Mr. Jones married Hattie L. King, a native of Wisconsin, and they have two children, namely: Herbert L. and Merrill E. Politically Mr. Jones is a staunch Republican, and fraternally he is an Odd Fellow.

---

D. M. TOOTHACRE. At an early period of our country's history the Toothacre family became established in Maine, and from that state one of the name went forth to fight under the standard of the colonies during the first struggle with England. John Toothacre, a son of this Revolutionary soldier, was born in Bangor, Me., and at an early age settled on Long Island, New York, where he enlisted in the war of 1812. A man of sturdy frame and stalwart physique, he was well fitted to endure the hardships and privations of army life. Nor was he less adapted for the stress and strain of pioneer existence. To such as he Nature in her primeval condition possessed charms which no city could afford.

Like Daniel Boone and many other hardy frontiersmen, he was content with the rough fare, the constant danger and the many deprivations incident to the civilizing of the then west. For a time after leaving New York he tilled the soil near Zanesville, Ohio, but as early as 1836 he settled in Jefferson county, Iowa, where he became an extensive and prosperous stockman, and lived to be one hundred and two years old.

In the family of this progressive pioneer was a son, John W., who was born in Bangor, Me., and who grew to manhood in the then frontier regions of Iowa, where for years he engaged in raising stock and general farm products. Shortly after the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted and was accepted as a member of the Twenty-second Iowa Infantry, but owing to his unusual weight (two hundred and thirty-five pounds) Captain Newbold (afterward governor of Iowa) recommended that he be mustered out as unable to endure the strain of long forced marches. For this reason he saw no active service. After many years in Iowa, during 1884 he went to Kansas and bought land in Sheridan county, where he still carries on a stock business as well as general farming. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The marriage of John W. Toothacre united him with Rebecca Hickenbottom, who was born in Jacksonville, Ky., and is still living. Her father, Joseph Hickenbottom, was a Virginian by birth and a pioneer of Kentucky. When Mr. Hickenbottom and his father went to Iowa in 1836 they were the first white settlers west of the Skunk river in that state, and his remaining years were devoted to the development of a tract of raw land in Jefferson county. Prosperity attended his efforts. In time he accumulated thousands of acres of tillable land. Not only was he a man of influence among the white settlers who gradually flocked to that section of country, but among the Indians as well he wielded considerable influence and for years during his early residence in Iowa he enjoyed the personal friendship of the great chief, Blackhawk. At the time of his death he was more than ninety years of age.

In the family of John W. Toothacre there are four sons and one daughter, all still living, and of these the eldest, D. M., was born at Fairfield, Jefferson county, Iowa, March 22, 1863. In boyhood he attended the country schools during the winter months and helped at home in the summer. On starting out for himself, in 1880, he went to Colorado and for three years engaged in lumbering at Leadville. The year 1883 found him in California, where he worked at the lumber business in Santa Cruz. In 1884 he was appointed deputy to Sheriff Crittenden,







*James A. [unclear]*

and two years later, on resigning that office, he came to Visalia, where he took up carpentering. That occupation engaged his attention entirely until 1894, when he formed the partnership of Heberling & Toothacre and organized the company of which he is now vice-president and which owns the pioneer brickyard of Visalia.

The first wife of Mr. Toothacre was Miss Jennie Brown, to whom he was married in 1887. She was a native of Ottumwa, Kans., and came to California in 1886, dying in Visalia in 1889. The present wife of Mr. Toothacre was formerly Miss Amanda Samis, who was born in Amador county, Cal., their marriage being solemnized in Hanford. They are the parents of two children, Delta and Buenna, and make their home at No. 407 Northwest First avenue, in a residence built by Mr. Toothacre. In fraternal relations he is a member of the Foresters and Woodmen of the World, along commercial lines holds membership in the Visalia Board of Trade, and politically gives his allegiance to the Republican party and is a member of the county central committee.

FRANK H. SHORT, attorney-at-law, Fresno, Cal., occupies a position of distinction at the bar of California, and for several years past has been recognized as one of the leaders of the Republican party of this state. He was born September 12, 1862, in Shelby county, Mo., and is a son of Hamilton and Emily (Wharton) Short. His father, who was also born in Shelby county, was a son of John Short, who was born in Delaware, of English ancestry. In young manhood he immigrated to Missouri, becoming one of the pioneers of Shelby county, where he cleared and improved a homestead. He was a man of profound religious convictions, and for many years was actively identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Hamilton Short received a common-school education, and afterward engaged in farming. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in the Missouri state troops; and while serving in the army died from drinking poisoned water, being but twenty-nine years of age at the time. Like his father, he was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, who was born in Mount Pleasant, Ohio, now resides near Fresno, Cal. Her father, William Sayre Wharton, deceased, a descendant of one of the early families of Delaware, was born and reared in Ohio, where he learned the trade of saddler. He subsequently located in Shelby county, Mo., where he was engaged in farming for a number of years. Removing to the Pacific coast in later life, he spent his declining days in California, dying in Fresno in 1900, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He

was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics was a staunch Republican. Two of his sons, Frank and F. A., served in the Union army during the Civil war. Frank Wharton, who held a commission as lieutenant, removed to Fresno during the early days of its history, and until his death in 1889 was one of its leading citizens, being a prominent attorney and at one time a representative in the state legislature. His brother, F. A. Wharton, also removed to Fresno county, where he is now a successful vineyardist.

Of the children born of the union of Hamilton and Emily (Wharton) Short, two attained maturity, namely: John W., now postmaster of Fresno, and Frank H. The latter attended the common schools of Shelby county, Mo., until he had reached the age of nine years, when he went to Hastings, Neb., where his schooling was continued. At the age of nineteen years he was engaged to teach school for one term. Removing to Fresno in the spring of 1882, he continued teaching one year, in the meantime beginning the study of the law under the direction of his uncle, Frank Wharton. In 1887 he was admitted to the bar, and since that time has been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession. Well versed in the intricacies of the science, he has successfully conducted many important cases, and has ably filled the position of attorney for various corporations. He is now serving as attorney for the well-known firm of Miller & Lux; for the Fresno Canal & Irrigation Company, in which he is also a director; for the Fresno Electric Company; for the City Water Company; and for the Fresno National Bank, in which he is a director and one of the original stockholders. Associated with Judge Chapman of Los Angeles, he was connected with the litigation over oil lands between Scrippers and the mineral locators, and was successful in obtaining decisions of the supreme court of the United States and from the Secretary of the Interior in favor of the mineral locators. He has likewise been actively identified with other cases of importance. He assisted in the prosecution of Heath for the murder of McWhorter, and defended Professor Sanders, accused of forgery and suspected of the murder of William Wooton. In the latter case he succeeded in avoiding the charge of murder, as the death of Wooton was not actually proven, although Sanders was subsequently prosecuted for forgery and sentenced to prison. In a proceeding before the railway commissioners he succeeded in procuring a reduction of ten per cent in the rates of transportation for oil, thus saving the oil shippers about \$500,000 per year at the time and at the present amounting to about double that sum. The cases here cited are but a few of the more important ones with which Mr. Short

has been associated, and the success which attended his conduct of them has given him a position among the leaders of the bar of California. Throughout his career his practice has been uniformly successful, whether in civil or criminal causes.

Outside of legal circles, Mr. Short is best known as one of the most aggressive and progressive leaders in the ranks of the Republican party in California. In 1885, two years prior to his admission to the bar, he was elected justice of the peace. At the end of his term he became the nominee of the Republican party for the office of district attorney, but was not elected, the county being strongly Democratic. He has been prominent in state and county conventions for several years. In 1896 he was chosen as a delegate to the Republican National convention at St. Louis, when McKinley was nominated for the presidency. In 1904 he was a leading member of the California delegation to the Republican National convention at Chicago, at which Roosevelt was nominated. He took a prominent and conspicuous part in the work of that body, and was one of the sub-committee chosen to frame the platform upon which the campaign was conducted. In 1898 Governor Gage appointed him a member of the State Board of Commissioners for the preservation of the Yosemite Valley, a post he still occupies. He was for a term also a member of the board of trustees of the State Normal School at San Jose. Fraternally he is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M.; of Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M.; of Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T.; and of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In his social relations he is identified with the Union League and the Bohemian clubs of San Francisco and with the Sequoia Club of Fresno. He is also a member of the State Bar Association, and ex-President of the Fresno County Bar Association. In religion he is a communicant of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In Fresno, in 1897, he was united in marriage with Nellie C. (Curtis) Rorick, who was born in Iowa, but was reared and educated in Los Angeles. She had one daughter, Mildred. By his first wife, Emma Packard, Mr. Short has one son, Frank H., Jr.

Endowed by nature with a body and mind of exceptional vigor, with praiseworthy ambition and indefatigable powers, Mr. Short has become recognized as a master of his profession at an age when most men are standing upon the thresholds of their careers. The marked success which has attended his efforts is doubtless due more to his untiring zeal and industry and his constant application to the work intrusted to his care than to any other attributes, although underlying

all is a thorough groundwork of study under the supervision of one of the best-equipped lawyers who ever practiced before the courts of southern California. During the years of his residence in this state he has given frequent evidence of a hearty desire to accomplish all within his power for the advancement of community interests, and particularly for the promotion of those movements intended to elevate the social, moral, educational and industrial status of Fresno county. Though comparatively young in years, his strong personal attributes have long since been generally recognized, and these characteristics, taken in conjunction with his manifest public spirit, his breadth of mind in viewing all public affairs, and his generosity of heart, have given him a place in the esteem of thoughtful and discriminating men which few men attain at his time of life. His work is making a marked impress upon the trend of events in California, and the record of his life is entitled to a place of distinction in the annals of the state.

---

JOHN SUBLITT JOHNSON. Occupying a prominent place among the citizens of Visalia, Tulare county, is John Sublitt Johnson, whose interests are as varied as the talents which have marked his career in his adopted state. As a child of eight years he came west with his father, Langston A. Johnson, whose sketch is found elsewhere in this volume, starting from St. Charles county, Mo., where he was born August 16, 1859. His boyhood years were passed in the city of Los Angeles, this state, where he attended the public schools, afterward becoming a student in the schools of Kern county, where he removed with his parents in 1874. Two years later the family located in Visalia and this city has since been the scene of the most ambitious efforts of Mr. Johnson.

After completing an attendance of the common schools, Mr. Johnson attended Heald's Business College, San Francisco, where he graduated at the age of twenty-three years; this training in Heald's Business College prepared him for a business career. He then engaged as a bookkeeper in his father's store in Visalia, and also with various other concerns. Following this he mined in Fresno county for several years, and, returning to Visalia, entered politics, and in 1891 was elected to the office of county tax collector after serving one year as deputy, and was collector of taxes for six years. He then entered Packers' School of Mines and graduated from that institution. In 1899 he removed to Independence, Inyo county, where he established a laboratory. The following year he went to Nome, Alaska, and engaged as a miner for one year in the capacity of assayer and engineer and making

reports on the various mines. Upon his return to Visalia he engaged in the same occupation, establishing a laboratory at the corner of Bridge and School streets. He is still interested in mines in Inyo county as well as in Mexico. In January, 1902, in partnership with William Ketter, Mr. Johnson purchased the Visalia City Water Company (incorporated), and in June, 1904, became sole owner of the concern by purchase of his partner's interest. This plant is operated by the Holly system, which pumps direct into the pipes, the pumps used being the very latest centrifugal type of Crow pumps. There are two stations, one on the west side, with three wells, and one on the east side, with five wells, with an average depth of one hundred and twenty-five feet. Mr. Johnson is also interested in orchards in Evansdale, where, with a partner, he owns eighty-three acres. He owns residence property in Visalia, as well as a quarter block of business property, upon which is located a lively stable.

The marriage of Mr. Johnson united him with Olga Woerner, who was born in Oakland, Cal. In his political affiliations a Democrat, Mr. Johnson has been very active in his efforts to advance the principles he espouses. Fraternally he is a Mason of high degree, belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, in Visalia, and Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco; and is a member of the Scottish Rite of Oakland. He is also a member of the Lodge of Perfection of Visalia; of the Woodmen of the World, and a charter member of the lodge of the Knights of Pythias, with which he has been identified for twenty-one years. He belongs to the National Guards, having been a charter member of Company E of the Sixth California regiment. He has been a member for fourteen years and now ranks as captain, as well as holding the office of regimental commissary. A true sportsman, he occupies admirably the office of vice president of the State Fish and Game Association. In the best interests of his home city he acts as director in the building and loan association and also on the board of trade. A public-spirited and enterprising citizen, Mr. Johnson is highly esteemed by all who know him.

---

J. GOODWIN THOMPSON, M. D. In considering the career and character of this eminent member of the medical fraternity, the impartial observer will be disposed to rank him not only among the distinguished members of the profession on the coast, but also among the most cultured and beneficent characters thus allied with Stanislaus county. Born in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess county, N. Y., November 26, 1864, his only patrimony was physical vigor and ten-

acity of purpose characteristic of the race from which he springs, his ancestors coming from the heart of Scotch Presbyterianism, near Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland. His paternal grandfather, William, brought his family to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., at an early day, thus indulging a departure from conservative procedure entirely foreign to the trend of his forefathers. When old age began to creep through his veins, the traditions of his native land, and the presence of his children, weaned him back to the scenes of his childhood, youth and manhood, and his death occurred in Lanark, where he had farmed for so many years, and where he attained the age of ninety-one years. James Thompson, the father of J. Goodwin, was a boy when he came from Scotland, and after learning the trade of locomotive engineering, was employed on the New York Central Railroad. About 1870 he brought his family to near Portland, Ore., remained there six months, and then settling on his present farm at Lanark Park, Cal., in Stanislaus county. To his original purchase he has added, and now owns fifteen hundred acres, which, out of regard for his native Scottish county, he has named Lanark Park. True to the religious traditions of his family, he is a staunch Presbyterian and an elder in the church. His political tendencies are with the Republican party, and his activity has resulted in commendable service as a member of the county central committee. His wife, formerly Agnes Boyd, was born in New Jersey, and is the mother of seven sons and three daughters, Dr. Thompson being the oldest of all.

Since his sixth year Dr. Thompson has lived in California, and notwithstanding his father's comparatively limited circumstances, has been able to profit by the best educational opportunities of the state. Starting out in that great field of human equality, the public schools, he evidenced an early regard for the acquisition of knowledge, and in 1886 graduated with honors from the Modesto high school. Pursuing his studies at the University of California, his industry and balance met with the approval of his superiors, and with the appreciation of his fellow students. He was active in college societies and athletics, and in his senior year was treasurer of the associated student body, his graduation taking place in 1891, with the degree of Ph. B. Long since, the determination to devote his energies to medical science had taken firm root in his mind and heart, and the fall following his graduation he entered the medical department of the University of California, graduating from that institution in 1894. In 1895 he located in Oakdale and began a general practice of medicine and surgery, and it is the pride of his adopted town that it has profited by his steady advancement, and encouraged with its

patronage and good-will his more than laudable ambitions. In the early days of his practice he met with success and encouragement, which is not common to all alleviators of human ills, all cases being regarded as stepping-stones to a never failing and well defined ideal.

The mind of Dr. Thompson is eminently constructive, impelling him to suggest and put into operation new agencies of instruction and relief. Thus in 1903, he began the erection of a sanitarium which should embody the best known means of caring for surgical and medical patients, and although the institution was opened as recently as December 15, of that year, it quickly outlived its capacity, and was in crying need of additional facilities for caring for its applicants for admission. Additions were made enabling the doctor to accommodate three times as many patients. The ground floor now covers 50x75 feet, the operating room also taking on the dignity of larger proportion and newer appliances. Besides, two cottages are in connection with the sanitarium building. The sanitarium, equipped with the latest modern appliances, X-ray apparatus, etc., is complete in every detail. The doctor moves steadily in grooves maintained by the medical school for years past, his practice suggesting everything that is modern and yet conservative. The fascinations and enormous possibilities of surgery have led him to devote his chief energies to that department of medical science, and his inventive faculty has led him to devise, modify and improve a variety of instruments used in the delicate operations of surgery, as well as to introduce new methods of treatment and manipulation of obscure cases. The recognition of his skill has been prompt and far-reaching, and has drawn patients from all over this and the surrounding counties. In addition to his regular practice important obligations of a public nature have accumulated along his path, and he is examiner of old line insurance companies, district surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, and has at times been connected with large mercantile and mining enterprises in the capacity of physician and surgeon. He is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Medical Association, a charter member of the Pacific Coast Association of Railway Surgeons and a member of the International Association of Railway Surgeons. His achievements are based on an intimate knowledge of the intricate subjects of human anatomy and scientific therapeutics, to more extensively write of which must needs suggest the limitations attached both to the writer and to the ordinary reader.

In the midst of his engrossing practice Dr. Thompson has found time and inclination to enter the marts of trade, and to profit by certain advantages of wealth acquiring presented in his

native state. With his brother Robert, he is operating a farm of fifteen hundred acres at Lanark Park, devoted to stock, alfalfa and grain raising, making a specialty of a model dairy, and high-grade Durham cattle. As a money maker this farm has more than realized the expectations of its enthusiastic promoters. Ever since his graduation Dr. Thompson has voted the Democratic ticket, and in 1902-04 was a member of the state central committee and of the county central committee. For years he has realized the social and general advantages of fraternal organizations, and at present is a member of the Modesto Chapter, R. A. M., the Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E., and the Knights of Pythias. In religion he is a Presbyterian. No broader or more uplifting human agency is working for the good of Oakdale than that represented in the life and character of Dr. Thompson. His nature craves the best, and his intellect penetrates deeply and surely into the mazes of human suffering and human relief. His work is congenial, satisfying, presenting interminable vistas to be trodden reverently and with due regard for the most trenchant of human responsibility. His nature is genial, his heart large and his capacity for research and labor practically inexhaustible.

---

HENRY BRICKLEY. A fine representative of the native-born sons of Fresno county, and a man of ability and integrity, Henry Brickley is a deservedly popular member of the professional, business and social circles of the city of Fresno. As one of the rising young lawyers of the place, he is building up a good practice and fast winning for himself a prominent and honorable name in the legal fraternity. A son of the late John Brickley, he was born June 28, 1876, in Liberty, Fresno county, of Irish ancestry.

John Brickley was born and reared in the city of Cork, Ireland. When a young man he immigrated to this country, and settled in Chicago, Ill., where he followed the trade of carpenter and builder. Enlisting in an Illinois regiment, he served in the Civil war, and just before the surrender of Lee was wounded in the right leg. In 1866, with his wife, he came across the plains to California, and for two years or more was a resident of Truckee, Nevada county. Coming then to Fresno county, he engaged in general farming and sheep raising for a few years. He died in 1879 in Madera county. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah McCormick, was born in Ireland, and now lives near Fresno. Four children were born of their union, three daughters and one son, Henry, the special subject of this sketch, being the third child in succession of birth.







A. G. Perry  
"

Brought up in Fresno county, Henry Brickley obtained his elementary education in the district schools, and was afterward graduated from the Fresno high school. Entering the University of California in 1897, he continued there through the sophomore year. The ensuing two years he was on the reportorial staff of the *Fresno Republican*, during which time he studied law. September 12, 1900, Mr. Brickley was admitted to the bar, and has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession, his office being in the Short building. Mr. Brickley is also interested to some extent in agricultural pursuits, owning a ranch of one hundred and twenty acres. This ranch, lying about eight miles west of Fresno, near Kearney, is entirely under irrigation, and is devoted to the raising of alfalfa, a most prolific and valuable crop. Mr. Brickley is a member of the County Bar Association, and a charter member, and ex-president, of Fresno Parlor No. 25, N. S. G. W.

---

FULTON G. BERRY. Distinguished as a pioneer of California, and as one who has been actively identified with the business and financial interests of the state, Fulton G. Berry of Fresno is especially worthy of honorable mention in a work of this character. Coming to the Pacific coast when a young man, more than half a century ago, he has since been variously employed, and by his own efforts has worked his way upward from a state of comparative poverty to one of affluence and influence. The lineal descendant of a prominent New England family, he was born February 10, 1832, in Belfast, Me., a son of Watson Berry. He comes of thrifty Scotch ancestry, his great-grandfather having been born in Scotland, from there immigrating to the United States in colonial times, and settling in Massachusetts. Mr. Berry's paternal grandfather, Scotta Berry, was a life-long resident of Massachusetts, his home being on Cape Cod.

A native of Harwich, Barnstable county, Mass., Watson Berry grew to manhood in his native state, and during the War of 1812 was an officer in the American army, serving as colonel of a regiment. Subsequently removing to Maine, he established a tannery in Belfast, and was afterward engaged in mercantile business in that city until his death, at the age of seventy-six years. He was highly esteemed as a man of integrity, and was prominent in the Masonic fraternity, and in the Whig party. He married Elizabeth Nickerson, who was born in Chatham, Mass., and died in Chelsea, Mass. Her father, Capt. Richard Nickerson, was born of English ancestors in Massachusetts, and died in the state that gave him birth. He was for many years master

of an ocean vessel, and successfully engaged in the East India trade.

The youngest of a family of twelve children, Fulton G. Berry was bred and educated in Belfast, Me., remaining beneath the parental roof until seventeen years old. Ambitious and enterprising as a youth, he determined to seek the best possible opportunities for increasing his finances, and soon after the discovery of gold in California he concluded to try his fortunes in the mining fields. Going to New York City, he sailed by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and after a tedious voyage landed in San Francisco on May 20, 1851. Going directly to the old diggings in Forbestown, he met with success, and on his return to San Francisco sent his mother some of his first accumulations. He was subsequently employed in mining on the American river, and afterward on the Yuba river, at Cherokee. Locating in San Francisco in 1853, Mr. Berry secured employment at sand shoveling. Investing his earnings in a horse and dray, he was engaged in teaming the following seven years, in the meantime cooking his own meals, and sleeping in the stable loft. Embarking then in the grocery business, he opened a store at the corner of Jackson and Stockton streets, where he carried on a successful business for six years. During the stirring scenes of those years, he was an active member of the Vigilance Committee, enforcing law and order, as far as lay in his power.

Subsequently becoming junior partner of the firm of Badlam & Berry, Mr. Berry engaged in the real estate business, his office being at No. 318 Montgomery street. Later, becoming a member of the San Francisco Stock Exchange, he paid \$30,000 for a seat, the price given being a record breaker. He was one of the charter members of the Pacific Board, but sold his seat in this to purchase the one mentioned above. Later locating in San Rafael, he leased the Tamalpais hotel, which he managed for two years. The ensuing three years Mr. Berry served as commissary at the San Quentin state prison. Resigning his position there in 1884, he came to Fresno, which had then a population of scarce twenty-five hundred souls. Buying a half interest in the Grand Central hotel, which is most advantageously located in the center of the city, he met with such success in its management that he subsequently bought out the interests of his partner, and in 1888 purchased the entire property. The house is 150 x 150 feet, containing four floors, and is finely furnished and equipped for hotel purposes.

With characteristic enterprise Mr. Berry has been actively associated with the establishment of many of the city's improvements and industries. He started the first steam laundry in town, built the first street railway in Fresno; was the

principal owner of the gas works until the plant was sold; was one of the original owners of the electric light plant; and, in company with Ryland Wallace, started the first orange grove in the San Joaquin valley, setting out seventy acres of trees at Orange Dale, on Kings river. He still retains his interest in this grove, and likewise owns a ranch of one hundred and forty acres. This ranch, known as the Grand Central farm, is located about three-fourths of a mile from Fresno, and is devoted to general farming and dairying. When he became a resident of Fresno, Mr. Berry had lost a fortune, and was then \$16,000 in debt. By strict attention to the details of business he has accumulated some of the best paying property in Fresno county. He was one of the executive committee of the Mid-Winter Fair held in San Francisco, which proved a great success and as a result the museum now seen in Golden Gate Park was built.

In San Francisco Mr. Berry married Mary Eliza Torrey, who was born in Rockland, Me., a daughter of E. M. Torrey, who came to California in 1849 with the gold seekers. Settling in San Francisco, he became one of the earliest contractors and builders of the city, and was joined by his family in 1850. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Berry four children were born, two of whom are deceased, namely: Fulton M., who was engaged in the insurance business, and died at the age of twenty-six years, and Mabel, who died at the age of twenty years. Two daughters are living, namely: Mrs. Minnie L. Goodwin, formerly a missionary in Cheefoo, China, now residing in Mill Valley, and Maude Lillian, wife of Frank Moulan, of New York city, who is now the leading lady and whose husband is the leading comedian with Klaw & Erlanger, playing in New York city and meeting with great success in the new spectacular play, Humpty Dumpty. Politically Mr. Berry is a Republican and has served as member of the city council. Fraternally he was made a Mason at California Lodge No. 1, San Francisco, and is now a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. He is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Socially he is connected with several of the prominent clubs of San Francisco, including the Bohemian club, the Union League club, the Family club and the Corinthian Yacht club.

After an absence of fifty-three years Mr. Berry made a visit to his old home and seeing how the people have to economize to exist, he returned to Fresno county with a firmer belief in its possibilities than ever and declares that should any unforeseen reverses overtake him he would never leave the county to gain another start in life.

Few residents of Fresno have taken so active and important a part in the actual work of devel-

oping the city as has Mr. Berry. Settling there when it was a comparatively small town, he soon discerned the great possibilities offered by the place and its surroundings, and at once began the work of promoting enterprises of the greatest public utility. Since then, during all the years of his residence in Fresno, he has taken a leading part in the work of making that city one of the most desirable places of residence in the state, as well as assisting materially in the advancement of the industrial, commercial and social interests of the city. He has always exhibited a keen public spirit, has been generous in his treatment of his fellowmen and liberal in his contributions toward worthy enterprises of whatsoever nature, and has become widely known as one of the most progressive and loyal champions which Fresno has ever had. It is to such men as he that the greatest credit for the upbuilding of the city belongs, and thoughtful citizens freely accord him the honor which is his just due. Personally Mr. Berry is a man of most kindly and considerate disposition, living not alone for himself, but striving throughout his daily life to be of some benefit to mankind. He is entitled to a permanent place in the historical literature of the San Joaquin valley and of California, and the foregoing brief estimate of his character and standing as a citizen is a consensus of the opinion of those who have known him best for a score of years.

---

**WILLIAM JOSEPH KITTRELL.** A man of ability and integrity, enterprising and practical, William Joseph Kittrell is well known in the business circles of Fresno, being secretary and financial agent of the Fresno Agricultural Works, and secretary of the Knob Hill Oil Company. He comes of honorable pioneer ancestry, his grandfather, Joseph Kittrell, and his father, Francis M. Kittrell, having been among the earlier settlers of San Joaquin county. A Virginian by birth, Joseph Kittrell settled in Kentucky when a young man, from there removing to Clarksville, Ark. Joining the vast tide of gold-seekers in 1849, he crossed the plains to California, and for a year was successfully employed in mining. Going home the following year, he returned, in 1852, with his family to the Pacific coast, bringing with him a fine herd of cattle, and locating near Stockton. Taking up land he carried on general farming, including the raising of grain and stock, being quite successful. He subsequently removed to Stanislaus county, where he spent his declining years.

A native of Kentucky, Francis M. Kittrell lived there but a short time before his parents removed to Arkansas, where he acquired his early education. As a young man he came with

his father to California, and lived for a time near Stockton, where he assisted in the pioneer labor of improving a homestead. Subsequently locating at French Camp, he followed general farming a number of years. In 1867 he removed with his family to Stanislaus county, where he continued in agricultural pursuits for four years. In 1871 he bought land on the Sacramento river, in Isleton, Sacramento county, and there engaged in his free and independent occupation until his health failed, owing to a severe attack of asthma, in 1876. Returning then to Stanislaus county, he remained there until his death, in 1877. His wife, whose maiden name was Selina Harp, was born in Tennessee, of Dutch ancestry, her paternal great-grandfather having been born and bred in Holland. Her father, William Harp, a native of Tennessee, became a pioneer farmer of Arkansas. In 1852 he crossed the plains to California, and located first in San Joaquin county, later going to Stanislaus county, where he resided until his death, at the venerable age of eighty-three years. He was an industrious, hard-working man, very successful in his agricultural labors, and acquired much wealth. After her husband's death Mrs. Selina Kittrell resided for a few years with her father, William Harp. She subsequently married, in Stockton, Mr. Zabel, and now resides on Thirty-fifth street, Oakland, Cal. Of her union with Mr. Kittrell, four children were born, namely: William Joseph, the special subject of this sketch; Byron C., who died at the age of twenty years; Mrs. Villa M. Purveyor, of Fresno; and Francis M., of San Francisco, where he is employed by the Market Street Railway Company.

Born October 10, 1866, William J. Kittrell spent the days of his childhood and youth in Stanislaus county, three miles south of Modesto, and was graduated from the Modesto high school in 1886, and from the Stockton Business College the following year. The next six months he was an assistant teacher in the college from which he had received his diploma, and on giving up the situation located at Fresno Flats, Madera county, where he was clerk and bookkeeper in a general mercantile house for eight months. Accepting a position with James Porteous, in March, 1888, he continued as bookkeeper and salesman for the Fresno Agricultural Works for six years. As the works increased in capacity and output, additional help was needed, and Mr. Kittrell gave assistance where it was most needed, and has since 1894 had entire charge of the financial department, and is now one of the stockholders of the company. He is also secretary of the Knob Hill Oil Company, which was formed in 1900, capitalizing with \$25,000, and electing the following named officers: James Porteous, president; W. A. Ferguson, superin-

tendent; G. T. Willis, vice-president; W. J. Kittrell, secretary; and C. C. Wheeler. This company owns forty acres of land on the Kern river, and from the wells now in operation takes out about two thousand barrels of oil per day, having a fine flow ever since the first well was struck. In the plant, the development of which cost upward of \$100,000, two large engines and two boilers are kept constantly pumping, and the equipments are of the most modern and approved style. Mr. Kittrell also owns valuable real estate in Fresno.

In 1888, in Modesto, Mr. Kittrell married Miss Ella Vezey, who was born in San Andreas, this state, a daughter of D. D. Vezey. Mr. Vezey, a native of Vermont, came to California in 1848, and for many years was a prosperous contractor and builder in San Andreas, but is now a resident of Fresno. His wife, whose maiden name was Minerva J. Lewis, was born in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Kittrell have one child, a son, named Erroll Kittrell. Fraternally Mr. Kittrell belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., and Fresno Commandery No. 29, Knights Templar, and is a member of Fresno Lodge of Perfection. Politically he is a sound Democrat, and in religion he is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

SCOTT MCKAY. A thorough master of his profession, Scott McKay of Fresno, the present county surveyor of Fresno county, is considered one of the best civil engineers and surveyors of this section of the state. He is accurate, painstaking, familiar with the topography of the county, and is filling his responsible office most creditably and acceptably to all concerned. He was born July 17, 1868, in Vevay, Ind., which was also the birthplace of his father, George W. McKay. His grandfather, Isaac McKay, was a life-long resident of Vevay, Ind., his parents having migrated there from Virginia, being pioneers of the place. He followed agricultural pursuits during his active life, clearing and improving a homestead from the wilderness.

A farmer by birth and breeding, George W. McKay is now living on the ancestral homestead where his birth occurred sixty-three years ago. From early manhood he was employed as a civil engineer, and as county surveyor of Switzerland county, Ind., a position which he held many terms, he surveyed a large part of that county. He was a strong Republican in politics, active in public affairs, and two of his brothers served in the Civil war. He married Mary Siebenthal, who was born in Vevay, and there spent her entire life, dying in 1899. Her father, Benjamin Siebenthal, was also a life-long resident of that place, his parents having located in Switzerland county, Ind., on immigrating to this country from



Germany. He reared several children, and three of his sons were soldiers in the Civil war. Of the seven children born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. George W. McKay, five are living, Scott, the second child, and eldest son, being the only one residing in California.

After completing the course of study in the public schools, and the Vevay high school, Scott McKay, in 1886, entered the scientific department of the State Normal School at Terre Haute, and remained there until his senior term. He subsequently taught school a year, and then decided to take up the profession of civil engineering, with which he was already quite familiar, having worked with his father more or less from early boyhood. Entering the senior class of the Valparaiso State Normal School in 1890, Mr. McKay was graduated from that institution with the degree of C. E. in 1891. Coming to California soon after, he located in Fresno, and as construction engineer for the San Joaquin Electric Company had charge of the building of the Reservoir Pipe Line ditches. At the end of sixteen months, when the work was completed, he became deputy county surveyor under Surveyor Hoxie, with whom he was associated for about seven years. In 1902 Mr. McKay was nominated on the Republican ticket for county surveyor of Fresno county, and was elected by a majority of fourteen hundred and ninety-six, for a term of four years, beginning in January, 1903.

Mr. McKay married, in Fresno, Helen Jewett, a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of George D. Jewett, an electrician, now living in Fresno, retired from active business. Mr. and Mrs. McKay have one child, a son named Warren Scott McKay. Mr. McKay is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and takes an active interest in city and county affairs. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and belongs to the Royal Arcanum, to the Independent Order of Foresters, and to the Woodmen of the World.

**RICHARD HENRY ENDICOTT, M. D.** During the twenty-nine years Dr. Richard Henry Endicott has pursued the practice of medicine in California, he has been known not only for his skill and assiduity as a physician, but also for the genial urbanity of his manners, his literary taste and talent, and for his popularity as a member of its social circles. He has gained professional eminence by none of the arts of the charlatan, neither has he sought it in special lines of practice. He has been content to follow the beaten track in which physicians educated in the highest sense of the regular school, and loyal to its ethical code, seek rather to merit recognition

by their knowledge and skill, than to gain notoriety by the more questionable methods by which less meritorious practitioners find a short cut to fame and fortune. Few, engrossed in the absorbing occupations of life, appreciate the patience, the self-denying application, the weight of care and anxiety, and the enormous responsibility which attends the life of the meritorious physician. It is the pride of the many families which have come to regard Dr. Endicott as an integral part of their households, that he belongs to and adorns this class of professional men.

It is pleasing to note that Dr. Endicott belongs to the only American aristocracy, that of brains and birth. An ennobling ancestry set up in his childish heart an ideal which the years have not diminished or changed, and which has served as a spur in overcoming obstacles and discouraging drawbacks. Born in Ridgely, Platte county, Mo., October 9, 1845, he is a lineal descendant of Governor John Endicott of Massachusetts, that zealous Puritan, Indian fighter and executive, who was born in Dorchester, England, in 1589, and who died in Boston, Mass., March 15, 1665. Later members of the family made their way to Virginia, where Joseph Endicott, the paternal great-grandfather of the doctor was born, and from which state he emigrated to Bourbon county, Ky., in the early days of its plantation supremacy. His son William, the next in line of succession, was born in Bourbon county, as was also his son, Richard Bohannon Endicott, the father of Richard Henry. William Endicott moved from Bourbon to Henry county, Ky., later making his home in Platte county, Mo., where he conducted farming until his death. Dr. Endicott's mother, formerly Dieza L. Cartwright, was a niece of that famous Methodist Episcopal circuit preacher, Peter Cartwright, who flourished in the latter part of the eighteenth and fore part of the nineteenth centuries. She was a daughter of Isaac Cartwright, a planter of North Carolina, where she was born, and from there she went overland with horse teams to Missouri. Richard Endicott made a fair success of farming in Platte county, reared his family of four sons and two daughters, three of whom are living, and spent his declining years on a farm in Clay county, where his life ended just as the Civil war burst in fury over the land in 1861. Two of his sons entered the medical profession, J. M., the oldest, practicing for many years in Oakdale, this state, where his death occurred.

Dr. Endicott is one of the many successful men of to-day who had their characters set and their thoughts turned into serious and responsible channels by the Civil war. When the call for volunteers broke into the occupations of men, he was a hard-working farmer lad with little thought of the future, and at the time of his





*Harold Patterson.*

discharge in St. Louis, July 6, 1865, he was still a youth, whose nineteen years would scarcely seem to warrant the serious and earnest outlook upon life. Enlisting in Company K, Eighteenth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, he was mustered in at Macon, Mo., and after serving six months was taken ill and discharged for disability. Enlisting in 1863 in Company A, Fourth Missouri Cavalry, he participated in the second battle of Springfield, January 8, 1863; the battle of Jefferson City, Mo.; of Marshalltown; Big Blue; Little Blue; besides numerous skirmishes and cavalry dashes, and spent the winter of 1864 in quarters at Sedalia, Mo. When peace settled over the country he returned to his home in Missouri and attended Ridgely Academy, completing the course in 1868. A closely following experience was a journey to Colorado as a contractor on the Union Pacific Railway in Wyoming, and after the completion of the road he returned to Missouri and began to study medicine under his brother, J. M. Endicott. At the same time he engaged in the drug business, and in 1871 removed his store to Peru, Kans., where he continued in the store until entering the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa, from which he was graduated in the class of 1875.

At the outset of his professional career Dr. Endicott wisely chose California as his most likely field of effort, practicing in Hollister from the fall of 1875 until 1876, and then locating in Darwin, Inyo county, where he remained a few months. He next located in Sacramento, and from there he removed to Bakersfield in 1877, assuming the position of superintendent and physician of the county hospital. For five years he practiced medicine in Rivista, Solano county, and in 1883 took a much needed rest in the east, visiting different cities and hospitals, and taking a course at a hospital in St. Louis. Returning to California in 1884, he practiced in Gilroy until 1886, and for the following seven years worked up a large practice in Oakdale. In 1893 he located in Stockton, from which headquarters he followed mining in Tuolumne and Eldorado counties, becoming interested as organizer and promoter in several large properties. He was a member of the company which opened the Red Cloud mine, near Plymouth, organized the Red Cloud Company and opened the North Star and Black Warrior mines in Tuolumne county. He also became interested in the Noonday mine in Tuolumne county, which they mined for several seasons, and a quarter of which he still owns. In 1901 the doctor settled in Rivista, duplicated his former success until 1904, in which year he became a resident of Oakdale, to which he brought a splendid reputation for erudition and ability. Dr. Endicott has a son by his former

marriage, Edwin E., who shares his professional tendency, and is now a practicing surgeon of Jackson, Cal. He was educated in the public schools and graduated from the Kentucky School of Medicine in Louisville in 1894. In Stockton Dr. Endicott married for his second wife, Lulu Bechtol, a native of Clark county, Mo., and the mother of two children: Jessie, a graduate of the Stockton high school, and Albert. Dr. Endicott is a Mason and Knight of Pythias, and in politics is a Republican. His intellectual character is marked by strong qualities and positive convictions, which are tempered by kindly feeling and sympathy for the weak, while his professional endowments are of the kind which have tended to inspire confidence in his ability and a retention of his services as long as they were available in a given locality. He is a sincere and high-minded gentleman, proud of his good name, his many and loyal friends and the success which has been so fairly and strenuously won.

---

THOMAS W. PATTERSON. One of the substantial and prominent men of Fresno is Thomas W. Patterson, president of the Fresno National Bank, and an extensive owner of landed property in both city and county. Beginning life at the bottom of the ladder of attainment, he has steadily pushed his way upward, by energetic industry, perseverance and wise management achieving distinguished success in financial and business circles. A son of T. J. Patterson, he was born August 3, 1859, in Perry, Wyoming county, N. Y. He comes of patriotic New England stock, his paternal grandfather, Robert Patterson, a native of the Granite state, having served as lieutenant of a company in the Revolutionary war, Mr. Patterson having now in his possession the commission which made him an officer in the army.

Born and brought up in Londonderry, N. H., T. J. Patterson subsequently settled in Wyoming county, N. Y., as a manufacturer, and there spent the remainder of his life. He married Sophia H. Mace, who was born in Lockport, N. Y., and died, in 1887, in New York state. Her father, Isaac Mace, a native of Lowell, Mass., was the descendant of a Puritan family of New England. Of their union but two children were born, a son and a daughter.

His parents removing to Warsaw, N. Y., when he was young, Thomas W. Patterson was educated in the public schools of that place, and was afterward employed in mercantile pursuits in Rochester, N. Y. Going thence to Buffalo, N. Y., he was similarly engaged in that city until 1888, when he came to California and took up his residence in Fresno, and has since been a conspicuous factor in promoting its best inter-

ests. For a number of years he was actively engaged in the real estate and loan business, in 1896 becoming associated with the Fresno National Bank. In January, 1897, Mr. Patterson was elected a director of this institution; in January, 1900, was elected vice-president and director, and since March, 1900, has ably served as president. This bank, the second oldest national bank of Fresno, founded in 1888, has a capital of \$200,000, with a surplus of \$60,000, and is carrying on a general banking business, having the largest capital stock of any bank in the city. Mr. Patterson owns ranches, vineyards and orchards in various parts of Fresno county, and has valuable city property. His residence, the old Pulaski house, is one of the most attractive in the city, being most pleasantly located on Tulare street, and surrounded by a magnificent park of three acres. On the northeast corner of Tulare and J streets, Mr. Patterson erected, in 1900, Patterson block, a fine building 150 x 175 feet, two stories in height, and in 1904 erected, in company with Colonel Forsyth, a still larger block on the southeast corner of Tulare and J streets, the dimensions being the same as the former building, but having four stories and a basement. This is modernly equipped and furnished in every respect, fitted for offices, and is the most complete in all of its details of any similar block in the San Joaquin valley.

In Fresno, November 12, 1892, Mr. Patterson married Lizzie E. Bernhard, who was born in Mariposa county, the daughter of George Bernhard, a California pioneer, and an early settler of Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson are the parents of two children, namely: Dorothy H. and John D. In politics Mr. Patterson is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He is a member of the California Bankers' Association and of the American Bankers' Association.

---

FRANCIS A. FEE. In every era of the world's history the profession of the law has attracted to its practice many of the keenest minds which their generation could boast. Notwithstanding the fact that the twentieth century promises to be a strictly commercial age, it would not be unwise to presage for the law that it will continue to draw to its practice men of brilliant intellects and that it will continue to fascinate them by the intricate problems it constantly offers for solution. Among the attorneys of California who have gained an assured position in the profession mention belongs to Francis A. Fee of Madera who practices in both the civil and criminal branches of the law, and in addition to his private practice acts as attorney for the Madera Board of Trade, the Madera Sugar Pine Com-

pany, the Commercial Bank of Madera, the Madera Electric Light and Water Companies, and various other concerns of an important nature.

Many years ago John Fee, who was a native of Carrick-on-Shannon, Ireland, became a pioneer of the Western Reserve in Ohio and there developed a farm, where he was largely interested in raising stock until his death. Like himself, his wife was of Irish nativity. She bore the maiden name of Sarah Parks and since the death of her husband has continued to live in Ohio. Of their three sons and one daughter Francis A. is the youngest child and the only one on the Pacific coast. He was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, November 5, 1859, and received the rudiments of his education in the country schools. The knowledge there secured was supplemented by study in the Grand River Institute at Austinburg, Ashtabula county. While still a mere lad he had resolved to become a lawyer and in pursuit of this plan, in 1881, he took up the study of law under Judge Hunter of Warren, Ohio. Having completed the prescribed course of study and passed the stipulated examination, in October, 1883, he was admitted to the supreme court of Ohio.

On selecting a location for practice Mr. Fee first located in Syracuse, Otoe county, Neb., where he established himself shortly after his admission to the bar. From there in 1888 he came to California and opened an office in Madera, where he has since become known as an able attorney and counselor. During 1892-93 he took an active part in the county division contest and, with other leading citizens, helped to secure the organization of Madera county. At the special election of May, 1893, pursuant to the organization of the county, he was elected district attorney on the independent ticket by a majority of two hundred and twenty-two over his Democratic opponent. Immediately after his election he took the oath of office and entered upon its duties, which he filled with energy and dignity. At the next general election he was the Republican candidate, but suffered defeat by sixty votes. He has always been a staunch Republican and never fails to give his party the support of his ballot at local and general elections. Pronouncedly Republican as he is, he avoids any display of partisanship, but evinces instead the public spirit and progressive disposition of a loyal citizen. While he is not identified with any denomination, he aids in the maintenance of the Madera Presbyterian Church, with which his wife is identified. Mrs. Fee was formerly Miss Edith Howard and was born in Illinois, but in childhood accompanied her family to Otoe county, Neb., where she remained until after her marriage. The only child of the union is a daughter, Mamie. While making his



home in Nebraska Mr. Fee was initiated into Masonry in Syracuse Lodge, F. & A. M., and since coming to California has affiliated with Madera Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M. In the social life of Madera he and his wife bear a prominent part, having by their culture and refinement attracted and retained the friendship of many of Madera's most respected citizens.

**JOHN EDWARDS.** Though not one of the earliest settlers of Tulare county, the fact that he has been identified with the business and agricultural interests of Visalia and the surrounding country since 1874 entitles Mr. Edwards to be classed among the pioneers of this portion of the San Joaquin valley. Since he was a boy of eight years he has made his home in the United States, but by birth and ancestry he is a Welshman. Montgomery, in North Wales, was his native shire, and August 15, 1832, the date of his birth, his parents being Maurice and Jane (Griffiths) Edwards, natives of the same shire. During 1840 the family crossed the ocean on a sailing vessel and landed in New York, from which city they journeyed westward to Ohio and settled in Delaware county. Notwithstanding his settlement in a strange land, where the language of the people and the character of the soil were unfamiliar to him, the father met with considerable success, and at the time of his death from cholera in 1864 he ranked among the most influential men of his community. In religion he was an active member of the Presbyterian Church. His wife also died on their Ohio farm.

In a family of four sons and three daughters, John Edwards was fourth in order of birth, and is one of the three sons living. Of all the family he alone has sought a home in California. When twenty years of age he took his first westward journey, halting in Illinois, where he secured work as head sawyer in a sawmill in Champaign. During his employment in that capacity the Civil war began, and in July of 1862 he left work to enlist in the Union service, being accepted as a private in Company B, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. With his company and regiment he served under General Sherman and was present at Vicksburg, Jackson and Little Rock in decisive engagements fought at these places. At Jackson he was taken prisoner in July, 1864, and for two months was kept in captivity, but then was exchanged. In recognition of meritorious service he was promoted to be sergeant early in his army career, and served as such until he was mustered out at Galveston, Tex., in July, 1865. Returning north he was honorably discharged at Chicago.

Very shortly after the close of his army service Mr. Edwards removed from Illinois to Kansas

and took up a soldier's homestead in Jackson county, where he cleared the land and inaugurated general farm pursuits. The ensuing years, however, did not bring him the results he desired, and accordingly in 1874 he disposed of his Kansas property and came to California, where he now occupies a two-acre homestead at No. 1010 West South street, Visalia. Here for twelve years he was engaged as foreman of a warehouse and later turned his attention to the cattle business, in which he still engages, owning eighty acres of pasture land north of Visalia. His first marriage was in Covington, Ind., and united him with Sophia Shofstall, who was born in Kentucky and died in Kansas. Three sons and a daughter were born of their union, of whom those living are W. H. Edwards, a cattle-raiser near Visalia, and Nancy Jane, wife of J. L. Daniels, of Reno, Nev. In Kansas, Mr. Edwards was united in marriage with Emily Jane Harvey, who died after their removal to California. Of this union one son is living, Joseph H., residing at Lemon Cove, this state. The present wife of Mr. Edwards, whom he met and married at Visalia, was Mrs. Martha A. Simpson, a native of the eastern part of Tennessee and a pioneer of 1856 in California, having crossed the plains in company with her father and husband. For a time they made their home in Butte county and later settled in Lake county, where her husband, Samuel V. Simpson, died upon a farm. As might be expected from an enthusiastic veteran, Mr. Edwards takes the deepest interest in the Grand Army of the Republic. Largely through the efforts of himself and other loyal ex-soldiers, in 1886 the post was organized at Visalia and of this organization, known as the Gen. George Wright Post, he has acted as commander since about 1892, meanwhile contributing of his time and means to its maintenance and enhancing its popularity by his effective leadership.

**WILLIAM L. LOWREY.** Among the representatives of old pioneer families who are maintaining high farming standards in Tulare county mention is due William L. Lowrey, who was born near where he now lives in the vicinity of Visalia, November 28, 1864, and who is now managing his mother's farm of sixty acres three miles northwest of town. His father, Eldon Lowrey, the establisher of the family on the coast, was born in Tennessee, and by occupation was a stock raiser and operator. Crossing the plains to California from Missouri in 1852, he located in Sonoma county and had a dairy and stock ranch there, but soon afterward removed to Visalia and selected the farm upon which his death occurred June 10, 1904, aged seventy-four

years. Delighted with the prospects of this section of the state, and pinning his financial faith to stock raising, he returned east by way of Panama, and in 1856 drove a herd of cattle across the plains, using them as the nucleus for extensive stock dealing on his farm north of Orosi. His wife, Elizabeth (Parsons) Lowrey, was born in Missouri, and became his helpmeet in the days of his struggle for a competence in that state. Of strong constitution and active mind, she survives him at the present time, and still makes her home on the ranch near Visalia. She has been the devoted mother of ten sons and three daughters, of whom five sons and one daughter are living.

The second youngest in his father's large family, William L. Lowrey was educated in the public schools and at the Visalia normal school, thereafter engaging in farming and stock raising in Fresno county for eight years. In 1902 he sold his farm in Fresno county and came to Tulare county, managing his mother's ranch, which is under stock and alfalfa. The farm is well improved, and evidences the care and industry of its original owner, and is equipped with practical agricultural implements. Mr. Lowrey succeeds at farming because he uses good judgment and likes his work, and because he is constantly looking for improved ways of taking advantage of his opportunities. For years he has been an active Democrat, and in 1902 was appointed assistant assessor of Fresno county, serving two years. He is devoted to his home and farm, and especially to the care and education of his three children, Jerald, Pearl and Dorothy. Mrs. Lowrey was formerly Maggie Rush, a native of Visalia, and to her economy and practical assistance her husband attributes much of his farming success. She is a daughter of Isaac Rush, an old settler of Tulare county.

---

**ALFRED JOSEPH ARNAUDON.** Distinguished as a leading citizen of Mendota, Alfred Joseph Arnaudon is also known far and wide as one of the most able and prosperous business men of Fresno county. A brief resumé of his life affords a forcible illustration of the self-made man, who began life at the foot of the ladder, and by his own strenuous efforts has steadily climbed the pathway of success, gaining an eminent position, socially and financially, among his fellow-men. He is actively identified with the mercantile, agricultural, and industrial prosperity of this part of the state, and is not only carrying on an extensive business as a dealer in general merchandise, hay and grain, but is proprietor of Arnaudon's hotel, in connection with which he has a large livery stable, and is an extensive land owner and stock raiser, as well. A

native of France, he was born, October 14, 1853, in the department of Hautes-Alpes, where his parents, Joseph and Marie Arnaudon, spent their entire lives. He is the youngest child in a family consisting of three sons and six daughters born to his parents and of the three children now living, is the only one in America.

Born and reared on a farm, Alfred Joseph Arnaudon received a practical common school education in his native land, living at home until eighteen years old. Ambitious and energetic, he made up his mind to try life for himself in the new world. Accordingly, in 1872, he sailed from Havre on the steamer City of Paris, and fifteen days later landed in New York. Boarding a train, he started from there by rail for California, but being caught in a snowstorm while crossing the mountains was twenty-nine days en route. Arriving in San Francisco with just \$20 in United States money in his pocket, Mr. Arnaudon, not a whit discouraged, began looking for employment, and the following six years worked in Remillard's brickyard, in San Rafael. Industrious, prudent and thrifty, he accumulated considerable money, and in 1878 located in Sunol, Alameda county, where, in partnership with his nephews, the Chaix boys, he embarked in sheep raising, having a large range in the Sunol foothills. Succeeding well in the venture, these partners subsequently bought a ranch in the valley, and continued their profitable business awhile longer. Later Mr. Arnaudon sold out his share of the ranch, and taking his part of the sheep to another ranch in the same county carried on stock-raising alone for three years. Removing to Fresno county, on the west side, in 1886, he established a sheep ranch, and at the same time embarked in mercantile pursuits, stocking a store at White Bridge with general merchandise, and running it successfully for eight years, serving meanwhile as assistant postmaster.

In 1894 Mr. Arnaudon built the block which he now owns and occupies in Mendota. It is eighty feet front, and contains two stores, and a large hotel, Arnaudon's, which he manages successfully, having a lucrative patronage. As a general merchant he has built up a large trade among the best people of the community, being an especially large dealer in hay and grain, as well as general goods, and from the livery which he manages in connection with his hotel he derives a good profit. From June 3, 1895, until the spring of 1900, Mr. Arnaudon was also the postmaster at Mendota. He is still interested in the sheep business, owning a ranch of forty-five hundred acres, lying three miles south of Mendota, where he keeps about five thousand sheep. He likewise owns a farm of one hundred and forty acres near Pleasanton, and on this he has a winery and a vineyard of twenty-five acres, while,





MRS. JAMES FISHER



*James Fisher.*





about six miles east of Mendota, on the banks of the San Joaquin river, he has a small poultry, hay and vegetable ranch. Mr. Arnaudon has other property of value, owning a residence in the city of Fresno. In all of his undertakings Mr. Arnaudon has exercised good judgment and sound sense, and by wise forethought and prudent management has accumulated wealth.

In Mission San Jose, Mr. Arnaudon married Marie Arbios, who was born in France, in the department of Basses-Pyrenees, a daughter of John Arbios, who came with his family to California in 1876, settling first as a dairyman in San Rafael, but being now a resident of Pleasanton. Mr. and Mrs. Arnaudon have six children, namely: Emma (wife of R. Jury, of Palo Alto); Lucy, Cora, Adelta, Marie and Alfred J. Politically Mr. Arnaudon supports the principles of the Democratic party, and for many years served as school director. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias.

**JAMES FISHER.** Prominent among the venerable and highly respected pioneers of Tulare county is James Fisher, living near Visalia, who, during his years of residence in this place, has witnessed its remarkable development, and in the work necessary for such an achievement has taken a conspicuous part. Since coming here in 1857 he has made an honorable record, by his means, enterprise and counsel assisting in the upbuilding of town and county, and by his energy and business management becoming an extensive landholder, and a most successful agriculturist. A son of Spencer Fisher, he was born, October 13, 1821, in Kaskaskia, Randolph county, Ill.

The son of one of Illinois' pioneer settlers, Spencer Fisher was born, lived and died in the Prairie state, being engaged, principally, in agricultural pursuits. He married Elizabeth Henderson, who was born near Little Rock, Ark., and died in Illinois. Of the five children born of their union but one, James, the youngest child, is now living. Brought up on the home farm, he obtained his early education in a subscription school, which was held in a log house chinked with mud, and having a puncheon floor and shake roof. On one of the slab benches, near the huge fireplace, he was taught to write with a quill pen, and under the instruction of his teacher made as good progress in the three "Rs" as his schoolmates. On attaining his majority he left the parental roof, going to Murphysboro, Jackson county, Ill., where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, boarding in the meantime at the hotel kept by Dr. Logan, father of Gen. John A. Logan, one of the heroes of the Civil war. At the end of two years Mr. Fisher

located in Shreveport, La., where for a time he ran a ferry boat for a Mr. Douglas. Returning from there to his native state he was employed as a clerk in Chester, Randolph county, until 1855. Desirous of a decided change of location and occupation, Mr. Fisher started for the extreme west. With horses and wagons he left Council Bluffs in April, 1855, and followed the old Mormon trail across the plains to California, arriving in Millerton in the fall, having journeyed for six weary months. Taking a contract to cut two million feet of saw logs for Alexander Ball, Mr. Fisher completed the task, after which he contracted to build three miles of road down the mountains from Ball's Mill. He subsequently bought from Mr. Ball several yoke of oxen, and engaged in hauling lumber from the mill to Millerton and other places. Locating in Visalia in the spring of 1857, Mr. Fisher continued freighting for a year and a half. Using six yoke of oxen, he made a specialty of hauling lumber from mills to the markets, taking three thousand feet at a load, and being five days in making the round trip, receiving \$30 a thousand for his work.

In the fall of 1858 Mr. Fisher went to Sonora, Mexico, where he bought a herd of branded cattle, which he drove to Antelope valley, Tulare county, Cal., where he disposed of them at a good price, making money in his venture. Purchasing in 1860 two hundred acres of land from R. L. Howison, Mr. Fisher began the improvement of his present home farm, which is now in its appointments one of the best in this locality. In addition to general farming, he made a specialty of stock-raising, until the enforcement of the fence law, having at times as many as twenty thousand sheep. As his money accumulated he judiciously invested it in land, becoming one of the largest real estate owners in the county. Within three and one-half miles of Visalia, to the northeast, he has thirteen hundred acres, in sections 11, 12, 14 and 15, all of which is under irrigation, being watered partly by Elbow creek and the St. John's river and its canals, the farm being known as Oaklawn ranch, and devoted to the raising of grain and alfalfa. He also owns a stock farm of ten hundred and twenty acres, lying four miles north of Oaklawn ranch; a ranch of eight hundred acres at Taurasa, two miles north of Oaklawn; and a large ranch of twelve hundred acres, lying seven miles east of Oaklawn, which he gave to his son, William Lee Fisher, for a stock farm. Mr. Fisher was interested in the building of the Witch Chimney canal, which irrigates a large part of his home ranch, and has been a promoter of many other beneficial enterprises. He has been especially successful as a stockman, raising draft horses and mules, and owns many valuable cattle.

In 1860, on his home farm Mr. Fisher mar-

ried Mary E. Howison, who was born in Louisiana, a daughter of R. L. Howison, an early pioneer of Visalia. Three children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, namely: The late Mrs. Alice Markham, who died in Visalia; Mrs. Fannie Bodden, of Visalia; and William L., who assists his father in the management of his farms and property. In 1875 Mr. Fisher built his present commodious residence, which, with its pleasant environments, is one of the most attractive in the neighborhood. Politically Mr. Fisher is a straightforward Democrat, ever loyal to the interests of his party.

---

**LEWIS LINCOLN CORY.** A man of literary and scholastic attainments, possessing a vigorous mentality and a well-trained mind, Lewis Lincoln Cory holds an assured position among the leading attorneys of Fresno, his legal ability and knowledge being recognized and appreciated. A son of the late Dr. Benjamin Cory, he was born, May 4, 1861, in San Jose, where his earlier years were spent.

The descendant of a New Jersey family of prominence, Benjamin Cory was born and bred in Oxford, Ohio. With a natural aptitude for learning, he was given excellent educational advantages, and after receiving the degree of A. B. at the Miami University was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College with the degree of M. D. Migrating to California in 1848, Dr. Cory settled in San Jose, then the capital of the state, becoming the first American physician to locate in the Santa Clara valley. He took a prominent part in local affairs, being active in the capital fight, and was influential in advancing the industrial, social and business growth and prosperity of city and county, being the first person to set out a vineyard for commercial purposes. For a number of years he served as county physician, and until his death, in 1899, at the age of seventy-three years, was the leading physician of Santa Clara county. In his professional career, the doctor traveled extensively through the valley and mountains, his practice extending to Santa Cruz and Monterey. Dr. Cory married Sarah Braly, who was born in Missouri, near St. Louis, a daughter of Rev. John Braly. With his family, Mr. Braly came westward to Oregon, being at Whitman station just prior to the massacre. From there he came to California, locating near Santa Clara, where he improved a farm, on which he brought up his family. He also continued his ministerial labors in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, being the first Presbyterian minister of this part of the state, until his death, at the age of seventy-three years. He married a Miss Hyde, who was of English descent. Of the union of Dr. and Mrs.

Cory, eight children were born, Lewis L., the subject of this sketch, being the fourth child in order of birth.

After completing the course of study in the grammar and high schools of San Jose, Lewis Lincoln Cory fitted himself for college at the University of the Pacific, after which he attended Rutgers College, at New Brunswick, N. J., for two years. In 1879 he entered the junior class of Princeton University, from which he was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1881. Becoming a student then in the Columbia Law School, he studied there for two years, when he was graduated with the degree of LL. B. Being admitted to the bar in New York in 1883, Mr. Cory began the practice of his profession in that city, for two years being in the office of Judge William Fullerton. Returning to California in 1885, he practiced law in San Jose until 1886, when he opened an office in Fresno, where he has since been located. As a general practitioner, he has built up an extensive and lucrative clientage. Making a specialty of civil law, Mr. Cory has been associated with some very important land cases, and is now attorney for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, the First National Bank, the Street Railway Company, the Water Company, and the Electric Light Company. Well versed in legal lore, wise and firm in his decisions, Mr. Cory inspires people with the greatest confidence in his judgment and uprightness, and is highly respected alike by his brother members of the bar, and by all with whom he is brought in contact, either in a business or a social way.

In New York City, Mr. Cory married Caroline A. Martin, a native of Rahway, N. J., and they are the parents of five children, namely: Edith M., attending the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, being a member of the class of 1907; Catherine H., a student in the Fresno high school; Margaret E.; Martin and Benjamin. Politically Mr. Cory is a steadfast Republican, and socially he belongs to Delta Upsilon Fraternity of Rutgers College. He is also a member of the Fresno County Bar Association.

---

**RALEIGH E. RHODES.** Through the inheritance of exceptional ability from his father and grandfather, both of whom were attorneys of prominence, and through the diligent cultivation of his talents, Raleigh E. Rhodes has gained a reputation as one of the leading lawyers of Madera county. In the field of criminal law he has met with especial success. His preeminence as a criminal lawyer has been established by his skilled management of numerous important suits, notably the Lawson, Rockwell and Derby murder trials, also the Fornier case, the most bitterly contested of any ever tried in

the county. As attorney for the Valley Railroad when projected through Fresno, he successfully fought the condemnation suits in behalf of the railway.

The family genealogy is traced to Major Joseph T. Rhodes, an officer in the Revolutionary war under General Washington. The grandfather, Col. E. A. Rhodes, a native of North Carolina, became an influential attorney and served as United States consul to Texas stationed at Galveston. In the family of Colonel Rhodes was a son, William H., who was born in Windsor, N. C., in 1822, and was orphaned by his mother's death when he was a child of six years. After his preliminary education he was sent to Princeton, N. J., where he was a student in the university. Upon the appointment of his father as consul at Galveston he joined him in that city, where he continued his classical studies. In 1844 he matriculated in the Harvard Law School, and at the expiration of his term returned to Texas, where he was honored with the office of probate judge. After a brief sojourn in New York at the conclusion of his service as jurist, he took up the practice of law in Windsor, N. C., and remained there until he heard of the discovery of gold in California. In 1850 he came to San Francisco, where he was a member of the vigilance committee of 1856 and one of the most prominent lawyers of his day. During those times he was editor and part owner of the *True Californian*, for which he prepared some very able editorials and literary articles. As a brilliant writer, he won a reputation on the coast. He was a man of classical education and intellectual attainments, and his writings, judged by the standard of both that day and this, possess great literary merit. In literature he had a fondness for the Jules Verne style of writing. He delighted in scientific fiction and acquired prominence by several imaginative articles of that kind which came from his pen. Socially he was popular and prominent, a genial companion, a prominent Knight Templar Mason, and one of the founders of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco. In that city his death occurred April 14, 1876. His wife, who was Susan M. McDermott, was born in England, but at an early age came to Oroville, Cal., where she had a brother in business; she survived her husband a great many years, dying in 1901 in San Francisco.

Next to the youngest of four sons, Raleigh E. Rhodes was born in San Francisco October 1, 1868. After completing the studies of local schools he entered the law office of Colonel Flournoy and later for six years was with Naphtaly, Freidenrich & Ackerman, of San Francisco, one of the leading firms of attorneys on the coast. After two years of study in the Hast-

ings Law School, in 1889 he was admitted to the Supreme Court of California. For several years he continued in his native city, but in 1893 came to Madera. Three years later he formed a partnership with H. H. Welsh, and opened an office in Fresno, but after three years came back to Madera, where he has since conducted a general law practice. During his residence in Fresno he became actively connected with the Fresno County Bar Association. The Democratic party receives his ballot and influence, and in 1902 he was his party's nominee for district attorney, but was defeated by R. R. Fowler. As an attorney his ability is unquestioned. The high principles of honor which have guided him in the conduct of his practice justly bring him the confidence of associates and acquaintances and give him a high rank among the attorneys of Madera. Socially he is popular, and fraternally holds membership with Yosemite Parlor No. 130, N. S. G. W. His marriage took place in Berkeley, and united him with Lillian Welton, who was born in New York City and is a graduate of the Berkeley high school. To this marriage three children were born: Welton, Marjorie and Beatrice. The family of which she is a member has not been without influence in the east, and to her grandfather, former United States Senator Thomas Morris, of Ohio, belonged the distinction of having appointed Ulysses S. Grant to the West Point Academy.

---

STRUDWICK SLEDGE. As chairman of the board of supervisors of Madera county, Cal., Strudwick Sledge ranks among the most prominent ranchers of that section. Born March 30, 1865, in Alabama, he was taken to the Golden state by his parents at the age of three years. Reared on his father's farm, he attended the public schools of Fresno (now Madera) county, and he then became a student at the San Jose Business College, where he took a complete commercial course. He has followed farming all his life. In 1903 he was elected to the office of supervisor of the First District on the Democratic ticket, and upon the organization of that body he was selected chairman. In addition to his extensive business interests, Mr. Sledge has ample time to attend to social duties to some extent, and affiliates with the Masonic and the Ancient Order of United Workmen lodges.

In tracing the ancestry of Mr. Sledge, we find him to be a descendant of an old southern family. His father, L. A. Sledge, was a native of Alabama, born April 3, 1823, and in that state he was united in marriage with Martha Strudwick. He was one of the founders of the Alabama settlement in Madera county, Cal., then a part of Fresno county. This colony was or-

ganized to form a settlement in 1868; they purchased about twenty thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Madera from the Chapman estate. But the colony proved to be a failure and Mr. Sledge returned east in 1875; a couple of years later he again came west and the balance of his life was spent in California. He engaged in sheep raising, meeting with varied success, and became one of the prominent stockmen in the San Joaquin valley. At the time of his death, July 3, 1896, he left a valuable estate, about eight hundred acres, which is now included in the home ranch.

Four children blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sledge, namely: Sallie, Winnie, Levin L. and Strudwick. Since the death of the father these children, with the widowed mother, have continued to reside on the home place. This ranch is located five and one-half miles southwest of Madera and is devoted to the raising of alfalfa, grain, vineyards and stock. In addition to attending these broad acres, the brothers rent about eighteen hundred acres of additional land, and upon the latter they carry on grain raising on a large scale.

---

PROF. GILES N. FREMAN. As superintendent of the schools of Fresno county Prof. G. N. Freman, of Fresno, occupies a leading position among the prominent educators of this part of the country, his superior talents and scholarly attainments eminently qualifying him for his important work. Cultured and capable, possessing great force of character and executive ability, he has been a potent factor in bringing the school system to a high point of excellence, offering to the young, irrespective of sex, educational advantages worthy of consideration and commendation. A native of Missouri, he was born March 12, 1838, in Daviess county, where his father, John W. Freman, was a man of prominence and influence. His paternal grandfather was born in North Carolina, of Scotch-English ancestry. He served in the war of 1812 as a gallant soldier, and afterward settled in Kentucky as a pioneer farmer.

Born on the Kentucky homestead John W. Freman obtained a superior education for the times, and for many years was an educator of some note, and a successful agriculturist. Removing from his native state to Missouri, he took up land in Daviess and Buchanan counties, and there cleared and improved a farm, on which he resided until 1845, at which time he removed to Iowa, where he died the same year. For a number of years after settling in Buchanan county he taught school, and for one term served as sheriff. He was active in public affairs, and was a member of the Missouri troops that as-

sisted in driving the Mormons from the territory. He was a strong Democrat in politics, and a member of the Baptist Church. He married Mrs. Massey E. (Parman) Black, who was born in North Carolina and died in Iowa. Of their union four children were born, namely: Giles N., the subject of this sketch; Phoebe A., deceased; Eliza, the widow of George C. Grimes, of Fresno; and John W., of Woodland, Cal.

After obtaining the rudiments of his education in the public schools of Missouri, G. N. Freman removed with the family to Iowa, where he continued his school life, between terms working on the farm. Subsequently he served an apprenticeship at the printer's trade in Sidney, Fremont county, Iowa. Going to Nebraska City, Neb., in 1856, he was for a year connected with the *Nebraska City News*, then edited by J. Sterling Morton. Returning to Iowa in 1857, Mr. Freman entered Mount Pleasant Seminary, at Mount Pleasant, from which he was graduated in 1862. Beginning then his career as an educator, Professor Freman taught school in Fremont county, Iowa, in the public schools of Warren and Adams counties, Ill., and was afterward principal of the preparatory department and professor of natural sciences in Abingdon College, at Abingdon, Ill. Resigning the position in 1864 he came to California, journeying across the plains with mules and being three months on the way, leaving Illinois May 16 and arriving in Woodland, Cal., August 20. At Deep creek and at Green river, the party with which he traveled had encounters with the Indians, but sustained no serious loss.

The following year Professor Freman was principal of the Woodland schools, and the ensuing six years was a member of the faculty of Hesperian College. In 1871 he was elected superintendent of the schools of Yolo county, and in 1873 was re-elected to the same position, and served efficiently for another term of two years. Going to Arizona in 1875, he was superintendent of the Stonewall Jackson mine, in the Globe district, for two years, and then gave up the work on account of the hostility of the Indians, who killed several of his men. Returning to California, he was engaged in mercantile pursuits in Capay for awhile, and was afterward employed in the raising of fruit in Vacaville for two years, having a fine orchard and vineyard. Locating in Fresno in 1887, Professor Freman bought forty acres of land near Fowler, and started a vineyard and orchard. He has since purchased additional land, and is now owner of eighty acres, devoted to orchard, in which he raises peaches, figs and nectarines. He has had excellent success as a horticulturist, making a specialty of the culture of Calymrna figs and peaches. In 1893 he resumed his professional







*L S Berry*

labors, serving as principal of the Washington Colony school of Fresno county. He was subsequently employed in horticultural pursuits on his ranch. He served for a year as deputy county superintendent of schools under Thomas J. Kirk. In December, 1901, Professor Freman was appointed by the board of supervisors as county superintendent of the schools of Fresno county to fill a vacancy. In 1902 he was the Republican nominee for the same office, and was elected by a good majority for a term of four years, being also ex-officio secretary of the Board of Education of Fresno county. He is an active member of the State Teachers' Association; of the California Raisin Growers' Association; and of the State Horticultural Society. His orchard is advantageously located about three miles northwest of Fowler, and about eight miles from Fresno.

In Abingdon, Ill., March 16, 1863, Professor Freman married Mollie T. Martin, who was born in Dade county, Mo., of which her father, John E. Martin, a native of Virginia, was a pioneer settler. She died in 1883, leaving three children. G. C., a well-known attorney of Fresno, was graduated from the Hastings Law School with the degree of LL. B.; F. Harold, for some months a reporter for the *New York Journal*, of New York City, is now paying teller in the cashier's department of that paper; and Frank F. is superintendent of the home ranch. Professor Freman was married a second time, October 17, 1887, Sarah A. DeBell, a native of Grayson, Ky., and a daughter of Alfred DeBell, becoming his wife. Mrs. Freman, the second of a family of four children, of whom two are living, is a well educated woman, and while in Illinois was engaged in educational work. In 1884 she came to California and was here similarly employed until her marriage. As deputy county superintendent of the Fresno county schools, Mrs. Freman greatly assists her husband in his work, taking charge of the office, as much of his time is necessarily spent in visiting schools, his territory extending one hundred and fifty miles from east to west. Politically Professor Freman is a Republican, and fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and since 1864 has been a consistent member of the Christian Church.

#### HON. GEORGE STOCKTON BERRY.

For over a quarter of a century G. S. Berry has been one of the prominent citizens of Tulare county. During these years he has been active in public affairs and has at all times been willing to give his attention to any movement which in his estimation would prove a benefit to his state or county. Such men are the makers of history

and are accorded a place in the annals of California.

Born in Cooper county, Mo., October 11, 1847, G. S. Berry is a son of John and Josephine (Jones) Berry. The father was an early settler in California, crossing the plains from Missouri in 1857. He first settled at Lodi, where he engaged in farming, but later removed to Placerville, Eldorado county, where he followed mining until 1874. In that year he removed to Tulare county, where he engaged in farming and where he lived the remainder of his life, although he died in San Jose at the age of seventy-two years. His wife is still living, making her home at Campbell, Santa Clara county. By her union with Mr. Berry the following children were born: Martha, now Mrs. Wilson of Campbell; Dr. John, of Los Angeles; William, of Lindsay; Laura, now Mrs. Sears of Wrights; Robert, of Lindsay, and George S.

The last named was ten years of age when his parents crossed the plains, and his education was obtained in the public schools of Placerville. He first engaged in farming near Modesto with his father and while there he married, in Tuolumne City, June 2, 1868, Margaret Griffin, who was born in Lincoln county, Mo., and is a daughter of Joel Griffin, a native of North Carolina and an early settler in Lincoln county. In 1857 Mr. Griffin and his family crossed the plains to California. Ox teams were used for transportation purposes and six months were required for the completion of the journey. While en route the party was twice attacked by the Indians, but only one man in the train was killed. Mr. Griffin first settled at what is called The Five-Mile House, where he followed farming until his removal to Tuolumne City, near which place he engaged in farming and stock-raising. Later he retired from active pursuits, and taking up his residence in Oakland, died there at the age of eighty-four years. His wife, Frances Smith, died in Oakland at the age of seventy-two years. She became the mother of six children, four of whom are living, as follows: Joel, who resides near Modesto; Frances, now Mrs. C. C. Baker of Fruitvale; Margaret, Mrs. Berry; and Jennie, now Mrs. Woolery of Portland, Ore.

In 1874 Mr. and Mrs. Berry took up their residence in what was then called Tulare county but is now Grangeville, Kings county. Here Mr. Berry engaged in grain farming until 1875, when he purchased two thousand acres of railroad land, adjoining that on which the town of Lindsay is now located. Here he conducted an extensive grain-raising business for several years, but later disposed of a large portion of his land and is now living on a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, one and a half miles east of Lindsay. Twenty acres are devoted to oranges and

about fifty to a vineyard. He is also engaged in farming and stock-raising in the state of Nevada.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Berry four children have been born: Lillie, now Mrs. Charles Rankin of Deer Creek; Lettie, who became the wife of Forrest Lyons and died in San Francisco; Mrs. M. Osborne, of Stockton; and Arthur, who lives at home and is engaged in business with his father. On November 14, 1900, he married Sena Jobe, who was born in Tulare county, a daughter of H. H. Jobe.

Mr. Berry is one of the leading Democrats in Tulare county and has been active in public affairs. He served one term in the assembly and so well pleased were his constituents with his record that in 1891 they elected him to the state senate. Here as in the lower house he labored earnestly for the welfare of those who had placed him in this responsible position. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in both of which bodies he is an active worker. Mr. Berry has made a success of life by being ready to improve his opportunities, and the position he has attained is the result of his own efforts. Since early manhood he has made his own way in the world and he deservedly ranks among the self-made men. Mr. Berry was the patentee and manufacturer of the first steam thresher and harvester combined, used in the San Joaquin valley; this machine had a forty-foot cut, being the only successful machine of that kind ever manufactured, a forty horse-power engine required to operate the machine.

**DAVID FRANKLIN EDWARDS.** The earliest recollections of Mr. Edwards are associated with California, for he was a child of only three years when the family came to the Pacific coast in 1849. In his ancestry he is of remote English extraction and of Irish parentage. His grandfather, Patrick Edwards, who was the son of an Englishman, brought his family from Ireland to America and settled in Oswego county, N. Y., where he cleared a tract of raw land. At the time of crossing the ocean his son, John, was perhaps fifteen years of age, but in a short time he became familiar with American institutions and as loyal to the government as any of its native-born sons. This patriotic spirit was proved through his enlistment in the United States army during the Seminole war and also through his service in the war with Mexico. It was his service in the latter struggle that caused him to become familiar with the plains and the western country. In 1849 he brought his family via Cape Horn to San Diego, they remaining in that city while he went with his regiment to Colorado,

crossing the plains via Yuma to fight the Apaches, the most savage of all Indian tribes. At the expiration of his term of enlistment as a soldier, in 1851, he returned to San Diego and from there brought the family to San Francisco, thence to Tuolumne county, where he engaged in mining. On relinquishing that occupation, in 1876 he came to what is now Madera (then Fresno) county and here he lived retired until his death at the age of eighty-three years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emeline Metcalf, was born in New Hampshire and died in California; her father, David Metcalf, a native of New Hampshire, was one of the first settlers of Oswego county, N. Y., and followed the shoe-makers trade there during much of his active life.

In the family of John and Emeline Edwards there were six children, namely: Mary R., who died in girlhood; David Franklin, of Madera; Sarah, who died in Tuolumne county; John G., of Madera, whose sketch appears on another page; Mrs. Lizzie Hope, of Madera county; and James H., who is engaged with his oldest brother as a blacksmith. David F. Edwards was born at North Hannibal, Oswego county, N. Y., April 20, 1846, and was three years of age when the family came to this section of the country. His earliest recollections are of passing through Stockton en route to Tuolumne county. When a young man he began to learn the trade of blacksmith at Knights Ferry, Stanislaus county, and worked as an apprentice for four years. In 1874 he opened a blacksmith's shop at Borden (now in Madera county), and remained there for two years. On coming to Madera in 1876, he bought a shop and began to work as a blacksmith. His place of business was in 1880 moved to his present location on Yosemite street. Renting his shop in 1883, he returned to Knights Ferry and conducted a similar business there, remaining for seven years. When he came back to Madera in 1890 he took his old shop, but the following year was burned out, and so rebuilt, having now a shop 54x50 feet in dimensions, and carrying on a general blacksmithing and repair business.

By his marriage to Eleanor Watson, a native of Pennsylvania and a resident of Stockton in girlhood, Mr. Edwards has six children, John F., Gertrude, Elsie, Percy, Ellis and Eleanor, all of whom are at home. The family attends the First Presbyterian Church of Madera, in which Mr. Edwards is a ruling elder. Politically a Republican, he has served as a member of the county central committee of his party both in this and Stanislaus counties. Fraternally he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which he is past master workman; Madera Lodge No. 134, K. of P., in which he is past chancellor; and Summit Lodge No. 112, F. & A. M., in which he is past master and served as

worshipful master for four years. His Masonic relations began when he was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 274, F. & A. M., and ever since then he has been a believer in the principles of the fraternity. With his wife he holds membership in the Eastern Star. His brother and partner, J. H. Edwards, was born in Tuolumne county, this state, in 1858, and during the years of youth learned the blacksmith's trade at Borden, afterward following the same in the employ of others for some years. Coming to Madera in 1882, he has since been in business and is now the company in the firm of D. F. Edwards & Co. Fraternally he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being past grand of the Madera Lodge and a member of the Encampment at Fresno.

**JOHN W. SHORT.** Through his association with the city of Fresno, which began in May of 1881, Mr. Short has been an influential factor in its growth and progress. The occupation upon which he entered, that of journalism, was one offering the greatest opportunities to a public-spirited man desirous of promoting the welfare of his city and county. In other capacities he was also a contributor to local movements, notably through his service as vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce, which position he has held from the time of its organization. The Republican party, of which he has always been an intelligent champion, recognized his services in its behalf by securing his appointment to the office of postmaster, his first appointment to the position dating June 12, 1898, under the administration of President McKinley. Under President Roosevelt, December 22, 1902, he was again appointed to the office, which he continues to fill in a manner satisfactory to the citizens, irrespective of political faith.

In Shelby county, Mo., near Shelbyville, Mr. Short was born October 8, 1858, being a brother of Frank H. Short, in whose sketch the family record will be found. In 1869 he accompanied the family to Hastings, Neb., which was then beyond the confines of civilization. As a boy he endured all the hardships incident to life upon the frontier. However, he was not entirely deprived of advantages, for he was sent to the public school at Papillion, Sarpy county, for two years, and there laid the foundation of the broad education subsequently gained through reading and observation. His education in the printing business began at the age of fourteen years, when he entered the office of the *Sarpy County Sentinel*. A year later he went with the *Papillion Times*, where he worked his way up from the lowly position of "devil." Returning to Hastings, he was employed on the *Hastings*

*Journal* for several years, first as a type-setter, then as a reporter and assistant editor.

Leaving Nebraska for California in 1881, on his arrival in Fresno Mr. Short secured employment as a compositor on the *Fresno Republican*. A year later he became the editor of the paper, in which capacity he continued for years, meanwhile becoming owner of a half interest in the plant, his partner being J. W. Shanklin. Together they established the *Daily Republican*, the first morning paper published in the city. After twelve years the paper was sold and Mr. Short then traveled through California in search of an attractive location, but, failing to find a place that suited him as well as Fresno, he returned to this city. Shortly afterward he assisted in organizing the Republican Publishing Company, of which he was vice-president and a director, and which he promoted through his successful editorial work on the paper. He identified himself with the California Press Association and gained many friends among the leading journalists of the state. With his brother Frank H. he erected the Short building, a three-story structure on J street. For some years he served as a member of the Fresno Board of Education, in which position he contributed effectively to the promotion of the welfare of the city schools and the elevation of the standard of scholarship. Another position in which he has rendered valuable service is that of member of the board of library trustees.

The marriage of Mr. Short united him with Miss Jessie Francis and was solemnized in Calistoga, Napa county, Cal. Mrs. Short was born at Silver Mountain, Sierra county, Cal., whither her father, James Francis, had come from Wisconsin during the memorable year 1849. Born of this union are three children: Jamie V., Margaret and John Douglas.

**SAMUEL J. SAMELSON.** As manager of the J. K. Armsby Company, packers and shippers of dried fruits, nuts, honey, etc., Samuel J. Samelson is discharging the duties incumbent upon him in a manner calculated to win the commendation of all with whom he comes in business contact. A man of energy and ability, possessed of quick and unerring judgment, he has made his influence felt in the business circles of Visalia and has risen rapidly to his present position of prominence, while a bright and promising future is assured him through his past work. Born in Austin, Nev., November 30, 1865, he is a son of Samuel Samelson, a native of New York state.

Samuel Samelson was an instrumental musician and was a leader of an orchestra for many years. The greater part of his life was spent in New York state, but in 1890 he came to California

and locating in Fresno county, bought a vineyard ten miles southwest of the city of Fresno, where he still makes his home. His wife, formerly Alice Prior, a native of New Zealand, is also living. They became the parents of two sons and one daughter, the latter of whom is now deceased. The oldest of this family, Samuel J. Samelson received his education in the public schools and high school of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He was then apprenticed to learn the trade of print cutter for wall-paper designing, etc. He came to California in 1890 with his parents, and four years later engaged in the fruit-packing business with the Griffin-Skelley Company. He continued in this employment for one year, when he was made superintendent of the Producers' Packing Company, of Fresno. Following this he accepted, in 1896, the position of buyer with the Fresno Home Packing Company and manager of the Selma branch through season, remaining so engaged for eight years. In June, 1902, he became identified with the J. K. Armsby Company as local manager of the Visalia branch packing house, which handles peaches, prunes and all dried fruits. Since his assumption of these duties Mr. Samelson has remodeled the packing house, which now has a capacity of two thousand cases per day, during a season of from three to five months, and employs sixty-five people.

In fraternal associations Mr. Samelson is identified with the Woodmen of the World and Heralds of Liberty. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

---

F. R. MEILIKE. Numbered among the German-American citizens whose thrift and energy have contributed to the advancement of California is Mr. Meilike, member of the firm of Wehrmann & Meilike, and a leading business man of Madera. He was born in the province of Brandenburg, Prussia, Germany, February 12, 1858, being a son of Gustav and Theresa (Luther) Meilike, natives of the same province and members of families of agriculturists. His great-grandfather removed from the interior of Germany to Brandenburg, where he helped to build a large dam and was in other ways connected with local enterprises. The father and mother are deceased, the former having been accidentally drowned. Of their six living children (all in America), the subject of this narrative was third in order of birth and is the only one in California. Following the usual German custom, he was kept in school until fourteen and then apprenticed to a trade. For three years he served under a locksmith and at the expiration of his time traveled as a journeyman through different parts of Germany.

Coming to America in 1880, Mr. Meilike secured employment on a farm in Mitchell county, Iowa, but later removed to Milwaukee, Wis., where he was employed as a machinist in Bayliss iron works. After a short time he went to Menominee, Mich., and secured employment in a sawmill. From there he went south to Arkansas and Missouri, and next worked as a machinist in Kansas City and at Rosedale, Kans. After a short time in the Santa Fe shops at Topeka, Kans., he became a blacksmith in the Silver iron works at Salt Lake City, and in 1882 settled in California, where he was first engaged in the Southern Pacific Railroad shops at Sacramento. Then from the Union iron works in San Francisco he went to Seattle, Wash., and secured work in a sawmill. On his return to California, January, 1884, he came to Madera county and for four years worked on Mr. Mordecai's ranch, after which he took up land and engaged in teaming. In 1890 he secured employment as a clerk with Rosenthal & Kutner, at Madera, and for nine years remained in their mercantile establishment, leaving in 1899 to embark in business for himself under the firm title of Wehrmann & Meilike. The firm owns the site and the building, the latter having been erected in 1899 and increased in size by the building of a brick structure adjoining in 1903, so that the space utilized is now 50 x 150 feet in dimensions. The stock is varied, including groceries, house furnishing goods, queensware, bakery goods, flour and feed. An excellent business has been established among the residents of Madera and the surrounding country, and the reputation of the firm is unexcelled for accuracy in all business transactions.

The Madera Board of Trade is one of the local organizations to which Mr. Meilike gives his support as a member. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In religion he adheres to the Lutheran faith, and politically votes for the men and measures of the Democratic party. Since coming to Madera he has established a home of his own. His wife was formerly Marie Birch, a native of Germany. Three children have been born of their union, namely: George R., who died at the age of three months; Carl William and Louise Birch, who are being educated in local schools and trained for positions of usefulness and honor in the world.

---

CHARLES ALLISON TELFER. Through his connection with the Fresno Canal & Irrigation Company as its secretary and manager, Mr. Telfer is intimately associated with an organization that has proved of distinct and permanent value to the material development of Fresno and







*R. H. Stevens*

vicinity. His connection with this enterprise dates from October 1, 1903, when he was tendered the position of manager, together with the office of secretary of the company, the oldest of its kind in this region. Within the limits of the company's three hundred miles of canals are embraced three large systems, namely: Church, Gould and Enterprise. The canal has its source in Kings river and is being gradually enlarged from time to time, in order to meet the needs of landowners in this community.

A native of Liverpool, Queens county, Nova Scotia, Charles Allison Telfer is a son of Richard H. and Martha (Freeman) Telfer, also natives of Nova Scotia. The paternal grandfather, Richard Telfer, was born and reared in Edinburgh, Scotland, and after crossing the Atlantic settled near Liverpool, Nova Scotia, where he cleared a tract of timbered land and improved a farm, besides working as a contractor and builder. In religion he was an adherent of the Baptist Church. The maternal grandfather, George Freeman, was a native of Massachusetts, where his ancestors were established in a very early day. After his removal to Nova Scotia he conducted farm pursuits. Taking up the trade of a millwright, Richard H. Telfer engaged in building and operating sawmills and conducted a large business in lumber manufacturing on Point Medway and Liverpool river. Both he and his wife are living, still occupying the family homestead near Liverpool. Of their five children (all of whom survive) the eldest, Charles Allison Telfer was born August 4, 1860, and received such advantages as local schools afforded. Under his father's training he early acquired considerable knowledge of lumbering and farming. In June of 1881 he came to the United States, being first employed as foreman in the cotton mills at Ipswich, Mass., after which he engaged in the grocery business at Beverly in the same state. January, 1889, he came to California and has since made Fresno his home. In October following his arrival in this city he entered the Fresno National Bank as a bookkeeper, from which position in 1892 he was transferred to that of assistant cashier. Upon the death of J. B. Smith he was elected cashier and continued in that capacity until February 1, 1903, when he resigned, afterward engaging in the construction and building of irrigation canals until he entered upon the duties of his present post.

By his marriage to Evoline Bennett, who was born and reared in Beverly, Mass., Mr. Telfer has two children, Abbie and Girard. Politically he votes with the Republican party in local and general elections. On the organization of the Woodmen of the World he became one of its charter members and has since been interested in the growth and activities of the fraternity, in addition to which he is connected with the Benevo-

lent Protective Order of Elks. In the Fresno Chamber of Commerce he holds the office of vice-president and is further identified with its work through his membership on the executive committee. Prominent in business circles, a recognized authority in financial matters, resourceful and efficient in the management of the canal company's affairs, he is a leading factor in the business circles of Fresno and wields an influence as potent as it is permanent.

---

RICHARD HUBBARD STEVENS. The family represented by the late R. H. Stevens of Visalia was among the earliest to settle in New England, where several successive generations lived and labored. Thoroughly loyal to the locality where destiny had placed them, they showed no desire to drift into the outside world until the middle of the nineteenth century, after which they became scattered into various parts of the United States, retaining in every locality the honorable traits characteristic of them in the old state of Vermont. The twelve children of Solomon Stevens sought homes and fortunes in various places, but he was content to pass his entire life in his native town of Barnet, Caledonia county, Vt., where he worked as a tanner and currier in early manhood, and then conducted a saddlery business in addition to owning and superintending farm land. His wife, Sallie, who was also a life-long resident of Vermont, was a daughter of Clark Cushman, and descended from Robert Cushman, one of the passengers of the historic Mayflower.

The youngest among the children of Solomon Stevens was Richard Hubbard Stevens, who was born in Barnet, Vt., April 30, 1841, and received an academic education at St. Johnsbury. For three years he was employed as a clerk in a brother's store in Lacon, Ill., but returned to Vermont to take charge of the property and business of another brother who went to the front with the Green Mountain boys in the Civil war. In 1863 he came to California and after some years of following various pursuits, but meeting with success in none, he came to Tulare county in the fall of 1869, seeking employment in any capacity that offered. At Visalia he secured a clerkship with Douglas & Co., and in 1871 purchased a one-fourth interest in the store. Later, the firm meeting with reverses, he purchased an additional interest, and in 1885 became sole owner of the store. The following year he took into partnership Abraham Hamerslag and the two remained together until 1891, when Mr. Stevens sold his interest and retired. During his connection with the establishment it had developed from a small country store to an important enterprise, with a large and valuable stock, and oc-

cupying commodious quarters. The successful development of the business was due largely to his capable business methods and untiring energy.

The first substantial business block erected in Visalia was built by Mr. Stevens, who with a firm faith in the future of the city believed that its prosperity could be promoted by the development of its business property. In addition he erected one of the finest residences of which the town boasts and devoted considerable attention to the grounds surrounding the house, thus adding greatly to the beauty of the homestead. At different times he acquired a number of ranches in Tulare county, some of which were utilized for the raising of horses. In disposition he was charitable, large-hearted and kind to those in distress, and his genial and whole-souled qualities caused him to become known as "Uncle Dick" among the people of all this section of country. In physique he was of commanding appearance, six feet and one inch in height, and weighing about two hundred pounds. Rugged health blessed his years in Tulare county. Previously, however, while in San Francisco, he had suffered much from ill health, but after coming to this part of the state he became robust and stalwart. Before old age had come to him, however, he was stricken with paralysis, which resulted in his death January 9, 1894, at his Visalia home. The interment of his body was conducted with Masonic honors, for he had been active in that order as a member of lodge, chapter and commandery, and had passed all the chairs in the chapter, including that of high priest. In politics he favored Republican principles. His wife, who is administratrix of the estate and a woman of excellent business ability, bore the maiden name of Mattie M. Roberts, and was born at Macomb, Ill. The Roberts family is of eastern extraction. Her father, James C. Roberts, a native of New York, went to Illinois during the pioneer days of the latter state and settled in McDonough county, where he followed the trade of carpenter and builder. When advanced in life, having long since retired from all active labors, he came to California to see the country and visit his daughter at Visalia, and here his death occurred in 1901, when he had attained the age of eighty-seven years.

---

WILLIAM H. THURMAN, founder of the city of Madera, was born in 1831, in Winchester, Tenn., and was a son of John Thurman, a Virginian and a pioneer of Tennessee. At the age of sixteen years he left home and enlisted in the Mexican war, where he served under Gen. Winfield Scott. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California, where, besides trying his luck in the mines, he engaged in teaming and freighting

in the mountains. After settling in Washoe county, Nev., he served for one term as sheriff. On his return to California in 1869, he embarked in the lumber business at Coulterville, Mariposa county. Coming from there to what is now Madera county, he organized the old California Lumber Company, and built the flume from the mills, sixty miles to this place. To the new town he gave the Spanish name of Madera. A man of inventive nature, he devised a number of articles to aid in his work. Among these was a clamp (patented), which is used in holding the lumber together in bundles, for transporting through the flume. After the disbanding of the California Lumber Company, he became identified as a contractor to do the logging and sawing for the Madera Flume and Trading Company, being so engaged for two years, after which he moved his family to Walla Walla, Wash., and engaged in lumbering in Idaho for two years.

On his return to California, Mr. Thurman built a mill in Mariposa county, and engaged in manufacturing lumber. Meanwhile, his winter home was at Fresno Flats. May 16, 1893, he was elected sheriff of Madera county, and held the office until January, 1895, when he declined to become a candidate for re-election. Ill health led him to remove to San Diego, but the change of climate did not benefit him, and he died in December, 1895, at sixty-four years of age. In politics he had always been a stanch Democrat, and fraternally was a Master and Royal Arch Mason. His wife, Emma (Bludworth) Thurman, was born in New Orleans, La., came to California after the Civil war, and is now living in San Diego. Of her four children, W. B. is a resident of Madera; George S. is manager of a commission house in San Francisco; Arthur L. is a conductor on the Southern Pacific Railroad; and James D. is an attorney in San Francisco.

---

WILLIAM B. THURMAN was born in Washoe, Nev., July 14, 1868, a son of the late W. H. Thurman, the founder of the town of Madera. He was brought to California by his parents when a babe of six months, grew to manhood and received his education in Merced and Madera counties. At an early age he became identified with the lumber interests of that section, and in 1892 entered the employ of the Madera Flume and Trading Company in this city. When his father was elected sheriff of Madera county, upon its organization, he was appointed under-sheriff, serving until January, 1895, when he was appointed deputy to the county clerk and clerk of the board of supervisors, holding the position two years.

In 1898 he was the nominee of the Democratic

party for county sheriff, was elected, and entered upon his duties in January, 1899, retiring from the office after serving efficiently four years. His creed was the strict enforcement of law and order, and in the fulfillment of his duties had several narrow escapes from death.

In June, 1902, Mr. Thurman formed a partnership with J. W. Watkins, under the firm name of Watkins & Thurman. Leasing the mill owned by the Madera Flume and Trading Company, they began the manufacture of sash and doors. In this enterprise they have built up a splendid business, their product finding a ready market throughout the eastern states and the Pacific coast.

June 17, 1896, Mr. Thurman was united in marriage in Fresno Flats, with Georgia A. Rice, a native of Grant county, Ore. Her father, Henry Rice, came to California in 1852 via Cape Horn, and ten years later went to Oregon and settled in Grant county, where he married Sophronia Dodson. He now makes his home in Fresno.

Mr. Thurman is a member of Madera Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M.; is past grand of the local lodge of Odd Fellows, and past district deputy grand master; a member of the Rebekahs and Encampment at Fresno; Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of Fresno, and the Woodmen of the World, of Madera. Is an active member of Madera Chamber of Commerce.

---

**HON. SYLVESTER CLARK SMITH.** Through wise statesmanship and the promotion of measures for the benefit of the people, Hon. Sylvester Clark Smith has gained a reputation which is not limited to the confines of his home town of Bakersfield, nor the county of Kern, but extends throughout the state. His service in the state senate, to which he was elected in 1894 and re-elected in 1898, forms one of the most noteworthy features of his life. In the halls of legislature he has borne a prominent part in progressive movements. He was the author of the county government bill and chairman of the committee appointed to report upon the same. As the author of the present registration law, he not only introduced the bill during his first year in the legislature, but also did all in his power to interest other senators in its passage. At that time it failed of passage, but later was more successfully pushed forward by its author. Two constitutional amendments, providing for the employment of voting machines in cities of California when sanctioned by the legislature, owe their conception to him. One of the most important measures with which his name is connected, the bill for the establishment of the California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo,

was passed, and in October of 1903 the school opened. The special purpose of the institution is to furnish instruction to farmers and mechanics, while there is also a department for young ladies. Should the purpose of the founders reach a successful consummation the school will be fruitful of much good. Senator Smith acts as president of the board of trustees of the college, having charge of some three hundred acres of land owned by the institution. In this connection it may be stated that his services are given gratuitously, none of the board receiving compensation for their labors.

The ancestry of Senator Smith is traced to John Smith, the Puritan pioneer of New England. Sylvester Smith, the senator's grandfather, a native of New England, spent the larger part of his life in developing raw, unimproved land and was a hardy frontiersman. At the time of his death in Iowa he was about eighty years of age. His son, Edward, was born in northern New York, and in childhood accompanied the family to Ohio, thence to Illinois, and with a brother proceeded to Iowa in 1835, when that state was considered beyond the boundary of civilization. Pleased with the prospects, they sent for other members of the family and took up government land in Henry county. Edward Smith became the owner of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, and remained there until a short time before his death, which occurred in California in 1882, at the age of sixty-three years. In politics he voted with the Republicans. During the Civil war he offered his services to the Union, but was rejected for physical reasons. In his family there were five sons and three daughters born of his union with Celia Shockley, a native of Ohio but from childhood a resident of Iowa, her parents being among the earliest settlers of Henry county. At the time of her death in 1866 she was about forty years of age.

Near Mount Pleasant, Henry county, Iowa, Sylvester Clark Smith was born August 26, 1858. He was primarily educated in district schools and later attended Howe's Academy at Mount Pleasant. When eighteen years of age he began to teach school and this occupation he followed in the summers, attending school during the winters, until he was twenty-one. In 1879 he came to California and began to teach a district school in Colusa county, where, May 7, 1882, he was united in marriage with Maria Hart, who was born near Warrensburg, Mo., and by whom he has two daughters, Eva and Dorrit. In the summer of 1882 Mr. Smith and a brother drove through to Walla Walla, Wash. During the winter he read law in San Francisco. The summer of 1883 found him in Kern county, where he taught district schools until December, 1885, and meanwhile continued his law studies.

In October, 1885, he was admitted to the bar and two months later came to Bakersfield, where he opened an office. When, in 1886, the excitement regarding the water supply arose, some of the farmers deeply interested in the matter started a paper, the *Echo*, and engaged him to edit and conduct the same in their interests. In 1889, when the issue for which the paper had been established was settled, he purchased the plant, and ran it until 1897, when he resumed his law practice. However, a short time afterward he resumed his journalistic connections, becoming the largest stockholder in the incorporated company, which founded a daily paper called the *Morning Echo*. Ever since then Mr. Smith has been manager of the publication and one of its editorial writers. In 1902 he was one of four Republican candidates for the congressional nomination, but was defeated on the forty-ninth ballot, although he stood first on next to the last ballot. In company with the successful candidate he afterward made a canvass of the district, and his stump speeches were a feature of the campaign. The campaign of 1904 again found him a candidate for congressional honors, and when the convention met at Santa Cruz on August 25th, he was nominated by acclamation. His election followed by a plurality of ten thousand eight hundred votes.

Among the local movements which receive Mr. Smith's support, mention belongs to the library board, of which he is a trustee; the board of trade, and the board of health. He has been one of the most active factors in the improvement of the city and in beautifying its streets, and was one of the leaders in the movement for the incorporation of Bakersfield as a city. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World.

---

LEVI WOOD. There are few men now living retired in Oakdale who have so emphatically impressed their worth upon Stanislaus county as Levi Wood. While his name is associated with that of its most substantial and conservative citizens, his prestige has been gained in the fields and meadows of this fertile section, and is identified with unusual sagacity in purchasing and improving lands, and with the establishment of a standard which aspirants for agricultural honors would do well to emulate. At all times practical and far-sighted, he is responsible for the improvement of at least five farms in the county, and his success has permitted the purchase of four properties besides the farm of two hundred and forty acres which he owns at present in the vicinity of the town.

Mr. Wood is a self-made man from whose career one may derive both encouragement and

help. He has given farming the best and strongest years of his life, has studied its every phase, and is competent to talk intelligently and instructively concerning an occupation upon which depends the success or failure of the markets of the world. He came to California in 1869 from Atchison county, Mo., to which his family had removed from Pike county, Ind., in 1855, and where an untracked wilderness, with its attendant dangers and loneliness, presented problems difficult to unravel. Born in Pike county January 1, 1847, Levi was eight years old when he went overland to Missouri, his father, Zachariah, taking up land in Atchison county, where the latter died when his son was fourteen years old. He was born in Ohio, and was of Welsh descent, and his father fought and was killed in the Black Hawk war. Through his marriage with Matilda J. Chambers, of North Carolina, he became the parent of ten children, six of whom attained maturity. Of these, Isaac died in Missouri; Samuel, who served in the Civil war in a Missouri regiment, lives on a farm near Portland, Ore.; Aaron resides on a farm in Missouri; Levi, the subject of this sketch, resides in Oakdale; Thomas died in Missouri; Mrs. Shackelford died in Missouri.

Levi Wood had few playmates in his youth, for there were but thirty families in Atchison county when he first settled there, and of necessity the opportunities for acquiring an education were limited. Distinctly he recalls the disturbance incident to the breaking out of the Civil war, of the death of his father in the quiet of his farm almost when the first bugle-call was stirring patriots to action, of the hurried departure of his older brother to the front, and his own assumption of the responsibility of managing the home place in his absence. Putting his shoulder to the wheel, he cared for those dependent upon him, and when the war was over and peace restored, established a home of his own by marrying Lydia Keeley. Mrs. Wood was born in Philadelphia, and came to Missouri with her father, Conrad Keeley, the latter of whom was a carpenter by trade, and a soldier in the Civil war. Mrs. Wood died in California in 1901. There are five sons and one daughter living, all of whom remain in their father's vicinity to comfort him in his declining years. William Elwood is a rancher near by; Alonzo Thomas owns and operates a fruit ranch near Oakdale; Harry J. is a funeral director in Oakdale; Ralph is running a ranch near Oakdale; Walter A. lives on the home farm; Laura Evelyn also lives at home. Levi C., the second youngest, died in 1901.

Mr. Wood remained in Missouri until 1869, when, owing to his health being broken, he came to California with his wife, and began to peddle fruit over the mountains from Tuolumne







*S. B. Brown*

county. This proved admirable summer work, and his falls and winters he spent in Stockton, soon regaining his health and spirits, and becoming thoroughly impressed with the many advantages of the west. In 1871 he rented a farm on the Stanislaus river, and in 1878 purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres three miles south of Oakdale where he lived and prospered for ten years. He then bought a farm the same size twelve miles from town, remained thereon for eight years, and then purchased a half section two miles south of Oakdale, which he eventually presented to his sons. In 1901 he purchased his present home in Oakdale, and at the same time a ranch of two hundred and thirty-eight acres south of the town, which he has placed to grain and stock, and which now contains two hundred and forty acres. On all of these properties he established an ideal farming center, instituted the most modern and labor-saving of improvements, and secured from his land the best results compatible with soil, climate, and general adaptiveness. He was systematic, practical and eminently far-sighted, making few mistakes, and those never a second time. He has always believed and lived up to the gospel of industry and common sense, has been loyal to trusts imposed and friendships enjoyed, and in consequence has won the lasting esteem of the people among whom his lot has been cast. A staunch but not active Republican, he is an ex-member of the school board, and is a devout and generous associate and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**SAMUEL CARR BROWN.** A residence of more than fifty years in Tulare county has made Mr. Brown a witness of its development as well as a contributor to its progress. As a result of his far-sighted policy in purchasing tracts of land in early days when property was very low, he has attained a position of wealth and influence among the people of Visalia, his home town. With the exception of two others, he is the oldest surviving settler of this region. Coming here in 1852 when settlers were few and the inducements for permanent citizenship meager, it has been his privilege to be associated with the development of the valley, until it has become a favorite place for investment among capitalists.

Franklin county, Vt., is Mr. Brown's native place, and August 17, 1826, the date of his birth. His parents, James and Sarah (Smith) Brown, were natives respectively of Rhode Island and Massachusetts, and resided for years at Swanton, Franklin county, Vt., where the father engaged in the mercantile business and owned large tracts of land. Eventually they removed to St. Lawrence county, N. Y., and there died. In their

family of four sons and three daughters, Samuel Carr Brown was the youngest. Primarily educated in common schools, he was later a student in Pennsylvania College in the Western Reserve and also attended Oberlin College in 1848. Having acquired a rudimentary knowledge of law through study under Judge Wallace of St. Lawrence county, N. Y., he gained considerable experience of its practice through his connection with a justice court, and throughout all of his active life devoted his attention largely to professional matters.

After one-half year in Pike county, Ill., in 1849 Mr. Brown joined a band of gold-seekers bound for California. In April the journey was begun and in September he reached the North Fork of the American river, where he tried his luck at mining for a year. Fortune did not favor his efforts and he gave up mining and went to San Francisco. For six months he engaged as steward on the Vincennes, a sloop, sailing out from San Francisco. After leaving that work he remained in San Francisco for a short time. January of 1852 found him in Tulare county in company with about fifty people, mostly farmers from Iowa. They first built a stockade, the Indians two years before having killed the first white settlers. After this other log houses, eight or ten, were built in the stockade. It had not been his intention to settle here permanently, for his object in making the trip had been to hunt the deer, antelope and bear that abounded in what was then called the Four Creek country. However, as trifles often change our destiny, so a trip taken for recreation and hunting ended with permanent settlement in the locality visited. The practice of law, buying of land, teaching two terms of school, and other activities filled the early years of Mr. Brown's residence in Visalia, and during the Civil war he was an active sympathizer of the Union. Three times attempts were made to wreck his office, but United States troops restored order and remained until the close of the war. These troops were sent here at the request of six reputable citizens, three Republicans and three Democrats, the latter having come to their Republican friends to warn them of trouble. For a time he was a law partner of William G. Morris and later was a member of the firm of Brown & Daggett, but in 1891 retired from active law practice. The large properties owned by him are under his personal supervision, including an office building in Visalia, twenty-five hundred acres of farm land in proximity to the town, and a one-half interest in four thousand acres in the foothills near Visalia. The land is divided into five ranches, the most of which are leased.

Many of the most important enterprises in Visalia have received the aid and influence of S. C. Brown. Seeing the need of a financial in-

stitution, he interested others in the establishment of the Bank of Visalia, of which he is now a director. After taking part in the establishment of the ice works he was elected a director, and has since served in that capacity. Upon the organization of the Visalia steam laundry, an enterprise that he aided in starting, he was chosen a member of the board of directors and has since helped to shape its business policy. In addition he is a director of the soda works and a leading worker in the Tulare Irrigation Company. During early days he held the office of district attorney for two years, for two terms held the position of mayor, and for three terms served in the city council. Politically he was a Freesoiler during the existence of that party, and during the candidacy of Abraham Lincoln became a Republican, which party has since received his support. After coming to Visalia he married Fannie Kellenburg, a native of Illinois. They are the parents of five children now living, namely: May, wife of William H. Hammond, and Fannie, wife of C. G. Wilcox, all of Visalia; Philip S., who has charge of a ranch; Maude, wife of J. E. Combs, of Visalia, and Helen, who resides with her parents.

---

THOMAS A. BARR. The lineage of the Barr family, represented in Fresno county by Thomas A. Barr, a prominent vineyardist of the Malaga district, is traced to Germany, from which country some member emigrated to the United States in the seventeenth century. He is supposed to have located in Maryland, as that is the state in which some of the more recent ancestors were born, Adam Barr, the great-grandfather of Thomas A., owing his nativity to that locality, whence he joined the westward tide of civilization and went to Kentucky as a scout with Daniel Boone. His son, also called Adam, served in the war of 1812. He was born in Kentucky one and a half miles from the place where Jerry B. Barr, his son, was born, the birthplace of the latter being eight miles from that of Thomas A., who was born in Breckinridge county, Ky., September 10, 1841.

Jerry B. Barr was a farmer by occupation. In 1852 he removed to Scotland county, Mo., and later to Illinois, where he remained until 1861. Returning to Missouri in that year, he located in Lewis county, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-three years. By marriage he had allied himself with a family which had been prominent in this country since the colonial period, Eliza Anne Dowell, of Kentucky, becoming his wife. She was the daughter of Thomas Dowell, a native of Virginia, and on the maternal side a great-granddaughter of John Conklin, who served in the Revolutionary war as a soldier in the famous cavalry commanded by

Light-horse Harry Lee. Of their family four children are now living, namely: Thomas A., of this review; Z. Taylor, of Selma, Cal.; Elizabeth Johnson; and Josephine Dudley.

Reared to manhood in the states of Kentucky and Illinois, Thomas A. Barr received his education in the common schools of both states. He removed with his parents to Missouri in 1861, and remained at home until the following year, when he went back to Illinois and made his home with an uncle for two years, renting his farm. In 1869 he located in Lewis county, Mo., and engaged in the general merchandise business in Maywood, at the same time carrying on farming operations. Until 1881 he remained connected with the mercantile interests of that town, when he gave his attention entirely to farming and stock raising, becoming the owner of a four-hundred-and-eighty-acre farm. Deciding to immigrate to the Pacific coast he sold his property in 1890 and came to California, spending his first year in Stockton, after which he came to Fresno and purchased his present place in 1892. He now owns eighty-three acres of land, sixty-five acres being devoted to vines and fruits.

In Missouri, in 1866, Mr. Barr was united in marriage with Anna L. Wright, a native of Lewis county, and the daughter of Wesley Wright. Of this union were born the following children: Clarence E., of Sacramento; Arthur E., of Selma; Warden T., a physician of Fresno; Adeline J., the wife of E. T. Wall, of Fresno county; and Edgar B., at home. In his political convictions Mr. Barr is an adherent of the principles of the Democratic party, and in religion is a member of the Christian Church.

---

ALFRED D. McMASTER, M. D., a well known practitioner and proprietor of the Mountain View Drug Store of Le Grand, Merced county, was born December 13, 1854, in North Carolina, a son of Micajah and Sybil (Jones) McMaster, both of whom were natives of that state, the latter dying in 1857 at an early age.

Alfred D. McMaster received his education in the common schools making his home in North Carolina until seventeen years of age, at which time he went to Kansas and a few years later to Missouri, where he engaged in a general merchandise business for three years in Morrisville. During this time he studied medicine, and in 1879 was graduated from the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis. He began the practice of his profession in that state and was married to Delina J. Reed that same year. She died in 1886, leaving one daughter, Willie A.

Having had several years' experience, and believing that California offered better inducements, the doctor disposed of his holdings in

Missouri in 1882 and came to this state, locating for a short time in Willits, Mendocino county, where he opened a drug store in connection with his practice. After three years he removed to Sonoma county; remaining there one year, he came to the San Joaquin valley and located in Selma, Fresno county; later, in 1891, he moved to Plainsberg, Merced county, and built up a lucrative practice and patronage in his drug store in his six years residence there.

In 1897 he came to Le Grand, where he has since been one of the leading citizens and has assisted materially in building up the town. His practice reaches far into the country surrounding Le Grand and is a lucrative one as well.

In 1888 Dr. McMaster was united in marriage in Merced county, with Nellie, the daughter of N. N. Turner, a pioneer of 1849. She was born in Merced county in 1868. Of this union have been born two children, Raleigh, in 1889, and Blanche in 1891.

In the county where Dr. McMaster has made his home for nearly fifteen years he has gathered about him many friends by his courteous treatment, his hospitality and professional skill as a physician. He is a man of public spirit and always has supported movements he considered worthy of advancing the interests of the county. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Modern Woodmen of America. In politics a Democrat, he has always had the interests of the party at heart.

---

DAVID B. FOWLER. The supervisor of the third district of Madera county is a representative of a family identified with the colonial history of Virginia. At an early period, when Kentucky was beginning to attract people over the mountains, James Fowler, Sr., became a pioneer of the Blue-Grass state and cleared a raw tract of land, making of it an improved farm. From there late in life he removed to Indiana. Next in line of descent was James Fowler, Jr., a native of Kentucky and a farmer of Jennings county, Ind., whence he removed to Nebraska and died in Pawnee City. His wife was Millie Maria Stone, daughter of Thomas Stone, a Virginian who settled in Kentucky in an early day. Among their children was a son, James M., who served in an Indiana regiment during the Civil war. Another son, W. F. (father of David B.), was born in Indiana, May 14, 1830, and while still a mere boy gained a thorough knowledge of agriculture under his father's training. At the age of twenty-five, in 1855, he removed to Iowa and settled on a farm in Wapello county. From there in 1857 he removed to Pawnee City, Neb., and took up farm pursuits in a new and undeveloped region. In 1864 he opened a mercantile

establishment in Pawnee City as a member of the firm of Butler & Fowler, his partner being later elected governor of Nebraska. Various interests in farming, stock-raising and mercantile affairs, he led a busy and prosperous life until the siege of grasshoppers brought disaster and ruin to that region. Farmers lost their crops and were unable to meet their bills at the store, causing him a heavy loss.

Hoping to have better success in a different location W. F. Fowler came to California in 1874. His first abode was at Tehachapi, Kern county, where he took up a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Bad luck followed him, for again the grasshoppers devastated his crop and to add to his misfortunes the railroad claimed and succeeded in getting possession of his farm. Forced to make another start, in 1883 he settled in Selma, where he combined real estate transactions with farming and serving as justice of the peace. In 1893 he came to Madera county, where he has since been interested in farming. He is proud of the fact that he supported Abraham Lincoln for president in the days when that statesman was comparatively unknown, and later he was as firm in his allegiance to James G. Blaine. Ever since the formation of the Republican party he has voted that ticket, in both local and general elections, and has maintained the deepest interest in its success. His marriage united him with Elizabeth H. Anderson, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Robert Anderson, a farmer who removed from Kentucky to Indiana.

Of two sons now living, David B. is supervisor and R. R. district attorney of Madera county, where both are influential in public affairs. The former was born in Pawnee county, Neb., May 20, 1860, and attended district schools from the age of six until fifteen. In 1874 he accompanied the family to California and aided his father on the farm in Kern county. After removing to Selma in 1883 he became interested in the real estate business. In 1891 he came to Madera and later was employed by the Sugar Pine Company, acting as foreman of two different colonies. At this writing he is engaged in the cigar business on Yosemite avenue. He was married in San Francisco to Mary Raish, who was born in Marysville, this state, and they have one son, Cecil. Mrs. Fowler is a member of the Episcopal Church. Fraternally Mr. Fowler is connected with the Woodmen of the World. The commercial welfare of Madera secures his co-operation through his membership on the Board of Trade. In political belief he is a pronounced Republican, always voting with his party. In 1892 he was elected justice of the peace, but resigned the same year. At the first election after the organization of Madera coun-

ty he was elected county supervisor over two opponents. Again, in 1902, he was elected on the Republican ticket county supervisor for district 3, receiving a majority of forty-four, and taking the office in January, 1903, to serve a term of four years.

---

NORMAN D. KELLEY, D. D. S. The family represented by Dr. Kelley of Fresno has been identified with the history of California for a long period and he himself is a native of this state, born at Watonsville. His father, Rev. D. O. Kelley, was born at Kelley Island in Lake Erie, being a member of an old family of Ohio. Educated in the east, at the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted and served as lieutenant of a company belonging to the One Hundredth Ohio Infantry. While participating in a campaign in the south he was captured by the enemy and confined in Libby prison, where for fifteen months he endured all the hardships of that historic place. When the war ended he returned to Ohio and from there via Panama came to California, where he practiced law, studied and was ordained to the Episcopal ministry. His life has since been devoted to his denomination. In 1879 he came to Fresno and organized the first Episcopal parish in this vicinity, also built the first house of worship used by the denomination here. For fourteen years he remained rector of this congregation, greatly promoting its welfare by his skillful leadership. With Fresno as his headquarters he organized congregations throughout the San Joaquin valley and gave to them the encouragement of his practical and efficient assistance. All of the churches of his denomination from the Tehachapi to Stockton were organized under his direct supervision, and the denomination owes much to his ability as a missionary preacher and organizer. Resigning his charge at Fresno in 1891, he returned to San Francisco as a city missionary on the staff of Bishop Nichols, and still makes that city his home, where he is as earnest in the work of the church as in more youthful years. For a long period he acted as editor at San Francisco of the *Pacific Churchman*, devoted to the interests of his denomination on the coast. From the standpoint of an editor, no less than as a missionary, his work was of permanent value to the church and promoted its welfare and progress. He is a Republican in political views, and is a member of the Loyal Legion and Grand Army of the Republic.

After coming to California Rev. Mr. Kelley married Annie A. Fletcher, who was born in Boston, Mass., and at an early age accompanied her father, Stephen Fletcher, an Englishman, to the Pacific coast. Settling in California, Mr. Fletcher remained a resident of San Francisco until

his death. In the Kelley family there are seven sons, of whom Norman D. was next to the oldest. He was born August 8, 1877, and was two years of age when his parents removed to Fresno, where his education was commenced in the public schools. After removing to San Francisco in 1891, he was a student in the schools of that city. In 1895 he matriculated in the College of Physicians & Surgeons, where he took the regular course of study and received the degree of D. D. S. at his graduation in 1898. Immediately after completing his studies he opened an office in Fresno, where he has since engaged in practice. His marriage was solemnized in San Francisco and united him with Harriet P. Steinwand, who was born in Oakland and grew to womanhood in Fresno. They have two children, Douglas Tracy and Harriet Elese. The family are identified with St. James Episcopal Church of Fresno. If Dr. Kelley has a hobby outside of his profession, it is his enthusiastic support of the work of the Sierra Club, with which he is associated. It is his belief that mountain roads should be opened so that tourists may have an opportunity of beholding the grandeur of the Sierra scenery, and he is a leader in the movement for the opening of Kings river canyon. By frequent summer visits in the mountains he has been impressed with the beauty of the scenery, which, if a safe and pleasant method of transit can be secured, will undoubtedly draw thousands of visitors to enjoy its wonderful attractions.

---

HORACE G. KELSEY. A native son of Merced county, Horace G. Kelsey was born near where he now lives, May 5, 1859, his parents being Erastus and Melinda (Powers) Kelsey, who crossed the plains in 1849, and of whom mention is made in another part of this work. Reared on the home farm, he was educated in the public school at Merced Falls, later entering the University of California from which he was graduated in the class of 1881. As a youth he had a leaning toward the profession of medicine, and to this end studied for a couple of years in the Cooper Medical College of San Francisco. His inclinations, however, underwent a change, and he returned to the home farm in Merced county and soon after purchased his father's interest in his present ranch, upon which the elder Kelsey had already made many improvements and had set out a few fig trees. From 1889 until 1890 he worked zealously to set out his fig orchard of seventy-five acres, and in all has about twenty-five hundred trees. To the making of the orchard, which has had the distinction of being the largest fig orchard in the world, he has brought all of the science and skill possible of acquirement through the medium of the ex-







*J. M. Knox.*



*Ella M. Knox.*



perience of others, and the success of his project is the best guarantee of his correct application of modern horticultural ideas. As usual with figs, he gathers two crops a year, the yearly production being between one hundred and twenty-five and one hundred and fifty tons. The trees are thirty-five feet apart, and are known as the True Mission fig tree. A ready market is found in San Francisco.

The Kelsey ranch contains four hundred and forty-one acres, one hundred and ten of which are under alfalfa, and the balance, not in orchard, is under grain and pasture. Mr. Kelsey, in connection with his diversified interests, keeps an average of three thousand sheep. His home is a commodious and modern one, his farm is well kept and equipped with the most desirable of agricultural and horticultural improvements, and his orchard spreads its shade and shelters its time-honored fruit in beautiful and luxuriant fashion. At the helm of these varied country enterprises is a man thoroughly in touch with his work, of marked culture and sociability, and of unquestioned integrity of purpose and public spirit. His home is presided over by his wife, formerly Ida T. Weed, a native of New Jersey, and daughter of Mark H. Weed. Mr. Kelsey is a Democrat in national politics, and was formerly a member of the board of education. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a lover of nature and while he has had advantages that tended toward a professional career, he selected his present vocation as one in which he could advance an intelligent interest in horticulture in the state. To such men as Mr. Kelsey California owes her present prosperity.

J. W. KNOX, B. S., LL.B. Among the leading attorneys and business men of central California, is J. W. Knox, who is prominent in legal, financial and social circles. Of a strong personality, great force of character and rare mental attainments, he is justly entitled to the honorable position that he holds as one of the most brilliant lawyers, and shrewd, energetic and safe business men of that part of California. Through persistency of purpose and zeal, intelligently and unerringly directed, he has achieved success at the bar and in financial circles, the influence of his masterful intellect being felt by judge and jury as well as by his associates and clientele. He is and has always been, an inveterate worker, deep thinker and great traveler; has a high sense of honor and integrity, belongs to a good family, is of a genial and hospitable nature, extremely cool, self-possessed and calculating under trying conditions, and is a gentleman under all cir-

cumstances. His caution is large, but it is offset by a large hope; his moral faculties are strong and active; his intuitions and first impressions and presentiments have almost invariably been correct, and have been his guide, in a large measure, in his successful dealings with strangers and men in general. He is possessed with unbounded benevolence; is philanthropic, large-minded, liberal and public-spirited, and has always been in advance of the times in all matters relating to the public welfare. He is a natural critic and has an analytic mind; is a high idealist and a man of great order; a lover of art, books and nature, and his home is surrounded and beautified by all such. There is an under-current of thought and philosophy permeating his nature; his mind is discriminating, logical and clear; he spares neither time nor labor in any cause or other business in which he is engaged. He is a great lover of his home, of home life and family, and has spared no expense to beautify and make his home attractive. He is a Mason, Knight of Pythias and Workman, and takes much interest in these orders. He is, and has always been, a leading Republican. Has been for many years a member of the state central committee and chairman of the Republican county committee. While he takes great interest in politics on principle, he has never sought nor accepted office, preferring to devote his entire time to his large and increasing legal business. He has repeatedly refused nomination for the office of superior judge and other offices at the hand of his party, and declined a tendered appointment by the governor as judge of the superior court of Merced county. Aside from his private practice, he is filling an important position as chairman of the board of directors of the Merced county branch of the Federal Trust Company, of which he is also attorney and treasurer. This company, organized with an authorized capital of \$5,000,000, has its headquarters in the Mills building, San Francisco, and acts as executor, administrator, guardian and assignee; executes trusts of all kinds; loans money and issues and countersigns stocks and other securities.

Mr. Knox was born October 10, 1855, at Bloomingburg, Fayette county, Ohio. His parents were William Knox, born at Xenia, Ohio, January 6, 1828 (and died at Kansas City on June 30, 1900), and Mary Elizabeth (Short) Knox, born February 20, 1833, at Bloomingburg, Fayette county, Ohio (and died at Des Moines, Iowa, in 1902). The issue of this marriage was nine children, all of whom are living at the present time, namely: Jessie, the wife of Ira B. Thompson, a contractor and architect of Eureka, Cal.; Frank Knox, president of the

National Bank of the Republic, of Salt Lake, Utah; Murray Knox, a large farmer and breeder of blooded stock, of Osborne, Kansas; Helen, the wife of John Gibson, of the large mercantile firm of Gibson & Gibson, of Maxwell, Iowa; George Knox, a rising young physician of San Francisco; Bruce Knox, a successful merchant of Sonora; Florence Knox, a teacher in the Polytechnic and Training School of Chicago, and Josephine Knox, one of the leading primary teachers of Des Moines, Iowa.

William Knox, with his family, removed from Ohio to Iowa in 1857, and was during the remainder of his life engaged in farming and the breeding of thoroughbred stock of all kinds. His farm in Washington county was a model of neatness, landscape beauty and profit. His children were taught in their western home three important lessons, habits of industry, economy and integrity, and were all given a liberal education. Mary Knox was a noble Christian woman, and by her life and careful teachings left a profound impress for good on the minds of her children.

J. W. Knox graduated from Washington College in 1876, and that fall came to California; later he entered the first class of the law department of the University of California, and graduated from that department with the first class of graduates in 1881. In 1882, he came to the city of Merced, where he began the practice of his profession and where he has lived continuously since. His ability and power met with ready recognition, and he easily came to the front in his chosen profession. For the last fifteen years or more, he has been identified with nearly all the litigation of importance in central California, ranging over probate, irrigation, land, corporation and criminal law. His practice has extended to all the counties of the San Joaquin valley and many of the other counties of the state, besides a large federal court practice in which he has been universally successful.

In 1885, Mr. Knox married Miss Ella M., the only child of Prof. W. A. and Minnie Cowdery, a native of New York, who died September 13, 1903, in the city of Merced, leaving four daughters, Hazel, Helen, Ruth and Karmel. Mrs. Knox was a woman of charming personality and noble character. All who knew her were attracted by her winsome manner and goodness of heart. Her praises are sounded by many lips and she is sincerely mourned by friends and acquaintances. In the church of which she and her husband were members (the First Presbyterian) and in the order of Eastern Star, she was a devoted and valued member, and took an important part in the work and the

social entertainments of these organizations. She possessed many accomplishments. Her memory will long be cherished in many a heart. Death came to her in the noonday of her happy life and usefulness. She had a beautiful home and enjoyed a large circle of friends; had a fine voice and was especially gifted as a singer and was always in demand to aid in social entertainments, and she was ever ready to lend her services in entertaining when for the purpose of raising funds for charity. She was proverbial for her good work in this way, and it was fully appreciated.

---

WILLIAM W. RUTHERFORD. A typical representative of the honorable, determined and fearless Scotchman is found in William W. Rutherford, a California pioneer of 1854, who, though now living retired in Oakdale, was for many years identified with stock raising and dairying in Stanislaus county. On the threshold of his eighty-first year, Mr. Rutherford scans the horizon of the past with clear eyes, and looks confidently forward to many more years of peaceful existence. His history since early manhood is that of the west, for he arrived when its possibilities were beginning to fret the mind of the nation, and he has progressed in the wake of its picturesque and ofttimes lurid path. He has known the exposure of its vast stretches of unfenced land, the deprivation incident to its uncultivated soil, and the joy of its fulfilled promise. That he has taken a noble part in its development, is his own and the pride of his friends and associates.

That few Scotchmen came to the west in its crude awakening is generally believed. Their conservatism rebelled at the element of chance involved in its undertaking. Those that came left their strength and reliability upon whatever occupation they chose to engage in. Mr. Rutherford is no exception to this rule. Born in Roxburgh, southern Scotland, March 10, 1824, he was an infant when his paternal grandfather, John Rutherford, set forth to make a home for himself and family in St. Lawrence county, N. Y. Reports sent back were so favorable, that in 1827 he was taken by his parents, William and Catherine (Forsyth) Rutherford, to America, locating on a farm near Madrid, St. Lawrence county. Besides William W., who is the fifth oldest and only living son in his father's family, there were four sons and five daughters, of whom James, who came to the coast in the early days, died in the territory of Nevada. Mr. Rutherford inherits the trait of longevity, for his father lived to be ninety and his mother eighty years old. His educational chances were limited in the extreme, and his lessons of life were



learned from the great teachers, observation and experience. From the drudgery of farm work he turned his attention to carpentering, and while thus employed had his thought turned into broader channels by his cousin, J. F. Rutherford, but recently returned from the west, to purchase and drive back across the plains a herd of cattle. The opportunity presented did not escape the young carpenter, who accompanied his relative to Illinois and Missouri, and assisted him in purchasing cattle with which to stock the ranges of the far west. Starting overland in April, they took turns in driving stock on alternating days, and with comparatively little difficulty arrived in California by way of the Walker river, turning their stock loose in the San Joaquin valley, Stanislaus county. Thereafter they engaged in stock raising in Stanislaus and Tuolumne county, and at the same time Mr. Rutherford ran a dairy at Keller's Ferry, his combined efforts netting him an encouraging income. A depreciation in stock values sent the business to a low level, yet notwithstanding this, the cattle were disposed of with small actual loss, after which he purchased cattle for \$5 a head which formerly had been valued at \$40. An opportunity for making money was presented in the Chinese Camp, where he, in partnership with Robert McHenry, engaged in the meat business during the mining rush. Starting all over again, he engaged in raising hogs until 1865, and that year entered land five miles from what is now Oakdale, on the Stanislaus river. Building a house and barns, and making many improvements, he developed a fine and paying property, adding to it until he owned eleven hundred and fifty acres in the river ranch, and three hundred and twenty acres near there. He engaged in raising grain and hogs principally, and was very successful also as to general farming. In 1891 he located in Oakdale, built a pleasant home, and has since made this his headquarters. From 1897 until 1902 he lived in Paloalto, to educate his children, returning then to Oakdale, where he contemplates spending the balance of his life.

In Stanislaus county Mr. Rutherford married Mrs. Melvina (Stearns) Gray, a native of Bethel, Me., who came to California about 1856. Mrs. Rutherford died in California, May 10, 1904, having had two children by her second marriage, Catherine and Mina, who are twins. Through her former marriage four sons and one daughter were born, of whom Frank Gray lives in Honolulu; William and Newton run the Rutherford ranch; Thomas is an attorney of Oakland, and a graduate of Stanford University; and Emma is the wife of William Judkins, of Oakdale. Long since Mr. Rutherford laid aside the cares of active life, going occasionally to his farm, and visiting the friends who have

helped to make life enjoyable. He has never taken an active interest in politics, but has voted the Republican ticket in national affairs, using his discretion in voting for local offices. In religion he is a Presbyterian. Mr. Rutherford has retained a remarkable serenity and clearness of mind, and an unusual interest in the affairs and people around him. He is respected for his integrity and success, and for the usefulness and nobility of his well-balanced and moderate life.

**CHARLES MORTIMER FRENCH.** The present game warden of Merced county is one of the substantial business men of the town of that name, and enjoys the distinction of having conducted a dray business there for a longer time than any other man in the community. He represents a family which has contributed not a little to the educational and stock-raising development of Merced county, and which brought to the coast the strong and reliable traits of a New England ancestry. Mr. French was born in Augusta, Kennebec county, Me., July 13, 1864, his mother, Felicia Hemans (Gould) French, having been born in the same city April 23, 1837. His maternal grandfather was Judge Joshua Gould, for many years connected with the jurisprudence of Maine, and the education which he himself absorbed was shared with his children, and supplemented by training in the best schools of that state.

Hayden Winfield French, the father of C. M. French, was born in Lowell, Mass., and settled at an early day in Kennebec county, Me., where he owned a farm and where he married November 25, 1850. His immigration to California in 1865 followed upon the close of his military service in the Civil war, and he soon afterward went to Montana and engaged in mining until 1869. Subsequently settling in Merced county, Cal., he sent east for his wife and children. Here he engaged successfully in raising sheep, carrying on an extensive business. Under A. J. Meany he served as deputy sheriff of Merced county for twelve or fourteen years, later serving a couple of terms as constable, and finally retiring from active life. His death occurred April 7, 1894, and he left a comfortable competence to those dependent upon him. Fraternally he was identified with the Knights of Pythias, and politically he was a stanch Democrat, a man of highest integrity, and universally respected. He was one of the first settlers of Merced county, and his sheep ranch on Bear creek was a lonely place in the early days. The family were hospitable and generous, and many a wayfarer partook of food and slept beneath their humble roof. While rearing her five children, his wife taught a district school, being the first to thus afford educa-

tional advantages to the children of the settlers. A strong and self-reliant woman, she was a typical pioneer and in later life, when prosperity placed greater comfort in her path, she was a social factor in her neighborhood. She was a member of the Rathbone Sisters, a worker in the Baptist Church, and took an active part in reform work. At the time of her death, February 4, 1897, she left a host of friends to mourn her loss. Four of her children grew to maturity: Fannie, the wife of J. R. Jones, of Fresno, Cal.; Charles Mortimer, the present game warden of Merced county; Hayden Winfield, of Fresno, Cal.; and Abbie Maria, wife of John Macaboy, of Fresno.

Charles Mortimer French went to school to his mother on Bear creek, later attending the grammar school of Merced until starting in the dry business in 1887. He possessed plenty of practical common sense and straightforward business ability, qualities which won him recognition, and today he has a large patronage in the town and county. In 1892 he erected his present commodious residence on west Sixteenth street, and January 10, 1898, he married Mary Corinne Yoakum, who was born in Alameda county, March 22, 1869, a daughter of George W. Yoakum.

Mr. French is a Democrat in politics and in April, 1904, was elected a member of the city council. He also holds the position of game warden, to which he was appointed by the board of supervisors February 1, 1903. He is fraternally connected with the Knights of Pythias, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Woodmen of the World and the Foresters, in all of which he has served in an official capacity. He is also a member and was foreman of the Merced Hose company, No. 1. Mr. French is popular and prominent in the business world of Merced, a man of unquestioned honor, of broad sympathies and great generosity.

**GEORGE W. CARTWRIGHT.** The progressive citizenship of Fresno has a worthy representative in George W. Cartwright, now engaged in the practice of law in this city. Energetic and enterprising, he has done much toward developing and promoting the horticultural, manufacturing and political interests of this part of the state, and in various official capacities has served with credit. A son of the late Rev. John Cartwright, he was born November 9, 1863, in Coles county, Ill. His grandfather, Reddick Cartwright, came from old Virginia stock, and inherited in a large measure the virtues of his honored ancestors. As a man of patriotic zeal, he served in the war of 1812, and actively participated in the

battle of New Orleans, January 8, 1813. He subsequently removed to Illinois, becoming a pioneer of Sangamon county.

A native of Sangamon county, Ill., Rev. John Cartwright was born in 1835, and nearly rounded out the allotted period of man's life, dying August 8, 1902, in Fresno, Cal. During the Civil war he fought in his country's defense, serving as a private in Company F, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. As a Baptist minister he subsequently preached in Illinois until 1869, when he brought his family, consisting of his wife and four children, to California. Crossing the plains with horses and wagons, he journeyed for five months, arriving safely, although the party immediately following the train which he accompanied was massacred by the Indians. Settling first in Colusa county he engaged in farming and preaching, being the pioneer Baptist minister of that county. Locating in Fresno county in 1885, he bought forty acres of land lying one and one-half miles west of Malaga, and set out a vineyard, which he carried on successfully for a number of years, in addition to his horticultural labors, also preaching in different places. He possessed great mechanical ingenuity, and from his early youth was familiar with the blacksmith's trade. About 1889 he began the manufacture of the now famous Cartwright pruning shears, which are of a better temper and better adapted for pruning vines and trees than any other implement of the kind, and are now in general use throughout the vineyards and orchards of the Pacific coast. The business, small at first, has grown rapidly and steadily, and is now continued by his sons, George W. and John M., under the firm name of J. Cartwright & Sons. Rev. John Cartwright was a Master Mason and an Odd Fellow. He married Martha Ashby, who was born in Coles county, Ill., of Virginia ancestry, and now resides with her children in California. Four sons and two daughters blessed their union, namely: Jasper F., a vineyardist, and an employee in the office of the county clerk; Lizzie, wife of F. M. Cook, of Oroqui, Cal.; Reddick N., an employee in the manufacturing plant belonging to his brothers; George W., the subject of this sketch; Mamie, wife of Edward Roach, a vineyardist, residing in Fresno county; and John M., in partnership with his brother, George W., is a skilled mechanic and thoroughly understands the tempering of steel, being an expert in that line.

After leaving the public schools of Willows, George W. Cartwright pursued his studies under the guidance of Prof. J. L. Wilson, for some years in Colusa county. Coming to





*John Cutler*

Fresno county in 1885, he taught in the public schools for nine years. In 1894 he was the nominee of the People's party for county superintendent of schools, and although he ran far ahead of his ticket he was defeated, the Republican party electing its candidate, Prof. Thomas J. Kirk, now state superintendent of public instruction. Entering then the manufacturing establishment of his father, he worked in the factory a few months, introducing many valuable improvements, and was then elected secretary and business manager of the Malaga Packing Association, a position which he filled for four years. In 1896, nominated on the Fusion ticket, Mr. Cartwright was elected as representative to the state legislature, receiving a majority of over seven hundred and fifty votes, and served during the session of 1897. Appointed by caucus to draft an income tax bill, he did so, and it was introduced into the assembly by Shannahan of Shasta, but was defeated by a strict party vote. Mr. Cartwright also introduced a resolution so to amend the constitution as to do away with the poll tax, but this was likewise defeated by party vote, as was the bill which he introduced for the purpose of preventing the demonetization of lawful money by contract. In 1898 Mr. Cartwright was elected county clerk, being the candidate of the Democratic and People's parties, and served efficiently for four years, from January, 1899, until January, 1903.

Taking up the study of law, which had always been his ambition, Mr. Cartwright was admitted to the bar March 12, 1903, and has since been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession in Fresno. In 1902, soon after the death of his father, he purchased an interest with his brother in the manufacturing business of J. Cartwright & Son, his brother being secretary and business manager. New machinery has been installed in the plant, which is now up to date in its equipments, and the business is constantly increasing, the shears manufactured being of the finest quality.

In Fresno, December 24, 1889, Mr. Cartwright married Rosa S. Otto, who was born in Wisconsin, near Oshkosh, and they have one child, Hazel. Mrs. Cartwright's father, Andreas Otto, embarked in the manufacture of sugar in Wisconsin, erecting there the first sugar-mill in the United States. (A detailed sketch of his life will be found elsewhere in this work.) Politically Mr. Cartwright is a Democrat, and since 1894 has been one of the principal local speakers in every campaign.

Fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the Woodmen of the World, and Modern Woodmen of America. He is also a member of the County Bar Association.

---

LOYAL O. CUTLER was born on the ranch owned by his parents, five miles east of Visalia, June 7, 1866, a son of Dr. John and Nancy (Rice) Cutler, the former born in Indiana and the latter in Ohio. Dr. Cutler was a graduate in medicine and practiced his profession in Iowa until 1849 when he crossed the plains to California, locating in Eldorado county. While a resident of that county he served as a representative to the state legislature. In 1852 he removed to Tulare county and engaged in farming on a large ranch on the St. John's river, meeting with deserved success and acquiring a fortune. He was elected and served two terms as county judge and died July 12, 1902, aged eighty-three years. His wife died in Santa Cruz. They became the parents of three sons and four daughters, of whom L. O. was the youngest son and the fifth child.

L. O. Cutler was reared on the home ranch and educated in the public school and Visalia Normal. He remained at home until he was of age and became thoroughly acquainted with all the details of the stock business, as conducted by his father. At this time he and his brother John began farming on a large scale on the home ranch and also on two thousand acres near Goshen, which they sowed to grain. Meeting with success in this independent venture they began to make a specialty of Herefords in their cattle business, having pasturage of about seven thousand acres in the hills. At this time (1905) they lease some of their land near Goshen. L. O. Cutler, with his wife and brother John, owns the H. T. Chrisman ranch of six hundred and forty acres on Elbow creek, and John Cutler owns three hundred and twenty acres at Cutler. The old Cutler ranch has eight hundred acres, all fine land. Mr. Cutler and his brother John have about seven thousand acres at Auckland, all fenced and devoted to raising cattle and hogs. Their grain farm is located four miles south of Cutler, and is known as the Petty Place. They operate two combined harvesters, and in 1900 had eighty head of work horses.

December 31, 1889, Loyal O. Cutler was united in marriage with Miss Villa Chrisman, who was born in Tulare county. They have one son, Harold Oliver. Though not an aspirant for office, Mr. Cutler has always been an ardent supporter of the Republican party. A member of a pioneer family, Mr. Cutler has, by his earnest-

ness of purpose, strict integrity and public spirit; gained recognition as a worthy representative of the younger generation of citizens in Tulare county.

---

**WILLIAM A. HORSLEY.** The firm of J. R. Horsley & Son, of Snelling, represents one of the largest and best-equipped mercantile establishments in Merced county. Its original establishment is due to the energy and resource of J. R. Horsley, a pioneer of 1850, but its subsequent successful management is to be attributed as well to an infusion of younger blood and ambition in the person of his son and business partner, William A. Horsley. Joseph R. Horsley was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1828, and as a young man moved to Indiana, where he married Catherine Caldwell, of Ohio, and where his son, William A., was born January 11, 1853. The family is of English descent, the immigrating ancestor being the paternal grandfather, James Horsley, who sailed for the United States at an early day and identified himself with trade interests in Philadelphia.

Joseph R. Horsley left his family in Indiana in 1850 and crossed the plains with ox-teams, accompanied by his brother, Washington, with whom he worked in the mines for a couple of years. Pleased with the climate and prospects, the brothers brought their hoard back to Indiana by way of Panama in 1852, and in 1857 the entire family came to California, William A. being at that time four years old. From Panama they sailed on the steamer Golden Gate, and arriving in California, located at Knights Ferry, Stanislaus county, where Mr. Horsley mined until 1859. He then took charge of the store of Mr. Reese, in Jeffersonville, Tuolumne county, until 1868, returning then to Knights Ferry, where he was employed as bookkeeper for the Stanislaus Mills for nine years. By this time his son William A. had grown into a strong and capable young man, had proved himself useful in the general merchandise store at Jeffersonville, and had gotten a good start as a farmer in Stanislaus county. Father and son joined their farming interests upon the former's resigning from the Stanislaus Milling Company, continuing to raise grain and stock on eleven hundred and eighty acres of land until disposing of their property in 1877. They then moved to Snelling and farmed for a year, after which they purchased the Snelling hotel and ran the same until 1884. During this time they also engaged in a general merchandise business in Snelling, which, because of its rapid growth, justified them in retiring from the hotel business and devoting all of their time to their store. In time they established another store at Waterford, each establishment carrying at the present

time a stock of about \$11,000. They have a complete line of general merchandise, are moderate in their prices, and maintain uniform courtesy and consideration in dealing with their many patrons. They are among the popular and substantial upbuilders of mercantile superiority in Merced county, and enjoy an extended reputation for public spirit and enterprise. The elder Horsley has held a number of offices, among them that of justice of the peace; he is a staunch Democrat in national affairs, voting for the best man for local offices.

William A. Horsley was educated in the public schools, and has pursued his entire business career in connection with that of his father. He married Anna Owens, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to California in 1878 with her father, J. M. Owens. They have two children, Earl A. and Samuel O. Mr. Horsley follows the family inclination politically, being a Democrat in national politics, and is fraternally connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is genial, able and painstaking, sharing with his father the honor of conducting a thoroughly up-to-date and growing business.

---

**MAJOR MARION SIDES.** Among the representative men of Fresno county, Marion Sides has held a position of prominence. As president of the First National Bank of Selma, he is an advocate of a conservative policy and endeavors to do all in his power to avoid all wild-cat speculation. His ability to judge others has been of untold benefit to him in his business career as a banker, merchant and farmer. He was born in Perry county, Mo., January 27, 1837, a son of Elihu and Daisy (Welker) Sides, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Perry county, where they both died.

Elihu Sides located in Missouri at an early day and engaged in farming, a vocation he followed with success for many years. Marion Sides received his education in the common schools of Perry county and assisted with the work upon the home farm until 1861, at which time he enlisted in Company D, Fifth Missouri Cavalry, and was afterward transferred to the Forty-eighth Infantry, taking part in many engagements of the war. After being mustered out of service in 1866, he returned to his home and engaged in a general merchandise business for one year, then took up farm work until 1875, when he disposed of his holdings and came to California, believing this state offered better inducements for an ambitious young man. Locating at once in Fresno county he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, two miles north of the present site of Selma, and began its cultivation and improvement. As success came his way he



has added to his original tract, and now owns about eight hundred acres of valuable land devoted to diversified farming interests. He also was interested in the lumber business in Reedley, and is a stockholder and president of the First National Bank.

Mr. Sides has been twice married, the first union was in Dent county, Mo., with Casander Matthews, a native of Missouri. Two children were born to them, both now deceased, Effie A., who married Charles E. Walker, and Ira M. Mrs. Sides died in Fresno county, April 8, 1894. In Fresno county, June 11, 1895, he was again married, Ollie M. Davies, a native of Tennessee, becoming his wife. Of this union two children have been born, Richard D. and Thomas M. The family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Mr. Sides serving as trustee. In his political preference he is a Democrat, and always cast his vote with that party, except when Abraham Lincoln was a candidate. While a resident of Dent county, Mo., he represented his district in the state legislature two terms, serving his constituents in an efficient manner. Since becoming a resident of California he has never been an aspirant for official honors. He has always been a friend of education and been a supporter and advocate of a high standard of schools and instructors. In all of his social and business relations with the people he has always adhered to the principles of fair dealing and strict business integrity; has always supported those measures which he considered worthy of his co-operation, and by his public spirit has attained a position as one of the leading citizens of Selma and Fresno county.

**FRED BARCROFT.** In his lineage, Fred Barcroft, an influential business man of Madera, represents an old-established eastern family and also an aristocratic Castilian race. His father, R. W., was a son of John Barcroft, a merchant tailor of Cadiz, Ohio, and in that city was born, reared and learned the trades of merchant tailor and carpenter. During 1849 he crossed the plains with ox-teams and engaged in placer and quartz mining in Mariposa county, continuing in that occupation until 1899, when he retired. In addition, he also followed contracting and building. By reason of ill health, he is now debarred from business activities, and is living retired in Madera. After coming to California he married Rafila Orosco, who was born near Casa Grande, Ariz., the daughter of a pioneer Spanish rancher who owned large tracts near Casa Grande and was murdered there by the Apache savages. Afterward his widow brought the children to California and about 1852 settled in Hornitos, Mariposa county. She died November 6, 1901, in Ma-

dera, at the age of almost eighty-four years. She was born in southern Arizona and was a member of the Herrera family. A devout Roman Catholic, she taught a private school for years, charging tuition when the children were able to pay, but teaching those who were poor without any charge whatever. Her principal object in teaching the children to read and write Spanish was that she might have an opportunity to inculcate in their hearts the doctrines of Catholicism. She was also a skilled needlewoman and devoted considerable time to teaching fancy work.

In the family of R. W. and Rafila Barcroft there were seven children, namely: Rafael, who is engaged in the hardware business in Merced; Fred, of Madera; David, a graduate of the University of California and of the Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, who died at the age of thirty-one years; Caroline, who died at the age of nine years; Mrs. Mary Wilkinson, of Stockton; Joseph, who is a justice of the peace in Madera; and Louisa, who died at sixteen years of age.

In Hornitos, Mariposa county, Fred Barcroft was born July 31, 1858. During boyhood he attended district schools. When about seventeen years of age he was apprenticed to the tinsmith's trade in Merced under J. Kocher, with whom he remained for five and one-half years. At the expiration of his time he started in business for himself, opening a hardware store at Merced with a partner under the firm title of Branson & Barcroft. During the three years he remained in Merced a branch store was started in Madera December 23, 1883, and he came to this city to assume its management. October 1, 1884, he sold his interest in the Merced store to his brother Rafael, after which he devoted his entire attention to the Madera business. For the first two years he rented a store room adjoining H. S. Williams' store and then erected a frame building on the site of his present establishment. The shop was neatly and conveniently equipped with every facility for the conduct of the business. In addition to carrying a stock of hardware and tinware, he had plumbing outfits and did considerable business in this line. July 19, 1886, the building was destroyed by fire. He immediately rebuilt, but the building was for temporary use only, it being his intention to replace it as soon as possible. Before he had commenced a new building fire again destroyed his shop, April 20, 1895. All that he saved was a punching machine of his own invention, used in the punching of sheet iron for tanks and well casing.

After his second heavy loss by fire, Mr. Barcroft began to construct a more substantial building than those he had previously occupied. Brick was used instead of lumber, and every effort was made to secure a building that could not readily succumb to the fire element, the new structure be-

ing three stories and basement, the highest building in the city, and in dimensions 25x80 feet. Even this new building was not to escape unscathed, for the fiery element attacked it also July 2, 1904, with disastrous results. His shops in the rear were destroyed and also the woodwork in the rear and side of the building. But with that quality of grit that has characterized the Califormian, Mr. Barcroft set about restoring the damaged portions, extending his shop to 38x70 feet, including a two-story brick on the west side of his first building, 25x80 feet, which he leases. He devoted the basement and first floor to a line of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves and tinware. His shop and plumbing establishment are the largest in the city. He handles also gasoline engines and the Aermotor windmills.

The Madera Chamber of Commerce numbers Mr. Barcroft among its active members. In politics he votes with the Republican party, and fraternally is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Woodmen of the World, Foresters and Fraternal Brotherhood. His first marriage occurred in Hornitos and united him with Carmen Navarine, who was born in that city and died in Los Angeles. Afterward he married Cornelia Reyes, of Madera, a native of Watsonville, this state, and they have one daughter, Dolores.

---

**JOHN MADISON WALTHALL.** That Mr. Walthall is popular as a Republican in a Democratic county, being twice elected to the office of district attorney, his first nomination occurring a week after his graduation, speaks well for the character of the man, the strength and dignity of the purpose which has animated him in his brief but eminently successful career as a lawyer of Modesto. Though young in years he has already evidenced his ability and has made his influence felt in legal circles in the community, and that which has been accomplished presages a career of exceptional interest and success. A native of the state, he was born in San Joaquin county, December 31, 1871, a son of Madison Walthall, Jr., and grandson of Madison Walthall, Sr.

Madison Walthall, Sr., was born in Richmond, Va., and was there reared to manhood, remaining in his native state until the breaking out of the Mexican war, when he enlisted and going to Mississippi found his way two years later, via the Isthmus, to California. Locating in San Jose, he early became an important factor in the political life of the state, as a Democrat being elected to the first legislature, in which he served with commendable enthusiasm and ability. Thoroughly imbued with the pioneer spirit, he decided to cast in his lot permanently with the fortunes of the state, and soon purchased a large tract of land, containing five hundred acres, upon

which he engaged in the agricultural pursuits which so early marked the development of this particular section of the west. In 1851 he sent for his son, Madison Walthall, Jr., who located at Stockton, where the elder man had purchased three hundred acres of land, and where his death occurred by a fall from a window, when much advanced in years.

Madison Walthall, Jr., there engaged in mining and farming, and was also actively engaged in surveying throughout the state, being for some years employed in a land office and the real estate business. In 1872 he died near the place which had been his first home in the west. He married Emma Covert, a native of Arkansas, who died here in 1875, at the age of thirty-three years. Her father, John Covert, came to California in 1838 with John C. Fremont, returning to the States overland, after which he brought his family west. Upon his second arrival in the state he engaged in the general merchandise business at Tuolumne City, this county, later locating in Modesto where he remained until his removal to Tulare, where his death occurred. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Madison Walthall, Jr., two died in infancy, the others being J. M. of this sketch and Stella, who is married to Judge E. A. Belcher, of San Francisco.

Mr. Walthall has spent his entire life in his native state, as a child attending the common schools in the vicinity of his home, and afterward entering the San Mateo school where he took a preparatory course, graduating with the degree of B.S. In 1895 he entered Hastings Law College, from which institution he was graduated three years later with the degree of B.L. Coming at once to Modesto a week afterward he received the nomination for district attorney and was elected, serving two terms in an entirely efficient manner. Since 1901 he has carried on his practice in partnership with L. L. Dennett, the two having a constantly increasing clientele. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World, and politically is a Republican, having always been active in the promotion of the principles he indorses. He has served as delegate to the state convention and in many other ways has aided in the support of Republicanism.

---

**WILLIS RUSSELL HIGH.** Among the representative business men of Modesto and Stanislaus county, Willis Russell High occupies a prominent position, won by his own efforts since his advent to California in 1883. He is now connected with the business interests of Modesto through the Farmers' & Merchants' Bank, of which he is now president, having been elected to that position in October, 1903, having pre-





J. H. S. Calver.

viously served as vice-president after assisting materially in the organization of the bank. He is a large land owner and extensively interested in the land in the Turlock irrigation district, having five hundred and twenty acres which he intends opening in the spring of 1904. A native of Tennessee, he was born in Smith county March 30, 1860, the son of James T. High.

James T. High was also a native of Tennessee, being a merchant by occupation during his earlier years, and later in life engaging as a farmer. He is now living retired from the active cares of life in Alexandria, Tenn., at the age of eighty years. He married Elizabeth Austin, who was born in Glasgow, Ky., and she is also living. To them were born eleven children, six sons and five daughters, of whom all attained maturity with the exception of the youngest two. William Russell High was the fourth child and the third son, and received his scholastic education in the common schools of his native state and the Masonic Academy located at Elmwood, Smith county. In 1883 he came to California, locating in Stanislaus county, one mile north of Modesto, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land. In addition to this farm he cultivated five thousand acres located in Madera county, this land being devoted entirely to the raising of grain. From a small and modest beginning he has accumulated considerable property and become an influential man in the business of the city. During the year 1900 he acted as a director of the irrigation district.

The marriage of Mr. High occurred in Modesto and united him with Olive Drake, a native of this city, and the daughter of Jacob Drake, a native of Illinois, who crossed the plains to California during the Civil war, locating as a farmer near Modesto in 1861. Here his death occurred, after a long and useful life. For about fifty years of his life he had followed his trade which was that of machinist. Fraternally he was a member of the Masonic order. Politically he was a Democrat. The children born to Mr. High and his wife are named in order of birth as follows: Benjamin Hugh, Delma Gertrude, James Luther, Lester Homer and Vera. Fraternally Mr. High is a member of Modesto Lodge No. 149, I. O. O. F., and Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E. Politically he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

---

HON. JAMES W. HALEY, manager of the Haley ranch of five thousand acres, twenty miles northwest of Los Banos, and ex-member of the state legislature, was born in St. Louis, Mo., July 12, 1849, the oldest of the four sons and two daughters of William and Esther (Byrns) Haley. William Haley was born in county Wicklow, Ire-

land, and prior to coming to America married and operated a farm of his own for a number of years. In St. Louis he conceived the idea of joining his fortunes to the growing west, and with ox-teams left Missouri in March, 1852, crossing the plains in the usual time, and with the usual number of adventures. The mines of Trinity county yielded him \$8,000, and in the fall of 1853 he returned to his wife and two sons by way of Panama, again turning his steps westward in 1854, accompanied by his family, in whom he had aroused a spirit of interest in the coast country. He started one of the pioneer dairy industries in San Francisco in 1861, and it is a tribute to him as a substantial business man that the small business thus inaugurated under scarcely promising circumstances, grew into a permanent enterprise, and is still conducted by his sons, with the dairy depot, on the corner of Buchanan and Union streets. Mr. Haley's life continued a busy one until his death in 1882, at the age of fifty-eight years. He trained all of his sons in the dairy business, and his two youngest, Daniel T. and William E., are still owners and managers of the old dairy in San Francisco, known as the Laurel Vale Dairy. His second oldest son, Michael C., was formerly county clerk in San Francisco, and is now living retired in that city.

Although but five years of age when his father brought him to California, Hon. James W. Haley distinctly recalls crossing the Isthmus of Panama on the back of a mule, and afterward of inaugurating his industrial career as a milk peddler in the streets of San Francisco. He was twelve years old at the time, and later carried his milk on horseback, still later being supplied with a wagon, filled at the home on the corner of Greenwich and Buchanan streets. He was educated in the old Beach school, the Spring Valley grammar school, the first of its kind in San Francisco, from which he graduated in the spring of 1863, and St. Ignatius College, which he attended three years. He continued with the Laurel Vale Dairy until 1870, in which year himself and brother, M. C., rented a dairy, continuing the same until Mr. Haley's marriage, after which he dissolved the partnership and engaged in an independent business. He was united with Rose Smith, a native of Wallabout, Long Island, N. Y. The Golden City Dairy prospered under his management until 1881, when he sold out his business and located on the west side of Merced county, purchasing land on San Luis creek, and engaging in stock raising. He was successful beyond his expectations, met with a ready response from the San Francisco markets, and finally was obliged to purchase more land in order to supply demands for his stock. He now controls five thousand acres, and raises principally Devonshire

cattle and blooded horses. His land is watered by San Luis creek, and admirably adapted for the purpose intended. Mr. Haley has the most modern and practical of improvements, and lives in a manner befitting his enlightened and progressive views. His only living child, George J., is attending St. Mary's College, of Oakland, a member of the class of '06. He is fond of out-door sports and is the best amateur short stop in California.

Mr. Haley's active political service began in 1890, when he was elected supervisor of the fifth district, his re-election following in 1894, and his term expiring in January, 1899. For the last two years he was chairman of the board. In 1900 he was elected to the state legislature, representing the fifty-seventh legislative district, which embraces Stanislaus and Merced counties, and received the largest Democratic majority in the history of the district. During the session of 1901 he served on the committee on roads and irrigation, succeeding in handling and securing the passage of the Modesto refunding bill; the water credit bill, a very important measure; the Coyote scalp bill, and the county government bill of Stanislaus and Merced counties. He is now a member of the county central committee, and has been a delegate to various state and county conventions. Mr. Haley is noted for the shrewdness and practicability of his views upon public questions, and his influence is accordingly emphatic and far reaching. He is a generous contributor to all worthy causes, is public spirited and a promoter of education, morality and good government.

---

ELLWOOD OLIVER LARKINS. When the second war with England began among those who enlisted to fight for the United States was William Larkins, who some years before had crossed the ocean to establish his home in the new world and who proved his loyalty to his adopted country by faithful service at the front. A grandson of this soldier, J. B. Larkins, was born in Birmingham, Pa., and during 1850 settled in Ohio, engaging in the mercantile business at East Liverpool, Columbiana county. From there in 1861 he removed to Meigs county, Ohio, where he not only carried on a store, but also engaged in general farm pursuits. The year 1866 witnessed his removal to Linn county, Mo., where he added stock raising to his duties as a merchant. He later removed to Kirksville, which continued to be his home until 1899, when he was killed by the cyclone that passed through that town.

In the family of J. B. Larkins was a son, E. O., born at East Liverpool, Ohio, December 16, 1854. Primarily educated in the public schools

of his native town, he had the further advantage of attending the Missouri state normal school at Kirksville, where he prepared for educational work. During 1874 he was employed as a teacher in the schools of Salisbury, Chariton county, Mo., and the following year acted as principal of the schools of Laclede, Linn county, that state. Already he had resolved to become an attorney, and with that ambition before him he took up law studies under Harrington & Stover of Kirksville. From Missouri he came to California in the summer of 1875 and for a time was a law student under Van Dyke & Wells, of San Francisco. From 1877 to 1880 he held the principalship of the Meridian public schools and for three years of that period acted as a member of the board of education of Sutter county. On resigning there he accepted the chair of mathematics in the Visalia normal school, a private institution, where he continued an instructor for four years. In 1884 he was elected principal of the grammar and high schools of Visalia, but resigned the following year in order to devote his attention to the practice of law.

His since successful connection with the law proves that Mr. Larkins selected wisely in choosing a profession. The talents with which he is endowed by nature qualify him for the logical reasoning, keen insight and wise judgment demanded of an attorney. Furthermore, a fine command of language and ready eloquence make him a popular speaker, both in the court room with judge and jury, and on the stump in political campaigns. His work as a speaker in the interests of Senator George C. Perkins when candidate for governor received frequent praise, nor was he less active in the McKinley campaign of 1896 and the Roosevelt campaign of 1904. Indeed, in every campaign when the principles of the Republican party are at stake, he willingly devotes time and money to the promotion of their success. At other times, however, he devotes himself closely to professional work, and in leisure hours is a student of his fine law library, broadening his knowledge of the intricacies and technicalities of the profession. Formerly he was a partner of Hon. J. F. Wharton of Fresno and Hon. Tipton Lindsey of Visalia, but both of these gentlemen are now dead, and he practices alone. Much of the important litigation of the San Joaquin valley has been in his charge, but civil cases are his preference and his specialties are water rights and land titles. For several years he was a director in the Bank of Visalia, and is the owner of the Larkins building in this place. Now, as in earlier life, educational affairs receive his attention and aid. He was a member of the educational commission of California. For years he has been a member of the Republican state central committee. Fra-



ternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World, Ancient Order of United Workmen and Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Visalia, and is active in Masonry as a member of Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, having received the eighteen degrees, including that of Scottish Rite, thirty-second degree.

The marriage of Mr. Larkins united him with Sallie C. Callaway, of Waverly, Mo., a descendant of the Boone family and closely related to the Hardins of Kentucky. The famous pioneer Daniel Boone, was one of her ancestors, and it is matter of history that his daughter, Jemima, became the wife of a gallant young Kentuckian, bearing the name of Callaway, who rescued her from the Indians with the greatest daring and bravery. Four daughters comprise the family of Mr. and Mrs. Larkins, namely: Zoe P., who is a graduate of Leland Stanford, Jr., University and married Roydon I. Woolsey, of Berkeley; Carroll, a graduate of the Visalia high school; Addie T. and Calla, who are at home.

---

ORPEALYER P. MUNSON. In Orpealyer P. Munson, near Crows Landing, is found a representative of the third generation of his family to identify himself with the growing fortunes of the great state of California. The name was first known in the mining camps of the coast through the emigration of his paternal grandfather, Charles F. Munson, one of those rugged sons of Maine who have ever been associated with strong personal characteristics and great perseverance. Perfecting himself in the carpenter's trade as a young man, an occupation with which his ancestors had long been familiar, he not only paved the way for others to put to sea, but applied his craft to the furtherance of the supreme ambition of his life, that of locating in and growing up with the Pacific coast country. Constructing a ship of strong timber, he sailed from his bleak native coast, weathering the storm and calms of two oceans with his noble craft, and eventually landed on a sunnier and more promising shore. Locating in French Camp, Cal., he worked with pick and pan with moderate success, and soon afterward started a hotel for the accommodation of the fortune-seeking public. He was successful as a miner and hotel-keeper, and in these occupations laid the foundation for the fortune which maintained him in comfort up to the time of his death in 1892. His son Orpealyer P., Sr., was born on his ranch in the San Joaquin valley, and upon starting out upon his independent career located in Merced county, ten miles from Turlock, remaining there until 1891. He settled on fourteen hundred acres of leased land in Stanislaus county in the latter year, where he died Septem-

ber 18, 1893, at the age of fifty-two years. He was married to Mary L. Houser, a native of Pennsylvania, and reared a family of three sons and one daughter, namely: Orpealyer P., Jr., George L., Benjamin E., and Leta R. The honest efforts and industry of this worthy son of the grand old pioneer were amply rewarded in the gaining of an independent competency. He was successful in his occupation and has left his widow in independent and comfortable circumstances. She is a woman possessed of sound faculties and cheerful views of life.

To the property rented by the elder Munson, and devoted to extensive grain raising, land has been added from time to time, until at present Orpealyer P., Jr., and his brother, George L., rent three thousand acres, all under wheat and barley. Theirs is one of the largest grain-raising enterprises in Stanislaus county, and both men stand high as authorities upon their particular line of activity. The land is all in the San Joaquin valley, and the majority in Stanislaus county, and is of a kind particularly adapted to grain raising. As the older of the brothers, Orpealyer P., Jr., is the chief manager of the property.

Mr. Munson is an energetic and practical man, progressive in the extreme, and popular with his fellow agriculturists of Stanislaus county. He is a Republican in national politics, but as yet has taken no active part in local affairs. Fraternally he is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. Munson's prosperity is reared upon a common school education, a keen knowledge of scientific farming, and a high regard for the dignity and importance of his chosen occupation.

---

REUBEN A. EDMONDS. The postoffice at Bakersfield, which is under the supervision of Mr. Edmonds as postmaster, ranks among the leading second-class offices of California. Accuracy, promptness and system are noticeable features in the administration of the office. To assist in the assortment and distribution of the mail seven clerks are employed, besides which four carriers take charge of the city delivery and one carrier covers the rural route. During his tenure of the position it has been the aim of the postmaster to facilitate the delivery of mail and thus promote the interests of the people, and he has been so successful in his efforts that people of all political beliefs testify to his fidelity as an official.

Mr. Edmonds was born in Lane county, Ore., January 14, 1859. His father, William Edmonds, was a native of Carlisle, Pa., and at an early age went to Illinois. From there he worked his way across the plains to Oregon

and entered the mines, since which time he has made mining his occupation, and, though now seventy years of age, he still continues actively at work. When Reuben A. Edmonds was a boy of six years his mother died. He was then taken into the home of his grandmother near Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, Cal., and later remained for a time at Kellogg, Napa county. After spending a short period in Oregon he entered the public schools of Napa City, where he was a pupil for seven years. His education was further extended by a course of study in the Napa Collegiate Institute, where he made a specialty of bookkeeping. In 1881 he came to Bakersfield and, by the exercise of constant economy and perseverance, he reaped a gratifying measure of success and built up a dry goods business that was important and remunerative. Unfortunately, the great fire of 1889 found him without insurance and his loss was complete. Being thus forced to begin at the bottom once more, he secured a position as clerk and bookkeeper, and worked in that capacity for five years.

The Republican party has always had a firm champion in Mr. Edmonds. For twenty years he has been a local leader. At different times he was chosen to occupy minor offices. In 1898 he was honored by receiving the appointment as postmaster under President McKinley and four years later was reappointed to the office. After coming to Bakersfield he married Miss Elizabeth Hallet of Napa, by whom he has two children, Shirlee A. and Reubelle, both at home. On the organization of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Bakersfield he became one of its charter members, and his fraternal relations are further supplemented by membership in the Bakersfield Lodge of Elks.

---

**WILLIAM VAN BUCKNER.** In the comparatively brief history of Kings county, William Van Buckner figures as one of its most successful agricultural and horticultural promoters, as well as its only citizen thus far to hold the office of sheriff. Continuously since the organization of the county in 1893 he has dignified a position calling for more than the average tact, discretion and judgment, evidencing particular aptitude for the office and winning the good-will of the community, regardless of political creed. His duties have been accompanied by the hardships and trials usually associated with the office in comparatively new localities, but he has met them with courage and wisdom, and to the satisfaction of the law and order loving portion of the community. Continuous resi-

dence in the unsettled west since early boyhood has made him most familiar with the cosmopolitan element which comprises his environment, and his knowledge of human nature at its worst and best has come to be of immense use to him in the adjustment of the numerous complications which have confronted him.

Mr. Buckner was born near Fort Scott, Kans., August 31, 1859, his father, William G. Buckner, having removed to that section from his native state, Tennessee. The family came to California in 1863, settling first in San Joaquin county, and in 1868 locating in Stanislaus county, where they resided until 1881. During the latter year Mr. Buckner purchased his crude farm of eighty acres, improved it for general farming and fruit-raising, and sold it in 1890. Following his pronounced religious bent, he then engaged in missionary work in the South Pacific islands for two or three years, representing the Seventh Day Adventists, with whom he has been identified for many years. He is now living in retirement in San Jose, Cal., and is about seventy-six years of age. Through his marriage with Nancy Butts, who died in 1877, four sons were born, namely: Henry F., a railroad contractor of Washington; James B., who died in 1885; Andrew E., a rancher in the vicinity of Lemoore, and William V.

William Van Buckner was reared on his father's farm in Stanislaus county, and his education was received in the country schools and the grammar school at Modesto. In 1881 he accompanied his father to Tulare county, where he purchased a ranch of eighty acres. This property, which is now managed by his brother, he still owns. Upon the organization of Kings county he was elected to the office of sheriff, an honor which was entirely unexpected on his part. Yielding to the earnest solicitations of friends he allowed his name to be used, and the hearty support accorded him was convincing proof of his popularity and general fitness for the office. He was re-elected in 1894, 1898 and 1902, and public sentiment appears to favor his retention of the office so long as he will consent to fill it.

Mr. Buckner is a stockholder and director in the Hanford National Bank. In politics he has always been an advocate of the principles of the Republican party, though at no time in his life has he been what might be termed a politician. Fraternally he is well known and prominent, being a charter member of Lemoore Court No. 196, I. O. F.; Hanford Lodge No. 194, K. P.; Woodmen of the World, and the Knights of Maccabees.

Upon the organization of Company I, Sixth Regiment, California National Guard, March





*A M White*

14, 1900, he was elected first lieutenant, serving two terms of two years each.

Personally Mr. Buckner is a quiet and unassuming man. Underlying his nature is the iron and determination which make his influence felt, as well as the kindliness and benevolence which enable him to do much good while seeing that the majesty of the law is upheld. He cheerfully co-operates with his fellow-citizens in the promotion of all well-considered movements tending toward the betterment of social, moral, educational or industrial conditions in the community, and has always had the best interests of the whole people at heart.

---

**HUFFMAN MICHAEL WHITE.** An extensive land owner and a pioneer whose earliest efforts have been enlisted in the cause of up-building and developing the western state that he made his home, Huffman M. White is esteemed as a citizen of worth and integrity and a potent factor in the commercial, political and social life of the community. He was born in Tioga county, N. Y., March 14, 1824, a son of Silas and grandson of Joshua White, both natives of Dutchess county, N. Y., where the death of the latter occurred. Silas White went to Illinois in 1838 as a pioneer and located in LaSalle county, where he engaged in farming until his death. His wife, Maria McClave in maidenhood, was born in New York state and died in Illinois. They were the parents of five sons and four daughters, of whom Huffman Michael White was the third in order of birth.

Reared to manhood in Illinois, to which state he accompanied his parents when he was fourteen years of age, Huffman M. White received his education in the public schools in the vicinity of his home. On attaining maturity he engaged in lumbering in Grundy county, in 1844 operating a sawmill in that section of country. In 1850 he followed the westward trend of civilization, making a trip across the plains by horse-teams, consuming one hundred and one days from St. Joseph, Mo. The trip was a pleasant one, even in the midst of hardships and privations which were necessarily incident to such travel. Upon his safe arrival in California Mr. White followed mining in Sacramento and Eldorado counties for about three months. The fall of 1852 found Mr. White in Parajo, Santa Cruz county, where he farmed and raised potatoes and barley. He was probably the largest potato raiser in California at that time, having as many as seven hundred acres planted to that vegetable. He marketed his produce in San Francisco, by means of a line of vessels which he owned, and amassed a fortune of \$100,000 in the business. One of

his vessels, the *Young America*, was sent to Melbourne, Australia, in charge of his brother, but the boat was lost at sea with all on board. Mr. White suffered another loss in the burning of one of his vessels while anchored in the harbor. In the spring of 1865 Mr. White went to Sacramento, where he engaged in the wholesale mercantile business, and two years later came to Tulare county, and in Visalia was interested in mercantile pursuits for a year. Coming then to the Frazier river valley he pre-empted and purchased land, until today he owns twenty-three hundred acres. The land available for grain purposes he rents; while the balance is devoted to the raising of stock.

In Visalia Mr. White was united in marriage with Mrs. Jerusha (Anthony) Brown, born in New York state, and a daughter of Paul Anthony, Jr., and Hannah Eddy, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont, respectively. By her first marriage Mrs. White became the mother of two sons, Clinton T. and William W. Brown, the former residing in Plano, and the latter in Portersville.

To Mrs. White belongs the distinction of planting the first orange tree in this vicinity. The seed was brought from the Society Islands by Captain McLaughlin, of the United States Volunteer army. One tree which came from this seed was planted in the White ranch, and is still standing, an honored patriarch of California trees, and the first tree to be planted in Tulare county. When seven years old this tree bore ten oranges, which were sold at \$1 apiece, and the sum which they brought, \$10, was given by Mrs. White to the building fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Portersville. A lemon tree planted at the same time bore fruit when three years old. Mrs. White may well claim the honor and distinction of being the mother of horticulture in the San Joaquin valley.

In his political convictions Mr. White is a staunch Republican and has always taken an active interest in the workings of that party. He served as a delegate to the first Republican convention held in Sacramento, and subsequently was a candidate for election to the assembly, being defeated by only fifteen votes. He has repeatedly served as school trustee, and for the year of 1905 was a delegate to the state convention, being the oldest man in that body.

---

**JOHN T. DUNLAP.** Kings county has among its citizens many men of more than the average ability and intelligence who are doing a great work for its advancement, and John T. Dunlap may with justice be classed among that number. He was born in Somerset county, Me., January 29, 1855, a son of Guy Dunlap, also a

native of Maine, where as a farmer and lumberman he spent his entire life of seventy-six years. Mrs. Jane A. (Tinkham) Dunlap, the mother of John T., was also a native of Somerset county, Me., where her entire life was spent, and where her death occurred at the comparatively early age of forty-six years.

When most other boys were enjoying a freedom from care it fell to the lot of John T. Dunlap to give a helping hand in the support of the family, and when only fourteen years old he began working on farms adjacent to the parental home. At sixteen he had his first experience at railroad work, being on the construction force, which gave him employment only during the summer months, while he found work in the straw hat manufactories at Medway and Framingham, Mass., that occupied his time during the winters. After working in the vicinity of his parents' home for about ten years he found a better opening in Milwaukee, Wis., and thither he went in the fall of 1880, taking a position in the straw hat works in that place. Hard work had impaired his health to some extent and he deemed a short respite advisable. Not content to be idle, however, he went to Kingsbury county, S. Dak., and pre-empted a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land, to which he has since added until he now has four hundred and eighty acres of land, which is constantly growing more valuable. The latter acquisition is located in Clark county and was pre-empted in the spring of 1882. He carried on general farming in that state until December, 1891, when he sold his stock and, leasing his farm, came to California in the employ of the Solano Colony, which owned a section of land five miles northeast of Hanford which had been laid out for the purpose of inducing settlers to locate there. The first attempt had not proved a success, but Mr. Dunlap gave practical assistance, planting trees and vines, and in various ways was instrumental in putting the settlers in a position to become independent of assistance. The land was divided into ten and twenty acre tracts. After two years spent in the employ of the company Mr. Dunlap opened a brick yard in Hanford and also erected a brick residence. He subsequently sold his property and invested the proceeds in town lots, which in turn were given in part payment for his present home of eighty acres planted to trees and vines, and valued at \$187.50 per acre. He has recently added to the original tract, which was forty acres, and now practically all of the land is devoted to fruits and vines.

Mr. Dunlap was married to Louise Slocum, who was born in Massachusetts, and who was taken to Milwaukee, Wis., when a very young child. She received an excellent education in the schools of that city, qualifying herself as a

teacher of German, and finally became principal of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, being connected with the institution when it was conducted as a private institution and also after it became a state institution. Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap have two children, Marjorie and Carol, both of whom are attending school. Mr. Dunlap has been a hard worker all of his life, starting out when only thirteen years old to care for himself, and his course throughout life has been one of steady purpose and determination. His success speaks for itself in the interests which have grown up around him and in the esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens. Mr. Dunlap is a director in the Baby King Oil Company, which owns wells in Fresno county, and is also a member of the Raisin Growers' Association.

---

JAMES RUTHERFORD. The twenty-acre farm of James Rutherford bears evidence of the thrift and painstaking methods of this venerable farmer of the vicinity of Fresno. Mr. Rutherford belongs to that number who have come and gone and returned to the west, impelled by the nameless charm which clings with renewed persistency when one is again subjected to the trying winters and uncertain elements of the eastern part of the country. He was born in Lincoln county, Ky., August 11, 1821, and is a son of James and Polly Anne (Huntsman) Rutherford. The former was born near Lexington, Ky., and the latter in Lincoln county, the same state. The parents moved to Howard county, Mo., when James, Jr., was a small lad, and there the mother died, leaving eight children, of whom James is the seventh and the only one living. Later the family located on a farm in Randolph county, Mo., where the father died, and whence his son and namesake removed to Pike county, Mo., July 10, 1844. Here he learned the carpenter's trade with his brother, and while thus employed became interested in the stream of emigration for the gold fields of California. Outfitting with ox teams, he went overland in the usual time, starting April 13, 1850, and arriving at Hangtown August 29, 1850. A winter spent on the American river failed to produce any of the startling evidences of wealth which Mr. Rutherford had dreamed, and the following spring he returned to Pike county by way of Central America. Here he joined his wife, whom he had married in 1848, and who was formerly Margaret A. Van Noy, a native of Pike county. She is a daughter of Dr. Nathan Van Noy, who, with his wife, came from the Carolinas to Tennessee and from there to Missouri. In the latter state, in Pike county, Dr. Van Noy practiced medicine for many years.

In 1887 Mr. Rutherford sold his farm in Pike



county, Mo., and came to Fresno, where he plied his trade in the town for some years. In 1892 he bought his present farm of twenty acres, six miles east of Fresno. It is devoted principally to horticulture, Mr. Rutherford having fifteen acres under orchard and vineyard, and the balance under general farming. Success has come to him, and he has not only made a delightful home, but has reared ten of his twelve children, giving them all a practical common school education and otherwise fitting them to fight their independent battles of life. The children were: Mary Eliza, Martha A., Sarah E. (deceased), William N., Frances L., Ellen, Julia, James L., Robert, John (deceased), Albert and Effie. Mr. Rutherford is a broad-minded and public-spirited man, popular with his neighbors and always ready to help those less fortunate than himself. He is independent in politics and a member of the Christian Church, which both himself and wife joined while living in Missouri.

---

**JUDGE FRED G. OSTRANDER.** Prominent among the attorneys of Fresno is Judge F. G. Ostrander. Prior to locating in this city, he had become well known throughout Merced county, having served as district attorney, and as judge of the superior court, positions which he filled with eminent ability. Of keen perceptive faculties, practical and logical, the finding of facts and the principles of law seldom elude his notice, and his decisions are invariably just. A native of California, he was born October 8, 1861, in Merced county, a son of H. J. Ostrander. His paternal grandfather, Peter Ostrander, came from old Knickerbocker stock, having been descended from one of three brothers named Ostrander that emigrated from Holland to America, and settled in New York in colonial times. He was a farmer by occupation and spent his entire life in the Empire state.

Born and reared in Petersboro, N. Y., H. J. Ostrander migrated to California soon after the discovery of gold was heralded through the country, coming through Mexico and Lower California, up through the San Joaquin Valley to the gold fields. After mining for awhile, he embarked in the stock business, becoming an extensive raiser of cattle and sheep. He had his headquarters in Merced county, of which he was one of the earliest and most prominent pioneers and Ostrander Lake and Ostrander Rocks, near Yosemite, were named in his honor. He has continued in business as a stock-raiser and dealer until the present time. Always ready to advance the agricultural interests of his community, he was one of the first incorporators of the Farmers' Canal Company, which was later known as the Crocker-Huffman

Canal Company, and was one of the first to fertilize his land by irrigation. He is now a hale and active man of seventy-eight years, honored and respected by all. A Republican in politics, he served as presidential elector when Rutherford B. Hayes was made president, and in 1880 was one of the Yosemite Park commissioners, being appointed by Governor Markham. Going back to New York in 1852, H. J. Ostrander married Lydia A. Wheeler, who was born in that state, and the same year returned with his bride to California, coming by the Nicaragua route. She died on the home farm in Merced county. Of the five children born of their union, three are living, namely: Willis H., a prosperous business man of Chico, Cal.; Mrs. Thomas N. Crew, also of Chico, and Fred G., the subject of this sketch. F. M. Ostrander, the oldest son, was a member of the first class graduated from the Hastings law school. He was afterwards engaged in the practice of law in Merced county until his death, and was for some time district attorney. The father is a member of the California Pioneer Association.

Until five years old, F. G. Ostrander lived in Snelling, Merced county, and the following three years lived with his parents in Santa Clara. Going thence to New York, he attended the public schools of Ithaca six years, after which he continued his studies in Berkeley, Cal., two years, and then returned to Merced county, his early home. In 1879 Mr. Ostrander entered the University of California, where he remained until his junior year, when he left school to engage in farming in Merced county, an occupation in which he was employed for three years. The next five years he was court reporter for Merced and Mariposa counties, after which he studied law with his brother, F. M. Ostrander. In 1890 Mr. Ostrander was admitted to the bar, and in 1896 was admitted to practice in the supreme court. In 1892 he was the Republican nominee for district attorney, and, being elected, served from 1893 until 1895. Re-elected to the same office, he served from 1895 until 1899, when he was re-elected for the third term. In May, 1900, however, being appointed, by application of the entire bar of Merced county, judge of the superior court of Merced county, he resigned his position as district attorney and served as judge until the next general election, in January, 1901. In July, 1901, forming a partnership with Lewis H. Smith, Judge Ostrander became junior member of the firm of Smith & Ostrander in Fresno, where he has built up a good law practice, and is numbered among the citizens of prominence and worth. He still practices in Merced county, where he has a large clientele.

In Alameda, Cal., the birthplace of the bride, Judge Ostrander married Sarah Ellery, and into

their home four children have been born, namely: Jasper, Edith, Gladys and Willis. In his political affiliations Judge Ostrander sustains the principles of the Republican party. Socially he is a member of Yosemite Parlor No. 24, N. S. G. W., of which he is an ex-president, and of the County Bar Association. Fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and to the Woodmen of the World.

CHARLES H. ADAIR, M. D. A practitioner of long experience, C. H. Adair, M. D., holds a position of prominence among the leading physicians of Fresno, where he has built up a fine practice. A son of John Adair, he was born October 7, 1848, in Logansport, Ind. His grandfather, Asbury Adair, was born and brought up in old Virginia, and was afterward a pioneer settler of three states, moving first to Kentucky, thence to Indiana, and locating in Kansas while it was yet a territory.

A native of Kentucky, John Adair moved to Indiana with his parents, and after attaining his majority followed the trade of a contractor and bridge-builder in Logansport. He died in the prime of life, in 1849, of cholera, being then fifty-two years of age. He married Margaret Stewart, who was born in Scotland, and is now living in Rochester, Ind. Three children blessed their union, namely: Frank, who served in the Civil war in the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, was wounded in battle, captured, confined in Andersonville prison until exchanged, and died soon after his release; C. H., the subject of this sketch; and Mrs. Mary Reniff, of Sublette, Ill.

After attending the public schools of Logansport, Ind., until thirteen years old, C. H. Adair worked for a time as clerk in a drug store. In 1864, running away from home, he made his way to Washington, D. C., where he enlisted as a private in Company C, Third Veteran Reserve Corps, with which he was at first stationed in Washington, and then in Johnson's Island until the close of the war, when, in July, 1865, he was mustered out of service. Returning then to Logansport, Ind., Mr. Adair attended school for awhile, after which he secured a position in the hospital department of the United States army, and for a year or more was in the employ of the Freedmen's bureau, dealing out rations, medicines, etc., to the negroes throughout the south. Resigning from the bureau in 1867, he entered the senior class of the medical department of the University of Philadelphia,

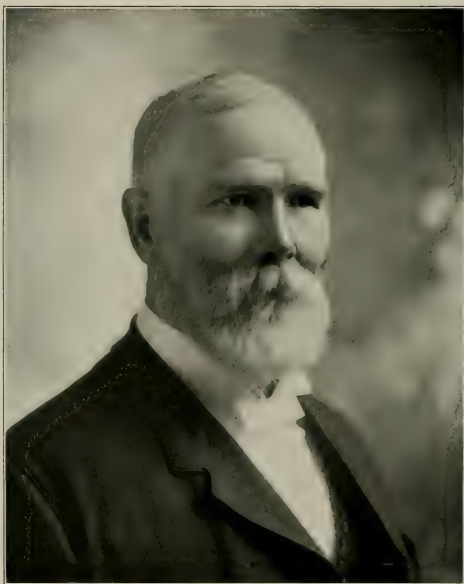
from which he was graduated in 1868 with the degree of M. D. Locating at once in Salt Lake City, Dr. Adair practiced medicine there two years. Coming to California in 1870, he continued the practice of his profession in Stockton until 1872, when he removed to Roseburg, Ore. Locating there as a physician, he was soon after appointed surgeon with the rank of major of an Oregon regiment by the governor of the state, and served until the close of the war with the Modoc Indians. Returning to California in 1874, the doctor was successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Colusa until 1887, being also pension examiner. The ensuing three years he practiced in San Francisco. Coming from there to Fresno in 1890, he has been very successful in the treatment of the many difficult cases placed in his charge, by his skill and knowledge winning the confidence of the community, and gaining a large and lucrative patronage. Dr. Adair has acquired considerable property, owning a ranch in the county, and having a fine residence on M street. For two years he served as county health officer, and for two years was city health officer.

In San Francisco, in February, 1888, Dr. Adair married Lena Cullum, a native of that city, and the daughter of one of its pioneer families. Two children have been born of their union, Charles P. and Florine. Fraternally Dr. Adair is a charter member of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. E., of which he has been treasurer since its organization; he united with Roseburg (Ore.) Lodge, F. & A. M., with Colusa Chapter, R. A. M., and with Marysville Commandery, K. T., but is not now affiliated; and was made an Odd Fellow in Oregon. Politically he is a Republican. Mrs. Adair is a member of the Catholic Church.

ENOCH BIBBY. Prominent among the active and progressive citizens of Merced county is Enoch Bibby, proprietor of a ranch on the Bibby road, in Volta, and the head carpenter for the San Joaquin & Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company. He is a man of good business capacity, great intelligence and enterprise, a superior mechanic, and a thorough-going farmer. The son of an honored pioneer of California, he was born October 13, 1860, in Solano county, near Vacaville, where his father, Nicholas Bibby, whose sketch may be found elsewhere in this work, settled soon after his marriage.

The second child in a family of eleven children, Enoch Bibby received his first knowledge of books in the district schools of Napa





*John H. Law.*

county, where his parents lived for a time, prior to removing, in 1869, to Merced county. Completing his education in the Bibby Road district school, he began the battle of life for himself as a farmer, choosing the occupation to which he had been trained from childhood. Renting five hundred acres of land in 1878, Mr. Bibby carried it on for five years, raising grain. Endowed with mechanical talent and ingenuity, he had been familiar with the use of tools from his early boyhood, working much at the carpenter's bench. Turning his attention to carpentering in 1883, he worked at the trade until 1894, meeting with great success. At that time Mr. Bibby entered the employ of the San Joaquin & Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company, beginning as a workman, and showed such ability and proficiency that at the end of his first week's labor he was advanced to the position of head carpenter, and given charge of the carpentering department. Mr. Bibby has since had charge of that department along the entire line of the canal, and has given eminent satisfaction to all concerned. Locating on his present ranch of twenty acres, on the Bibby road, in 1881, he has made many improvements on it, transforming it into a good property.

In 1881, in Merced, Cal., Mr. Bibby married Eliza Stevens, who was born in Mariposa county. Her father, C. E. Stevens, a native of Connecticut, came by way of Cape Horn to California with the gold hunters of 1849, and was first engaged in mining, and later in stock raising. He is now living retired from active pursuits in Madera county. His wife, whose maiden name was Martha Jane Loy, died in Merced in 1878. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bibby five children were born, namely: Clara; Walter, deceased; Edith, a graduate from Heald's Business College, San Francisco; Hazel, a pupil in the Los Banos high school; and Enoch Austin. Mr. Bibby is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Fraternal Aid. In religion both Mr. and Mrs. Bibby are Christian Scientists.

**JUDGE JOHN K. LAW.** As one of the leading attorneys of the state of California, no man occupies a more assured position than Judge John K. Law, whose ability and achievements have won him eminent professional success. The possessor of great legal acumen, learning and courtesy, he invariably inspires respect and esteem in those with whom he is brought in contact. In addition to attending to his extensive general law practice, he has filled various official positions in a commendable manner, and as judge of the superior court for nine years added to the

glory already reflected on the Merced county bench by his predecessors. Coming originally of French stock on the paternal side, he was born in Darlington county, S. C., which was likewise the birthplace of his father, E. A. Law. His paternal grandfather, William A. Law, was born and bred in Williamsburg county, S. C., but became an early settler of Darlington county of that state, where he owned and managed a valuable plantation. He married a Miss Du Bose, a descendant of a Huguenot family of prominence.

After his graduation from Union College, at Schenectady, N. Y., E. A. Law prepared himself for the legal profession, and was for more than four decades a practicing attorney, being senior member of the Darlington county bar at the time of his death, and one of the foremost lawyers of South Carolina. He filled many important official positions, serving as judge of the district court, as commissioner in equity for one term, and for one term was a member of the state legislature. He was a man of spotless reputation and unblemished character, and for more than thirty years was an elder in the Presbyterian Church. He married Sarah Elizabeth McIver, who was born in South Carolina, of Scotch ancestors, and there spent her entire life. Her father, Evander Roderick McIver, a planter, was major-general of the state troops of South Carolina, and married Eliza Cowan, of North Carolina, a sister of Gen. William Cowan, an officer in the war of 1812, and subsequently speaker of the North Carolina house of representatives. Of the eleven children born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Law, eight grew to years of maturity, and five are living, Judge J. K. and T. C. being residents of Merced, and the only ones in California. The oldest son, E. M. Law, served as a major-general in the Confederate army, and was several times wounded in battle. He now resides in Florida, being the founder and superintendent of the South Florida Military Institute. Another son, Junius A. Law, who died in his native state, served in the Confederate army, first as captain of a company, and afterward as colonel of the Sixty-third Alabama Regiment. Still another son, A. E. Law, enlisted as a soldier in the Confederate army, and was killed at the siege of Petersburg.

The fourth child in succession of birth of the parental household, John K. Law, was born January 19, 1841, in Darlington county, S. C., and was educated in his native state. He was a student in the South Carolina Military Academy, at Charleston, when the Civil war broke out, and with his companions built a battery on Morris Island. During the summer of 1861 he spent his vacation in Virginia, being drill master in General Beauregard's corps. Returning to

Charleston in the fall, Mr. Law resumed his studies at the academy, being frequently called out for military duty. The following vacation he again went to Virginia, where he served as aid on the staff of his brother, Gen. E. M. Law, and took part in the battle of Boonesboro, or South Mountain, and in the battle of Sharpsburg, or Antietam, in the latter engagement being wounded in the left ankle, and compelled to use crutches for eighteen months. Returning to the academy, Mr. Law was graduated there in April, 1863, and subsequently did some military service in South Carolina as captain of a mounted company, participating in repelling Potter's raid. Then entering his father's office, he studied law, and in November, 1866, was admitted to practice in the supreme court of South Carolina. The following three years, in company with his father, he practiced law, acquiring valuable professional experience.

Coming to California in 1869, Mr. Law taught a private school in Solano county, and afterward taught in the public schools of that and Mariposa counties. Locating in Merced in 1873, he resumed the practice of his profession, and also served as county superintendent of schools, being appointed to fill out an unexpired term. Being elected district attorney on the Democratic ticket in 1875, Mr. Law served until 1878, but declined a renomination, preferring to return to his general law practice. Receiving the Democratic nomination for superior judge in 1890, he was elected by a large majority, and took the oath of office in January, 1891. In 1896 Mr. Law was re-elected to the same high position over two opponents, and served as judge until April 27, 1900, when he resigned from the bench and again took up the practice of his profession. In 1902, at the state convention, he was the Democratic nominee for chief justice of the supreme court, but went down with his ticket. He was one of the organizers of the Merced Security Bank, and served as its attorney until taking his seat on the bench, and until that time was likewise attorney for the Crocker-Huffman Land & Water Company.

Judge Law married, in South Carolina, Mary L. James, the daughter of a planter, and the descendant of a family of prominence. She is of Revolutionary stock, her grandfather, Major James, fought under General Marion in the war of the Revolution, acquiring fame for having knocked down a British officer with a chair. Mr. and Mrs. Law occupy a fine residence at the corner of Canal and Twenty-third streets, where they entertain their many friends and acquaintances with true southern hospitality. Judge Law is an influential member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been an elder for more than thirty years. The Presbyterian congrega-

tion of Merced was organized in August, 1873, in Judge Law's house, and he was afterward chairman of the building committee that erected the present church edifice. He was moderator of the Stockton Presbytery one term, and also served one term as moderator of the Synod of California, and has the distinction of being the only layman that ever held that office. In politics he is a staunch Democrat.

---

JOHN W. RHOADS. The west, prolific of contrasts, of successes and failures, of adventure and monotony, of privation and plenty, presents to the student of history no greater evidence of its changefulness than the lives of those who represent the second generation from the pioneer. Especially is this the case with John W. Rhoads, capitalist, promoter and land owner of Hanford, whose career stands out in bold relief from that of his father, Daniel Rhoads, one of the best remembered and most widely respected and appreciated pioneers of 1846. The elder Rhoads gained his inspiration from mountain fastnesses, dire want, suffering and crude conditions, while his only living son has stepped into a waiting prosperity and has shown his mettle in knowing just how to apply his inherited and perfected ability to latter-day civilization.

Born in Gilroy, Santa Clara county, November 3, 1859, Mr. Rhoads followed the growing fortunes of his father for many years, having come to Kings county when an infant in arms. He attained maturity in a home atmosphere calculated to develop whatever of worth lurked in his nature, and in 1880 he had so far realized his ambitions that he established a home of his own by marrying Rosa A. Sanborn, a native of San Jose, Cal., who was reared and educated in Watsonville. Mrs. Rhoads' father, John L. Sanborn, was born in New Hampshire and became an early pioneer of California. She is the mother of two children, Ethel and Earl. Directly after his marriage Mr. Rhoads settled on a farm of his own four miles north of Lemoore, consisting of two hundred and forty acres, to the improvement of which, with the additional two hundred and forty acres deeded to him by his father, he devoted his time until removing to Hanford in 1897. He made many fine improvements on his land, spared neither time nor money in making it a valuable and productive property, a fact which affords him great satisfaction, as it does also the tenant who now occupies and manages it. Since removing to Hanford Mr. Rhoads has been unceasing in his effort to administer the estate of his father, valued at \$200,000, and at the same time has taken an active part in many avenues of activity in the city and county. He was one of the organizers



of the California Gas and Oil Company, now the California Limited, operating in the Coalinga field in Fresno county, and incorporated for \$100,000. The company owned one hundred and sixty acres of land and put down three wells, eventually selling out at a large profit. Mr. Rhoads is also interested in other oil fields and companies, and is a silent partner in many concerns of commercial and industrial importance. He possesses organizing ability of a high order, and is one of the community's most generous and progressive citizens. Extensive travel has brought him into touch with people of corresponding culture and enterprise, and his friends include persons high in business and social life. Schools and churches, charitable organizations and social enterprises profit by his geniality and his means, and his influence extends into all avenues where honesty of purpose and correctness of judgment are needed and appreciated. Fraternally he finds a home with the Masons, the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Foresters.

---

**WILLIAM JACKSON BERRY.** Noteworthy among the substantial residents of Fresno county is William Jackson Berry, one of the leading business men of Selma. He has been actively identified with the development and promotion of the oil interests of this section of the state, and it is largely owing to his energy and practical judgment that this industry has been so successfully launched and maintained. The agricultural prosperity of the locality is likewise partly due to his efforts in establishing irrigation and assisting in cutting ditches. A son of Hugh C. Berry, he was born June 14, 1840, in Washington county, Mo.

Hugh C. Berry was a man of education and culture, and a noted mathematician. During his early manhood he was a teacher in Washington county, Mo., and had among his pupils the young lady that subsequently married Mr. Aperson, and became the mother of Mrs. Phoebe Hearst. Moving to Texas after the close of the Civil war, he located on Fall river, near Granbury, and there, with his son Hugh, spent his remaining days, dying at an advanced age. He married Harriet A. Johnson, who was born in North Carolina, and moved with her parents to Washington county, Mo., when a child. She bore her husband nine sons and three daughters, of whom William Jackson was the third child.

Reared to manhood in his native state, William Jackson Berry acquired a practical common-school education. In 1861, with the bravery and ambition born of a daring spirit, he joined the party commanded by Captain Brawley, and came with ox-teams across the plains, following

the wagon trail through Utah and Nevada. Stopping at Carson City, he secured a position as driver for the remaining distance, thus paying his way along. At Sportsman's Hall he was snowed in for a while, and chopped wood for his board. After a journey of five months he arrived in California, and the two following winters was employed in mining at Nigger flat and Smith's flat, Eldorado county. In the spring of 1862 he bought four yoke of oxen, the price being \$1,034. Giving \$180 in cash, he paid the balance on the installment plan, and embarked in teaming and freighting. In 1864 he located in Mendocino county, and on the completion of the railway sold his oxen and bought a tract of land in Little Lake valley. In 1874, with two companions, he drove to the present site of the city of Selma, and helped survey this part of Fresno county. In 1875 he also surveyed Mendocino school district, which he named for the county, and there took up at first one-half section of government land, and subsequently obtained possession of a whole section of railroad land. This party of surveyors in Fresno county located a stake in Kings river, and by measuring a wagon wheel, and locating a point, drove twelve miles, not missing the line a hundred yards, the accuracy of their survey being afterward tested and proved.

When Mr. Berry settled in Fresno county he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land lying three miles east, and two miles north, of Selma, and subsequently purchased a tract equally as large adjoining his original purchase, and began his career as a general farmer. At that time, in 1875, water being very scarce, he became one of twenty-four men to contract with the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company for water rights for each individual member for cutting a ditch through the Long Cut, two and one-half miles above Centerville. When completed, the ditch was twelve hundred and forty yards long, thirteen feet deep, sixty feet on the bottom, and let water into Fancher creek channel, and from that into Lone Tree channel. In 1878 Mr. Berry helped cut the Centerville and Kingsburg canal, which still supplies that part of the county with water for irrigating purposes, and in 1883 was one of the promoters of the Fowler Switch canal.

Taking up his residence in the city of Selma in 1888, Mr. Berry built up a good business as a real estate agent, continuing it a number of years. Going with his sons to Alaska in 1898, he assisted them in locating and buying claims, being successful in his operations. On his return to Selma, in the fall of that year, he became identified with the development of the oil industry, becoming one of its organizers, and the president, of the Eldorado Oil Company, which leases four hundred and eighty acres of land

from the Kern Valley Bank, and one hundred and sixty acres to the Kern River Oil Company, and to fifteen other companies. Mr. Berry is also actively identified with the management of several other leading oil companies, being a director in Our Own Oil Company; the Berry Oil & Development Company, which owns three sections of oil land in Kern county, and in the Washington City Oil Company.

In 1863, in California, Mr. Berry married Anna Coates, a daughter of George I. Coates, who came to California in 1862, and they have six children, namely: H. F., of Alaska; Clarence J., a sketch of whose life may be found on another page of this work; Henry, of Los Angeles; Frederick, living near Selma; Cora, wife of R. J. Skilton, of Selma; and Nellie, wife of Harry Smith, of Burlingame. Politically Mr. Berry was formerly an adherent of the Democratic party, but is now a strong Republican. He is very prominent in fraternal circles, being a charter member of three lodges, namely: Vine-land Lodge, No. 66, K. P., of Fresno; Kingsburg Lodge, No. 7, K. P., which he has represented in the Grand Lodge; and Selma Lodge, No. 155, K. P. He belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. E., and also the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Elks.

---

CLARENCE W. KELLOGG, M. D. For the practice of his profession Dr. Kellogg received a thorough preparatory training. It was his good fortune to enjoy not only such advantages as are afforded by excellent medical colleges in our own country, but also to attend clinics and engage in hospital work in Europe, where he studied the methods employed by some of the ablest physicians and surgeons of the day. Since 1900 he has made his home in Kern City and has acted as surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad, besides conducting a private practice. In addition, he has an office in Bakersfield, which he attends daily.

Dr. Kellogg was born in Quincy, Plumas county, Cal., October 25, 1866, and is a son of Hon. W. W. Kellogg, a native of Massachusetts, but a resident of California ever since early manhood, and still engaged in the practice of law at Quincy. In former years he was active in politics and served both as a member of the assembly and senate. The grammar school at Quincy, Cal., afforded Dr. Kellogg his primary educational advantages. At sixteen years of age he entered Santa Clara College, where he was a student for two terms. With the intention of entering Yale College, he studied under tutors in Massachusetts and

Connecticut. However, instead of entering the university, he decided to take up the study of medicine and therefore matriculated in the Cleveland (Ohio) Homeopathic Medical College, from which he was graduated two years later.

Immediately after graduating Dr. Kellogg went abroad in order to extend his professional knowledge by study in the hospitals and universities of Europe. He matriculated in the universities of Berlin and Vienna, where he studied for two years, finding constant inspiration for his work through observation of the skillful methods employed by world-famous surgeons. On his return to the United States he entered the Cooper Medical College at San Francisco and immediately after his graduation from that institution he settled in Ventura. Two years later he removed to Lake county, where he had his office at Lakeport and Highland Springs. From there he came to Kern county in 1900 and has since practiced in Kern City and Bakersfield. For a time he was a partner of Dr. T. E. Taggart, but the latter removed from the county in May, 1903, and since then Dr. Kellogg has practiced alone. While in Germany he met and married Miss Minnie Rudolf, a native of Dresden, by whom he has one daughter, Kate Craig.

As might be expected, Dr. Kellogg is interested in the progress of associations connected with his profession, and we find him actively identified with the State Medical, San Joaquin Valley and Kern County Medical societies, also the Pacific Society of Railway Surgeons. His fraternal connections are extensive and include membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Native Sons of the Golden West, Knights of Pythias, Maccabees, Masonic fraternity and Eastern Star.

---

LEWIS HOWELL SMITH. Bringing to the practice of his profession an active brain, a well trained mind, great zeal and habits of industry, Lewis Howell Smith, although of the younger generation of lawyers, has already obtained an honored position among the leading attorneys of Fresno. A son of the late John Boyd Smith, he was born November 3, 1872, in Peoria, Ill. His grandfather, Rev. William Smith, was born in Pennsylvania of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and during the active years of his life was engaged in ministerial labors, being pastor of a Presbyterian Church.

A native of Sunbury, Pa., John Boyd Smith was reared and educated in that state. Coming to Illinois when a young man, he engaged in the banking business in Peoria, becoming one





*J. S. Cardoza*

of the founders, and the cashier, of the Mechanics' National Bank, which afterward became the Merchants' National Bank of Peoria. Removing to Fresno, Cal., with his family in 1889, he became associated with the Fresno National Bank of which he was cashier until his death in 1893, at the age of sixty-four years. For more than forty years he was employed in the banking business, and was known far and wide as an able financier. He was quite active in public affairs, and while in Peoria served as alderman. He married Lucetta Howell, who was born in Peoria, and now resides in Fresno. Her father, Lewis Howell, an early settler of Peoria, Ill., was a man of great financial ability, and for many years was president of the Peoria National Bank. Six children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Smith of whom four are living, namely: Boyd, bookkeeper for the California Products Company; Mrs. W. E. Stone of Peoria, Ill.; Lewis Howell, the subject of this sketch; and Elsa, of Fresno. One son, Archie A., deceased, was made cashier of the Fresno National Bank in 1895, and retained the position until his death in 1899.

Leaving the Peoria (Ill.) high school while a member of the senior class, Lewis Howell Smith came with the family to Fresno in 1889, and for a year or more thereafter was in the government employ as a mail carrier. In 1891 he entered the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, from which he was graduated in 1895 with the degree of bachelor of law, having the distinction of receiving the first law diploma issued by that university. The ensuing year Mr. Smith spent in the superior court, working in the chambers of Judge Carter, with whom he was afterward in partnership from 1896 until 1898, the firm name being Carter & Smith. The following three years Mr. Smith carried on his professional labors alone, but in July, 1901, became associated with Judge Ostrander, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume, and has since been at the head of the well-known firm of Smith & Ostrander, which is now located in the Forsyth building. Mr. Smith is recognized as a most skillful lawyer and has been identified with some of the most important cases tried in the city or county. In the case of the People vs. McDaniels, a copy of which is transcribed in the California Reports and in the American State Reports, he served as attorney for the defendant, and won the case in the supreme court to which it was appealed, the supreme court reversing a former decision and establishing a constitutional precedent that has since been taken up in law journals throughout the land. He and his partner are attorneys for the Fresno National Bank, in which Mr. Smith is also one of the directors.

In Georgetown, Cal., Mr. Smith married

Maude E. Shepherd, a native of that city, and a daughter of B. F. Shepherd, who came to California in 1849, was for many years a prosperous merchant of Georgetown, but is now a resident of Fresno, making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Smith. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith two children have been born, Archia A. and Marilyn Maude. Politically Mr. Smith affiliates with the Republican party. Socially he belongs to the County Bar Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the Sequoia Club, the Sigma Nu Society, at the Leland Stanford, Jr., University; and is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

J. S. CARDOZA. While every nation has its representatives in California, few citizens of Portuguese ancestry and birth are to be found within the limits of the state, and among these few doubtless none has been more successful than Mr. Cardoza, the owner of a valuable alfalfa and dairy farm situated two and one-half miles south of Newman. A record of his life shows what it is possible for a man to accomplish in this land of opportunity, even when he is hampered by poverty, inconvenienced by unfamiliarity with the language, and ignorant of the soil and conditions of the country. The place which by unaided exertions he has acquired lies in Merced county across the line from Stanislaus county and consists of one hundred and fifty acres under the canal. At the time of making his first investment here he bought eighty acres and later added to the size of his farm by purchasing an adjoining tract of seventy acres, all of which is in alfalfa. The trees on the land have been set out by him since 1888, and in 1903 he erected a neat farm house. Other buildings have been constructed from time to time, including two hay barns and a cow barn 120 x 48 feet. A pioneer in the dairy industry and an original stockholder in the New Era creamery, he has always been a believer in the possibilities of dairying, and by his early success he encouraged others to purchase dairy herds. In 1889 he started a cheese factory on his farm and until 1902 manufactured cheese for shipment to San Francisco, but in the latter year he gave up cheese-making and since then has used a separator, shipping his cream to the city markets. At this writing there are one hundred and thirty cows in his dairy and at times he milks as many as one hundred and ten, making his dairy one of the largest in the vicinity. Holsteins and Durhams are his specialties and fine specimens of each may be found in his herd. Each year he cuts about four hundred tons of alfalfa, all of which he uses on his

farm. Not only is he an active and energetic man, but capable and resourceful as well, meeting every emergency with sagacious judgment and promptness of decision.

Mr. Cardoza is a native of St. George, Azores, Portugal, and was born October 12, 1859, being second among three children, of whom his only brother, Emanuel, is a resident of Nevada county, Cal. His parents, Anton and Anna (Sylvara) Cardoza, were likewise natives of Azores, where the former in the years of active life followed farm pursuits, but is now living retired. The mother died in 1869 when her son, J. S., was only ten years of age, and after her death the latter began to be self-supporting. Though too young to be given a man's work, he helped on a farm and his hours of toil were long and monotonous, with few pleasures to give him in his manhood any joyous recollections of childhood days. Looking about him he saw little to encourage him to remain in his native land. Conditions were unpromising and difficulties discouraging. However, he had heard of America as a country where the poor might hope to attain success and though a mere lad in years he decided to sail across the ocean to the new world. When fourteen years of age, in 1873, he arrived in New York, among strangers, with little money and no friends. Fortune favored him and he secured work on a farm in Rhode Island. His wages were so scant that when he came to California one and one-half years later he had scarcely more than enough to pay his passage. During December of 1874 he started for the western coast and on New Year's day of 1875 landed at San Francisco, with only twenty-five cents in his possession. However, a willing spirit and robust constitution will bring a livelihood and such he found to be the case. Working his way to the west side of the San Joaquin valley, he secured employment on a farm. Each year he economically saved his wages, by which means he was enabled in 1881 to embark in farming for himself. The first land which he leased consisted of one thousand acres well adapted to the raising of grain, and each year he added to his leasehold until he cultivated twenty-five hundred acres of grain land. About 1885 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of the Page tract, which he put into alfalfa, but this place he sold two years later upon buying his present homestead. On the organization of the Bank of Newman he became one of its original stockholders and he still remains a director in the institution. In addition he is a stockholder of the Rochdale Company, proprietors of a grocery in Newman.

The marriage of Mr. Cardoza was solemnized at Centerville, Cal., and united him with

Miss Mary Munyan, a native of that place. During the exciting days of 1849 her father, Frank Munyan, crossed the plains from the east and experienced all the hardships incident to frontier existence and a miner's occupation; after a time he abandoned mining and turned his attention to farming in the vicinity of Centerville. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Cardoza are Charles, Lena, Geneva, Carrie and Lenas, who under the supervision of their parents are being prepared for positions of usefulness in the future. Their father, having been deprived of educational privileges in his youth, is solicitous that they may have every advantage and may enjoy in their youthful days the recreations and innocent pleasures which found no place in his boyhood years of toil. Since coming to America he has familiarized himself with national institutions, has studied the issues before our country, and in the disputed questions of tariff, currency, etc., finds himself a believer in Republican principles. His fraternal connections are varied, including membership in the Knights of Pythias and Uniform Rank, Ancient Order of United Workmen and Degree of Honor, Woodmen of the World and Women of Woodcraft, United Portuguese Union and Knights of Honor.

---

JOHN W. SCOTT. Actively identified with the horticultural and agricultural interests of Fresno county is John W. Scott, proprietor of a small but well improved ranch, which in its appointments compares favorably with any in the community. A son of Joseph Scott, he was born October 3, 1839, in Limestone county, Ala. Born and reared in Tennessee, Joseph Scott removed to Alabama when a young man and lived there until after his marriage. Subsequently removing to Mississippi, he lived first in Monroe county and later in De Soto county, where his death occurred while he was yet in the prime of manhood. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Mays, was born in Virginia and died in De Soto county, Miss. Of their eight children, John W., the subject of this sketch, was the fifth in order of birth.

Brought up principally in Mississippi, John W. Scott there acquired his rudimentary education, and later, in order to prepare for the ministry, studied for a while at Bethel College, in Carroll county, Tenn. In 1862, in Arkansas, where he had been teaching school for three months, Mr. Scott enlisted in Company A, Tenth Mississippi Volunteer Infantry, as a private, and served until the close of the war. He took part in many of the important engagements of the conflict, including the battles of Shiloh, Missionary Ridge and Chickamauga, and Cairo, where



he was captured and put on parole. He served first under General Bragg, then under Johnston, and later under General Hood. Toward the close of the war Mr. Scott was promoted from the ranks, being made chief color bearer, and in the battle of Atlanta he fell with the colors in his hands, while each of six guards surrounding him was shot down.

On returning to Mississippi Mr. Scott taught school in De Soto county for two or more years. Subsequently embarking in mercantile pursuits, he was in business at Fort Smith, Ark., until 1879, when he removed to Seattle, Wash., where he continued as a merchant for two years. Coming to California in 1881, Mr. Scott was a resident of San Francisco for four years, being at first employed as bookkeeper for the Judson Manufacturing Company of Oakland, and later for the Pacific Rolling Mills of San Francisco. Locating in Fresno in 1885, he purchased twenty acres of land, which are included in his present ranch, and has devoted his attention principally to berry raising and fruit culture, in which he has been successful.

In 1867, in De Soto county, Miss., Mr. Scott married Lida Beauchamp, who was born in Elkton, Todd county, Ky., a daughter of Milton Beauchamp. Her father, a native of Frankfort, Ky., came with the gold seekers to California in 1849, sailing around Cape Horn. Not meeting with success as a miner, he returned to Kentucky and was engaged in farming until his death near Lexington. Mr. Beauchamp married Mary Daniel, who was born near Elkton, Ky., the descendant of a family of wealth and prominence, and died in Texas. Of their nine children, Mrs. Scott was the fifth. Mr. and Mrs. Scott are the parents of seven children, namely: William Walter of Seattle, Wash., an insurance agent; Eula, wife of D. A. Stivers of San Francisco; Mary, wife of A. P. Jordan of Fresno; Wirt D., of Fresno; Lyda, wife of Harry Cornell of Watsonville; John Franklin, of San Francisco; and Gilman Winfield, living at home. Mr. Scott is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and is a member of the Christian Church of Fresno.

**HON. J. ORRA TRABER.** An able and successful attorney, and a man of prominence and influence, J. Orra Traber of Fresno is active in public affairs, and is now representing the sixtieth district in the State Legislature. A son of John W. Traber, he was born in 1872, in Mendocino county, Cal., where he spent his earliest childhood days.

A native of New York state, John W. Traber was born and educated near Albany, living there until twenty-three years of age.

Migrating to the Pacific coast in the early part of 1872, he located in Mendocino county, where he taught school two years. In 1874, with a brother and other relatives, he took up government land in Fresno county, not far from Selma, and embarked in agricultural and horticultural pursuits, engaging in general farming, stock-raising and fruit-growing, having one hundred and sixty acres of his land subject to irrigation. Forming, with twenty-three neighboring farmers, a stock company, now known as the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, he was one of the first to take water out of Kings river to irrigate the land. He continued his professional labors, however, and still teaches school during the winter terms, being one of the longest established and most respected educators of the county. He is a man of high moral principles, and a consistent member of the Methodist Church. He married Anna Kane, who was born in Vermont, a daughter of Dennis Kane. Mr. Kane, a native of Ireland, emigrated to New England when young, and settled first in Vermont. During the Civil war he was employed by the government as a railroad contractor, an occupation which he subsequently followed in Ohio and Michigan. He spent his last years in Indiana, dying in the northern part of the state. Of the union of John W. and Anna (Kane) Traber four children were born, namely: J. Orra, with whom this sketch is chiefly concerned; Charles H., a teacher of Fresno county; Roy C., of Fresno county, a farmer; and Cullen B., engaged in the oil business in Bakersfield, Cal.

Reared to manhood in Fresno county, J. Orra Traber studied under the supervision of his father until fourteen years old, when he entered the Selma high school, in which he completed the full course. Having as a boy of ten years decided to become a lawyer, he then set earnestly at work to accomplish his purpose, and having measured his ability he has since by persistent effort hewn his way straight to the goal thus early marked. Laboring at anything he could find to do for the next two years, Mr. Traber made and saved enough money to warrant him in entering the State Normal School at San Jose. After studying there two years, he obtained a teacher's certificate, and the following three years taught in the Riverside district, Fresno county, at the same time pursuing the study of law. Going to Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1895, Mr. Traber took the examinations, and entered the senior class in the law department of the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated in 1896 with the degree of LL. B. Remaining in Michigan another year,

he obtained a practical knowledge of law in an office in Sturgis, and in 1897 returned to California, locating in Fresno, where he has since built up a large and most satisfactory practice of his profession, paying especial attention to civil law. Nominated on the Republican ticket, in 1902, as a Representative to the state legislature, Mr. Traber was elected by a majority of six hundred and forty-one, and in the session of 1903 assisted in re-electing United States Senator Perkins. He has served as chairman of the committee on fruit and vines, and has championed or introduced bills of importance, including a bill to protect the abandoned oil wells put down from surface water, and a bill to compel parties abandoning oil wells to fill them up.

In Bronson, Mich., July 31, 1899, Mr. Traber married Mayme Kane, a native of that city. Mr. Traber is a member of the Fresno County Bar Association; of the Fresno Parlor, N. S. G. W.; of the Knights of Pythias, and of the Uniform Rank, K. P. In politics he is a Republican.

---

**HORACE E. BARNUM.** One of the most worthy and highly esteemed residents of Fresno is H. E. Barnum, who is now serving his third term as county auditor of Fresno county. A man of strong personality, enterprising and persevering, he has won success in his active career by sheer persistency of purpose. A son of the late Philander Barnum, he was born May 9, 1854, in Barry county, Mich., near the city of Hastings, of English-German descent. His paternal grandfather, Elijah Barnum, was born in New England, but early in life removed to Barry county, Mich., settling in the wilderness. Clearing a space in the midst of the beach and maple trees, he erected a log cabin for himself and family, and from the unbroken forest cleared and improved a homestead, on which he spent his remaining days.

Born in the pioneer log house in Barry county, Mich., Philander Barnum followed the independent occupation in which he was reared, becoming an extensive and prosperous farmer. On retiring from active pursuits, he removed to Battle Creek, Mich., where his death occurred the following year. His wife, whose maiden name was Harriet E. Bidwell, was born in Albion, Mich., of New England ancestry, and died in Hastings, Mich. Of the four daughters and one son born of their union all are living, Horace E., of this review, being the fourth child, and the only one on the Pacific coast.

Having received a practical education in the public schools of Battle Creek and Albion, Mich., H. E. Barnum came to California in search of

fortune in 1875, and spent the next three years principally in the Sacramento valley. Going then to Washington, he spent a year in that state. Returning to California, he settled in Woodland, Yolo county, where he was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. In 1885 Mr. Barnum came with T. L. Reed to the San Joaquin valley. Leasing the South Mountain tract, he broke up the land, about seven sections in all, using from eight to ten horses on a plow. He was exceedingly prosperous in his venture, raising a very large crop of grain, which he hauled sixteen miles to market, using twelve eight-mule teams, ten six-mule teams, and several four-mule teams for the purpose. Trading his interest to Mr. Reed for one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tulare county the following year, Mr. Barnum there carried on farming for twelve months. Going then to Lemoore, he was engaged in the hotel business for a year, when he was burned out. After his heavy loss by fire, he returned to Reedley, where he again engaged in the hotel business, and bought twenty acres of land for an orchard. Just after making the first payment on his land, while returning from hunting one day, the gun fell in the buggy, accidentally shooting him in the left side and through the shoulder, inflicting a fearful wound. The arm was amputated and, contrary to the expectations of the surgeon, he recovered. Nothing daunted by his misfortune, he prepared the land for irrigation, set out an orchard, made a park on the river bank, and embarked in business as a hotel-keeper.

Soon afterward Mr. Barnum was appointed constable, and served a year, and was afterward road-master for two years. Urged to become a candidate for the office of county auditor in 1894, he was nominated on the Republican ticket, and elected for a term of four years, receiving a plurality of six hundred votes. Renominated in 1898 for the same office, he was elected over the Fusion candidate by a majority of one hundred and eight votes, being one of two Republicans who were elected that year. In 1902 Mr. Barnum was re-elected as county auditor by a majority of seventeen hundred votes, leading his ticket, and receiving the largest vote in the county. On first assuming the duties of his position Mr. Barnum removed from his ranch to Fresno, where he has since resided.

In Woodland, Yolo county, in 1894, Mr. Barnum married Mary Eva Deering, who was born in Lake county, Cal., a daughter of John and Eliza Deering, pioneer settlers of Yolo county. Her father is dead, but her mother survives, and is living in Tulare county. Mr. and Mrs. Barnum are the parents of two children, namely: Ida May, and Charles T., students in the Fresno high school. Mr. Barnum belongs to





*Julian W. Hudson*

the Fresno Chamber of Commerce; and is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks; of the Knights of Pythias; of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; of the Independent Order of Foresters; and of the Woodmen of the World. In politics he is a Republican. Mrs. Barnum is a member of the Baptist Church.

**JULIAN W. HUDSON.** The lumber industry of the Pacific coast country furnishes employment for a large number of men, and has reached gigantic proportions. The Fassett Lumber Company, which carries on operations in Fresno county, although it has just completed its first year's operations in Selma, has made for itself an enviable reputation for promptness and reliability, and the volume of its business has already reached a point which places this company among the leaders of wholesale and retail lumber merchants of this vicinity. The company secured Julian W. Hudson as its manager in Selma, who opened a lumber yard and office at this city, April 27, 1903; and looks after the interests of the company. Being a man of broad experience in this line of work, Mr. Hudson is fully competent to fulfill all expectations, for his identification with the lumber development of this section of California makes him an authority on all subjects pertaining to this business.

Born February 17, 1868, in Shelby county, Mo., he is the youngest but one in a family of four children born to John L. and Sallie Crockett (Cardwell) Hudson, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, the former of Mercer county; the latter was a distant relative of the famous hunter, David Crockett. Both parents are now deceased, the mother having passed to her final rest January 17, 1900, at Fresno, Cal. She was followed to the grave by her husband November 21 of the same year.

In 1852 John L. Hudson left Kentucky for a home in Knox county, Mo., and subsequently moved into Shelby county, and for a number of years followed farm pursuits there. In 1882 he came to California and located in the vicinity of Fresno, and here also he farmed for several years, but during the latter years of his life he was a sewer contractor, doing most of the sewer-work in Fresno, having completed an extensive contract in the year 1900, a short time before his death.

Having attained the age of fourteen years when his parents moved to California, Julian W. Hudson attended school in Missouri, there completing the common school course. This was supplemented by a preparatory course in the high schools of both Fresno and Berkeley, and he afterward became a student in the State University at the latter place, but failed to complete

his college course. Not having sufficient means to carry himself through college, he stopped to earn more money, but being taken ill soon afterward, was unable to resume his studies. He first became interested in the lumber industry in 1884, accepting at that time a position as clerk for the Puget Sound Lumber Company, at Fresno. In 1893 he became manager of the San Joaquin Lumber Company, at Delano, in Kern county, and during the four and a half years that he was in the employ of this company the lumber yards changed hands three times, and July 31, 1897, Mr. Hudson was transferred to Lemoore, in Kings county, and officiated as manager there for a couple of years. Discontinuing this line of work for a time, in 1900 he engaged in the fruit business for one season on his own account, packing raisins, etc., but in 1901 he returned to Fresno, having been selected foreman for the Fresno Flume & Irrigation Company, which position he filled in an able manner until April, 1903, resigning at that time to again enter the lumber industry as manager of the Fassett Lumber Company, at Selma, an office he still holds.

Mr. Hudson's lumber and timber business in no way covers the range of his business activities. He finds time to serve as notary public, as secretary and manager of the Hudson-Jackson Stove Company, and of the California Patent & Manufacturing Company; he is pre-eminently a promoter of Fresno county industries. Fraternally he is associated with Delano Lodge No. 309, F. & A. M., of Delano; Camp No. 265, W. O. W., of Selma; Court Selma No. 4215, I. O. F., of Selma, and is also a member of Selma Tent No. 67, K. O. T. M., of which he is Sir Knight Commander. In his religious views, Mr. Hudson is one of the most active members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which he is ruling elder, and his political preference is given to the Prohibition party. He was united in marriage in Delano, Cal., January 17, 1894, with Genevieve N. Ward, a lady born in Kansas, and four children bless their union, namely: Lew Ward, Julian Wiley, Merle and Frances Bernice.

**DENWOOD N. L. NEWBURY, M. D.** Talented, skillful, and well acquainted with the most modern methods used in the treatment of diseases, Denwood N. L. Newbury, M. D., of Bakersfield, has won an assured position among the leading physicians and surgeons of Kern county. Although a general practitioner, he makes a specialty of surgery, and is considered an authority on women's diseases, which he treats with great success. A son of Edward S. E. Newbury, he was born December 24, 1867, in Lambertville, Hunter-

don county, N. J. He is descended from a southern family of prominence, his grandfather, Joseph D. Newbury, a large plantation owner, and a man of influence, having been a life-long resident of North Carolina. He and one of his sons served in the Confederate army during the Civil war.

Born and reared on the North Carolina plantation, Edward S. E. Newbury ran away from home when young, and as captain of a company in the Twenty-second New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, was one of the bravest soldiers in the Union army. He served throughout the war, taking part in many important engagements, and was thirteen times wounded, once through the breast. He subsequently became a contractor and bridge-builder, and now, at the age of sixty-eight years, is living retired from active pursuits. He married Margaret L. Sprout, who was born in New York state, but reared in Lambertville, N. J., where her father was a large manufacturer. She died December 15, 1899, in her fifty-sixth year.

After acquiring a practical education in the public schools of Elizabeth, N. J., Denwood N. L. Newbury went to New York City, and for seven years was employed as a roadman in a wholesale millinery store. At the age of twenty-four years he entered the medical department of Columbia University in that city, and took a full course of three years. Passing the required examinations most creditably, he was for the next two years an interne in the St. Francis Hospital, and afterward visiting surgeon to the same. Subsequently Dr. Newbury was appointed one of the faculty of the Post Graduate College, being the youngest man ever thus honored, and for some time held the chair of women's diseases. During the time the doctor had a large private practice, his office being located at the corner of Sixty-fourth street and the boulevard. Leaving New York City in 1901, he came to California, and at once settled in Bakersfield, where he has established a good practice.

On September 21, 1898, in New York City, Dr. Newbury married Susan Chatfield, a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and they have one son, Denwood Wallace Newbury, born December 11, 1900. The doctor is liberal in his political views. Fraternally he belongs to the Masons, the Foresters and to the Eagles.

**LUTHER BATTEN.** Noteworthy among the prosperous agriculturists and horticulturists of Merced county is Luther Batten, who is pleasantly located on a well-improved ranch in Dos Palos colony. Becoming familiar with the the-

ory and practice of agriculture when young, he has followed this branch of industry most successfully throughout his career. Intelligent, enterprising and public-spirited, he takes pleasure in identifying himself with the best interests of the place in which he resides, and is eminently deserving of the high regard in which he is held as a man and a citizen. Coming from a long line of New England ancestors, he was born August 28, 1848, in Wisconsin, on the Eau Claire river, a son of John Batten, Jr. His grandfather, John Batten, Sr., a native of Massachusetts, moved to Vermont when young, and there spent the remainder of his long and busy life, dying at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Banfield, spent her sixty years of life in the Green Mountain state.

A native of Orange county, Vt., John Batten, Jr., was born September 8, 1805. After serving an apprenticeship of seven years with Ebenezer Crone of Springfield, a carriage-maker and wheelwright, he followed his trade in different parts of the country, finally going to Maryland, where he was connected with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad as an employe for a while. He subsequently assisted in building a canal along the Potomac river, working until it was completed as far as Hagerstown. Locating then in Pennsylvania, he was engaged in transporting coal from Mauch Chunk to Philadelphia by canal boat. Resuming his trade, he was afterwards employed in New York City and Buffalo, from the latter city going to London, Canada, thence to Port Kent, where he embarked in the lumber business. Removing from there to Michigan, he settled near the present site of what is now the flourishing city of Monroe, but what was then but a straggling hamlet. In 1839, three years after his marriage, he removed to Galena, Ill., from there going, in the course of a year or two, to Grand Rapids, Wis., where as a pioneer lumber manufacturer and dealer he had the distinction of operating the first sawmill. He afterwards resided at Stevens Point, Wis., until 1870, when he went to Gar creek, Lincoln county, Neb., where he took up a tract of wild prairie land, from which he improved a good farm. Selling out in 1879, he purchased land at Oak Precinct, Lancaster county, where he resided until his death in 1891, at a venerable age. He was a man of much force of character, upright and honest, and an active Republican in politics.

In 1836, in Monroe, Mich., John Batten, Jr., married Sophia Allen, who was born in New York state and died in Wisconsin, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. She was a daughter of Samuel Allen and a cousin of Col. Ethan Allen of Revolutionary fame. She bore



her husband seven children, one of whom, Hannah, born in Galena, Ill., died in early childhood. The other six grew to years of maturity, namely: Mrs. Mary Chapin, who died in 1903 in Nebraska; William, residing in Wisconsin; Clarissa, who died in Wisconsin; Luther, the subject of this sketch; John, of Waupaca; and Mrs. Adaline Dunbar of Wisconsin.

Receiving his early education in the public schools of Wisconsin, Luther Batten removed with the family to Nebraska in 1870, and two years later, in 1872, homesteaded eighty acres of land on Gar creek. Subsequently selling out in that vicinity, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land at Oak Precinct, Lancaster county, where he settled with his family. He afterwards added to his landed possessions by purchase, becoming owner of two hundred and ninety acres, which he broke and improved, making it one of the richest and most productive farming estates in Lancaster county. He erected a substantial set of farm buildings, costing about \$5,000, and carried on general farming and stock-raising with great success for many years. He also owned and operated a threshing machine for twenty-four years, at first using horsepower, but later having a steam thresher with all the modern appliances. As a farmer and a citizen he was very prominent and popular in the community and wielded a wide influence. He still owns this farm, which lies about eight miles northwest of Lincoln, Neb., but rents it. Coming with his family to California in 1894, Mr. Batten bought twenty acres of land in Dos Palos colony, and soon started an orchard. In April, 1895, he set out a variety of trees, planting three acres that spring, and has since greatly enlarged his operations, having now a fine orchard of eighteen acres, in which he raises a choice variety of apples, pears, peaches, walnuts, apricots, figs, etc., on one acre having thirty different kinds of trees. He has other land in his ranch, owning sixty acres in all. He raises alfalfa in large quantities, and also has a fine dairy, keeping about thirty head of cows. Mr. Batten is likewise interested financially in the local telephone company, and in the development of the G. A. R. park of ten acres, of which he is manager.

April 19, 1874, in Lancaster county, Neb., Mr. Batten married Helen Hermance, who was born in Scio, Allegany county, N. Y., a daughter of J. L. Hermance. Her grandfather, John S. Hermance, born in 1806, died in Cuba, N. Y., in 1885. He married Marion Bristol, who was born in Columbia county, N. Y., a daughter of Rev. John Bristol, a Baptist clergyman. J. L. Hermance was born in 1832 in Rensselaer county, N. Y., and as a young man was engaged in agricultural pursuits. May 9, 1861, he enlisted

in Company C, Sixty-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry, and was on detached duty at the Douglas Hospital, Washington, until July, 1862, when, on account of ill health, he was honorably discharged. Recovering his normal physical vigor, Mr. Hermance re-enlisted, joining Company A, One Hundred and Eighty-eighth New York Volunteer Infantry, in which he served as color-bearer until the close of the war. In that capacity he was present at the surrender of General Lee, being color-bearer for the Fifth Army Corps. After the grand review at Washington he was mustered out of service and returned home. Removing with his family to Nebraska in 1872, Mr. Hermance took up a homestead claim nine miles north of Lincoln, and there improved a farm. He was shortly afterward appointed superintendent of the poor farm in that county, and served for six years. He subsequently bought one hundred and sixty acres within five miles of Lincoln, and there set out an orchard and made improvements of an excellent character, and is also possessor of various tracts of land in Lancaster county, having accumulated large wealth. He makes his home in Raymond, Neb., where he is held in high respect. He is a Republican in politics, a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is prominently identified with the Grand Army of the Republic. March 28, 1852, he married Esther Hawkins, a native of Cattaraugus county, N. Y., and of the children born of their union two are living, namely: Ernest Hermance of Raymond, Neb.; and Helen, now Mrs. Batten. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Batten has been blessed by the birth of eight children, five of whom grew to years of maturity. Ernest LeRoy died in 1890, in Dos Palos; Carrie Addie died in 1901; Winnie died in 1903; Elmer and Fay are living at home. Politically Mr. Batten is a true-blue Republican, sustaining the principles of his party by voice and vote. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees. Mrs. Batten is a member of the Ladies of the Maccabees and of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

GEORGE F. DREW. A well-known and respected citizen of Selma, and a progressive and prosperous farmer, George F. Drew is intimately associated with the advancement of the leading interests of this part of Fresno county. He stands high in the community as a man of ability and enterprise, who by persevering industry and thrift has won deserved success in his business career. He was born June 23, 1853, in Somerset county, Me., where his parents, Timothy and Abby (Taylor) Drew, passed their entire life. He was one

of a family of fourteen children, ten of whom were boys, being the seventh child in order of birth.

Reared on the parental farm, George F. Drew attended the short terms of the district school as a boy, and under his father's instructions became somewhat proficient in the science of agriculture as carried on in those days on the Atlantic coast. Coming to California with a view of bettering his financial condition in 1873, he was employed in a sawmill in Santa Cruz county, near Watsonville, for three years. Settling in Sutter county in 1876, he rented a tract of land, and for five years was employed in grain-raising. In 1881 Mr. Drew came to Fresno county in search of a favorable location, and being pleased with the richness and fertility of the soil subject to irrigation from the Centerville and Kingsburg canal, purchased a ranch of forty acres, situated a mile and a half north of East Selma. Embarking in business as a horticulturist as well as agriculturist, Mr. Drew planted a vineyard of twenty-three acres, being one of the first to set out any special variety of vines, and set out an orchard of four acres, devoting the remainder of his ranch to the raising of alfalfa. In the care of his vines and trees he has been very successful, both vineyard and orchard being productive and remunerative. In 1887 Mr. Drew went with a party of one hundred men to Cook's Inlet, Alaska, and while there took up three claims, which proved valueless. He was not disappointed, however, as the trip was more one of pleasure than profit. He has mining interests in Fresno county, being sole owner of the Pajaro claim, near Trimmer Springs, where he is developing a gold quartz mine.

In Sutter county, Cal., Mr. Drew married Mrs. Lizzie (Young) Duley, a native of Wisconsin, where her birth occurred in 1851. Her father, the late Samuel Young, crossed the plains with his family in 1852, and settled in Butte county, Cal., where he was engaged in mining until his death. Politically Mr. Drew affiliates with the Republican party. Fraternally he belongs to Selma Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M.; to Fresno Lodge No. 339, B. P. O. E.; and to Selma Circle, W. of W.

**LEMUEL F. CASTLE.** One of the best-known and most prosperous stockmen of central California is Lemuel F. Castle, who owns and occupies an improved ranch in the Dos Palos colony. As a cattle breeder and dealer he has met with success, his judgment and business management being wise and his methods practical, systematic and progressive. During the

time that he has resided in this section of Mercer county the people have learned to look upon him as a man fully worthy of their confidence and as one who contributes materially to the agricultural and business prosperity of the community. His birth occurred November 14, 1858, at Forest Home, Amador county, Cal. He comes of substantial pioneer stock, his father, Welman D. Castle, and his grandfather, Isaac Castle, having both been among the early settlers of the state. The latter, who was a farmer and orchardist, died in San Jose.

Born in New York state, W. D. Castle lived there until after attaining his majority. In 1849, accompanied by his brother-in-law, Mr. Green, he started across the plains for California, coming the first part of the way by ox teams and the last part by pack horses. Like the greater part of those that came here in that year he was first engaged in mining, but in his search for gold was disappointed, and in 1851 he changed his occupation. Going to Santa Ynez, he bought a herd of cattle, which he drove to Sacramento, where he sold them at a good price. Succeeding so well in this business, he continued to buy and sell cattle and sheep for several years. Subsequently locating at Forest Home, Amador county, he erected a stone house on the old stage road and engaged in the hotel business, becoming proprietor of the Forest house, which is still standing, being one of the early landmarks of that locality. He continued as mine host until the construction of the railroad, when, in 1869, he removed to Milpitas, Santa Clara county, where he was engaged in the butcher business until his retirement from active pursuits. He still resides there, a venerable and respected man of four-score years. In Cornua, Mich., he married Frances Farey, who was born in New York state of New England ancestry, and died in 1861 at Forest Home, Amador county. He subsequently married again. By both unions he became the father of nine children, five of whom are living, Lemuel F. being the youngest child of his first wife.

Removing with the family to Milpitas in 1869, Lemuel F. Castle there continued his studies for a while in the public schools, completing his early education in the San Jose Business College. Entering then the employ of his father, he went to eastern Oregon to buy cattle, which he drove from Crook county to San Jose and Marysville, Cal., making a number of trips each year. On starting in life on his own account, Mr. Castle located in Crook county, Ore., thirty-five miles east of Prineville, where he was successfully engaged in the cattle business for twelve years. At the same time, with his father and brother, Isaac N., he had a large cattle ranch at Hollister, Cal. In 1899, the partner-





*Geo. H. Whitworth*

ship being dissolved, Mr. Castle drove his fine herd of cattle to Dos Palos, and, having purchased the Davis ranch on Center avenue, has continued in the stock business, buying and selling on a large scale. His home ranch contains fifty-five acres of land, nearly all of which he has planted to alfalfa, a sure and profitable crop. Mr. Castle also owns a cattle ranch of three hundred and twenty acres at Panoche, San Benito county, where he keeps much valuable stock, in addition to his own range leasing one thousand acres of land. His business is extensive and lucrative, his annual income being large.

In Saratoga, Santa Clara county, Mr. Castle married Kate Hartman, who was born and reared in San Jose. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and fraternally belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

---

GEORGE HENRY WHITWORTH. In a meritorious service as member of the board of supervisors of Merced county, Mr. Whitworth has given proof of the fact that the material interests of a county may be trusted to its agriculturists. On the occasion of his first election to represent the Fourth district upon the county board he received a fair majority, and took the oath of office January 1, 1901. At the expiration of four years he was again a candidate subject to the decision of Democratic voters at the primaries August 6, 1904, and at the county convention a week later. During his administration as supervisor a number of improvements have been voted upon and adopted by the board. Probably the most important of these was the passing of the bill which authorized the erection of a county hospital, erected at a cost of \$60,000. Another important measure was the building of the jail, which cost \$30,000. The courthouse was also remodeled and other improvements adopted. Another improvement was a draw bridge over the San Joaquin river, near Dos Palos. With A. E. Clary, of the Fifth district of Stanislaus county, he became an original promoter of the measure for the building of a steel bridge across the San Joaquin river, and it was a source of gratification to him that the two counties finally erected the much-needed structure across the river.

Mr. Whitworth is of English ancestry, a son of Henry Whitworth, a native of Lincolnshire, England, who came to America in 1848 and landed in New York. From there he went to Chicago, then an insignificant village. In 1849 he went to St. Louis, and with a company of fifty people made up ox and mule teams and started across the plains. Molested by Indians and traveling through New Mexico and Arizona

and up the coast to San Jose Mission, they crossed Pacheco Pass to Hill's Ferry, where they ferried the wagons and swam the stock across the river. They then went to the southern mines in Mariposa county, and from there went to Tuolumne county, where some of the party became prosperous. Henry Whitworth mined and teamed in Tuolumne county, where he was married to Ann Hall, a native of Lincolnshire, England, who came to America and California by way of Panama. In 1863 the family moved to Contra Costa county, where they farmed until 1868. That year the father came to Cottonwood district on the Quinto creek, where he pre-empted and later homesteaded, and finally bought more land till eventually he had nine hundred and twenty acres in one body, and eighty acres under the canal, adjoining his son George Henry's farm. He was an honored settler, interested in good schools, good roads, and good government. He was honored and respected by all who knew him and died on his home farm February 15, 1897, aged nearly seventy-three years. His wife died in March, 1877, aged forty-six years. She was the mother of three children: George Henry, John William, and Mary J., who married Robert Butts.

George Henry Whitworth is a Californian by birth as well as by patriotic spirit and loyal devotion to the state's progress. He was born at Dutch Bar, Tuolumne county, March 10, 1856, and passed his early childhood years in the county where he was born. During 1869 he came to the Cottonwood district, where he attended district school and aided his father on the home farm. At the age of twenty-one years, in 1877, he embarked in farming for himself, his first venture being as a renter of grain land. About 1880 he bought a farm in the Cottonwood district. Two years later he bought one hundred and twenty acres on the upper county road. This he put under ditch, suitable for the cultivation of alfalfa, which is his main crop. On his place there are one hundred and fifty head of cattle, of which sixty-five head are milch cows, and since 1896 he has made a specialty of the milk business, his dairy farm three miles south of Newman in Merced county being one of the best in the locality. Besides his home place he owns four hundred and sixty acres on Quinto creek, which is rented to tenants and utilized for the raising of grain. On the organization of the New Era Creamery he became one of its first stockholders, and afterward was chosen a member of its board of directors. He is still a stockholder in this laudable enterprise, which contributed so much to the county's prosperity.

In Santa Cruz, this state, occurred the marriage of Mr. Whitworth to Miss Agnes Ma-

honey, a native of San Francisco, and a daughter of John Mahoney, who was born in New York and became an influential business man in California. Mrs. Whitworth died November 28, 1903, leaving two sons, John Henry and George Hall. Another child, Carol, died at the age of six months. Fraternally Mr. Whitworth is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Degree of Honor, also the Woodmen of the World, and his wife was identified with the Women of Woodcraft. The Democratic party has received his staunch support. In many ways he has promoted its progress in the locality where he resides. Since 1903 he has served as a member of the county central committee, and his election to the board of supervisors was upon the Democratic ticket, and November 8, 1904, he was re-elected to the office of county supervisor, having no opposition.

---

WILLIAM T. MAUPIN, M. D. Very early in the history of colonial Virginia members of the Maupin family went there from France and assisted in the development of the new country, being especially prominent in their home county of Albemarle. From that state Cornelius Maupin removed with his family to Kentucky and settled on a wild tract of land in Fayette county, later going to Missouri, where his last days were spent. His son, William Maupin, although a native of Virginia, spent his childhood days in Kentucky and as early as 1816 became one of the first settlers in Boone county, Mo., whither he journeyed by wagon. He settled in Columbia and built one of the first houses erected in that now populous university town. For more than sixty years he made his home on a farm six miles from Columbia, and there his death occurred at seventy-seven years of age. A man of public spirit and a firm believer in the benefits to be derived from a good education, he was a patron and friend of the institutions that were established in his home town for the education of the young.

By his first marriage William Maupin had three children, only one of whom survives, Mrs. Cockrell, of Great Falls, Mont. His second wife, Isabelle Lemon, was born in Georgetown, Ky., and died in Columbia, Mo., at seventy-seven years of age. Six children were born of that union, four of whom are living, Dr. W. T. Maupin, of Fresno, being next to the youngest. Another son, Judge R. L. Maupin, of Mobile, Ala., served as aide-de-camp to Gen. Frank Cockrell throughout the Civil war and was wounded at Atlanta. Dr. Maupin's maternal grandfather, Robert Lemon,

was a native of Scotland and came to America prior to the Revolutionary war. In that historic struggle he bore an honorable part and in an engagement with the British received a sabre cut across the head. For years he had a farm in Kentucky, but became a pioneer of Boone county, Mo., and engaged in farm pursuits there. His life was spared to the great age of ninety-seven years.

On the homestead near Columbia, Mo., Dr. W. T. Maupin was born April 17, 1839. As a boy he was a pupil in the Columbia public schools and later studied in the William Jewell College, a Baptist institution at Liberty, Mo., where he completed the studies of the junior year. Under Dr. A. P. Spence, of Columbia, he took up the study of medicine. At the first call of Governor Jackson for troops, in 1861, he enlisted at Jefferson City under Colonel Singleton, and later was transferred to General Price's command. On retiring from the army in 1862 he resumed the study of medicine, taking a course of lectures in the St. Louis Medical College, and in 1864 graduating from the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia. Returning to Columbia, he opened an office for the practice of medicine and surgery and continued in the same city as a practitioner for twenty-three years. Meanwhile for years he was a member of the board of curators of Stevens College.

On his arrival in Fresno in 1887, Dr. Maupin found a city of scarcely four thousand inhabitants, yet bearing then, as it does now, the appearance of thrift, prosperity and enterprise. His ability was given ready recognition and he has held a rank among the leading physicians and influential men of the city. While acting as health officer he took advantage of the sanitary law of California and filled up the old mill ditch running through the town where Fresno street now is. His course aroused many protests and much opposition, but those who recognize the fact that the street is now one of the best in the city, concur as to the wisdom of his action. At one time he was honored with the office of vice-president of the State Medical Society, and for several terms he was president of the Fresno County Medical Society. On the organization of the San Joaquin District Medical Society he became one of its charter members and continues his association with it to the present.

In Columbia, Mo., Dr. Maupin married Miss Mary A. Mathews, who was born and reared in that city and graduated from Christian College with the degree of A. B. Her father, James Lawrence Mathews, went to Missouri from Virginia and became a pioneer business man of Columbia, where he died at the age of



sixty-seven years. In the family of Dr. and Mrs. Maupin there are four children, namely: Lulu B., wife of H. U. Maxfield, a business man of Oakland; J. Lawrence, a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in St. Louis, later doing post-graduate work in New York City, and now a physician and surgeon in Fresno; Bettie B., at home; and Mary W., wife of A. O. Warner, a jeweler in Fresno.

In religious belief Dr. Maupin is a Baptist. He was made a Mason in Columbia Lodge No. 114, at Columbia, Mo., in 1865, and is now a member of the lodge in Fresno. His Chapter membership has also been transferred from Columbia to Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M., at Fresno. The Knight Templar degree was conferred upon him in Columbia and he is now connected with Fresno Commandery No. 29, besides which he is identified with Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco. In politics he has always been a pronounced Democrat. As chairman of the county central committee and a member of the state central committee, he has rendered his party effective service. While living in Missouri, in 1880, he was a delegate to the national convention at St. Louis, which nominated Hancock for the presidency. An active friend of the public school system, he is a member of the Fresno Board of Education and, as a member of its building committee, took a leading part in 1903 in the erection of three school houses costing altogether more than \$80,000. He is past commander of the Price Camp, Confederate Veterans' Association of Fresno. Since 1889 he has held the position of surgeon for the San Joaquin division of the Southern Pacific Railroad and, in connection therewith, is identified with the Association of Railway Surgeons of the Pacific Coast.

CHARLES D. SMITH, whose fortunes have been more or less intimately identified with the state of California since the fall of 1859, is now living in retirement in Fresno, enjoying the fruits of his early industry and toil. His life has been a varied and eventful one, and its record is entitled to a place in the history of California. He was born in Oakland county, Mich.; August 21, 1839, a son of Addison and Caroline B. (Teeple) Smith. Both his parents were natives of New York, his father having been born in Onondaga county February 8, 1812, and his mother in Chautauqua county December 18, 1824. His father followed the occupation of carpenter, removing to Michigan in young manhood. After the death of his wife, which occurred January 7, 1857, he left Michigan for a home in Illinois,

and the following year located near Galesburg. About a year after settling in Galesburg he again married, and soon afterward, in 1861, enlisted as a private in Company A, Sixty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. His service in behalf of the Union covered a period of nearly three years, his death occurring at Camp Nelson February 22, 1864.

Charles D. Smith received his education in the common schools of Michigan. After the completion of his studies he assisted his father in carpenter work until he was twenty years of age. In the spring of 1859 he joined a party bound for Pike's Peak, where it was widely reported gold had been discovered, but on arriving in that region they found that the reports regarding the existence of the precious metal there had been grossly exaggerated, and that time spent there would be wasted. He accordingly decided to push on to California with the other members of his party, which they accordingly did, arriving in Placerville September 7, 1859. The gold fever still surging through his veins, he continued prospecting and mining in the vicinity of Placerville for a short time, when, concluding that other occupations would be rewarded with more substantial returns, he abandoned his search for gold. Securing a position on the toll road between Lincoln and Bear River, in Placer county, he was thus employed for about five years. Upon the expiration of that time he returned to his old home in Michigan, and engaged in farming in the vicinity of Flint. In connection with farming he conducted a general store in Flint for about two years, with fair success. He continued to reside in Genesee county, Mich., until 1889, when he disposed of his business interests there and came once more to California, locating at once in Fresno county. Purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land, located five miles west of Fresno, on the Whitesbridge road, he planted a vineyard and began the general improvement of the property. Subsequently he sold off eighty acres in twenty-acre tracts, and upon the balance engaged in the culture of the raisin grape until 1902. In that year he purchased a comfortable residence in Fresno, where he has since resided.

Mr. Smith affiliates with the Republican party. During his residence in Michigan he participated actively in municipal affairs, serving for six years as a member of the city council of Flint, but since settling in California he has left the conduct of public affairs to others. December 24, 1865, in Genesee county, Mich., he was united in marriage with Ellen Hodge, who was born in Clarendon, Ohio, March 4, 1845, a daughter of Chauncey and Fanny

(Parks) Hodge, the former a native of New York. After marriage her parents removed from Ohio to Michigan, when Mrs. Smith was a child, locating for a time in Tipton, but afterward moving to Genesee county. Her father was a carpenter by trade, but also engaged in farming in connection with work at the former calling. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been the parents of two sons, namely: Edwin A., who resides in Concord, Contra Costa county, Cal.; and William T., whose death occurred in 1900.

Mr. Smith is highly regarded by those who have been favored with his acquaintance. He takes a liberal view of public affairs, and may be depended upon to extend his assistance and co-operation toward the success of projects looking toward the advancement of the community.

#### REUBEN HENDERSON BRAMLET.

Closely associated with the advancement of the agricultural prosperity of Fresno county is Reuben Henderson Bramlet, who owns and occupies a choice and well-improved ranch, which is pleasantly located about five miles northeast of Selma. Well educated, talented and of undoubted business capacity, he has attained a place of influence in the community, and has established himself in the confidence of his friends and fellow-citizens, who hold him in high regard and favor. A son of Coleman Bramlet, he was born February 7, 1842, in Saline county, Ill.; he comes of patriotic stock, Reuben Bramlet, his paternal grandfather, having been a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and also in the war of 1812, taking part in the battle of New Orleans. After the Revolution he removed from Virginia, his native state, to South Carolina, thence to Princeton, Ky. In 1818, becoming a pioneer settler of Saline county, Ill., he bought wild land, and was there employed in tilling the soil until his death.

A native of Princeton, Ky., Coleman Bramlet lived there until sixteen years old, when, in 1818, he moved with his parents to Illinois. Selecting farming as his life occupation he took up land in Saline county, and was there successfully employed in the pursuit of agriculture until his death, February 28, 1889, at the venerable age of eighty-seven years and thirteen days. His wife, to whom he was married in 1823, bore the maiden name of Susan Upchurch. She was born in Tennessee, and died in October, 1889, on the home farm in Illinois. Of the ten sons and two daughters born of their union, Reuben H., the subject of this sketch, was the tenth child.

After coming to California from his Illinois

home, in 1867, Reuben Henderson Bramlet completed his education at the University of the Pacific, taking a special course of three years, partly paying his expenses by working during the vacations in Santa Clara. Removing to what is now Madera county in 1870, he taught school in Fresno flats for four years, being among the first teachers in Fresno county. The following two years Mr. Bramlet was county superintendent of the Fresno county schools, and served the following five years as county auditor and county superintendent. In 1883 he was again elected county auditor, and served ten years. Buying one hundred and forty acres of land in Fresno county, near Sanger, in 1893, he was there engaged in general ranching for a number of years. Selling out in December, 1902, Mr. Bramlet bought his present farm, lying five miles northeast of Selma, and is managing the eighty acres included in the purchase with success, raising fruit, vines and alfalfa.

At Kingriver, Fresno county, Mr. Bramlet married Euphemia Ellen Wren, who was born in Adams county, Ill., and came across the plains to California with her parents in 1863. Her father, John Wren, a native of Adams county, Ill., came first to California in 1849, and was for awhile engaged in mining, but was not very successful. Returning to Illinois, he remained there until 1863, when he brought his family to the coast, locating in Fresno, Cal., where he carried on a substantial business until his death. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bramlet four children were born, namely: John C., who died at the age of two years; Eva, wife of C. M. Mannon, of Ukiah, Cal.; Dora; and Ellen, who died at the age of seven years. Politically Mr. Bramlet endorses the principles of the Democratic party, and religiously he is a member of the Baptist Church.

TRUMAN GEORGE HART. Prominent among the younger generation of business men of Fresno county is Truman G. Hart, of Fresno, a man well known throughout the San Joaquin valley, and everywhere respected. He is an excellent representative of the native-born sons of California, and in his every-day life exemplifies in a marked degree the influences of heredity, environments and training upon the mind. A son of Judge Charles A. and Ann (Brennan) (McKenzie) Hart, he was born April 9, 1866, in Millerton, Fresno county. For further ancestral history see the sketch of Judge Charles A. Hart, which may be found on another page of this volume.

Having obtained the rudiments of his edu-





*Fred Bartch*



*Statie Barch*





cation in the public schools of Millerton and Fresno, Truman G. Hart in 1882 entered St. Augustine's College, in Benicia, whence he was graduated in 1886. Locating then in Fresno, he became identified with the Fresno County Abstract Company, which he served as its business manager for a number of years. In 1894 he was elected county clerk of Fresno county on the Republican ticket, receiving the large majority of seven hundred votes. Taking the oath of office in January, 1895, Mr. Hart served most faithfully for four years, at the end of his term declining a renomination for the office. Becoming a pioneer in the oil industry, he was one of the organizers, and a director of the Producers' & Consumers' Oil Company, which put down wells on sections 20, township 19, range 15, and succeeded in finding a good flow of oil. Subsequently disposing of his stock in that company, Mr. Hart assisted in organizing the Oil City Petroleum Company, of which he is president. This company has a tract of three hundred and twenty acres, lying in section 28, township 19, range 15, on which are eleven finely producing wells, all of good capacity. He was also one of the organizers, and is president, of the Twenty-eight Oil Company, which owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 28, and has eleven wells in operation, each one having a capacity of four hundred barrels of oil per day. Mr. Hart is also identified with other financial enterprises, holding an interest in mining property in Madera county, and being president, and one of the incorporators, of the Fresno Realty & Agency Company, which lays out and builds up additions to the city, and handles real estate of all kinds. In advancing and promoting the interests of the numerous companies with which he is officially associated, Mr. Hart is the leading spirit, his business ability and judgment being unquestioned.

In Fresno, September 29, 1892, Mr. Hart married Augusta A. Trowbridge, who was born and reared in Illinois. Politically Mr. Hart is a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and socially he is a charter member of the Sequoia Club. In his religious belief he is an Episcopalian.

**FRED BARTCH.** With the energy and resource characteristic of the race from which he springs, Fred Bartch has hewn his way to a prominent place in the affairs of Stanislaus county, eliciting approval as manager of twenty-seven hundred acres of the Patterson ranch, as one of the most extensive land owners and grain growers in the county, as the chief stock holder and manager of the Rising Sun Warehouse Com-

pany, one of the largest purchasers and shippers of wheat in this section, and as a director in the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Modesto. Externally he is identified with the Masons, holding membership in Blue Lodge No. 236, of Newman, Chapter No. 49, of Modesto, Commandery No. 8, of Stockton, and with the Knights Templar. He is a Republican who has rendered useful and intelligent service to his party, both as an office holder and as representative of his district to state and county conventions.

For generations Mr. Bartch's ancestors were known as agriculturists and trades-people in the grand duchy of Baden, southern Germany, where he was born November 26, 1844, and which was the birthplace also of his parents, George John and Catherine S. (Faulholzer) Bartch. When he was eight years old, in 1852, his parents brought their then small family to the United States, locating in New York state, where they lived on a farm and prospered for many years. In all, eleven children were born to them, five of whom are living, Fred being the third. In his search for a betterment of his prospects the father decided upon California as his future home, and after coming here with several of the children in 1884, engaged in farming near Santa Rosa until 1892. In the meantime his wife died, and in 1892 he removed to Tulare county, where he at present lives with his son, Louis Bartch, eight miles west of the town of Tulare. The cares of life have fallen lightly on his shoulders, and he reaps the reward of a moderate and evenly-balanced existence, retaining in excellent condition the majority of his faculties at the age of ninety years.

To his willingness to sit by candle light and ward off sleep until the small hours of the morning, Mr. Bartch owes whatever of early education and book learning he acquired. His father's farm failing to provide for so many mouths, he set out early to work his way on surrounding farms in New York state, finally finding himself in Erie county when the Civil war broke in fury over the country. Espousing the cause of the Union, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Sixteenth New York Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1861, and as a drummer boy kept up the spirits of the company for three months. He next carried a musket in the soldier ranks of his regiment, and was with Butler and Banks at the battle of Port Hudson. Receiving his discharge in New Orleans in December, 1864, he improved his liberty by removing to Ionia county, Mich., where a change of occupation awaited him in the great lumber camps of that region. For two years he made his headquarters at Hubbardston, and in 1867 returned to Erie county, N. Y., later locating in Herkimer county, where he assisted in making the cheese for which the county is fa-

mous. Returning to Erie county he lived there a year, and in November, 1869, came by rail to California, soon afterward finding employment on a farm in Ventura county. In 1873 he began to work on the Patterson ranch in Stanislaus county, his ability soon elevating him to the position of manager, which he occupied for two years. He then leased six hundred acres of the Patterson ranch, and at the present time farms twenty-seven hundred acres of this same ranch, besides eleven hundred and twenty acres of his own. In all he is the owner of nineteen hundred and eighty acres in the western part of Stanislaus county, near Westley and Newman, sixty of which are under alfalfa. For years he has been one of the county's foremost wheat and grain raisers, and while thus employed became interested in the Rising Sun Warehouse project, in which he is a large stockholder and the present manager. He probably knows as much about wheat as any man in the county, and his judgment has come to be regarded as final in all transactions involving differences of opinion along wheat-raising lines. The Patterson ranch, as well as his own, are managed along practical and scientific lines, and are made to yield to the extent of their fertility and resource. Needless to say that the finest and most modern of implements are owned and used, or that the most admirable method and system prevails throughout. Mr. Barch has a pleasant country home, in which comfort and hospitality abound, and which owns as mistress she who was once Katie Nickert, formerly of New York state, and who was also born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Barch have no children. Mr. Barch is one of the substantial and influential men of Stanislaus county, and enjoys those advantages conferred by unquestioned integrity, business success, generous impulses and the affectionate regard of a large circle of friends.

---

**FRANCIS MARION PRESTON.** Among the prominent and enterprising business men of central California is Francis Marion Preston, who is actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he follows according to the most approved scientific methods. He makes a specialty of dairying, having a well stocked ranch, and raising large quantities of alfalfa for feeding his cattle. A son of C. J. Preston, he was born January 23, 1861, in Troy, Bradford county, Pa. His grandfather, Colburn Preston, the descendant of an old and honored New England family, was born in Vermont, and served in the war of 1812. He subsequently settled in Bradford county, Pa., and assisted in clearing the site of the present city of Troy.

A native of Pennsylvania, C. J. Preston grew to manhood on the home farm. Sailing by way

of Panama in 1865 he came to California, and the following year took up one hundred and sixty acres of land in Contra Costa county. Succeeding well as a farmer, he sent for his family, who joined him in 1870, and he is still there employed in general farming and stock raising, now having three hundred and twenty acres of land in his home ranch. He married Melissa Woodard, who was born in Bradford county, Pa., where her father, Daniel Woodard, settled on removing from Vermont. Of the five daughters and two sons born of their union, all are living with the exception of one daughter, Francis Marion, the special subject of this biography, being the oldest child.

But nine years of age when he came to California to join his father, Francis Marion Preston was educated in the district schools of Contra Costa county. Choosing the free and independent occupation to which he was reared, he came to Merced county in 1886, settling near Newman, where he bought eighty acres of land on the Middle road, below the canal. With characteristic industry and thrift, he at once began its improvement, soon having it planted to alfalfa. He also enlarged his operations, from 1892 until 1900 raising grain on the Crittenden ranch, which consists of eight hundred acres of land, located above the canal. Mr. Preston subsequently purchased sixty-six acres of land lying near his original estate, and now has the entire one hundred and forty-six acres devoted to the raising of alfalfa. He is profitably employed, also, in dairying, keeping one hundred and forty head of cattle, and milking about sixty cows, chiefly Durhams and Holsteins. A man of much energy and keen foresight, Mr. Preston was one of the promoters and original stockholders of the New Era Creamery Company, which built the first creamery in the valley, and was a member of its first board of directors, on which he is now serving for the third consecutive year, in 1902 and 1903 being likewise president of the board.

In Contra Costa county, Cal., Mr. Preston married Ida Burrass, a native of that county. Her father, Wilburn Burrass, was born in Tennessee, and when eighteen years old came by way of Panama to Contra Costa county, where he followed general farming and stock raising until his death. He married Arvilla Morgan, who was born in Texas, and came from there to California with her father, Wesley Morgan, and they became the parents of three children, of whom Mrs. Preston is the oldest. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Preston two children have been born, namely: Marion and Lloyd. An active and loyal Republican in his political views, Mr. Preston takes great interest in local affairs, and for sixteen years has been a school

trustee in the Canal district, and is now serving as president of the board. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and of the Woodmen of the World.

---

JOHN W. SHARP. A veteran agriculturist, and one of the earliest settlers of the San Joaquin valley, John W. Sharp has been a resident of this locality for half a century, and has been an important factor in developing its resources, and advancing its growth and prosperity. Coming here when the country roundabout was in its pristine wilderness, he endured the hardships and trials of pioneer life without murmur, helping to make straight and thornless the pathway of the coming generations. That he and his fellow-laborers succeeded in their efforts, the broad expanse of highly cultivated fields, the productive orchards, the well improved dairy farms, and the large herds of magnificent cattle and horses give ample evidence. A son of John Sharp, he was born October 27, 1835, in Bedford county, Va., of substantial ancestry.

Born and bred in old Virginia, John Sharp moved from there to Missouri, following a broken pathway through the woods and across the intervening prairies with wagons to Montgomery county, where he cleared and improved a farm. In 1850 he came with ox teams to California, and after working for two years in the mines returned by way of Panama to his Missouri farm, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a man of great integrity, honored and respected by all, and was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church. When a young man he was a captain in a company of militia, in those times when musters and training days were holiday events, and called out all of the people for miles around. He married Margaret Jeter, who removed with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pleasant Jeter from Virginia to Montgomery county, Mo., and there resided during the remainder of her life. She bore him five children, all of whom grew to years of maturity, and four are now living, John W. being the only one on the Pacific coast.

Having first attended the district school, John W. Sharp subsequently continued his studies in the public schools of St. Louis and Palmyra, Mo. Entering the employ of Ambrose Stark in 1854, he drove an ox team across the plains, following the trail through Ogden, along the Humboldt, entering California by the Lawson route, arriving at Colusa, Cal., after a trip of six months. Making his way from there to Marysville, Mr. Sharp worked for a short time in the Yuba mines, and was then employed in teaming on the McCosma river, in Sacramento county. Locating at Hill's Ferry, on the San

Joaquin river, in 1855, he worked for a number of years for Mr. Wilson, a cattle man, and then worked for John McPike, after which he turned his attention to ranching.

Embarking in the sheep business on his own account in 1874, he established a ranch on the Orestimba creek, buying out Mr. Reed, and continued as a sheep raiser and dealer for six years. Selling out his sheep in 1880, Mr. Sharp purchased cattle, and was subsequently engaged in stock raising in the same locality. He afterwards bought land on the valley bottoms, eleven miles from Newman, and in addition to his cattle business, was employed as a grain raiser. In 1893 he disposed of his cattle, and from that time until 1904 raised mules, having large herds. In March, 1904, he sold off all of his stock, and has since rented that land. Previously, in 1903, Mr. Sharp bought his present ranch of twenty acres of alfalfa land on the Middle road, about one mile south of Newman. He takes an active interest in local affairs, and is identified with the Democratic party, being an ardent supporter of its principles.

---

GEN. M. W. MULLER is one of the most prominent men in the military circles of the Pacific coast, being the ranking brigadier-general of the National Guard of California. He is also one of the leading business men of Fresno, being an extensive individual grain dealer in this part of the state. A man of strong mental vigor and of exceptional ability, he cordially endorses all enterprises calculated to advance the city's prosperity, being actively interested in its industrial, mercantile, military and political development. He was born in Germany, February 26, 1853, and came to the United States when a mere boy, his parents having lived in New Orleans, La., previous to that time where his father was engaged in the mercantile business for a number of years. He was educated in the public schools of San Francisco, the City College and the Pacific Business College. After his graduation from the latter institution he was engaged in the real estate business in that city for several years. In 1883, General Muller came to Fresno to take charge of the books of the Puget Sound Lumber Company, which had yards located throughout the San Joaquin valley. Having straightened out the books satisfactorily, he served as agent for the company until it sold out to Moore & Smith. Embarking then, in 1887, in the grain business, with headquarters in the Fresno National Bank building, General Muller has become one of the most extensive wholesale grain dealers on the coast. He handles grain by the carload, having agents in different parts of the valley and ware-

houses in Fresno, Caruthers, Herndon, Clovis and Sanger.

In 1874 General Muller began his military career in San Francisco, serving first as a private, through one term of enlistment, in Company F, First Regiment, California National Guard, and then through two terms of enlistment in Company F, Second Regiment. When Company C, Sixth Battalion—later Sixth Regiment—was organized in Fresno, in 1885, he was made captain of the company, receiving his commission from Governor Stoneman. November 10, 1891, he was appointed brigadier-general of the Third Brigade by Governor Markham and has served in this capacity ever since, having been re-appointed by Governors Waterman, Budd, Gage and Pardee. When General Muller assumed his present office, in 1891, the brigade had but eight companies, but now consists of eighteen companies of infantry and a cavalry troop.

In Fresno, General Muller married Minnie A. Clifford, who was born in Stockton, the daughter of Henry K. Clifford, a pioneer of California. General and Mrs. Muller are the parents of two children, Maude and Ruth, who are now attending Miss Hamlin's School in San Francisco. In politics General Muller is a staunch Republican; socially he belongs to the Sequoia Club and the Union League Club and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

**J. B. HANCOCK.** An early settler of San Joaquin valley, J. B. Hancock, now tax collector of Fresno county, is a native of Missouri and a descendant of old Virginia ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Hancock, was born in Patrick county, Va., of English extraction, and during early manhood settled in St. Charles county, Mo., when St. Louis was an insignificant French hamlet. The remaining years of his life were passed in St. Charles county and there his son, John Calvin Hancock, was born and reared. When choosing an occupation for life the latter selected the science of medicine, the study of which he prosecuted in the Louisville Medical College. After his graduation with the degree of M. D., he opened an office in Columbia, Boone county, Mo., and there established a growing practice. His death occurred at an early age, when he was just beginning to reap the reward of years of study and devotion to his profession.

The wife of Dr. John C. Hancock was Serena Barton, who was born in Boone county, Mo., and died in San Joaquin county, Cal., leaving two sons, namely: Benjamin, a stockman residing on the Sycamore, Fresno county; and J. B., of Fresno. Mrs. Hancock was a daughter of Jonathan Barton, who was a native of South

Carolina and a farmer of Kentucky, later becoming one of the earliest settlers of Boone county, Mo., and a pioneer in the Santa Fe trade. During 1849 he crossed the plains to California and took up the adventurous life of a miner. The country so attracted him that he resolved to settle in California permanently, therefore in 1852 he returned via Panama to Missouri for his family, who accompanied him across the plains the following year. Taking up land near Stockton, San Joaquin county, he entered upon the occupation of stock-raising, in which his remaining active years were spent. At the time of his death he had reached the age of eighty-four years.

In the Missouri county where he was born May 13, 1842, J. B. Hancock passed the first eleven years of his life. During 1853, with his mother and grandfather, he crossed the plains, starting from Independence in April, crossing the Kaw at the present site of Lawrence, Kans., later crossing the Blue and Platte rivers, thence proceeding via Sweetwater, Devil's Gate, South Pass, Salt Lake, down the Humboldt river and through Carson Cañon, thence over the Sierras and on to the San Joaquin valley, where the party arrived in September, after a journey with their ox-teams of five months and three days. In those days schools were few. The first which Mr. Hancock attended in this state was held in a canvas-covered tent in San Joaquin county and was of the old-fashioned subscription nature. Having little opportunity to attend school, he began to earn his own livelihood at an age when most boys are completing their educations, and at sixteen embarked in the stock business, selected a brand for his own use and took his part in all of the round-ups of his neighborhood.

Selling out his cattle interests in 1865, Mr. Hancock started east with a party of nine, traveling on horseback and using pack-mules for conveyance of supplies. At Fort Bridger they were stopped by troops and joined a company of fifty men from Idaho. Indians were hostile and the danger to white travelers great, therefore the expedition was heavily armed and ready for attack at any moment. After leaving Austin, Nev., they followed the Bitter Creek route and the overland trail, going from Julesburg to Nebraska City along the route now followed by the Union Pacific Railroad. Notwithstanding dangers seen and unseen, Mr. Hancock arrived safely at Columbia, and from there went to Wisconsin, where he remained a year. Later travels took him to other portions of the United States, but nowhere did he find a spot that suited him as well as California. He therefore returned to the coast and in 1870 settled in Fresno county, where he first was employed at lumbering and then engaged in farming in the Dry Creek coun-





*Charles Leatham*



try. Successive years of drought caused him to give up the land, after which he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in the Lone Star country, six miles southeast of Fresno, and began to raise fruit and raisins, also alfalfa. The entire tract being under irrigation and well improved was sold at an excellent profit. Another purchase of similar acreage he still owns, the land being divided between vineyard and alfalfa fields.

Since 1899 Mr. Hancock has made his home in Fresno, where he owns residence property on N street. He is a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. In politics he votes with the Democratic party. In 1898 he was nominated for county tax collector by the Populists, endorsed by the Democrats, and won the election by a majority of three hundred and thirty. At the expiration of his first term he was nominated by the Democrats for the same position and elected by a majority of five hundred and twenty-five. His wife, whom he married in Fresno county, was formerly Alice Donahoo, and was born in Iowa, whence she came to California in 1873 with her father, Peter Donahoo. The six children of Mr. and Mrs. Hancock are as follows: Clarence, a farmer of Fresno county; Nellie, wife of Isaac Harris, of Fresno; Claude, who is engaged in farming in Fresno county; James L., a student in Fresno Business College; Albert Sidney and Hattie Serena.

**CHARLES LATHAM.** Foremost among the successful general farmers and fruit raisers of the vicinity of Hanford is Charles Latham, a man of varied experience in the west, who crossed the plains in 1862, at the age of twenty-one, bringing with him assets consisting chiefly of a strong constitution and the reliable characteristics of the sturdy families of New England. He was born in Livingston county, Ill., May 17, 1841, a son of Lyman S. and grandson of Cyrus Latham, both of whom were born in Connecticut, and were of English descent. His mother was Mary A. (Gallup) Latham, also born in Connecticut, and who died in Contra Costa, Cal., at the age of eighty-four years. Lyman S. Latham was somewhat of a wanderer in early life, for after his marriage he removed to Pennsylvania, and four years later to Illinois, and in the spring of 1858 to Nebraska, locating five miles from Omaha. He was one of the earliest settlers in his county in the territory of Nebraska, and lived there until the spring of 1862, when he made preparation to cross the plains with his wife and children, equipped with ox teams, provisions, and sufficient furnishing to begin housekeeping in the west. The journey was uneventful compared to that experienced by

earlier emigrants. Upon arriving in California they settled in Sutter county, west of Marysville, where the father took up government land, but later sold it and purchased land on the Sacramento river. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising until his death, at the age of sixty-three. From a business standpoint he was fairly successful, but he lost by reason of his unsettled condition of mind, rarely staying in a place long enough to become thoroughly identified with it. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics was a Republican.

Charles Latham was one in a family of eight children, and his early advantages were such as might be expected to fall to the lot of one in his circumstances. He knew more of hard work than of recreation or education, and whatever of general knowledge has come his way has been acquired through later application. In 1861 and 1862 he was engaged in driving ox teams in freight trains for Major & Russell from Omaha to Denver, and during this period had many exciting experiences on the plains. He left the home ranch soon after reaching the coast, and after three years of working by the month on different farms in Sutter county, bought a squatter's right in that county and began to raise stock on a small scale. In time he added to his property and finally had a thousand acres, which he occupied and managed until 1883. A sagacious business man, and excellent judge of stock, he made the most of his opportunity, and upon disposing of his farm and stock in the fall of 1883, realized a gratifying profit. March 11, 1868, Mr. Latham married Frances E. Wemple, a native of Schenectady county, N. Y., who came to California in 1860. Of this union six children have been born, of whom Jennie is the wife of Richard Montgomery, a rancher of Kings county; George is a rancher in the same county; Fred C. is also engaged in farming and stock raising in Kings county; Mary A. is the wife of Oscar Railsback, of Kings county; Grace is the wife of Arthur R. Raymond, of Los Angeles; and Hearold is assisting his father on the home ranch.

After selling his stock ranch Mr. Latham went to College City to educate his children, remaining there five years, then purchasing his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he soon afterward added an equal amount of land. Half of his land is under fruit and vines, and the balance under alfalfa. He has also rented four hundred and eighty acres three miles southwest of Hanford for ten years, and from this derives a substantial income, as it is all under alfalfa. He has added to the original improvements of his home farm, and now has a valuable and productive property, and ample

facilities for caring for his various products. He has been interested in oil development in the surrounding counties, and owns an interest in the Knob Hill Oil Company, of Kern county. Mr. Latham is a Republican in politics, but has never held office, and fraternally is connected with both the Masons and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a substantial, painstaking man, thoroughly honorable in all of his dealings, and of a pronounced public spirit. He represents the type of strong, persevering, and practical early settler who has laid the foundation of the agricultural prestige of the coast.

---

**WILLIAM GIBBINS URIDGE.** Whatever their nationality or previous environment the citizens of Fresno are one in their admiration for their home city and their faith in its possibilities. Among all of them none is more loyal to the city or more enthusiastic in its praise than William G. Uridge, who has made his home in California for a long period and has witnessed the gradual development of local industries as well as the steady growth of population. Of English birth and lineage, his settlement in Fresno was somewhat an accident, but his continuance here is from choice. He is a grandson of Henry Gibbins, who for many years and until his death acted as vice-chairman of the board of directors of the Prudential Assurance Company of London, England, his successor now being Sir Henry Harben, a cousin of Joseph Chamberlain, the colonial secretary of England.

From the homestead of the Uridge family in county Sussex, fifty miles south of London, William G. Uridge started for the United States in the spring of 1885. Though intending to settle in this country, he had no definite point in view. While on shipboard he met a family en route for California and from them he heard for the first time concerning Fresno. On inquiring as to the place, they drew an attractive word picture of comfortable homes surrounded by vineyards and fig trees lying within a sun-kissed valley. Attracted by the description, he at once resolved to visit the place, and May of 1885 found him investigating conditions and prospects at Fresno. The favorable impression at first formed has been deepened during his residence here and he has found his liking for the city, like good wine, increases with age. More than ever before, he now believes in its great future. While business and pleasure have caused him to visit many parts of California, he still believes Fresno to be the best county in the state. This is not alone from the standpoint of a capitalist seeking a field for investment, but he believes the place to offer particularly great advantages

for a poor man, on account of the twenty-acre system.

As a member of the Chamber of Commerce Mr. Uridge has been connected with various movements for the benefit of the city. He is the owner of real estate not only here, but also in other parts of the county. Soon after arriving here he bought a tract of raw land, which he set out in a vineyard and then sold. Later he bought another unimproved tract at Orangedale, Fresno county, where he now owns one hundred and twenty-six acres under cultivation to oranges. As an addition to Fresno he laid out North Park and North Park Extension, comprising twenty acres altogether, all of which has been sold out in town lots, and at this writing promises to be the best residence part of the city at no distant day. Besides his fruit interests he is connected with other enterprises. He was one of the incorporators of the Central California Redwood Company, and also the Western Pacific Lumber Company, and is at this writing president of both companies, being thus actively associated with the building of the companies' mills in Tulare county, east of Porterville, where the companies engage in the manufacture of redwood and pine lumber. Another enterprise which he assisted in incorporating is the Golden Gate Brick Company, in which he holds the office of president, and which has its plant at Antioch, Contra Costa county. The company's specialty is the manufacture of sand lime brick, which is practically an artificial sandstone.

Reared in the faith of the Church of England, Mr. Uridge is now connected with the Fresno Episcopal Church and holds the office of senior warden therein. Socially, he was one of the organizers in the incorporation of the Sequoia Club and is now its vice-president. Since becoming a citizen of the United States he has affiliated with the Republican party. He was married in Fresno to Mildred, the daughter of John Finnell, of Napa county, Cal.

---

**PROF. J. N. SPROUSE.** Occupying a foremost position among the educational institutions of the San Joaquin valley is the Fresno Business College, of which Prof. J. N. Sprouse is the owner and proprietor. When he came to Fresno in 1897 he was for a time connected with the institution as principal of its commercial department, but resigned in 1898 and opened Sprouse's Commercial College. Two years later he purchased the Fresno Business College and consolidated the two institutions, which he has since successfully conducted, having now an annual enrollment of more than two hundred students in the stenographic and commercial departments. At the time he purchased the college its enroll-

ment was small and its indebtedness large, but under his energetic and judicious management debts have been paid, and the college occupies well-lighted, commodious quarters, equal to any business college on the coast. The six rooms utilized by the college are furnished neatly and comfortably, and supplied with all of the necessary equipment for work. While a majority of the students are from Fresno, there are also many from different parts of the entire valley. Positions are secured for students when they have reached a point in their studies where they can be recommended for accurate and reliable work, and such has been the demand for clerical help that a large majority of the students leave before graduation to accept remunerative situations. In the shorthand department the Pitman system is taught, and graduates are prepared to take positions as private secretaries, amanuenses, stenographic law clerks and court reporters. Many of the stenographers now holding positions in Fresno received their training in the college under the conscientious and efficient instruction of Mrs. Olive J. Sprouse, principal of the shorthand and typewriting department. A recent innovation is a course in advertising, a new business, offering golden opportunities to those who master it now. An expert advertiser has been secured by the college, who instructs the regular students in the science of advertising without extra cost to the pupils, except the cost of necessary stationery.

Near Mount Vernon, Ill., Prof. J. N. Sprouse was born September 30, 1867, being the eldest child of Rev. David and Millie (York) Sprouse. His father, who was a native of Ohio, in an early day accompanied his parents to Illinois and settled on a farm in Jefferson county, where he grew to manhood. During the Civil war he was a member of an Illinois regiment and fought in the memorable battle of Shiloh and the siege of Vicksburg. On his return from the army he took up farm pursuits, but also gave much time and attention to the work of a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church. From Illinois in 1876 he removed to Kansas and settled on a farm in Butler county, where he remained for some years. Since retiring from active cares he has made his home at Southwest City, Mo. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His wife, who was born near Nashville, Tenn., grew to womanhood in Kentucky and is still living. Of their five children, three are living, J. N. being the only one on the Pacific coast. He was nine years of age when the family settled in Kansas and afterward aided in the clearing of the home farm, also attended the high school at Chetopa, of which he is a graduate. In 1891 he taught a term of school, after which he studied for a year in Park College at Park-

ville, Mo., later taking a course in the Wichita Commercial College, from which he was graduated in 1893. Later he taught in the commercial department of Soule College until 1897, when he came to Fresno and has since been identified with educational work in this city. The school of which he is the head is located on the corner of J and Tulare streets.

In Fresno Professor Sprouse married Miss Jennie Sumner, who was born at Gold Hill, Nev., and came to California with her father, John M. Sumner, a pioneer rancher in Central Colony, Fresno county. In religious connections Mrs. Sprouse is a Presbyterian. The family residence stands three-quarters of a mile from Fresno, where Prof. Sprouse bought twenty acres of raw land and planted it in raisins, peaches and figs. Since coming to this city he has been initiated into the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Republican in politics, he is, however, not a partisan, and has not identified himself with political affairs.

---

WILLIAM R. MCQUIDDY. As a practicing attorney of Hanford, Kings county, Mr. McQuiddy is intimately associated with the legal history of that section of California, where he has made his home for many years. Born in Coffee county, Tenn., April 8, 1849, he is a son of Major Thomas J. McQuiddy, a sketch of whose interesting pioneer life in California will be found on another page of this volume. When William R. McQuiddy was about one year old the family took up their abode in Missouri, but a few years later returned to Tennessee, this time making their home in Bedford county. It was in the common schools of Missouri and Tennessee that William R. received his initial training, and it was later his good fortune to supplement the knowledge there gained by attending Manchester College, in Manchester, Tenn. When about nineteen years old he began teaching school, following this congenial occupation for the ensuing five years, or until 1874, which year marks his arrival in California. Locating in the Mussel Slough district, Tulare county, now a part of Kings county, he continued teaching for a time, and was later similarly engaged in the neighboring county of Fresno and for three years was a member of the board of examiners of Tulare county.

In 1880 Mr. McQuiddy discontinued teaching and engaged in farming on one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land located seven miles northeast of Hanford. Not realizing his anticipations in this direction, however, he sold his farm three years later and moved to Hanford, which has since been his home. While prosecuting a fairly successful business in the

line of fire and accident insurance Mr. McQuiddy began the study of law, and thus laid the foundation upon which his present substantial practice has been built. For two terms he served as justice of the peace and for two years as deputy sheriff, serving the best interests of his constituents while occupying these positions, at the same time keeping up his study of the law. His indefatigable efforts were rewarded in 1893 by his admission to the bar of Kings county, which has since been the field of his legal labors.

In 1872 Mr. McQuiddy was united in marriage with Miss Ida C. Putnam, and two years later the young people came to California. Mr. McQuiddy was one of the incorporators of the Settler's Ditch Company, which was organized to divert the water from Cross creek, and thus enrich the surrounding country, which was very dry and hence unprofitable from an agricultural standpoint. The death of Mr. McQuiddy's first wife occurred in 1874, and five years later, in the fall of 1879, he was united in marriage with Rebecca McMillan, a native of Louisiana, but who was reared in Tennessee, in the vicinity of Mr. McQuiddy's early home. Mr. and Mrs. McQuiddy have two children, Inez, a graduate of the state university at Berkeley, Cal., and Edna R., a graduate of the high school at Hanford.

In his political sympathies Mr. McQuiddy allies himself with the Prohibition party, steadfastly supporting its principles, and with his wife attends the Christian Science Church, of which they are both members. In May, 1903, Mr. McQuiddy was elected secretary of the Board of Trade of Hanford, and for the past twenty years, or ever since taking up his residence in Hanford, he has been secretary of the People's Ditch Company, one of the most important factors in the making of Kings county. In addition to the varied interests already mentioned Mr. McQuiddy owns interests in oil lands, in which venture he has been fairly successful.

---

**SAMUEL L. HOGUE.** During an early period in the settlement of America the Hogue family became identified with the history of Virginia. From that state the grandfather of Samuel L. Hogue migrated to Illinois and settled in Warren county, where he held the office of sheriff at the time that Stephen A. Douglas was circuit judge, and the two were warm friends. Thomas Gibson Hogue, who was born while the family lived in Virginia, spent his early manhood years in Illinois, but during the '60s came to California. For a time he engaged in mining and lumbering in Nevada county, and later was similarly engaged in Fresno county, where he died about 1893. During his active years he

was a prominent local worker of the Republican party. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Elizabeth Reed, was born in Kentucky and died in Illinois, leaving four children. Through her father, Richard Reed, a native of Massachusetts, she traced her lineage back to the Mayflower, while her mother was a member of the Merrifield family, of southern lineage.

In the family of four children, all still living, Samuel L. Hogue was the eldest. He was born near Monmouth, Ill., July 21, 1857, and in 1872 came to California to join his father. He was then fifteen years of age, alert and ambitious to make his own way in the world. For a time he assisted his father in lumbering and mining, but he made a specialty of shake-making and while working at Pine Ridge he established a record by splitting seven thousand shakes in ten hours. Meanwhile, however, he had not neglected educational matters. In 1877-78 he attended the San Jose Normal School, and later taught school in Fresno county for five years, the last term being principal of the Selma schools. As an instructor he was painstaking, accurate and energetic, skillful in the imparting of knowledge and a wise disciplinarian.

Ever since coming to Fresno county Mr. Hogue has been more or less interested in politics. Loyal to the Republican party at all times, he has been a leading local worker in its ranks. The first Republican ticket placed before the voters of Fresno county contained his name as candidate for county auditor, but in those days Republicans were largely in the minority and he suffered defeat. Later he was elected justice of the peace, serving four years in Selma and two years in Fresno. His next position was that of deputy county auditor under H. E. Barnum. It is worthy of note that he has served as a delegate to almost every county and state convention since he attained his majority, and has also been a leading member of the Republican state central committee, and identified with the executive committee of the State League of Republican clubs. For some years he acted as secretary of the Fresno Board of Education, in which capacity he proved a helpful factor in the promoting of the city schools. March 1, 1900, he was appointed and commissioned deputy collector of internal revenue, for which work he was qualified by his experience as a special deputy during the Spanish-American war. The counties included in his district are Tuolumne, Mariposa, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern. His selection for this responsible position gave satisfaction to the people of Fresno, where he has a host of warm personal friends in both parties. A man of fine physique, he creates a favorable impression at first acquaintance, and this invariably deepens into





*E. J. Emmons*



esteem upon closer companionship. His methods in business and politics have ever been conscientious, upright and honorable, and his many quiet acts of kindness prove him to be the possessor of a generous heart.

In 1881 Mr. Hogue married Effie H. Brown, who was born in Yolo county, her father, J. W. Brown, having crossed the plains from Illinois, making the journey with a team of oxen and settling in Yolo county. In the family of Mr. Hogue there are two sons and two daughters, Lassen E.; James E.; Hazel and Lucile. Fraternally Mr. Hogue was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 274, F. & A. M., of which he has been secretary. In addition he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and Independent Order of Foresters, having officiated as high vice-chief ranger of the latter organization.

**HON. ELIAS JAMES EMMONS.** One of the most erudite and painstaking exponents of legal science in Kern county is Hon. Elias James Emmons, state senator, and since January, 1893, the recipient of an extensive patronage in Bakersfield. Mr. Emmons was born in Greytown, Nicaragua, March 1, 1859, his father, William David Emmons, being at the time a prosperous merchant of that city. The elder Emmons was born and reared in Missouri, but eventually became the victim of a pioneering fever when the gold excitement in Nicaragua was at its height. He took a more practical view of the situation than did the miners, and established a general merchandise business, which in time more than verified his glowing predictions. As became a man well on the road to fortune, he established a home, marrying in the South American republic Elizabeth J. Miller, a native of the state of Texas. Two children came to gladden the home, Elias J. being the older. Henry William, the younger, is now engaged in the oil business in Bakersfield. The withdrawal of the Vanderbilt Transit Line from Nicaragua brought stagnation to business in that part of the country, and Mr. Emmons was face to face with financial ruin. With his wife and children he came to California in 1862, but this state, usually one of solace and rest for those whose health has been undermined, failed to perform its mission in his case, for he died soon after locating in Vacaville, Solano county, at the age of thirty-two years.

In 1864 the mother of Mr. Emmons married again and removed to Antioch, Contra Costa county, where the sons were educated in the grammar school, but were permitted no further

educational advantages. Elias J. relieved his parents of the necessity of supporting him at an early age, accepting a position as clerk in a law office in San Francisco, where he gained his first insight into the intricacies of the science. His taste and inclination glided into this avenue of activity with perfect ease, and in 1882 he was admitted to practice at the bar of California. Locating at Chico, Butte county, he practiced with an increasing clientele until January, 1893, the date of his arrival in Bakersfield. For a time he had as partner F. M. Graham, later practicing alone, and in 1902 formed his present partnership with Rowen Irwin. Many of the most important cases in this and the adjoining counties have been tried by Mr. Emmons, who is a sagacious and practical lawyer, adhering always to the highest tenets of his profession, and winning patronage by the force of his character and the sincerity of his motives.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Emmons has taken a keen interest in Democratic politics, and in addition to minor offices was elected to the state assembly in 1897, and to the state senate in 1902. While living in Chico he was united in marriage with Margaret J. Wooden, a native of Vallejo, Cal., and the mother of two children, Elias Carroll and Edith June. In his rise to his present prominent position Mr. Emmons has evidenced those strong and forceful characteristics which are bound to win success over less industrious competitors.

**EDWIN LUTHER MOOR.** In tracing the causes which have led to the development and present prosperity of California, the student of history discovers that the citizenship of men from the states to the east has been a leading factor in the results now visible. Numbered among the business men of Merced who, by excellent business judgment and untiring energy, have contributed to the growth of the city and county, mention belongs to Mr. Moor, who came to the Pacific coast from Michigan. The family which he represents came originally from Scotland, but has been established in America since a very early period in the nation's history. His father, Stephen, a native of Steuben county, N. Y., followed farming there and in Michigan. The lady whom he married, Mary Ann Drake, was born on the Hudson river, at Newpaltz, Ulster county, N. Y., and died in Michigan. Through her father, Gilbert Drake, a farmer, she traced her lineage to an old colonial family allied to the noted English family of that name.

In a family of thirteen children, all of whom

attained mature years, and seven are still living, Edwin Luther Moor was the youngest in order of birth and is the only one to settle in California. Three of his older brothers were soldiers in the Civil war, Eli, Robert and George, all of whom were members of Michigan companies, and George died during the period of his service. Near Tekonsha, Calhoun county, Mich., Edwin L. Moor was born April 2, 1857. As a boy he alternated attendance at school with work on the home farm. In addition to a common school education he had the advantage of a course of study in Albion College. When eighteen years of age he started out in the world for himself, his first employment being that of clerk, and later he became interested in a fruit and shipping business. When he came to Merced in 1891 he secured work by the day in the Merced Grange warehouse, where, through efficiency and energy, he won a recognized position and was made assistant bookkeeper. At the expiration of two years he went to Athlone as manager of a warehouse owned by the company with which he had been connected in Merced, and there he remained for two years, later continuing for another year with the company and in addition buying grain on his own account.

On his return to Merced in 1896 Mr. Moor embarked in the grain business, which he has since conducted, buying through all parts of Merced, Stanislaus and Madera counties, and making shipments from his warehouse in this city. In addition he engages in an insurance and real estate business, with offices in the Pedreira building, where he negotiates sales of city property and farms, also secures loans of money in sums large or small, as desired; and in the insurance line represents the North American, German Alliance, Citizens of Missouri, Aetna and Northwestern National. Like all public-spirited citizens, he gives due attention to matters affecting the political and material welfare of the country. In political views he is a pronounced Democrat, in whose interests at one time he served on the county central committee. The work of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church receives his fostering aid, through his efficient service as a ruling elder and member of the board of deacons, and at one time he served as Sunday school superintendent. While living in Calhoun county, Mich., he married Miss Ellen L. Johnson, a native of New York state and a valuable assistant to him in home, church and society. Since coming to Merced he has allied himself with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and at one time officiated as noble grand of the lodge in this city. Other organi-

zations with which he holds membership are the Woodmen of the World, Beavers, Ancient Order of United Workmen (in which he is past master workman), and Modern Woodmen of America (in which he has held important official positions). Pleasant and genial in disposition, upright in character and energetic in business affairs, he forms a distinct and valuable addition to the citizenship of Merced.

---

WALTER E. LILLEY, M. D. In the professional circles of Merced county, W. E. Lilley, M. D., occupies a position of importance and influence, being one of the most active and skillful physicians and surgeons of the city of Merced. Noted for his keen intellectual and mental attainments and for his professional knowledge and enterprise, he has met with satisfactory results in his practice of medicine and surgery, and since coming to the Pacific coast has gained an extensive patronage throughout this part of California. His office is on Main street, in the Barcroft building, where he also has a private sanitarium and an operating room. His office is fitted up with all the modern appliances and conveniences used by the profession, including an electric static machine and an X-ray machine. The doctor was born November 5, 1866, in Portland, Chautauqua county, N. Y., a son of Abner Lilley.

Abner Lilley was born at Sandy Creek, N. Y., but was bred and educated in Pennsylvania, and was there engaged in business as a lumber manufacturer and dealer during his earlier life. Subsequently removing to Portland, he purchased land and was employed in agricultural and horticultural pursuits until his death, in 1890, aged eighty-three years. He was twice married, by his first union having five children, of whom two sons served in the Civil war, and both were killed in battle, one being shot in the battle of Gettysburg. He married for his second wife, Olive Pratt, daughter of William Pratt, a Pennsylvania farmer. Six children were born of this union, namely: Abner, living in Erie county, Pa., a prosperous farmer; Henry, engaged in the fruit business in Westfield, N. Y.; W. E., the subject of this brief sketch; Morris and Charles, residents of Vermont; and Frederick. Frederick Lilley was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Baltimore, Md., and subsequently engaged in the practice of his profession in Merced, Cal., where he died November 2, 1899, from blood poisoning contracted while performing an operation. At

the time of his death he was serving as county coroner and public administrator.

Acquiring a practical education in the public schools, and being well trained in the various branches of agriculture by his father, W. E. Lilley remained at home until after attaining man's estate, following the independent occupation to which he was reared. In 1890 he visited California, making a short stay in San Diego. Returning east, he entered the Baltimore Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1894 with the degree of M. D. The following year he practiced medicine at Findley Lake, N. Y., and then located in Barnard, Windsor county, Vt., where he built up a large and successful practice, remaining there three and one-half years. Coming to California in December, 1899, Dr. Lilley continued his professional labors in Modesto for six months, and then opened his present office and sanitarium in Merced. A close student, ever ready to test the merits of new medical or surgical discoveries, inventions or appliances, he keeps abreast of the times in regard to his profession and is numbered among the foremost physicians and surgeons of Merced county, his patronage being extensive and lucrative.

In Chautauqua county, N. Y., Dr. Lilley married, at Mayville, Miss Mabel Crossgrove, a native of that city, and they have two children, namely: Harold and Ivan. The doctor is very prominent in medical organizations, belonging to the State and to the American Medical Associations; to the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society, of which he was formerly president; and to the Merced County Medical Society, of which he is secretary. In politics he is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a member and medical examiner of both the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America. In his religious views he is a Baptist.

---

**WILLIAM OSBORNE MOORE.** Not many years after the United States had achieved independence, Jesse Hopkins Moore, the son of a Revolutionary soldier, left his home in North Carolina and took up a tract of land in the newer country of Tennessee, where he followed the life of a planter and trader. The homestead that he built up became the nucleus of a village, which was named Mooresburg in his honor. Among his children was a son, James Madison Moore, who was born on the plantation at Mooresburg, Tenn., in 1810, and remained a lifelong

resident of his native village, where he conducted a general store and superintended a plantation. The title of colonel, by which he was always known, came to him through official service in the Tennessee National Guard. His death occurred in Mooresburg in 1859 when he was forty-nine years of age. In his marriage to Mary T. Cobb he became connected with an old-established Virginian family, her grandfather having migrated from that state to Tennessee, where he founded Cobbsford on the Tennessee river; and in that vicinity her father, Jesse, a native of Tennessee, devoted his active years to the occupation of a planter. For more than twenty years Mrs. Moore survived her husband, her death occurring in Tennessee in 1881. In religious belief she was a faithful adherent of the Presbyterian Church. Her family comprised six sons and two daughters, namely: Hugh Alexander, a cattle-raiser in Texas; Jesse Hopkins, a farmer in Texas and at this writing a commissioner of his county; Carrie, Mrs. Williams, who continues to reside at Mooresburg; J. M., a cattleman, who died in New Mexico; J. P., residing at San Antonio, Tex.; Mrs. Margaret Taylor, who died at Persia, Hawkins county, Tenn.; William O., under sheriff of Merced county, Cal.; and Stephen A. D.

At the old homestead in Hawkins county, Tenn., William O. Moore was born August 29, 1858, and there he attended local schools and St. Clair College. In the spring of 1876 he went to Missouri, joining his brother, J. M., who was then engaged in the stock business in Cass county. After three years he went to Colorado at the time of the excitement caused by the discovery of gold mines at Leadville. For a time he prospected in the San Juan country, but later entered the employ of Meyer, Simmons & Co., railroad contractors, with whom he continued at intervals until 1881. His next location was in Utah, where he remained one winter, and then traveled through Idaho, Montana and the Northwest Territory. The year 1882 found him at Spokane, Wash., and in 1883 he arrived in Merced county, Cal., where he now makes his home. For eleven months he was employed in teaming for C. H. Huffman, and then became bookkeeper for Olcese & Garibaldi, with whom he continued for eleven years and eight months. After one year with R. Barcroft, January 5, 1903, he received the appointment of under sheriff to John S. Swan, since which time he has devoted his attention to the duties of the office, doing much to assist the sheriff in making this office one of the best conducted in the entire state. From 1890 to 1892 he served as city clerk of Merced. In

1898 he was chosen secretary of the Democratic county central committee, holding the position until 1900, since which time he has acted as chairman of the committee, a position of responsibility and one which he has filled in a manner satisfactory to the leaders of his party. In December, 1896, Governor Budd appointed him secretary and a director of the thirty-fifth district of the State Agricultural Association, to which office he was again appointed four years later under the administration of Governor Gage. Fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and Modern Woodmen of America. Domestic ties, established at Merced in 1890, united him in marriage with Miss Theresa Branson, who was born in Mariposa county, her father, John Branson, a native of Tennessee, having crossed the plains to the Pacific coast in 1851 and for a time engaging in mining, but later turning his attention to agricultural work.

---

BREWSTER S. GURNEE. The Gurnee planing mill of Hanford, Kings county, takes first rank among the substantial enterprises of this thriving town, doing an annual business of \$60,000 in the manufacture of windows, doors, moulding and bank fixtures of every description, and in connection conducts a barley mill, preparing the grain for the market by the roller process. Mr. Gurnee's identification with Hanford dates from December, 1891, coming to the west from New York City, where he had established himself in a well-paying manufacturing business. His present success, however, has not been gained without discouraging experiences. In addition to the mill which he established upon locating in Hanford he also owned a fruit farm, but during the panic of 1893-94 he lost both mill and farm. In 1899, on borrowed capital, he again became owner of the same mill and has since been managing it with profit. The Gurnee mill is one of the finest and best equipped plants in the lower end of the San Joaquin valley and the commodities manufactured have more than a local reputation, finding their way into all parts of the state.

Mr. Gurnee was born in Stony Point, Rockland county, N. Y., May 26, 1859, a son of Walter F. B. Gurnee and grandson of Mathew Gurnee, both of whom were natives of New York state, and could trace their ancestors to the Pilgrim Fathers who came to this country in the Mayflower. The former was a farmer and also engaged in the manufacture of brick. He served in the Civil war as a private for sixty days, when he was compelled to return home on account of sickness, and died when about

fifty-five years of age. The mother of Mr. Gurnee, before her marriage Mary M. Smith, was also a native of New York state, and is now making her home in Rye, Westchester county, N. Y., at the age of seventy-two years.

Until about eighteen years old Mr. Gurnee remained at home with his parents, attending school and gaining a fair education as a start in life, and at that age went out into the business world. His first experience was in Washington, N. J., where, with the Beatty Organ Company, he began to learn the organ-maker's trade. After mastering the trade he went to New York City and found employment in a piano manufactory, but within two years he was obliged, on account of his wife's poor health, to relinquish the business and seek a climate less harsh than that of the east. Upon coming to the west he first located in Fresno, Cal., where after working in a planing mill for about a year he became foreman in the large planing mill of M. R. Madary, remaining in this capacity for about four years, when he purchased a half interest in the business. After two years of successful business life there he sold his interest, in December, 1891, and came to Hanford, with whose business and social life he has since been identified.

While still a resident of the east Mr. Gurnee was united in marriage with Eugenia A. Van-Valer, a native of Stony Point, N. Y., and they became the parents of five children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Mary, Minnie, Candace and Adelia, all of whom are at home with their parents. The Republican party claims Mr. Gurnee as one of its staunch allies, although he has never been persuaded to hold public office. He takes a deep interest in fraternal affairs, belonging to Hanford Lodge No. 279, F. & A. M.; Hanford Chapter No. 74, R. A. M.; Knights of Pythias, and Woodmen of the World, all of Hanford, and to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, of Fresno, Cal.

---

MRS. ANNA SILMAN. The influence wielded by Mrs. Silman, both as a teacher and in her present position as county superintendent of schools has been of the highest importance in the development of the schools of Merced county. Possessing the tact, broad knowledge and unerring sagacity, of the true educator, in selecting her life occupation she followed the bent of her talents, and the high standing she has attained in the profession proves her exceptional fitness for the work of an instructor. During almost the entire time since she was four years of age she has been in the schoolroom, either as pupil or teacher, and in this period has become thoroughly conversant with the true spirit and aim of pedagogy.



Born in Platteville, Wis., Mrs. Silman is a daughter of Moses and Sarah Ann (Borah) Stewart, the former a native of county Down, Ireland, and the latter born near Bowling Green, Ky. Her father, Moses Stewart, came to America at an early age and settled in Wisconsin, where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising near Platteville, and served as a member of the county board of supervisors there. The maternal grandfather, Samuel Borah, was a member of an old Kentucky family and died in that state. After the death of Moses Stewart, which occurred near Platteville on his farm, his widow came to California and spent her last years in Merced county. Eleven children were born of their union, eight of whom attained mature years, and three reside in Stockton, viz.: J. A. and E. C., who are business men of that city, and Mrs. Gaines, a teacher. The eldest of the children now living is Mrs. Silman, who received her primary education in grammar schools and later had the advantage of study in the Platteville normal school. In order to defray the expenses of an education she began to teach in girlhood, using the money earned to promote her work of preparation for the teacher's profession. Where many thus situated would have been content with a common-school education, she was satisfied only with the most thorough education and aimed at the highest and best. With the advantage of a special course in the Oshkosh normal school, she entered upon the career of an educator.

At the time of coming to California in 1881 Miss Stewart was employed as principal of schools in a Wisconsin town and for a time after settling in the west she was engaged in teaching in the Union school at Lathrop. At Stockton, in 1883, she was married to L. H. Silman, a widower with one daughter, Fannie, and by their union a son, Stewart, was born. Mr. Silman was born in Illinois and accompanied his parents to California in boyhood. For a time he was employed in driving stages in the San Joaquin valley and mountains, his route being in Merced and Mariposa counties. For some years past he has been engaged in stock-raising on his farm ten miles south of Merced. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Masons, Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Since 1884 Mrs. Silman has made her home in Merced. For fourteen years she was connected with the grammar school of that city, first as vice-principal and later as principal. In 1902 she was nominated on the Democratic ticket for county superintendent of schools and was elected by a majority of three hundred and twenty, taking the oath of office in January, 1903, for a term of four years. Her entire attention is

given to the oversight of the schools, each of which she visits at least once a year. In the county there are sixty school districts and two high schools, with eighty-five teachers engaged in educational work. It is the ambition of Mrs. Silman to promote the welfare of these schools and so systematize and grade their work that the pupils may make the most rapid yet thorough advancement possible. Realizing that by far the larger number of children receive no educational advantages except such as the common schools afford, it is her aim to make these so useful that boys or girls who have completed their studies will be prepared for such responsibilities as life may bring them. In religious faith she is connected with the First Presbyterian Church of Merced, and socially holds membership in the Order of the Eastern Star.

LEVI LUKENS GILL. The standing attained by L. L. Gill, one of Tulare county's prominent and successful stockmen, is the result of well-directed effort accompanied by ability and energy. He was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, June 23, 1837, the descendant of English ancestry. His great-grandfather came to the United States prior to the Revolutionary war, in which he participated, and afterward became a pioneer settler of Ohio, then the western border. His son, John, was born in that state December 9, 1806, and in manhood followed farming in that locality until his death. In his family was a son, Samuel, who was a native of Pickaway county, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising for many years. He finally immigrated to California, where his death occurred in 1887. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Lukens, was a native of Pennsylvania and the daughter of John Lukens, also of that state, who became a farmer in Ohio, where his death occurred. Of their three daughters and two sons Levi Lukens Gill, of this review, was the oldest.

In the common schools of Ohio L. L. Gill received his education, and after attaining years of maturity he engaged in the stock business in Ohio. For some years he bought and sold, traded and shipped, as well as raised cattle for the markets, and met with a success in his work. In 1864 he removed to Iowa and located in Ringgold county and continued the same occupation for nine years. He then came to California, and located in Tulare county on the Yokohl river, homesteading and pre-empting land, and also bought until he owned twelve hundred acres. He followed the raising of stock in that locality until 1883, when he bought twenty-four hundred acres for stock purposes in Frazier valley. Later he sold that property and in 1887 bought that where he now makes his home. His home

ranch is also in Frazier valley, located six miles northeast of Portersville, and consists of four thousand acres all in one tract. This is justly classed among the fine grain and stock farms in Tulare county, and the success which Mr. Gill has achieved since locating here has given him a place among the representative citizens of the community.

In Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1858, Mr. Gill was united in marriage with Eliza A. Harriman, a native of that state. Her father, Aaron Harriman, a native of New Hampshire, went to Ohio at twenty years of age, and made that state his home until his death. His wife, formerly Harriett Mitten, a native of South Charleston, Ohio, also died in that state. He was a graduate of a medical college of Cincinnati and practiced his profession for many years. To Mr. and Mrs. Gill were born the following children: Charles Oscar, John Elsworth (deceased), William, Fred, Lewis, Julia, Proda, Frank, Levi, Mattie and Ora, all of whom reside in the vicinity of their childhood's home. In his political convictions Mr. Gill is a staunch Republican, and for many years has served as school director.

**HIRAM J. WELLS.** The rapid development and growth of Fresno county as a fruit-growing region has to a great extent enriched many men by the increase in value of their lands and productions. Prominent among the individuals who have been actively identified with this wonderful growth is Hiram J. Wells, a man of enthusiastic zeal and ambition, who has acquired valuable tracts of land in this section of the state, and is known as one of the most successful vineyardists of Fresno county. A son of Abram Wells, he was born October 26, 1866, in Illinois. His grandfather, James Wells, and his great-grandfather, Abram Wells, were both natives of New York. The latter, a farmer by occupation, served in the Revolutionary war, and afterward settled on a farm in Delaware county, N. Y., where he died at the age of fourscore years.

Born and brought up in Delaware county, N. Y., James Wells succeeded to the occupation in which he was reared, becoming a tiller of the soil. Removing to Berrien county, Mich., in 1841, he bought land, and there continued general farming until his death, in 1849. He married Abigail Stearns, who was born in Pennsylvania and died in Iowa, where she had removed a few years after the death of her husband. Of their family of ten children, four boys and six girls, Abram was the sixth child.

A native of New York, Abram Wells was born in Delaware county, February 2, 1835. Going with his parents to Michigan when a child,

he received his elementary education in the common schools, and at the age of seventeen years entered the Kalamazoo Baptist College, which he attended three years, when he was forced to leave on account of ill-health. Going to Illinois in 1860, he bought land near Kirkwood, Warren county, where he resided eight years. Continuing his march westward, he settled in Osceola, Clarke county, Iowa, in 1868, and was employed in farming until 1873. Removing thence to Redcloud, Neb., he resided there until 1890, when, with the John Brown colony, for which he was traveling agent, he came to California for the purpose of establishing a settlement near Madera. Unsuccessful in the effort, Mr. Wells bought eighty acres of land lying two miles northeast of Selma, and has since resided on the place. Going in debt for the ranch when he bought it, he began raising fruit, vines and alfalfa, having ten acres of trees, ten acres of vines, and five of alfalfa, and has since paid off the debt of \$8,000, and in 1901 erected his present attractive residence. He married Mary J. Wray, a native of Maryland, and they have seven children, namely: Alma Rosalia, wife of Frank Boran, of Kansas; Cassius M., of Nebraska; George E., of Selma; Hiram J., the special subject of this sketch; Frank E., of Selma; Charles, of Del Rey, and Warren, of Hanford, Cal. Mr. Wells' children are all married, and he has thirty-three grandchildren. He is a strong Prohibitionist, and is a member of the Christian Church.

Going with his parents to Nebraska in 1869, Hiram J. Wells received his rudimentary education in Webster and Adams counties, completing his studies at the college in Fairfield. Coming to California with the John Brown colony in 1891, he lived for ten months in what is now Madera county. Removing to Fresno county in 1892 he purchased forty acres of land lying two miles northeast of Selma, along the line of the Center-ville and Kingsburg ditch, and immediately embarked in fruit and vine growing, planting a vineyard of five acres and an orchard of fifteen acres, devoting the remainder of his ranch to alfalfa. In the care of his land, he met with signal success from the start, and has since become the owner of one hundred and forty acres of land here. Three miles south of Fowler, Fresno county, Mr. Wells owns another ranch of sixty acres, ten acres of which are planted to vines and fifty acres to fruit trees, an estate that he bought in 1902; he also owns an alfalfa ranch of forty acres, which he bought in 1902, located four miles northeast of Selma. He manages his land so as to produce the best-paying crops with the least outlay of money, and in addition to caring for his own ranches superintends the one hundred and sixty-acre ranch of J. M. Mer-



rill, of San Francisco. As a vineyardist and fruit-grower he is skillful and successful, and has also had excellent success as an apiarist, at the present time having eighty stands of bees.

On January 20, 1891, in Hastings, Neb., the day previous to starting for California, Mr. Wells married Allie Milner, a native of Iowa, and they are the parents of three children namely: Earl, Freddie and Walker. Politically Mr. Wells is identified with the Republican party, sustaining its principles by voice and vote. Fraternally he belongs to Selma camp, W. of W. On the ranch two miles north of Selma, Mr. Wells erected a commodious residence in 1900, and there he and his wife delight to entertain their many friends and acquaintances.

---

**ROBERT JINKENS COOPER.** As an energetic, industrious and thorough-going business man, Robert Jinkens Cooper of Selma is intimately identified with the leading industries of Fresno county. He is a native-born son of California, and a worthy representative of the sturdy agriculturists who have so largely assisted in the material development of the state, and who are drawing from the soil the important elements of their present prosperity. A son of Robert Bruce Cooper, he was born March 8, 1858, in Calaveras county.

A native of Mississippi, Robert Bruce Cooper was born in January, 1822, living in that state until eighteen years old. Going thence to Texas, he was employed in agricultural pursuits in Harrison county for several seasons. Coming, via Mexico, to California in 1850, he worked in the mines for a few years, accumulating some money, which he invested in land near Milton, Calaveras county, where he improved a small ranch. In 1889 he came to Fresno county, making his home with his children until he moved to Santa Cruz. He married Alta Zara Lewis, who was born in Arkansas and died in Calaveras county, Cal., in 1871. Of their union five children were born, namely: Samuel B. of Fowler, Cal.; Joseph H. of Selma; Mary, wife of Frank Cleary, who is engaged in the oil business and resides in Santa Cruz; Robert J., the subject of this sketch; and Henry E., residing in Fresno county.

Brought up on a farm and educated in the common schools, Robert J. Cooper became a resident of Fresno county in 1875. Searching for a favorable location, he bought his present ranch of forty acres, situated about one mile northeast of Selma, and at once began its improvement. By persevering labor and wise

management, he has met with most satisfactory results in farming, having now a good-yielding vineyard of eighteen acres and an excellent orchard of fourteen acres, while the remainder of his ranch is used in raising alfalfa. His land is fertile and productive, being well watered by the Centerville and Kingsburg ditch, which he assisted in building. In 1890 Mr. Cooper moved to a ranch ten miles west of Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo county, where he engaged in raising grain for a period of five years, after which he returned to Selma. He has other interests of financial value, being a stockholder in the two different oil companies operating in Coal-  
inga, Cal.

On December 24, 1883, in Visalia, Cal., Mr. Cooper married Kate L. Mann, who was born February 19, 1864, in Contra Costa county, Cal. Her father, Elson Mann, was born in Indiana, and was one of the pioneers of California, coming across the plains from Missouri with the gold hunters of 1849. After mining for a few years, he settled in Hollister, San Benito county, and lived there until 1881, when he moved to Tulare county. Coming to Fresno county in 1896, Mr. Mann resided here until 1901, when he removed to his present home in Santa Rosa, Sonoma county. He is a veteran of the Mexican war, having enlisted in 1846, under Colonel Doniphan.

---

**JOSEPH BARCROFT.** Both through his intimate association with the Republican party in Madera county and through his efficient service in the office of justice of the peace, Mr. Barcroft has become well known to the people of this part of California. Few men of his party are better posted than he concerning its history, its principles and the platform upon which it stands, and he is therefore qualified to take a leading position in matters relative to its local organization and management. In 1900 he was chosen secretary of the Republican county central committee and continued to hold that responsible position until 1902, meanwhile accomplishing much in the interests of the party.

The genealogy of the Barcroft family appears elsewhere in this volume, in the sketch of Fred Barcroft, a brother of the subject of this article. Their parents, R. W. and Rafila (Orosco) Barcroft, were natives respectively of Cadiz, Ohio, and southern Arizona, the latter being of Spanish family. The homestead was at Hornitos, Mariposa county, Cal., and there Joseph Barcroft was born June 27, 1870. The days of his boyhood and youth were quietly and uneventfully passed in attendance upon local schools.

When he came to Madera, in August of 1887, he entered his brother's store and there acquired a practical knowledge of the hardware business. Feeling, however, that his education was incomplete, he resigned his position and entered Chestnutwood Business College at Santa Cruz, where he took the regular course of study. On leaving college he again took up work in his brother's store and continued in the same position (with the exception of two years in the mines of Mariposa county) until he was elected justice of the peace. His election to this office occurred in November, 1902, when he was chosen to serve for the third township of Madera county, and received a majority of eighty-one. January 5, 1903, he took the oath of office for a term of four years. Four-fifths of all the cases in the county come before him and his court, which occupies a room in the county court-house, is in session all of the time. As a justice he is strictly impartial, efficient and painstaking, and his service has been eminently satisfactory to all concerned.

The marriage of Mr. Barcroft was solemnized in his native town of Hornitos and united him with Harriet Collins, who was born and reared in that city, being the daughter of English parents who came to California in an early day and bore a part in the pioneer development of the state. Justice Barcroft, with his wife and their two children, David and Isabella, occupy a comfortable home in Madera and are respected throughout the entire circle of their acquaintances.

---

WILLIAM S. FOWLER, M. D. Conspicuous among the active and able physicians and surgeons of Bakersfield is William S. Fowler, M. D., who has had a wide and most successful professional experience. Although now engaged in the general practice of medicine, he has made a special study of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and is considered an authority on all questions connected with the treatment of these delicate organs. A native of Connecticut, which was also the birthplace of his father, Edwin Fowler, he was born April 28, 1857, in Guilford, New Haven county, coming from substantial New England ancestry.

Having acquired his elementary education in the district schools of his native town, William S. Fowler subsequently attended the grammar and high schools of New Haven. He afterward learned the machinist's trade in that city, and for a short time thereafter worked as a journeyman. On attaining his majority, he went to New York City, where he entered the store of a manufacturing jeweler, hoping to learn the business. Beginning in the very lowest position, he served first as janitor and clerk, gradually

working himself upward, and at the end of two years was put on the road as commercial salesman, and in the nine years that followed he traveled extensively throughout the Union. During this time he stored his mind with a useful fund of knowledge by reading and observation. Subsequently locating in Chicago, Ill., Mr. Fowler began the manufacture of spectacles on a large scale, borrowing \$20,000 to start with. Three years later, when owing to business depression his debtors were unable to pay their bills, he was forced to fail, his liabilities amounting to \$360,000. Turning the business over to his brother, he continued with him as a clerk, and at the same time read medicine, making a special study of ophthalmology that he might treat diseases of the eye, and fit spectacles to their patrons, he and his brother being the first to make compound lenses in the west. Entering then the College of Physicians and Surgeons, he was graduated in 1885, standing fifth in a class numbering eighty-five students. Subsequently Dr. Fowler was a special teacher of ophthalmology in two watch factory schools, and an assistant teacher in the post-graduate class of the medical college for two years. The following two years he spent in traveling with his wife, who was an invalid. Finally locating in Wheeling, W. Va., he remained there as a physician for a few months, continuing in practice until the death of his wife. Returning to Chicago the year of the Columbian Exposition, Dr. Fowler practiced there as an eye specialist for four years.

Coming to California in 1897, Dr. Fowler bought a citrus fruit ranch of seventy-six acres near Ventura, and began the cultivation of lemons and oranges. The water supply giving out at the end of six months, he resumed the practice of his profession, opening an office in Ventura, where his friend, Dr. Cephas L. Bard, was located, and devoted his entire attention to diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. Removing to Bakersfield in 1901, the doctor continued his special work until May, 1903, when he purchased the good-will and practice of Dr. T. E. Taggart, and has since devoted his attention to the treatment of diseases of all kinds.

Dr. Fowler married May Bogardus, who died in West Virginia. His second wife was Laura Nye, a native of Ohio. Politically the doctor is a staunch advocate of the principles promulgated by the Democratic party, and though not an aspirant for public honors is now serving as health officer for Kern county. He is an active member of various medical associations, including the San Joaquin and the Kern County, of which he is also secretary, and the American, the State, and the Southern California societies. Fraternally he is a member of Bakersfield Lodge No. 266, B. P. O. E.





CICERO M. BATES

DR. CICERO McLEAN BATES. The death of Dr. Cicero McLean Bates, November 18, 1898, at his beautiful country seat near Fresno, terminated a career of exceptional usefulness, and one in which heart, brain and keen understanding were unflinchingly utilized in an effort to establish the highest possible professional and sanitary standards in the state of California. While his presence in the mining camps was a boon for the motley crowds assembled to wrest wealth from the earth, his name will be more emphatically associated with the early professional history of San Francisco, where his record, from the standpoint of actual good accomplished and zeal in the prosecution of many salient reforms, had no equal at the time and place.

A son of Ezekiel Bates, he was born in Cleveland, Tenn., August 15, 1831, and was educated in the public schools, at O'Clare Academy and Hiawassa College, his professional training being received at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in the class of 1850. Returning to Tennessee, he engaged in practice for a number of years, in the meantime chafing in an atmosphere stagnant to one of his force and determination. Disposing of his interests in Tennessee, he arrived in San Francisco November 14, 1860, at once going to Nevada City, then the most active center of mining in the state. Success came to him from the start, and in an atmosphere foreign to his culture and refinement he accumulated wealth, and was glad of the ambition which had led him to the Pacific coast. The fire of 1865, which practically laid Nevada City in ashes, devoured about all that he had in the world, and in 1868 he returned to San Francisco, where, with characteristic forgetfulness of past trouble, he threw himself into the vortex of its crude and varied activity. His mind was too practical and far-reaching to content itself with a practice which astonished even himself with its rapid growth, and he began to look around to better the condition of those who were too intent upon money-getting to have any thought for sanitation or laws of health. He took upon himself the task of drawing up a bill providing for extensive sanitary improvements, and through his vigorous determination secured its passage in the legislature of 1870. Upon the organization of the state board of health, he was elected the first health officer, holding the position four years, and during that time working wonders in his department. In the face of all manner of opposition, and even after personal threats had been directed against him, he unflinchingly strode to his goal, enforcing all of the ordinances, and maintaining the most rigorous oversight of sewerage and general health conditions. His sense of justice was aroused from the fact that many charlatans made

the town a Mecca, and he accordingly presented a resolution to the San Francisco Medical Society, petitioning it to appoint a committee to draft a bill for the legislature, regulating the practice of medicine in the state of California. The bill met with the approval of the society, and Dr. Bates was made chairman of the committee, and, with the late Dr. Henry Gibbons, drafted the bill which became a law April 3, 1876. He was a member of the state board of health for six years, and for two years was its chairman. Subsequently he was elected to the chair of clinical practice in the Toland Medical Institute, was appointed visiting physician to the City and County and St. Luke's hospitals. He also was commissioner of the insane for several years, and for a long period served as visiting physician to the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of San Francisco.

In 1882 Dr. Bates' health began to fail, so earnestly and self-sacrificingly had he striven to better the conditions of those around him. Compelled to give up practice, he visited many resorts in search of the boon of health, and finally found, at Highland Springs, Lake county, Cal., that which he desired. Recovering, he purchased the place and installed himself as manager, and under his wise rule it became one of the foremost health resorts in the state. In 1888 he sold the property and purchased the place now occupied by his wife, four and a half miles southeast of Fresno, on North avenue. From time to time he invested in city property, but disposed of the same as the market seemed to warrant. His home place of eighty-six acres supplied the work and interest which his enthusiastic nature craved, and he made of it as nearly an ideal country home as exists in Fresno county. About sixty acres were set out in raisin grapes, twenty in Zinfandel grapes and he had two hundred and fifty orange trees.

Dr. Bates was united in marriage in Tennessee with Virginia Ernest, and of this union there are two surviving children: Fred L. Bates, now in the Klondike, and Dr. Walter E. Bates, a practicing physician and surgeon of Woodland, Cal. Two children are deceased: Kittie, a graduate of Mills College, who died at the age of eighteen, and Cicero, who died when four years old. For his second wife Dr. Bates married Mrs. Eusebia (Reynolds) Worth, widow of William E. Worth, a native of Albany, N. Y., and the founder of the Fulton Iron Works of San Francisco. When his health began to fail his wife established, on Rincon Hill, San Francisco, the Worth house, the first select family hotel to be opened in San Francisco, and received the patronage of the leading people of the Pacific Slope. Mrs. Bates was born in Binghamton, N. Y., and is a woman of keen intelligence. She finds her greatest pleasure in keeping in good order the

delightful home which speaks so eloquently of her gifted husband. So extensive are her holdings, now including one hundred and ninety acres, that she employs a foreman and from five to ten men the year round.

Too much cannot be said of the high moral character of Dr. Bates, nor of his prominence among the mental giants who helped to establish law and order on the western slope. In keeping with his brain and heart, his physique was large and commanding, and his manner dignified and reassuring. He was too generous and disinterested to accumulate a large fortune, for he found it impossible to turn a deaf ear to an appeal which seemed to him just and worthy of his help. One of his finest traits was his loyalty to friends, and it is recalled that he once said: "I would scale a burning mountain barefoot to serve a friend." He was a Mason and Knight Templar, and a man of pronounced social tendencies, being a good story teller and a wonderful inspiration in a sick room. His knowledge of medical and surgical science was exhaustive and clear, and he invariably maintained the best tenets of his absorbing and ever-widening profession.

**ABNER BUEL CROWELL.** Persistent application of intelligent methods of energy and resource are requisites indispensable to the man who would become, and remain, a success. This truth has been illustrated in the career of Abner B. Crowell, who carried to a financial triumph an enterprise, and which awaited but the touch of his well directed energy to make of it a substantial factor in the community. Reference is made to the Hanford cheese factory, which represents ten years of Mr. Crowell's life work, and which, during its time of greatest prosperity, did more to advertise Hanford and vicinity than any other enterprise. When Mr. Crowell first took charge of the factory he found failure written on its books and little promise of its betterment in the future. From the start it flourished under his management, and the Hanford Cheese Manufacturing Company, with himself as manager, was conducted under the most auspicious circumstances. The new management ascertained and profited by the pitfalls of its predecessors, added new machinery, depended upon the best possible materials for manufacturing, and soon established a reputation for its products second to none in the state. Later he acquired a controlling interest in the concern and he continued his policy of improvement, opening every avenue for the making and distribution of a thoroughly high-class article. While factories in Kings and adjoining counties were losing prestige because of want of patronage, the Hanford factory was turning out from two hun-

dred to four hundred pounds of cheese a day, and shipping it not only to cities throughout the state, but as far east as Chicago. Mr. Crowell made cheese-making his constant study, and exerted every nerve to build his business up to the highest possible standard. It was while his expectations were being realized in a most gratifying manner that the factory burned to the ground August 6, 1903, and the labor of years was brought to an abrupt termination. Nevertheless his effort stands forth as one of success and importance, and its influence upon the growing fortunes of the community cannot be overestimated. It represents the greatest ambition in the life of a good and capable man, and that he succeeded in its fulfillment gives evidence of the possession of those traits most needed and appreciated in the business world.

In reviewing the earlier life of Mr. Crowell it is found that he is of English extraction and a member of an early Massachusetts family, in which state his paternal grandfather, Samuel Crowell, was born. This sire served with credit in the war of 1812, and in time moved to Virginia, where he owned and operated a farm. After settling in Sandusky county, Ohio, he led a typical pioneer existence for many years, finding upon his arrival Indian trails instead of roads, and wigwags instead of the huts of the settlers. His own was one of the first houses in the county, and he was obliged to hew down timber in order to erect it. His public spirit led him to work for the Whig cause in his adopted state, and he served the county as sheriff for two terms. His son, John M., the father of Abner, was born in Virginia, and was a boy of tender years when the family emigration to Ohio took place. His education was acquired in the public schools and at an academy which numbered among its students ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes. His marriage in Sandusky county with Ann Thraves gave him an added incentive to make a success of his life, and he continued his farming operations with the assistance of a practical wife. The oldest child in his family, Abner B., was born March 9, 1849, and in 1851 John M. Crowell came to California to investigate the prospects, and for a time combined mining and merchandising in Yuba and Eldorado counties. So well was he pleased with the climate and opportunities of the west that he returned east for his family in 1855, and thereafter continued his former occupations in Yuba county until 1865. He then went to the Hawaiian Islands and engaged in the sugar industry until shortly before his death in 1881, at the age of fifty-five years. His was a strong and forceful character and left the impress of his individuality in the community where he resided. He had gained courage and fearlessness



during service in the Mexican war, in which he gained the rank of corporal, and he was always outspoken in his opinions upon general subjects of the day. He represented Yuba county in the state legislature for one term, and served as associate judge for several years. Fraternally he was connected with the Masons. He had one son and two daughters, the youngest daughter, Lizzie, being the widow of Eugene Covey of San Francisco; and Mary is the wife of John R. Kennedy of Camptonville, Cal.

Abner B. Crowell was six years old when he came to California, and nineteen when he returned to Fremont, Ohio, to attend school, his fellow students including the sons of ex-President Hayes. After completing his education he spent a winter in Indiana and one in Ohio, and after returning to California taught school in Yuba, and the adjoining counties, being one of the pioneer educators of this part of the state. When he arrived in Grangeville, now in Kings county, but then in Tulare county there was as yet no sign of Hanford, or of a railroad, or other signs of human activity not purely pastoral. For a term and a half he taught school in Grangeville, and in 1873 took up his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which, at that time, was a dreary and unpromising property. There were scarcely any settlers for miles around, and only two within sight of his farm, and a deal of work was required to render it homelike, pleasant or profitable. In this he was ably assisted by the wife whom he married May 3, 1874, and who was formerly Mary Kanawyer, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Peter Kanawyer, who was born in Indiana. The Kanawyer family came to California in 1869, settling near Grangeville, where Mr. Kanawyer bought railroad land, and became a prominent rancher of the district. He was one of the supporters and originators of the People's Ditch, and assisted in the building of this important waterway. Mr. Crowell also became interested in the great ditch, contributing his share of money and personal effort toward its building. In time he bought the cheese factory previously mentioned, managing and controlling it in connection with the cultivation of his home property. At the same time he has been prominent in politics, and especially forward in educational matters, serving as a director of the Hanford Union High School since its organization, and as president of the board four years. He was also trustee of the school district one term. He is fraternally connected with the Masons. Nine children have been born into the Crowell household, of whom Letus N., an attorney in Hanford, and Alvin, who died at the age of twenty-two years in 1900, were both graduates of the law department of the University of California. Charles C. is a farmer

near Turlock, Cal.; Leo C. is a cheese-maker by trade, in the employ of the San Joaquin Ice Company; Arthur G. is a farmer near Turlock, Cal.; Mary is a student at the State University of California; and Lizzie, Clarence V. and Beulah are living at home. Mr. Crowell is engaged in general farming, dairying and stock-raising, and has about one hundred and twenty acres under alfalfa. He prefers Holstein cows, and his dairy contains about fifty of this reliable breed. He is one of the most highly honored of the early settlers of Kings county, and has been one of its most interested and helpful upbuilders. His faith in its future was but recently indicated anew by his purchase of another farm of three hundred and fifty acres in Stanislaus county, which is worth about \$60 an acre. Thus has he traveled the weary way of the pioneer, and the prosperous way of the successful business man of to-day, turning his opportunities to good account, and impressing his worth upon a community educated partially through his efforts to a high standard of moral and financial well being.

---

ANDREW J. WELLS. Although a resident of California for almost a quarter of a century, A. J. Wells is united by close ties to West Virginia, for it was in that state that he was born August 3, 1851. His father, the late Benjamin Wells, whose recent death in 1902 deprived California of one of her most successful agriculturists and esteemed citizens, was born seventy-five miles from the city of Wheeling, W. Va. A son of John Dusty Wells, of Virginia, he wedded Miss Teresa Conaway, a native of the same state. By occupation a millwright and an expert in his line, Mr. Wells ran a mill in the east until 1880 and then came to the Pacific coast country.

The first year of his residence in California was spent in Solano county, and the following year he took up his residence in Fresno county, purchasing at that time (1881) one hundred and sixty acres of land near Del Rey, and here it was that he spent the remainder of his life busily engaged in the cultivation of his land. At the time of his demise he had attained the advanced age of seventy-nine years, and of his children three are still living, namely, Andrew J.; Alfred; and Emma, the latter two residents of Virginia.

Reared and educated in his native state, Andrew J. Wells accompanied his father to California and spent a couple of years in ranching in Tulare county, prior to settling permanently upon the place he now occupies in Fresno county. Purchasing eighty acres,

six miles to the southeast of Sanger, he planted extensive orchards and vineyards. He has thirty-five acres in vines and twelve acres are devoted to other fruits, the balance of his farm being used in producing alfalfa and cereals. The marriage of Mr. Wells took place in West Virginia in 1880, and united him with Miss Elizabeth Underwood, of West Virginia. Four children blessed their union, Florence E., Emery A., Bessie R. and Frank R. Mr. Wells is an intelligent and public-spirited citizen and is highly respected in his community. Like his father in politics, he is a firm supporter of the Republican party.

---

**JOHN Q. DRUMMOND.** Distinguished alike as an early pioneer of California, and as one who has been actively and prominently associated with the wonderful growth and development of this grand commonwealth, John Q. Drummond, of Ingomar, holds an honored position among the esteemed and valued residents of Merced county. A man of sterling character and worth, he has won well-deserved success in his active career through his own ability, wise management and honest dealings, and the respect in which he is held by all gives evidence of his upright and manly life. A son of Andrew Drummond, he was born June 20, 1827, in Licking county, Ohio, of substantial ancestry.

Born and reared in Pennsylvania, Andrew Drummond became an early settler of Ohio, and for a number of years was engaged in farming in Licking county. Removing to Illinois in 1838, he took up land in Ogle county, and there pursued his chosen vocation until his death. He married Elizabeth Lutzenhizer, who was born in Pennsylvania, and died, at the age of sixty years, in Illinois. She bore him eleven children, five of them being boys, and of these John Q. was the sixth child in order of birth.

John Q. Drummond acquired a practical education in his native district, attending school in the little log cabin, with its customary puncheon floor, shake-covered roof, and slab benches. Settling in Ashton, Lee county, Ill., when a young man, he was there successfully employed for a time as a merchant and grain dealer. In 1850 he came to California with the gold seekers, crossing the plains with ox-teams, and being six months en route. Locating in Eldorado county, he worked in the Georgetown mines for nine years, meeting with average success. Then, after making a visit in Illinois, he located in Sacramento, and for three years was engaged in freighting to the Washoe mines, in Nevada, and while thus employed hauled the first battery for crushing ore used in Virginia City, an under-

taking that took him six months, being snowed in on the way. Losing his horses by drowning in 1862, Mr. Drummond entered the employ of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, and assisted in grading the bed from San Jose to Gilroy, from San Quentin Point to San Rafael, and other parts of the road, and also helped in the building of the road through the Livermore mountains. Coming to the San Joaquin valley in 1871, Mr. Drummond took a prominent part in the construction of the Kings River canal, beginning work as foreman of a gang of men, becoming superintendent of construction, and later was general manager of the work, his services in all covering a period of eighteen years. Turning his attention then to agricultural pursuits, Mr. Drummond bought three-fourths of a section of land near Ingomar, and has since purchased additional land, having now six hundred acres irrigated by water from the ditch, one hundred and sixty acres in the mountains, and three hundred and twenty acres in the Panoche district. As a stock-raiser and dairyman he is carrying on a large and lucrative business, and is also financially interested in the Ingomar warehouse.

In 1852 Mr. Drummond married, in Illinois, Eliza Jane Rosecrans, a native of Ohio and cousin of Gen. William S. Rosecrans, who acquired fame in the Civil war. She died, in Sacramento, Cal., in 1866. Of the four children born of their union, two are living, namely: Lucy, wife of J. E. Hollingsworth, of Ingomar; and Arthur W., a well-known farmer of Ingomar. Politically Mr. Drummond uniformly cast his vote with the Republican party, and for one term served as county supervisor. Fraternally he is a member of Los Banos Lodge, F. & A. M.

---

**ROBERT L. STOCKTON.** The superintendent of schools of Kern county needs no introduction to the people among whom he has been known as an efficient educator since 1881. His present position is perhaps the truest test of both his ability and popularity, for, not being a politician in any sense of the word, he was elected in November, 1902, by a majority of over one thousand votes. Several years of service on the board of education had given convincing proof of Mr. Stockton's practical theories of education, and the many students now occupying positions of trust and responsibility throughout the state, who owe their educational privileges to his guidance, as well as the many warm friends drawn to him by the force of his genial and helpful personality are factors which have brought him within range of the appreciation of his ability.

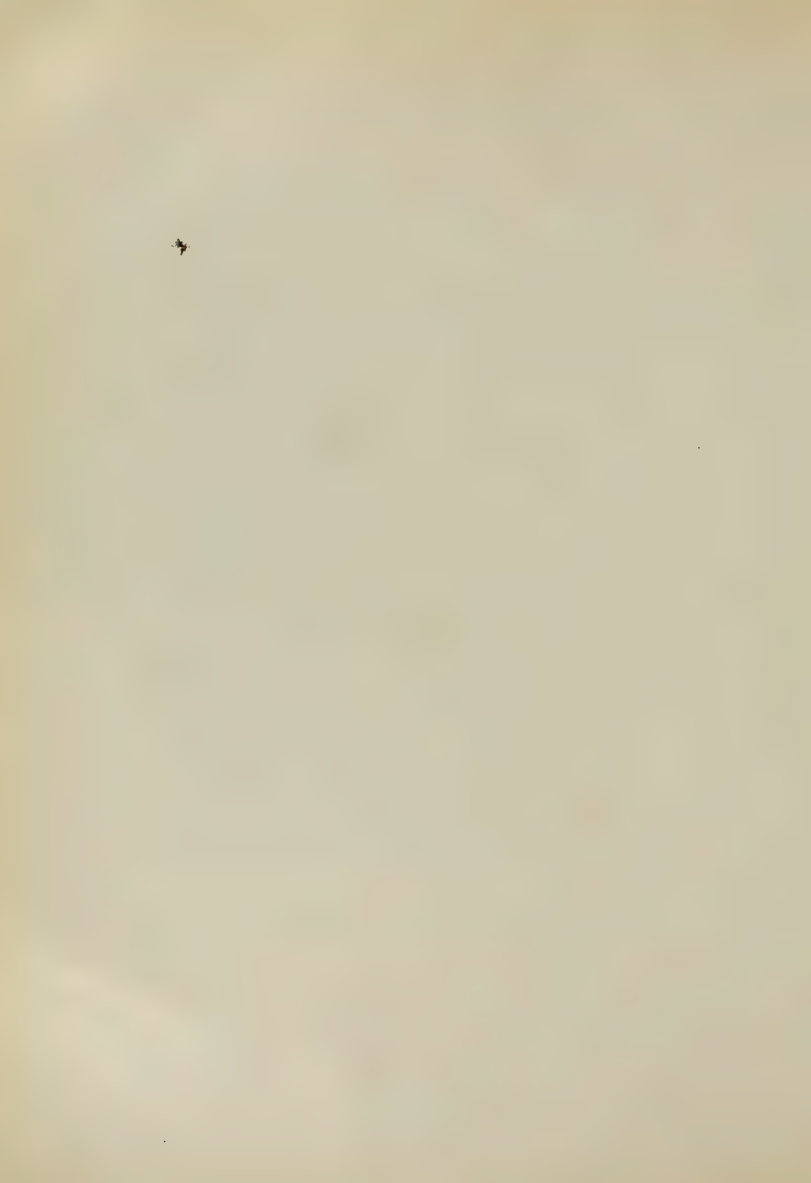




*Josie M. Ritchie.*



*J. M. Ritchie*





Mr. Stockton is a comparatively young man to stand so high in his responsible calling. He was born in Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, October 25, 1863, and is one in a family of nineteen children, fourteen of whom are still living. His parents were Dr. Isaac and Louise (Spiller) Stockton, natives of Illinois and Tennessee respectively, and his paternal grandparents were Robert and Phoebe (Whiteside) Stockton, natives of Kentucky, and the latter a cousin of General Whiteside, of historic fame. The paternal great-grandfather, a pioneer of Kentucky, located in and improved a part of the fertile valley which still bears his name. At the age of sixteen Dr. Stockton enlisted for service in the Black Hawk war, serving in a home regiment. From the public schools he went to Shurtleff College, near Alton, Ill., and his medical education was acquired at the Physio-Medical Sanitarium College at Cincinnati, Ohio, from which he was graduated in 1838. He practiced medicine in Illinois for eight years, married there, and afterward lived in both Kansas and Texas. In the latter state he was waylaid by robbers and shot seven times, but owing to a sound constitution and plenty of grit he recovered and continued his practice until coming to California in 1856. Dr. Stockton selected Sonoma county as his future field of endeavor, and developed the well-known Stockton orchard, since associated with his name. In 1872 he removed to Kern county and improved the Stockton ranch in the southern part of the county, afterward making his home in Los Angeles, where he practiced medicine, and whence he returned to the ranch where his death occurred at the age of eighty-three. He was one of the honored and resourceful pioneers of Kern county, and his whole life bears tribute to the worth of high ideals, whether applied to civil, professional or private life. His wife lived to be fifty-seven years old.

Robert L. Stockton was nine years old when he came to Kern county, and he was educated in its public schools, and in the Los Angeles Business College. An apt pupil and studious, he received a teacher's certificate in 1881, when eighteen years old, and has ever since been identified with the schools in different parts of Kern county. At the same time he has been interested in stock-raising, owning, with his brother, three thousand acres of hill land, upon which he lived until the nature of his duties as county superintendent of schools necessitated his removal to Bakersfield in 1903. Upon his assumption of the office of superintendent of schools, the city of Bakersfield and the rest of the county had different courses of instruction. This was found to work a hardship upon the people residing in

the county, but the courses have since been harmonized, and are now uniform throughout the county.

December 27, 1885, Mr. Stockton married Frances Engle, who was born in Kern county December 24, 1866, a daughter of the late David Engle, one of the pioneer stockmen of Kern county. The eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Stockton are: Ralph T., David Denton, Francis Warren, Marion Jewett, Irving, Jesse DeWitt, Clara Roberta and Frank. Mr. Stockton is a staunch Democrat, and is connected fraternally with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Native Sons of the Golden West.

JAMES M. RITCHIE. The importance of its bearing on the industries of the world, and the necessity of individual effort in maintaining a standard of agricultural excellence, is thoroughly understood by James M. Ritchie, one of the foremost promoters of grain production in Stanislaus county. His association with this section began in 1868, when he supplemented an extended wholesale grocery business in both Scotland and America by identification with ranching interests in San Joaquin county, engaging as foreman on a ranch near Stockton for many years. In the meantime he had become impressed with the many advantages of climate and soil around him, and in the western part of Stanislaus county purchased fourteen hundred acres in the foothills, operating the same as a sheep ranch for three years. The next nine years were spent on his wife's ranch near Stockton. His present ranch of sixteen hundred and forty acres came into his possession in 1883, and this has been his home since New Year's day of 1884. As a grower and shipper of grain and barley he has been successful beyond his expectations. Mrs. Ritchie's ranch consists of three hundred and twenty acres, where general farming is conducted under the direction of Mr. Ritchie. Improvements of a labor-saving and modern nature have succeeded each other since Mr. Ritchie became a land owner, and that he has taken advantage of all that appealed to his ideas of practicability and utility, is the best evidence of his progressiveness and success. Notwithstanding his extreme industry and business shrewdness in making every part of his property count for its full value, he is one of the most enthusiastic advocates of the latter-day comfortable and pleasant country life, surrounding himself and family with those aids which modern ingenuity has devised for bringing to the fields the advantages of the city resident. His fine home, erected in 1900, carries out the plan of a refined and progressive mind, externally and internally, leaving little to be desired by its rural occupants. The house is two stories in height,

and presents a cheery picture of convenience and quiet elegance. Mrs. Ritchie was formerly Mrs. Josie M. Merwin, of Stockton, and a native of Peoria, Ill., where she resided until coming to California in 1870. Of her first marriage she has one son, Milton D. Merwin, who resides at home. Two children have come to brighten the Ritchie home, David M. and Josie Belle, the latter of whom is the wife of E. M. Lightner, an oil merchant of Fresno county. David M. Ritchie married Florence Finney, of Oakland. He is engaged in speculating in the gold mines of Goldfield, Nev.

The first recollections of Mr. Ritchie are centered in the mountainous and picturesque midland county of Perth, Scotland, where he was born May 18, 1844. While his ancestry was associated with the tilling of the soil and the herding of flocks, his father departed from the family tradition sufficiently to master the science of civil engineering, in which capacity he was employed by his government for many years. His mother, May (McDonald) Ritchie, was also a native of Perthshire, her family being one of those long established in the midlands. There were three sons and four daughters to share the resources of the father, and each received the practical common-school education compulsory in the land of simple living and vigorous constitutions. James M. began at the bottom rung of the ladder in a retail grocery business in Glasgow, Scotland, and after three years of increasingly responsible experience, immigrated to the United States in 1866, locating at Keokuk, Iowa, where he engaged in the grocery business for about three years. His removal to California in the fall of 1868 was the realization of a long-thought-out plan, the wisdom and satisfaction of which he has never had cause to question. His entrance into the opulence of the west through the portals of agriculture has proved his financial upbuilding, and his association with the political and general undertakings of his county has demonstrated the possession of altogether genial and influential traits of character. Mr. Ritchie is a Republican, but the uncertainties of office-holding have never held any charm for him. He is a thorough-going, practical landsman, and though conservative, as are the majority of his countrymen, is graciously adaptive to the customs and people among whom his later life is being passed.

---

JUDGE DAVID S. COVERDALE. Few more consistent, practical, or well balanced careers have contributed to the pioneer and later development of Delano than that of Judge David S. Coverdale, veteran of the Civil war, and well known as a justice of the peace, notary, health officer, president of the board of trade, promoter

of waterways, and extensive real estate operator. From a long line of English ancestors Judge Coverdale inherits those substantial and conservative traits which have been of inestimable value in his work in a growing community. His father, Jonathan Coverdale, spent the first fifteen years of his life in England, and then came with his parents to Lower Canada, where he lived until attaining his majority. In Canada he married Sallie Brisbon, a native of Lower Canada, and of Irish-German descent, with whom he removed to a farm in Lapeer county, Mich. He found the country a stranger to the improvements of man, and set about with characteristic energy to clear his land, and establish a general farming and stock-raising enterprise. Six children were born into his family, of whom David S. was the eldest. He was born March 16, 1835, in Detroit, Mich., his mother being there temporarily. In 1850 Jonathan Coverdale crossed the plains in an ox-train for California, by way of Council Bluffs, Salt Lake City and the Platte river, and in Sacramento, Cal., engaged in teaming and the building of levees. His dream of western success was not destined for fulfillment, for a year after arriving on the coast he was taken ill and died, at the age of about forty-five years. Subsequently his wife married again, and died in Michigan at the age of fifty-five.

After his mother's second marriage David S. Coverdale started out on his own responsibility, armed with a common school education, and with a determination which is bound to win results. Settling in Goodhue county, Minn., then a territory, he worked on a farm by the month for his uncle, and while thus employed won the confidence of his relative to such an extent that he subsequently made him manager of his ranch, located near Red Wing, Minn. Having friends in the railroad business, he secured the position as station agent of the Northwestern Stage Company for a couple of years, and then engaged in an agricultural implement business at Winona, Minn., for several years. While in this town the Civil war broke out, and he enlisted as a private in Company K, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and because of meritorious service was soon promoted from private, becoming in consecutive order corporal, sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant and captain in the same company and regiment. During the war he participated in the following engagements: Mill Springs, Fort Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, Iuka, the campaign under Buell, Stone River, Crab Orchard, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. At the battle of Chickamauga he was wounded in the right thigh, and left on the field without anything to eat for three days, and after being taken prisoner made

his escape at night by crawling on his hands and one knee. At Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain he commanded his company, although he was obliged to walk with a cane. The regiment veteranized for the balance of the war, taking part in the battles of Tunnel Hill, Mill Creek, Dug Gap, Resaca, Adairsville, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta, Smyrna, Peachtree Creek, Atlanta, Altoona Mountain, Peavine Creek, Ringgold, first and second Tunnel Hill, first and second Rocky Face, Dalton first and second, second battle of Resaca, Snake Creek Gap, New Hope Church, Big Shanty, Pine Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, six days' siege; Kalbs Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, second battle, two days' siege; Marietta, Chattahooche, Altoona Mountain, second battle, and Ezra Church. Also the company was with Sherman in his march to the sea, at the taking of Savannah, the campaign in North and South Carolina, the capture of Goldsburg and Raleigh, and the final surrender of the Confederate army. To Richmond, Washington and Fort Snelling, where he was discharged as captain of Company K, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

In 1866, September 12, Judge Coverdale married Nellie Gould, a native of New Jersey, whose parents settled in Minnesota at Winona at an early day. One daughter, Florence, was born to Judge and Mrs. Coverdale. From Winona, Minn., Judge Coverdale went to Eau Claire, Wis., where he owned and operated a hotel for two or three years, removing from thence to Willmar, Minn., where he again ran a hotel for three years. Selling out here he went to Burlington, Iowa, for a short time, then to Bloomington, Ill., where he operated a small grocery for three years. Again selling out he went to Lena, Ill., bought and conducted a hotel for two years, when he became identified as commercial traveler for a large advertising concern, remaining with them three years. He next engaged in an implement business in Peoria, Ill., for a few years, and November 1, 1887, arrived in Delano, Cal.

In Delano the judge signified his intention of remaining by erecting a home, planting trees, and becoming as comfortable as the crude conditions then existing permitted. He engaged in real estate business from the first, and heartily entered into various lines of activity suggested by the peculiarities of climate and soil. He became one of the promoters and the treasurer and manager of the Poso Irrigating Company, financed the same to a large extent, and when the contractor failed, ably directed the enterprise through the hard times, sold most of the stock, and succeeded in digging one hundred and twenty-five miles of the ditch and six miles of flume. This undertaking took four years, and the water was secured for the district as agreed

upon in the terms of contract. Judge Coverdale is treasurer of the enterprise at the present time, and much regrets the internal strife which prevented the completion of the canal as originally decided upon. He has been active in Republican politics for many years, but has always been averse to office holding. He is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of Winona Lodge No. 18, F. & A. M., and of the Wawatonna Chapter, R. A. M., and Cyrene Commandery No. 9, K. T., of Wawatonna. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic in Delano until it burned out. He is a man whose mental superiority is borne out in his physical stature, which is six feet three inches in height; and he still carries himself like a soldier, bearing with dignity and modesty the reverses and honors which have broadened his life.

---

GEORGE WASHINGTON HOLMES. Occupying an honored position among the many worthy citizens of Fresno county is George W. Holmes, who is now serving as postmaster at Selma. A man of integrity, industry and sterling worth, he has been successful in his business enterprises by earnest effort acquiring a fair share of this world's goods. A son of Jacob Holmes, he was born March 3, 1846, in Fayette county, Ohio.

A native of New Jersey, Jacob Holmes was born May 10, 1806. He was reared and educated on the Atlantic coast, living there until 1840. Following the surging tide of emigration westward in that year, he moved to Fayette county, Ohio, where he took up land, from which he improved a farm. Going thence to Highland county, Ohio, in 1857, he there continued in agricultural pursuits during his active career, living in that part of the state until his death, March 2, 1896, in his ninety-first year. He married Sarah Worden, who was born in New Jersey, in 1810, and died in Ohio, in 1892. Six sons and an equal number of daughters blessed their union, and of these three children died in infancy, five sons and four daughters growing to years of maturity.

The ninth child in order of birth to his parents, George W. Holmes was bred and educated in Ohio. Removing to Illinois in the fall of 1865, he found employment in Biggsville, where he became manager of the lumber yard for the Criswell Lumber Company, after which he was clerk in a mercantile house for two years. Then, in company with a friend, he bought out his employer, and four years later purchased the interest of his partner in the business. He established a large and remunerative trade as a general mer-

chant, continuing there until his store and its contents were destroyed by fire in 1883. Migrating then to Nebraska, Mr. Holmes bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in York county, near York, and was there engaged in farming from 1883 until 1891. Coming to California in that year, he purchased forty acres of land on the McCall road, three and one-half miles north of Selma, and began the culture of fruit and grapes. In 1896 he bought a ranch of forty acres, lying south of Selma, and was there engaged in business as a dairyman for six years. In 1902 Mr. Holmes was appointed postmaster at Selma, and, obtaining his commission February 15, 1902, has since served in that capacity, performing the duties devolving upon him with ability and fidelity.

While a resident of Illinois, Mr. Holmes was married in 1866 to Catherine Baxter, a native of Maryland, and they have seven children living, namely: Sarah Elizabeth, wife of Walter Fisher, of Los Angeles; John A., of San Francisco; Viola, wife of E. H. Eskew, of Los Angeles; Minnie, wife of J. D. Greene, of Selma; Lela, wife of Charles Heiguira; Helen, assistant postmaster at Selma; and Ralph Harrison, at school in Los Angeles. Mr. Holmes is a sound Republican in politics, and while in Nebraska served two terms as county assessor of York county and two terms as county supervisor. He is a man of deep religious convictions, and is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**WILLIAM ROBINSON.** John A. Robinson, Sr., now retired, is an able representative of the family of that name who had long been identified with Boston, Mass. The ranch of this honored pioneer, about twelve hundred acres in extent, skirting the Merced river, and in the vicinity of Snelling, is now managed by his sons, and is one of the fertile and valuable properties which bespeak the wise and practical rule of the pioneer. His family numbers seven children, namely: Charles A., the oldest, a United States deputy surveyor, also mineral deputy surveyor; William, of this sketch; John A., Jr., a stock-raiser of Merced county; Mrs. F. B. Collins, of Seattle, Wash.; Fred G., on the home ranch; Walter H., an educator; and George, living at the home place and attending the University of California.

John A. Robinson, Sr., was born in East Malden, Mass., April 9, 1825, and came to California in 1849, with his cousins, Charles and Gus Hall. The long journey around the Horn was in no way remarkable for adventure. Mr. Robinson went to the mines along the American river, achieving more than average success in both Placer and

Mariposa counties. His operations were somewhat retarded by an accident to his leg, sustained by a falling piece of rock, which had proven an inconvenience for many years and finally was amputated. Owing to this injury Mr. Robinson gave up mining, turning his attention to cultivating a rented farm near Snelling. In 1866 he had made such headway that he was able to purchase his home ranch of two hundred acres, and this has been increased to twelve hundred acres of land on the Merced river. His land proved particularly fertile, much of it being rich bottom-land, and he placed it under fruit and stock and pasture, devoting his energies practically to this industry the balance of his active life. His original purchase was one of the first fruit farms of the county. He impressed his vigor and influence upon the community which he did so much to improve, and now, in his eightieth year, he finds himself surrounded by the esteem and affectionate regard not only of the older, but of the younger generation. He lives with his son and namesake, John A. Robinson, Jr., of Merced county, his wife, formerly Agnes Graham, having died in 1902. Mrs. Robinson was born in Ireland and reared in Massachusetts.

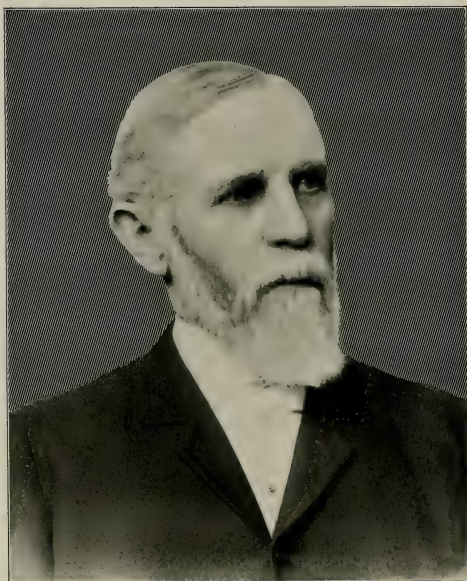
William Robinson was born in Merced county October 29, 1862; his earlier years did not differ from those of practically all of his schoolmates in Merced county, for he worked hard on the home farm, and regarded the opportunity of going to school a luxury to be used wisely and thoroughly appreciated. When through with school he devoted his entire energies to farming and stock-raising, and this early application, with desire to do his work well, is responsible for the large measure of success which has come his way. In 1896 he rented three hundred and seventeen acres, which he has since purchased, one hundred and four acres of which is rich bottom-land. The lowlands are devoted to corn, and the uplands to grain and pasture. Many improvements signalize his industry and progressive spirit, and his standing in the community is the best proof of his ability, integrity and worth. Mr. Robinson is of a social turn of mind, and for years has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and in connection with the political attitude of his family, it is interesting to know that his father was one of five men in Merced county to raise the Union flag in 1862 and keep it floating over his home during the war.

---

**WILLIAM B. CHARLES, M. D.** A few links in the ancestral chain of our subject takes us back to colonial days. For it was before Washington's command of the army or the signing of the Declaration of Independence that Jonathan







*John W. Barnard*



Charles, the great-grandsire of Dr. William B. Charles, left his native heather and English home to settle beside the blue Potomac in Maryland.

The grandfather, Nathan Charles, who was a devout Quaker, was born in Maryland, and with his parents removed to North Carolina, where he was married. In 1818 he went to what is now known as Washington county, Ind., and in that new and unsettled country engaged in farming and also followed the saddler's trade. He attained a venerable age, dying in 1868, when ninety-one years old.

The father of Dr. Charles, Levin Charles, was born in North Carolina and went to Indiana with his parents when a child of four years, receiving his training in the latter state, and in fact spending his entire life within its confines. He became an agriculturist of some importance for those early days, and passed away when in his sixty-sixth year. First a Whig, on the formation of the Republican party he joined its forces and was at once one of its staunchest allies. He married America Rodman, a native of Shelby county, Ky., whose father, Hugh Rodman, also a native of Kentucky, settled in Washington county, Ind., about 1825. He served in the war of 1812 as a commissioned officer and died when in his seventy-sixth year, having spent his active years as a tiller of the soil. His father, Hugh Rodman, Sr., was born in Bucks county, Pa., and settled in Kentucky in a very early day, in 1786, going by boat down the Ohio river. He was a descendant of Scotch ancestors. Mrs. America Charles died in Indiana in 1875, at the age of fifty-two years, having become the mother of eleven children, of whom William B. was the sixth in order of birth.

Dr. Charles was born in Salem, Washington county, Ind., March 12, 1857. After attending the schools of the latter city he received a higher training in an academy, and subsequently began teaching school. It was while thus employed that he began reading medicine and for five years diligently followed this method of self-instruction. Later entering the University of Louisville, he graduated from that institution March 1, 1887, and entered upon the practice of his profession in Norcatur, Kans., where he remained for eight years. In 1894 he identified himself with Kings county, Cal., locating in Hanford in March of that year, and has ever since made it his home, building up a lucrative practice and endearing himself to all by his thorough understanding of the medical science and by his winning personality.

The marriage of Dr. Charles and Carrie S. Wildfang, a native of Wisconsin, was celebrated in Norcatur, Kans., November 30, 1887, and they have two children, Ethel and William Gordon, who are at home with their parents. While Dr.

Charles is a very busy man, he has time to devote to measures which tend toward the betterment of his home locality and withal is a loyal, public-spirited citizen. He is a Republican of the deepest dye, and on the ticket of that party was elected to the office of county physician, a position which he has filled with credit for the past five years. His interest in his profession is deep and sincere and he keeps in touch with the progress and improvement which medical science is constantly making. Fraternally he is a Mason, holding membership in Hanford Lodge No. 279.

JAMES R. McDONALD. Honored among the early pioneers of the state, James R. McDonald will long be remembered both as a political and business factor of the country, and a citizen whose moral influence it would be impossible to measure. For more than a half century he gave his best efforts toward the development of natural resources, the promotion of all enterprises calculated to advance the material welfare of whatever community he made his home, and the moral uplifting of all with whom he came in contact. In Grayson, San Joaquin valley, where he lived for more than thirty years, his memory is revered by old and young, for it is here that his efforts in behalf of the country's interests were most successful. To those who knew him best the record of his life will be regarded with affectionate interest; to those whose paths have not crossed his, such a record will contain all the interest which attaches to the lives of the early pioneers.

The McDonald family is of Scottish origin and in the lives of the western emigrants have been demonstrated the splendid qualities which distinguish that sturdy nation. The head of the family, Alexander McDonald, was born April 12, 1789, in Belead, Scotland, and in manhood married Helen Sturten, who was born August 12, 1792, in the same locality. A farmer by occupation, he first leased a farm known as Belead and later one called Pitkur, the latter being about twelve miles from Dundee. This was a valuable property, well improved and cultivated, and for many years he carried on farming successfully. It was in 1834 that he decided to try his fortune among the greater opportunities of the western world, and accordingly with two sons, John and Alexander, he took passage for the United States, with the understanding that the family were to follow in another year, after a home had been prepared for them. Their first information was received from the emigrants several months later, stating that the location selected for a home was in the neighborhood of Jacksonville, Ill., and for the family to prepare to make the trip in

the spring of 1835. It was no small undertaking for the mother to make the journey with the care of nine children, the youngest of whom was about three years old. However, the journey was safely accomplished, by steamer to London, thence by the Canada to New York city (the latter trip occupying six weeks), by rail to Pittsburg, by boat down the Ohio river to Cairo, then up the Mississippi river to Alton, then the Illinois to Naples, landing them within fifteen miles of their new home. This consisted of a thousand acres of prairie land, and four hundred acres of timber land, the latter located four miles southwest of the home farm. This property had been entered by Mr. McDonald shortly after his arrival in the state, and for the temporary shelter of his family he erected a log house, afterward putting up another of brick, the brick being burnt upon the farm. Success attended Mr. McDonald's efforts, but during the family's first year in the state, nearly every member was taken ill with fever, which was then prevalent throughout the country. All recovered with the exception of the father, who passed away in 1835, and is now buried in Bethel Church cemetery, three miles from the old home. Alexander McDonald was a man of remarkable character, strong common sense and a determination that brought him success in whatever line he attempted. The mother, left alone with the care of her large family, bent every effort to rear her children and train them to ways of industry and honest manhood and womanhood. That she succeeded a record of the McDonald family will show beyond doubt. Her death occurred in the early part of the year 1845, taking from the home a loving and always faithful mother, from the circles of the Presbyterian Church a consistent and helpful member, and from the community a pioneer woman who had done no little to uplift the standard of social intercourse. She was the mother of twelve children, namely: Elizabeth, born January 7, 1814; William, February 4, 1816; Jane, May 12, 1818; John, September 11, 1819; Alexander, June 13, 1821; Andrew N., April 14, 1823; Charles, February 13, 1825; a twin of Charles, who died in infancy; Maria S., November 27, 1826; James R., September 17, 1828; Sarah F., October 19, 1830; and Thomas E., April 20, 1832. All but one or two of the family married and reared families, members of which have attained honored places in the various professions, business and political circles, and have ably upheld the standard of honor set by the first emigrant of the name in America.

James R. McDonald was born in Belead, Scotland, the seventh son and tenth child born to his parents. He was only six years old when the home was changed to the prairies of Illinois, and in that location he spent his childhood and boy-

hood. He found his boyhood a very busy and active one, beginning to plow at the age of eleven years and in many ways assisting in the farm work. He received only a limited education, the school he attended (a subscription school) being in session about three months in the year, and held in a rough building of unhewn logs, with puncheon floor, and slabs for benches and desks, and a huge fireplace occupying the entire end of the room. After the death of his mother, which occurred when he was about seventeen years old, the property was divided and the home broken up, the six children left going to make their home with the married members of the family, while John McDonald was appointed administrator of the estate and guardian of those still minors. Each of the children had about \$700 in property and cash. James R. McDonald made his home for about a year with his sister Jane, helping on the farm when there was work to be done, at other times working for neighboring farmers. During the winter of 1846-47 he attended the public school at Manchester, and while located in that place joined a class in geography, the lesson being learned by singing—a unique method, but Mr. McDonald has always said that he accomplished more in those twelve lessons than he ever had in the same length of time, employed in any other way. Through the influence of the gentleman with whom he boarded, Dr. Nettleton, Mr. McDonald was induced to attend Jubilee College, located in Peoria county, Ill., near the forks of the Kickapoo creek. He remained there for one year, when he was notified by his guardian that his funds were exhausted. On leaving school he cast about for some congenial occupation, and having considerable mechanical ability he decided to learn the trade of carpenter. This plan was opposed by his brother Charles, who had entered commercial life, and who finally induced him to take a clerkship. A position was secured with the firm of Stevenson & Lurton, with whom he remained for six months, when he became connected with his brother Alexander in the same capacity.

For some time Mr. McDonald was satisfied with the peaceful life he led as a clerk in Jacksonville. However, the report of the great gold discovery in California, where it was said fortunes could be made in a day, ended his contentment and he longed to come west, as some of his neighbors were then preparing for the trip. He was induced by his brother John to remain in Illinois and take charge of affairs while he himself should make the westward trip. Circumstances, however, prevented John from leaving, so James McDonald came instead. In company with seven others, George Hufnagle, Braxton Davenport and Bazzel, his brother, Sit and W. L.

Reed, William A. Sanders and James Brown, on April 9, 1850, he started upon the long and perilous trip. The party was thoroughly equipped with everything of first-class quality, wagons, harness, mules, provisions, etc. Were it possible in this brief space to recount the history of their trip as written down by Mr. McDonald himself, it would make a story of unsurpassed interest. Suffice it to say that on August 28, four months and nineteen days from the time they left Jacksonville, they reached Ringgold, the first mining camp on the trip. Several of their company had left them at the Humboldt sink and they finished the journey alone. An incident of interest was the return of Mr. McDonald in 1886 to his old home in Illinois, when he made the journey in four days and at one-half the cost of his first trip across the continent.

After disposing of their superfluous articles and stock, the party then returned to Ringgold from Sacramento, where they had spent a few days, and putting up a cabin proceeded to engage in various occupations, some teaming and some mining, during the first winter. Two men with whom Mr. McDonald had associated that year were T. B. McFarland, now justice of the supreme court, and Ross Sargent, of Stockton, who then kept the American hotel in the town. In the spring of 1851 the Reeds and Mr. McDonald concluded to try their fortunes north on the high Sierras, and accordingly disposed of their property in Ringgold and with a mule each started for the new location. They spent some time at the American river and Nevada City, after which they joined a party of old eastern friends and went to the Feather river and entered upon mining operations. One trying experience which Mr. McDonald had during this time was a journey made to Marysville for provisions. Shortly afterward they located on Poorman's creek near Onion valley and there made considerable money, the largest nugget taken out being worth \$1,800. For three years following his arrival in California Mr. McDonald continued in the occupation of mining, meeting with just enough success to continue in the hope of finding his fortune some day. Finally the Reeds and Mr. McDonald went to Tuolumne county, each to visit relatives and at the same time cast about for a better location than they had. It was there the old friends separated, each going his own way in an effort to earn a livelihood. The mining ventures of Mr. McDonald were ended by a letter from his brother Charles, written from San Francisco and asking him to come and meet himself and wife, who had just arrived. Accordingly he joined them in that city and eventually he and his brother engaged in farming operations in Alameda county. This venture did not prove much of a success financially, although the prof-

its were fair at that time and would be considered excellent at the present. In the fall of 1856 they discontinued farming and bought out the mercantile establishment of the Winton brothers, at Haywards, and conducted this business together for about a year, when Charles sold his interest to Alexander Allen and returned east. Late in the fall of 1859 Mr. McDonald sold his interest in the business to his partner, closing up the partnership on the 1st of January, 1860. Following the settling up of his affairs Mr. McDonald made a trip to Illinois via Panama as a delegate to the Republican convention held in Chicago that nominated Abraham Lincoln for president of the United States.

Upon returning to the west again, Mr. McDonald's first venture was the purchase of a steam thrasher, the first introduced on that side of the bay. However, it was both too new and too expensive an undertaking to be a success financially, so he sold out and spent the winter of 1861-62 on his sheep ranch in the Livermore hills on the eastern edge of the valley. The following spring he accepted a position with the California Wool Growers to look after their packing house in San Francisco, but remained there only a few months when he returned to Haywards, going from there to Walnut Creek, Contra Costa county, and establishing a general merchandise store. Largely through Mr. McDonald's influence a postoffice was established at that place, his appointment to the postmastership naturally following. In all public movements he took a most active interest, and did much to advance the general welfare. Becoming dissatisfied with his business ventures Mr. McDonald located in Healdsburg, Sonoma county, and established a general merchandise store. All this time he had been acting as a partner of Charles Whitmore, and during his residence in this place of about four years they dissolved the partnership and Mr. McDonald continued alone. In April, 1869, Mr. McDonald left Healdsburg in search of a better location, finding it in Grayson, Stanislaus county, where he purchased a store and in conjunction with W. J. Tilley began in business May 20, 1869. They continued together until the 1st of January, 1874, when Mr. McDonald purchased his partner's interest. During these years the little city of Grayson had been gradually growing; houses were built and places of business established, among them the Wells-Fargo Express Company, of which Mr. McDonald held the agency for many years. An impetus to the general business prospects of Grayson was given by the discovery of quicksilver in the mountain range west of the town. A number of the citizens then formed a corporation, of which Mr. McDonald was chosen president, and with a large capital stock to insure financial prestige, mining operations were

begin. Not meeting with the success anticipated the mine was eventually abandoned. This same mine and many others have been developed of recent years and are very successful. Very shortly after his location on the west side Mr. McDonald realized that the great need was a water supply to make the land productive. In 1871 the San Joaquin and King's River Canal Irrigation Company had begun a canal at the junction of the Fresno slough and the San Joaquin river, but for some reason it was never extended beyond Crow's Landing. In 1874 the irrigation question became one of the most absorbing interests in the various granges of the country, and eventually led to a mass meeting (which was held in Mr. McDonald's warehouse, as that was the only building large enough to accommodate the people), when a committee of three was appointed to formulate some plan whereby the country could receive its much needed improvement. This committee consisted of Gilbert Fisher, of Crow's Landing; W. B. Hay, of Ellis, and Mr. McDonald, each of whom was to draw up a plan and present it at the next meeting of the convention. Mr. McDonald's plan was that which is today known as the Wright law, being the district plan of irrigation, which was approved and adopted and has since been in force.

The political career of Mr. McDonald was one of intense interest, and embraced a participation in many of the important movements in the early history of the state. He was always a stanch Republican and gave his best interests to the support of the principles which he endorsed, though personally he was never desirous of official recognition. In 1857 he was elected public administrator of Alameda county by five votes over his opponent, in a county strongly Democratic, being nominated without his knowledge. With the passing out of existence of the Whig party and the inauguration of the Republican, Mr. McDonald, after a careful consideration of the new platform, announced himself a supporter of the old principles under a new name. When he decided to return east, where he visited New York city, Niagara Falls, and other places of interest as well as his old home, he was induced by friends to try for the office of delegate to the national convention which was to be held at Chicago, Ill., in 1860. He therefore attended the state convention at Sacramento, but afterward withdrew for delegate and contested for alternate, which position he won. Mr. McDonald made the trip by way of New Orleans, in Louisiana visiting his sisters, who were conducting a private school in the Red river district. Traveling on to Illinois he found the entire state wild with the prospect of the coming convention, and eager to propose the name of the man who stood so prominently before the public at that time.

During the convention several honors fell to the lot of Mr. McDonald, and in all positions he carried himself in perfect honor and dignity. The nomination of Abraham Lincoln followed, and after the close of the convention Mr. McDonald went to Jacksonville, Ill., and spent one year among his old friends and relatives. The following year he went to Washington to witness the inauguration of Lincoln and also to seek an appointment, but was unsuccessful in the latter. After visiting his old home once more, he took passage for California via the isthmus, arriving in San Francisco the last of May.

In 1890, although advanced in years, Mr. McDonald was nominated and elected state treasurer, discharging the duties of this office for a period of four years, with entire credit to himself and to those who had honored him with their support. In 1894 he was a very popular man in the Republican convention, but was finally defeated in his efforts for governor of the state.

Mr. McDonald was married twice, his first wife being Clarissa Jane Cox, the daughter of E. H. Cox, of San Ramon, Contra Costa county, Cal., and of this union were born two children, Mark E., and Paul, the former of whom was associated for years as his father's partner in the business interests of Grayson, while the latter is a prominent lawyer of San Francisco. The mother of these sons died July 21, 1876, and is buried in the Grayson cemetery. His second marriage united him with Emma J. Cooper, who was born in Sonoma, Cal., the daughter of James Cooper, a native of Scotland. James Cooper ran away from his native land when a mere lad in years, following a sea-faring life and in time becoming mate of a vessel. He came to California in 1845 and located in San Francisco, after which he went to Sonoma and conducted a hotel, and also engaged in farming and stock-raising. He became a prosperous and successful man, in addition to his accumulation of land winning the esteem and respect of all with whom he came in contact. He died in that locality in 1857, at the age of thirty-five years. His wife, formerly Sarah Bigelow, was a native of Nova Scotia, and died in 1886, in Sonoma, aged sixty-three years. She crossed the plains with her sister, Mrs. Emma Smith as early as 1846.

To Mr. and Mrs. McDonald were born three children, namely: James R., Jr., who is interested in the store at Grayson; Ruth B., at home; and Hayward, at home. In his religious convictions a Presbyterian, Mr. McDonald was identified with that denomination for something over a half century and to no man is greater credit due for the establishment and upbuilding of Presbyterian churches throughout this section of California. At the same time that he was sent as an alternate to the Republican Na-



tional convention he was also representing the California Presbyterians as commissioner to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church which was held at Pittsburg, Pa. An incident of note in the life of Mr. McDonald was his connection with the famous vigilance committee of San Francisco, which was brought about in this wise: In 1856 the state authorities attempted to put an end to this organization, which was of a necessity deemed unlawful. The vigilantes, therefore, to offset the efforts of the state to suppress them, sent agents through the counties near the bay to enlist those favorable to their cause, and among those who signed an agreement to go to their assistance should the necessity arise was Mr. McDonald, for though always active in the maintenance of law and order he knew enough personally of this organization to believe in its efficacy. He was also active in the establishment and upbuilding of a division of the Sons of Temperance, which flourished for some time in Haywards. Having been made a Mason in Jacksonville, Ill., in the spring of 1850, he was afterward connected with the Masonic lodge at San Leandro, Cal. In Grayson Mr. McDonald was very successful as a merchant and business man. In an early day this city was practically the head of navigation, and enormous quantities of grain were shipped from this place. In addition to raising large quantities of grain he was also interested in raising sheep. He owned about three thousand acres of land but his home always remained in Grayson. His death occurred October 14, 1902, when seventy-four years of age, and with him passed one of the remarkable landmarks of Stanislaus county. He was liberal in religious toleration and social and friendly in his manner,—a man who loved his fellow men. This article would not be complete without mentioning Mrs. Emma J. McDonald, a woman endowed by nature with many talents and a strong mentality that has enabled her to uphold with honor and credit the position of this remarkable family, one of the strong arches in the structure of a great western empire.

**OLIVER CROMWELL BROWN.** Since the year 1879 Mr. Brown has made his home in the Golden state, locating in that part of Tulare county which has since been incorporated in Kings county. His first purchase of land consisted of eighty acres of prairie, four acres of which he set out to fruit trees, and the balance was devoted to the raising of wheat. Prospering in this small venture he enlarged the scope of his holdings until he had two hundred and ten acres under his control, the entire tract being devoted to the raising of raisin grapes, peaches, apricots and prunes. Until 1899 he

made his home on the ranch, but in that year he moved into the city limits of Hanford, and has since lived retired from the cares and stress of an active business life. The ranch is located eight miles southwest of Hanford, and is now rented, Mr. Brown receiving one-half of the gross proceeds.

Oliver C. Brown is a native of Illinois, born near Hillsboro, Montgomery county, February 24, 1829, a son of John Brown, who was born and reared in Kentucky. After his marriage he went to Montgomery county, Ill., where he took up raw timber land, and made his home for several years. Later he sold this land and invested in a tract of prairie land and in the course of time owned a fine farm of two hundred acres, which was his home until his death, when about fifty-two years old. As a private he took part in the Black Hawk war, and in politics he was a Democrat. Although a comparatively young man at the time of his death he had accomplished much in the course of his life, gaining the competence which he left to his heirs solely by his own efforts. His father, Richard Brown, was a native of Virginia, removing from that state to Kentucky when it was as yet a new country. From his plantation in the latter state he went to Illinois in an early day and purchased a farm, upon which his death occurred when he was in his seventy-eighth year. The grandfather was a descendant of English ancestors who located in the south many generations ago. The mother of Oliver C. Brown was Sarah Craig prior to her marriage, and was a native of Kentucky. In Adair county, that state, occurred her marriage with John Brown, and she died in Illinois when about seventy-four years old, having become the mother of nine children, of whom Oliver Cromwell was the eldest.

In the public schools adjacent to his father's farm in Illinois Oliver C. Brown gained a good education, and when nineteen years old began teaching school. Until reaching his twenty-first year he gave his father the benefit of his services, at that time purchasing an adjoining farm, although he continued to live at home until his marriage, which occurred when he was twenty-three years old. Until 1872 he made his home in Illinois, but in that year he began to work his way toward the west and for seven years resided on a farm in Fillmore county, Neb. After suffering from the grasshopper plague for three seasons he decided to make a change of location and wisely chose Tulare, now Kings county, Cal., as offering the best advantages from an agricultural standpoint, as well as affording a good home for his family.

In St. Louis county, Mo., in 1850, Oliver C. Brown was united in marriage with Elizabeth Kelso, who became the mother of ten children,

the eldest of whom died in infancy. John W., born September 15, 1853, is a rancher near Selma, Fresno county; Sarah E., born July 20, 1855, died October 14, 1875; Artesia, born January 30, 1858, died October 15, 1875; Franklin James, born January 4, 1860, is also a rancher near Selma; William H., born March 1, 1862, is conducting a fruit ranch near Selma; Mary M., born March 7, 1864, died February 10, 1881; Edward E., born April 26, 1866, is a rancher near Chico; Charles C., born October 24, 1868, conducts a fruit, stock and grain ranch near Durham; and Cora M., born March 13, 1871, is the wife of Elmer Young, a rancher near Hanford. The mother of these children died December 26, 1893, at the age of sixty-five years, seven months and twenty-four days. For his second wife Mr. Brown married India C. Mezick, who though born in Illinois was reared in Indiana. Politically Mr. Brown is a Democrat in national affairs, and in local matters votes for the men best fitted to serve the public good, regardless of party. He has always refused to accept any office within the gift of his fellow citizens, preferring to keep out of public life, although he takes a keen interest in the welfare of his home town. He is a self-made man in the best sense of the term and may well be proud of the success which has attended his efforts since making his home in the Golden state.

---

**BURTON SMITH.** As superintendent of the San Joaquin & Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company, Burton Smith occupies a leading position among the business men of Merced county, having won distinction as a man of unusual ability in the line which has held his attention throughout the greater part of his life. A native of California, he was born in Visalia, Tulare county, June 17, 1872, the fifth in a family of nine children, seven of whom are now living. His parents, George W. and Nancy (Parker) Smith, are mentioned at length in another part of this volume. In the public and high school of Visalia, Burton Smith received his education, just before completing, taking a special course in mathematics, which has been of great service in his life work. When eight years of age he began spending his vacations in working with his father in surveying, first carrying the flag until capable of being advanced to a more important position. He remained with his father in irrigation work until he was eighteen years of age, when he entered the employ of Jasper Harrell of Tulare county, who owned one of the largest ranches in that section. This had formerly consisted of wild and desolate land, but by the system introduced by the St. Johns River Association, five thousand acres were reclaimed.

He retained the position of superintendent of this ranch until his father's death, when, in 1897, he resigned and took up the work of surveyor and civil engineer, continuing, however, the conduct of his ranch, which consisted of six hundred acres. He held the position of deputy county surveyor, and for three years, from February, 1899, to February, 1902, was superintendent of the St. Johns River Association. April 20, 1902, he entered the employ of Miller & Lux, and was engaged in surveying for them in Kern county until June, 1903, when he was transferred to the west side of Merced county and continued in the same capacity. In January, 1904, he received the appointment of superintendent of the San Joaquin & Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company, and immediately assumed charge of the same. The main canal of this company is seventy-one miles long, extending from the San Joaquin river, the outside canal is forty miles in length, and Colony canal and its branch is thirty miles. The position is one of importance and responsibility, but Mr. Smith has upheld the standard of excellence noteworthy in all his work and has enhanced the high regard in which he was universally held.

In 1904 Mr. Smith built his residence in Los Banos which is presided over by his wife, formerly Edith Hemming, with whom he was united in marriage in his native city. She is a native of Clayton, Contra Costa county, and daughter of W. B. Hemming, who is engaged in the fruit-canning business. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one daughter, Gladys. Fraternally Mr. Smith was made an Odd Fellow in Mountain Brow Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Los Banos, and a Mason in Los Banos Lodge No. 312, F. & A. M. He also affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. In his political convictions he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

---

**EPHRAIM W. AUSTIN.** Adaptability is a trait to which Ephraim W. Austin is largely indebted for his beautiful ranch and comfortable home life in the vicinity of Bakersfield. Reared to a life of luxury and comparative indolence in the Hawaiian Islands, where he was born at Hilo, October 11, 1869, the change to an undeveloped ranch, with its physical and other exactions, as well as the more strenuous life in a thriving, progressive community, has furnished abundant test of his mettle. The Austin family has been prominent in the judicial and governmental life of the Hawaiian Islands for many years, being equally honored under the new as well as old administration. The immigrant to the Pacific-sweet lands was Stafford L.



Austin, father of Ephraim, who was born in Saratoga, N. Y., April 10, 1824. Under his father, Benjamin H. Austin, he studied law, later attending Oberlin Law School, from which he graduated. On a whaler he made one trip to the Arctic regions before the mast, and on the return trip stopped at Honolulu. In 1860 he was given a minor office under the monarchy, and in 1870 was appointed judge of the Third Judicial District of the islands. In the meantime the sugar industry, in which he had become interested, had grown apace, but 1885 proved a disastrous year, and he lost the bulk of the fortune won by his business sagacity and perseverance. To a certain degree he received compensation for financial losses in the honor conferred upon him by his adopted government, and lived to be an old man, to the last vigorous and active, giving promise of indefinite usefulness. Judge Austin died of heart disease while holding court, October 2, 1896, aged seventy-two years. He married into one of the very early families of the islands, his wife, formerly Caroline Clarke, being a daughter of Rev. Ephraim Clarke, who went there in 1828, and became renowned as a missionary and translator of foreign languages. Mrs. Austin is still living in Honolulu, and is about sixty-seven years old. She became the mother of seven children, one of whom is deceased. The oldest, Franklin H., resides in Los Angeles; Herbert C. was auditor of the islands after they became an American colony, and before that was assessor and collector for several years, at present being one of the prominent and influential men of Honolulu; Stafford W. is in the United States land office at Independence, Inyo county, Cal.; C. Jonathan is superintendent of the government gardens at Honolulu; Ephraim is a rancher of Kern county; and Harriet, formerly in the employ of the government, but since her resignation has held the position of bookkeeper for the board of Congregational Evangelists in the islands.

Educated at Oahu College, Hawaii, Ephraim W. Austin came to California in 1888, resolved to make his own living under the Stars and Stripes. For a time he was variously employed in San Luis Obispo county, and in August, 1888, came to Kern county to take up swamp land. Owing to the Kern lake excitement he was obliged to abandon his property soon afterward, and removed to the vicinity of Bakersfield, where he has since lived the greater part of the time. During 1889 and 1890 he spent nine months in Fresno county, on his return settling on the ranch which he now owns, and which consists of about forty acres, twenty of which he has placed under fruit. He has found the horticultural business unsuccessful, owing to the quality of his land, and is now arranging to place it all under

alfalfa, which will undoubtedly prove more remunerative. For a couple of years Mr. Austin engaged in a livery and veterinary business in Bakersfield, with a partner. He is an active Democrat, particularly for his friends, and has himself served as clerk of the school board since its organization, having been appointed to the board of trustees by County Superintendent W. C. Doub. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World. In 1893 Mr. Austin was united in marriage with Beulah McKinzie, of Bakersfield, and four daughters have been born of the union: Caroline V., Miriam, Harriet A., and Mary H.

---

ERNEST E. SOUTHWICK. Among the respected and highly esteemed residents of Dos Palos, E. E. Southwick holds an assured position. A skillful mechanic, and an experienced engineer, he has assisted in installing different pumping plants, and now, as an employee of the Pacific Coast Oil Company is engineer at the Dos Palos Pumping Station, which, with its pipe line was erected under his careful supervision. A son of the late Edmund Z. Southwick, he was born May 13, 1855, in Angola, Erie county, N. Y.

A native of Erie county, N. Y., Edmund Z. Southwick succeeded to the free and independent occupation of his ancestors, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits in western New York until the fall of 1884. His health becoming impaired, he then removed with his family to California, and here lived retired until his death, in 1894, at Niles, Alameda county. He married Marietta J. Clough, who was born in Erie county, N. Y., the daughter of Horace Clough, a prosperous farmer. She now resides in Pasadena. Of their four children, two survive, E. E., the special subject of this sketch, being the eldest.

Brought up on the home farm, E. E. Southwick received excellent educational advantages, attending the public schools and the Angola Academy. He subsequently learned telegraphy, and at the age of seventeen years accepted a position on the line of the Buffalo, New York & Pittsburgh Railroad, for eighteen months being agent and operator at Liberty, Pa. Entering then the employ of the Tidewater Pipe Line Company, Mr. Southwick helped to build that entire line, and afterward, with his old superintendent, H. C. Beamer, assisted in the building of the Rock City and Buffalo Pipe Line. On its completion, he took charge of a station belonging to the Standard Oil Company, built a pipe line, and installed a plant, putting it in good running order. Continuing then in the employ of the company he traveled throughout the country as car tracer

and private detective until after his marriage, when he took charge of a pumping station at Richburg, N. Y. At the end of a year, Mr. Southwick resumed work on the railroad, but eighteen months later resigned his position.

Coming to California in December, 1884, Mr. Southwick bought a small fruit ranch of ten acres at Niles, which valuable property he still owns. For about eight years he devoted his time and attention to the care and improvement of his orchard, and the following four years was engaged in various occupations, serving as deputy assessor, and for awhile being with the California Nursery Company, and later with the San Francisco Packing House Company. In 1896 Mr. Southwick returned to his former occupation of engineer, and having installed two plants in Niles, Cal., had charge of them until November, 1902. Becoming at that time connected with the Pacific Coast Oil Company as engineer, he came to Dos Palos to install this plant, and under his supervision the pipe line and plant were built, and he has since served most ably and faithfully as its engineer.

In Fredonia, N. Y., Mr. Southwick married Carrie F. Baldwin, who was born in Chautauqua county, a daughter of Emery Baldwin, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Marion H. and Clough E. In his political affiliations Mr. Southwick is a straightforward Republican. He takes an intelligent interest in local affairs, and while living in Niles was for many years school trustee, resigning from that position when he moved from the city. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in Niles, and is now a charter member and noble grand of Santa Rita Lodge No. 124, I. O. O. F., of Dos Palos; he is also a member of Niles Encampment No. 62; of Maple Camp, W. of W., of Centerville; and of the United Artisans.

#### BENJAMIN WALLACE VAN WICKLE.

A natural mechanic of great ability and ingenuity, Benjamin Wallace Van Wickle, as manager of the Los Banos Planing Mill, is intimately associated with the development and advancement of the lumber interests of this part of Merced county. Using good judgment and wise forethought in his manufactures and dealings, he has built up an excellent business in this locality, now practically controlling the trade on the west side of the valley. A native of New York, he was born, September 3, 1851, in Lyons, Wayne county, which was also the birthplace of his father, John Rue Van Wickle. His grandfather, John R. Van Wickle, was born in New Jersey, where the immigrant ancestor of the family from which he was descended settled on coming to the United States from Hol-

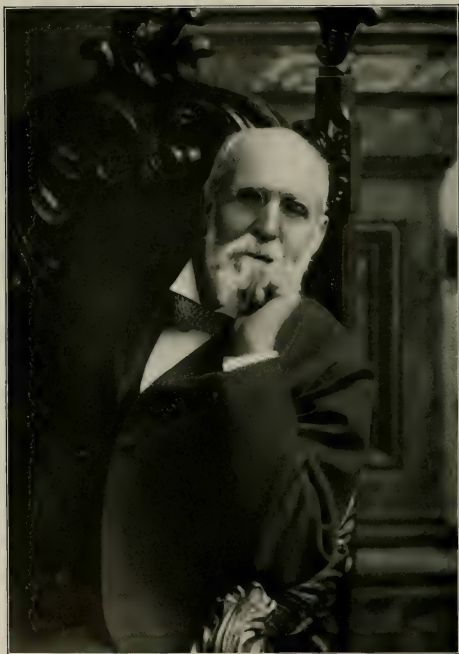
land. Subsequently removing to New York, he improved a farm in Lyons, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death.

Brought up in Lyons, N. Y., John Rue Van Wickle learned the millwright trade when young, and followed it in that locality for many years. Removing from there to Michigan, he was busily employed in erecting grist and sawmills, also taking contracts for building, continuing in active pursuits until seventy years of age. Retiring then, he located in Oceana county of that state, where he resided until his death, at the venerable age of fourscore and four years. He married Mary A. Hipp, who was born and bred in Penfield, Monroe county, N. Y. Her father, Horace Hipp, was at that time engaged there in business as a brewer. He afterward removed to Norwalk, Ohio, where he was extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. He spent his last years in Michigan, dying in Van Buren county. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. John Rue Van Wickle two sons and two daughters were born, and of these one daughter and one son are living. The mother died in Michigan when fifty-four years old.

Spending the days of his boyhood and youth in Van Buren county, Mich., Benjamin Wallace Van Wickle acquired his early education in the public schools of Mattawan. In 1868 he went to Hart, Oceana county, then in his seventeenth year, securing work in a saw mill. An accident happening to the owner of the mill, David Benham, who was also the sawyer, Mr. Van Wickle, although so young, took charge of the saw, and ran it winters for nine years, in the summer seasons having charge of the sash and door factory for his employer. In 1877 Mr. Van Wickle assumed the position of foreman in a sash and door factory at St. Joseph, Mich., and remained there two years or more, when, on account of the ague, he left that locality. Going immediately to Butte, Mont., he was for three years foreman in a large planing mill belonging to the Montana Lumber & Produce Company. The ensuing year he was foreman for the Idaho Lumber Company, at Ogden, Utah, after which he was for six years in the employ of the Eckles Lumber Company, having entire management of their business interests throughout Utah.

Coming to Los Angeles, Cal., in 1893, Mr. Van Wickle was for a year foreman in Lindsey's Mill, at Redondo Beach, and when Dillon Brothers built their mill at Los Angeles he became its manager, holding the position two years. Removing to Fresno county in 1896, he was foreman for the Sanger Lumber Company for a year, and was afterward with Hollenbeck & Bush, in Fresno, until 1900, and from that time until 1902 was foreman in William Crocker's planing mill, in San Francisco. Accepting a





*H N Butler*

position with Miller & Lux in 1902, Mr. Van Wickle has since been foreman and manager of the Los Banos Planing Mill, and in this capacity has met with characteristic success, building up an extensive and remunerative trade, and becoming widely and favorably known as one of the leading millmen of the San Joaquin valley.

In 1893, in Ogden, Utah, Mr. Van Wickle married Harriet Osborne, who was born in England. She died in Sanger, Cal. Three children were born of their union, one of whom is living, namely, Howard. In 1898, in Fresno, Mr. Van Wickle married for his second wife Ethel Hillgrove, a native of Sacramento county, and they are the parents of three children, namely: Carrie, Sephese and Gladys. Politically Mr. Van Wickle is a staunch Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**HOBERT N. CUTLER.** Recognized as one of the most intelligent and skillful agriculturists of Fresno county, Hobert N. Cutler owns and occupies a finely improved fruit ranch, lying three miles northeast of Selma. In the pursuit of his congenial occupation he has shown much wisdom and practical judgment, and by many years of hard labor has acquired a competency. Coming from honored New England stock, he was born July 28, 1838, in Holland, Erie county, N. Y., a son of William C. Cutler. His paternal grandfather, Caleb Cutler, was born and bred in Massachusetts. In the early part of the nineteenth century he migrated to Vermont, and for a number of years was engaged in farming in Wardsboro, Windham county. In 1816 he moved with his family to the western part of New York, his only capital at that time being one yoke of oxen, one cow, and three dollars in Continental money. Taking up a tract of unbroken land, he cleared a farm from the forest, not far from Buffalo, and there spent the remainder of his life.

Succeeding to the ancestral occupation, William C. Cutler, who was born in Vermont, removed with his parents to New York state, and when ready to embark in farming on his own account purchased land in Holland, Erie county, where he improved a good estate, on which he lived until his death. He married Maria Morey, who was born in Massachusetts, bred and educated in Otsego county, N. Y., and died in Holland, N. Y. She bore him eight children, three sons and five daughters, Hobert N. being the fourth child.

Having completed his early studies in the common schools of his native town, Hobert N. Cutler turned his attention to agricultural pursuits for a few years. Migrating to Hancock county,

Ill., in 1860, he taught school in Carthage for two years. Coming to California by way of the Isthmus in 1862, he followed farming in Saratoga, Santa Clara county, until 1869. Removing then to the western part of Fresno county, Mr. Cutler took up one hundred and sixty acres of land in Panoche valley, and subsequently bought another tract equally as large. Improving the property, he carried on general farming with good success for a number of seasons. Settling three miles northeast of Selma, in the spring of 1879, Mr. Cutler bought his present valuable ranch of eighty acres, and has since carried on a large and remunerative business as a fruit-grower. Thirty-five acres of his land are planted to vines, twenty-eight acres to fig trees, eleven acres to peaches and apricots, twelve acres he devotes to the raising of alfalfa, and in addition he has a blue gum grove of three acres which he planted himself. Mr. Cutler is a man of good business ability, and is interested in both the Rochdale store at Selma and in the Selma Co-operative Packing Company.

In San Francisco, Cal., November 2, 1869, Mr. Cutler married Hester J. Donnellan, who was born in Iowa, and came to California by way of Cape Horn in 1853, being then a young child. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Cutler, five children have been born, namely: Mary E., a teacher in Selma; Stella, wife of O. E. Shepherd, of Del Rey; Ede T., a teacher in the Iowa district; Eleise, wife of John Waterman, residing near Fowler; and William Cheney, a butter manufacturer, of Ferndale, Humboldt county. Mr. Cutler is a zealous supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and has served many times as a delegate to the county conventions. He takes great interest in educational matters, and assisted in organizing the seventh school district of Fresno county and the Panoche school district. Fraternally he belongs to Selma Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M.

**CLARENCE A. STARKWEATHER.** Actively identified with the advancement of the agricultural interests of Merced county is C. A. Starkweather, well known as the manager of the Los Banos Creamery. He is wideawake, full of energy, and not only possesses a thorough knowledge of the details of his work, but is a man of excellent business capacity and judgment, having inherited in no small measure the substantial qualities of a long line of honored New England ancestors. A son of A. Starkweather, he was born, October 28, 1864, in Whately, Mass., while his mother was there visiting friends and relatives. The immigrant ancestor of the Starkweather family came from England to New England in early colonial days,

and settled in Connecticut, from whence his descendants have scattered to all parts of the Union. The grandfather of Mr. Starkweather was a life-long farmer, and a resident of western Massachusetts.

Born and bred in the old Bay state, in the town of Northampton, A. Starkweather grew to manhood on the ancestral homestead, where he was early trained to farming pursuits. Migrating to California in 1851, he located eight miles north of Stockton, where he was employed in tilling the soil for a number of years. In 1858 he visited his old home in Massachusetts, returning the same year to his ranch near Stockton, where he resided the following ten years. In 1868, on account of ill health, he sold his land, and went back to Massachusetts with his family. Not content, however, among the rocks and hills of his native state, he returned to the Pacific coast in 1878, locating on a ranch near Farmington. He subsequently bought land in that locality, and was there employed in general farming until after the death of his wife, when he removed to Alameda, where he now resides. Mr. A. Starkweather's wife was Frances Loomis, who was born in Whately, Mass., a daughter of Leonard Loomis, a prominent farmer of that town, and for many years its town clerk. She died in 1899. Three children were born of their union, namely: H. K., a well-known business man of San Francisco; C. A., the special subject of this sketch, and H. R., in business with his brother, C. A., in Los Banos.

During the earlier years of his boyhood, from 1868 until 1878, his parents being residents of Massachusetts, C. A. Starkweather attended the public schools of Northampton. Returning with them to California, he took a two years' course at the Stockton Business College, from which he was graduated in 1883. From that time until attaining his majority he remained at home, assisting his father in the care of the ranch. Subsequently forming a partnership with J. L. Beecher, Mr. Starkweather was engaged in grain farming from 1886 until 1898, being located in Stanislaus county, and operating from fifteen hundred to twenty-five hundred acres of land. Selling out in 1898, having become discouraged on account of a series of bad crops, Mr. Starkweather gave up farming as an occupation. Going to Stockton, he entered the employ of Fred Arnsberger, manager of the Stockton Creamery, and during the three months that he continued with him he learned the details of the creamery business. Mr. Starkweather then took charge of the Oakdale Creamery, which, while he was engaged in farming, he had helped to build, serving the company as its secretary and as a director, and remained there as its manager for two years. Going from

there to San Joaquin county, he had charge of the Lockeford Creamery from 1901 until 1902. Accepting then a position with Schultz, Niggle & Co., he was for a time head butter-maker at the Hygea Creamery in San Francisco, then spent two months with the Jersey Creamery in Alameda, after which he spent a year in San Francisco with his brother, being city salesman for his brother, then took up his business as butter-maker for the Encinal Creamery Company until it became consolidated with the Jersey Creamery Company, when he was made head butter-maker at the Alameda plant. In September, 1903, Mr. Starkweather accepted the position of manager of the Los Banos Creamery for Miller & Lux, the proprietors, and since the leasing of the plant, on June 1, 1904, to the San Francisco cream depot, has continued its management, his work being in every way satisfactory, meeting the approval of his employers and of the patrons of the creamery. The plant, having a capacity of eighteen hundred pounds of butter per day, is furnished with all the latest improved machinery and appliances, including steam power, being up to date in all respects. In addition to manufacturing butter of a superior grade, Mr. Starkweather ships cream to San Francisco daily.

In Farmington, Cal., Mr. Starkweather married Anna H. Anthony, who was born near there, being a daughter of Simeon H. Anthony, a native of Massachusetts, and one of the early pioneers of California, having come here in 1851, settling as a farmer, after leaving the mines, in San Joaquin county. Mr. and Mrs. Starkweather have two children, namely: Clara A. and Elfleda H. Politically Mr. Starkweather is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He is a member of the National Union and of the California Creamery Operators' Association. Religiously he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

ELMER J. COUEY, M. D. The family represented by E. J. Couey, M. D., of Fresno, is of southern extraction, but was identified with the pioneer history of Illinois and Wisconsin prior to becoming established in California. The doctor's father, Andrew A., a native of Randolph county, Ill., and a farmer by occupation, responded to the first call for volunteers at the outbreak of the Civil war, becoming a member of Company C, Thirtieth Illinois Infantry. After a considerable service under General Grant he accompanied Sherman on the memorable campaign through the South and the march to the sea, during the progress of which he was captured by Confederate soldiers, and for nine months remained a prisoner at Andersonville. At



the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin and resumed farm pursuits, remaining in that state until 1886, when he came to California. Settling one and one-half miles west of Fresno, he gave his attention to ranching and the raising of fruit, in which occupations he continued during the remainder of his life. At the time of his death, which occurred November 27, 1903, he was sixty-one years of age. In politics he voted with the Republican party. His father, James F. Couey, was born in Georgia, and at fifteen years of age accompanied his parents to Illinois, then a frontier region beyond the limits of civilization. Later he entered a tract of raw land in Richland county, Wis., and from there in 1884 came to Fresno, where he engaged in farming for some time, but of recent years has lived retired from active cares.

The marriage of Andrew A. Couey united him with Eliza Hartley, who was born in Kentucky and at an early age accompanied her parents to Wisconsin. Since the death of her husband she has continued to make her home on the property which they purchased after coming west. In their family of four children the youngest child and only son was E. J., whose birth occurred in Richland county, Wis., November 25, 1876, and who at the time of coming to California was a boy of ten years. His education was acquired primarily in Wisconsin, but principally in the schools of California, his attendance at the Fresno grammar and high schools being supplemented by a course of study in Healdsburg College. On his return from college he aided his father on the home place for a year, and then entered the St. Helena Sanitarium in Napa county, Cal., from which he was graduated May 25, 1897, as a trained nurse. During the fall of the same year he matriculated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at San Francisco, where he took the regular course of study, graduating in 1900 with the degree of M. D.

Immediately after his graduation Dr. Couey began the practice of medicine in Fresno. Under appointment by the county board of supervisors, February 1, 1901, he became steward and resident physician at the county hospital, and this position he filled until June 1, 1903, when he resigned to resume private practice. He has his office in the Republican building. Among the members of his profession he has a high standing. For some years he has made a special study of smallpox and other diseases that are characterized by eruptions. In the diagnosis of disease he is careful, painstaking and accurate, never contenting himself with superficial examinations, but penetrating to hidden causes, which, once discovered, are promptly and skillfully brought under control. Dur-

ing 1903 he was honored with the office of president of the Fresno County Medical Society. Other organizations with which he holds membership are the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society, the California State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, the Alumni Association of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco, and the Order of Pendo, in which he is medical examiner, besides being medical examiner for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. In matters political he gives his influence to the Republican party. His marriage occurred in San Francisco in 1902, and united him with Miss Blanche B. Bodwell, a native of Nebraska, but a resident of California from girlhood. They are the parents of a son, Donald B.

---

EZRA H. CHAPIN. An enterprising, practical and successful business man of Fresno, Ezra H. Chapin, a well-known liveryman, is a typical representative of the self-made men of our time. He has labored hard from his earliest days, and, notwithstanding reverses and losses that would discourage one of less pluck and grit, he has sturdily pushed his way toward the front, by sheer persistency and earnestness of purpose winning a large measure of success. He was born August 16, 1857, in McHenry county, Ill., of substantial New England ancestry, the Chapin family, it is said, being of Puritan stock.

A native of Massachusetts, Daniel Chapin, Mr. Chapin's father, grew to manhood among the rocks and hills of old New England, but rather than try to obtain a living by tilling the soil learned the trade of carpenter and builder. Migrating westward in 1854, he followed his chosen occupation in McHenry county, Ill., for six years. In 1860, following one of the great wheel-worn tracks across the plains, he came to California, and located in Stockton, where he was employed as a builder and contractor until his death in 1869, at the age of forty-four years. His wife, whose maiden name was Aurelia Stafford, was born in Vermont, the descendant of one of the earlier settlers of Plymouth colony, and a daughter of Gilbert Stafford, who removed from Vermont to North Adams, Mass., where he carried on general farming until his death. She joined her husband, in 1863, in Stockton, bringing her children with her from North Adams, where she had spent the three previous years. She now resides in Oakland, Cal. Of her family of children but two are living, Ezra H., the subject of this sketch; and Stella A., of Oakland.

Leaving Marengo, Ill., his birthplace, when a boy of three years, E. H. Chapin lived for three

years in North Adams, Mass., and then, in 1863, came with his mother to Stockton, Cal., where he attended the district school for several terms. Being left fatherless at the age of twelve years, he was forced to help support himself and the other members of the family. Going, therefore, to Stanislaus county, he worked for five years for an uncle, a farmer. At the age of seventeen he rented a ranch lying between Modesto and Ceres, and embarked in business for himself as a grain raiser, from year to year enlarging his operations until he had charge of eight hundred acres of land. In 1886, locating in Berendo, in what was then Fresno county, but was later included within the limits of Madera county, Mr. Chapin purchased six hundred and forty acres of land that was still in its primitive wildness, and in addition rented adjoining land, having in his entire ranch three thousand acres. Buying machinery and implements in large quantities, and enough mules to allow ten or twelve to each team, he sowed his farm to grain, but, unfortunately, the next two years were so dry that the yield was very scant, one hundred and fifty sacks of grain only being harvested the first season, and but one-half as much the ensuing year. At the end of three years, when all of his debts were paid, Mr. Chapin's entire assets consisted of one team of mules. Trading his team and assuming the mortgage he continued farming, likewise working in a sawmill in the mountains, until the mortgage was canceled.

Disposing of his ranch in 1896, Mr. Chapin located on the San Joaquin river, nearly opposite Pollasky, and was there employed in general ranching, including grain and stock raising, and also in teaming in the mountains, for two years. While living there, in 1898, he was nominated on the Republican ticket for supervisor of Madera county, and was elected by a majority of twenty-eight, although the county was a Democratic stronghold. Taking the oath of office in January, 1899, he served with ability and fidelity for four years, during the entire period of his service being chairman of the board. He was likewise chairman of the building committee that erected the Madera county court house, which is one of the finest for its size of any in the state, and one of which the citizens of the county may justly be proud. Entering the employ of the Pacific Construction Company in May, 1902, Mr. Chapin assisted in the building of the Modesto canal, in Stanislaus county, remaining with the company until the completion of the canal, in March, 1903. The following month Mr. Chapin settled in Fresno, and, in company with Lyman Estes, bought the Blackhawk stables, which have since been under the management of the enterprising firm of Estes & Chapin. The livery and boarding stable is

150x200 feet, being one of the largest in the valley, and is well equipped with vehicles of all kinds, and with excellent horses, the sole aim of the proprietors being to please and accommodate their numerous patrons.

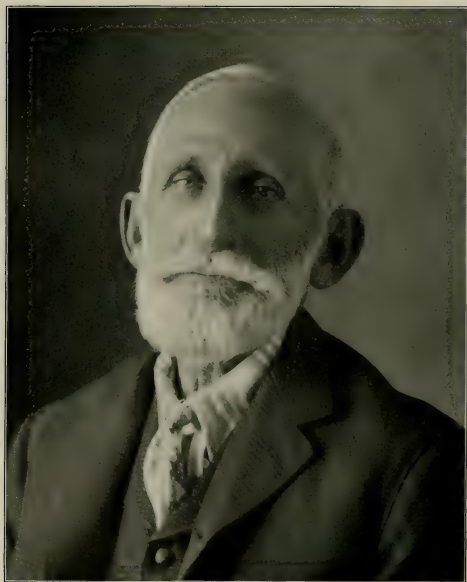
In Stanislaus county in 1879, Mr. Chapin married Ella Estes, who was born in Adrian, Mich., a daughter of Albert Estes, a prosperous farmer, living near Madera, Cal. Albert Ezra, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Chapin, is in business with his father. Politically Mr. Chapin is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is also a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce.

---

HARRY E. GOODWIN. Among the energetic and enterprising young men of Merced county who have selected farming as their vocation in life, and who, judging from present indications, are realizing their anticipations, is Harry E. Goodwin, a successful farmer and dairyman of Dos Palos. Beginning his career at the foot of the ladder, without other resources than his indomitable will and native stock of industry, he has gradually worked his way upward, rising from a humble position to that of one of the representative young men of an intelligent community, and is properly ranked among the self-made men of our times. A son of Samuel Goodwin, he was born December 19, 1870, in Ottumwa, Iowa. His grandfather, Raleigh Goodwin, was born and reared in Ohio. From there he migrated westward, locating first in Indiana, and then in Iowa, where he was a pioneer farmer and stock buyer.

A native of Indiana, Samuel Goodwin was trained to agricultural pursuits, and began life for himself as a farmer in Wapello county, Iowa, where he was an early settler. Finding his land rich in mineral deposits, he opened the first coal mine in that locality, in the town now called Keb, and operated it successfully for several years. Selling out to the Whitebreast Company, he bought land in Calhoun county, Iowa, and embarked in general farming. Coming to California in 1896, he located in Dos Palos, where he purchased two ranches, which he improved. Returning to Iowa in 1898, he located at Dallas Center as a real estate dealer, and is now occupied in the same business at Unionville, Mo. He married Martha West, who was born in Indiana, and died in Iowa. Her father, Samuel West, born in the east, was a pioneer farmer of Wapello county, Iowa. She bore her husband ten children, six of whom grew to years of maturity, Harry E., the second child, being the only one residing in California.





*Conrad Myer*

Completing his early education in the district schools of Iowa, Harry E. Goodwin began farming when eighteen years of age, and until his marriage was engaged in tilling the soil. The ensuing three years he was employed in coal mining in Wapello county, and then removed to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he rented land, and continued farming. In February, 1895, Mr. Goodwin came to Dos Palos, Cal., and on Lexington avenue purchased twenty acres of raw land, which he at once began to improve. Having leveled, checked and ditched it, he has since carried on farming, raising alfalfa on all but two and one-half acres, which he devotes to fruit growing. He is also carrying on a substantial business as a dairyman, and is much interested in bee culture, having an apiary at his home ranch, and one on the Santa Rita ranch, having three hundred and twenty swarms. Soon after locating here Mr. Goodwin bought thirty-three acres of land adjoining his home farm and having improved it raised alfalfa until disposing of the farm in 1903. In his agricultural operations Mr. Goodwin has met with success. He is a member of the Central California Honey Producers' Association, and is interested in the Rochdale Association.

September 9, 1890, in Manson, Iowa, Mr. Goodwin married Addie Lenhouts, who was born in Milwaukee, Wis., a daughter of Peter Lenhouts. A native of Holland, Peter Lenhouts came with his parents to this country, settling as a pioneer in Wisconsin. During the Civil war he served in a Wisconsin regiment, and afterward removed to Iowa, locating in Calhoun county, where he was engaged in farming, and as a printer, until his death. He married Jennie Orlebeke, who was born in Holland, and came with her parents to Wisconsin, where her father, Henry Orlebeke, whose name was subsequently changed to Ollenbeck, settled first, although he afterward removed to Iowa, where he followed blacksmithing. Of the union of Peter and Jennie (Orlebeke) Lenhouts five children were born, four of whom are living, namely: Henry, of Omaha, Neb.; Mrs. Goodwin; Mrs. Raven, of Dos Palos; and Ralph, of Dos Palos. Mrs. Lenhouts came to the Pacific coast in 1895, and is now a resident of Dos Palos. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin have one child, Grace Evelyn. In local affairs Mr. Goodwin takes great interest, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Dos Palos school district, of which he is president. He is also serving as road overseer. While living in Ottumwa, Iowa, he was made an Odd Fellow, and is now a member and vice-grand of Santa Rita Lodge No. 124, I. O. O. F. He is likewise a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, being commander of his lodge, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of

America. Mrs. Goodwin is a member and past commander of the Ladies of the Maccabees, and belongs to the Royal Neighbors. In his political affiliations Mr. Goodwin is a Socialist.

CONRAD MYERS. It was in May, 1875, that Conrad Myers arrived in California, settling in Sonoma county, whence in 1876 he removed to Tulare county. When he came to his present ranch, six miles northeast of Selma, in 1878, he found a desert as yet unacquainted with the industry of man, and to encourage him in his settlement, but one house between his own squatter's claim and the town of Fresno. The region was known as the Mendocino district. Mr. Myers has long since seen his property take on the appearance of an advanced agricultural section, and as his sons reached maturity they also bought land, adjoining the homestead, and improved it. Eighty acres were bought at \$75 per acre. After selling a portion of the original holding, father and sons still own two hundred acres, one hundred and fifty-three acres of which are set to grapes, and the near-by peach and apricot orchard of six acres yields a liberal income. The balance is devoted to alfalfa, of which three crops are cut each year. Mr. Myers and his sons are among the foremost fruit growers in their immediate neighborhood.

Born in Armstrong county, Pa., January 4, 1832, Mr. Myers is a son of Philip Myers, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1790, and who early settled in Wabash county, Ind. In 1845 the father removed to Barry county, Mo., where he engaged in farming and stock-raising, and where his wife, formerly Margaret Myers, of Pennsylvania, died, after rearing a family of four sons and eight daughters, of whom Conrad is the eleventh child. Mr. Myers was an invalid for many years of his life and in 1875 came to California with his son, later going to Mussel Slough, Kings county, where he died in 1876, at the age of eighty-six. Owing to his father's impaired health young Conrad was obliged to work hard in his youth, as did all of the other children of this large family. At the age of twenty-one he married Hannah Hedrick, a native of Kentucky, and bought a small place about three miles from the home place in Barry county, Mo., where he lived until coming to the coast in 1875. In the meantime he left his farm in the care of his wife and enlisted in the Confederate army in 1862, serving under General Price for three years, or until the capture of that famous general.

In California Mr. Myers has proved something more than a mere money-getter, for he is public-spirited to a large degree, and takes a keen interest in the enterprises and resources which contribute to the wellbeing of this district. He

is particularly active in irrigating enterprises, and assisted with the building of the Centerville & Kingsburg ditch, in which he has since sold his interest, and purchased stock in the Church ditch. He is a partner and stockholder in the Palier Co-operative Packing House & Raisin Seeder Company and the Growers Co-operative Winery. Mr. Myers is a Democrat in politics, but has always objected to office-holding. Five of his eight children are living, his wife and three children, Charles Philip, Sarah M. and William Conrad having died several years ago. The children living are Mary C. Matilda, the wife of John Lagrant; Melissa Angeline, the wife of O. D. Berryhill; Orlena Price, the wife of G. D. Nedry; George W., living on the home place and operates his father's farm in connection with his own; C. H., living near his father's place.

A. C. TINNIN. In the days before the railroad had become a recognized possibility as a means of bringing into proximity the east and the west, a multitude of gold-seekers undertook the long and perilous journey through an unknown country, amid hostile Indians, into the El Dorado of their dreams. Though coming somewhat later than many, the hardships of the journey did not fall lighter upon A. C. Tinnin than upon his predecessors of the previous years. The ox-teams slowly wended their way across the plains from his early home in Perry county, Mo., and after eight months brought him to the country of the Golden Gate. Not caring to venture his future in the uncertain occupation of mining, he turned to agriculture as offering a favorable opportunity for securing a start. After two years he drifted into teaming and freighting, which in the days before the building of railroads could be conducted upon an extensive scale and with excellent profits. For five years he worked as a teamster and then settled upon a farm in the Santa Clara valley, but after a few years removed to farm land in Contra Costa county. The year 1869 found him a pioneer on the west side in Merced county, where he took up the raising of grain. During 1876 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on the upper county road and immediately after purchase checked the land for irrigation, after which he successfully carried on wheat farming and raised large crops of that cereal each year. Though never active in politics he was at all times stanch in his adherence to the Democratic party. His death, which occurred in 1887, removed from the San Joaquin valley one of its honored pioneers and successful farmers.

The marriage of A. C. Tinnin united him with Sarah Bollenger, a native of Perry county, Mo., and now occupying the old homestead with her

youngest son, William Henry. She is a member of a pioneer family of the Pacific coast. During 1852 her father, A. Joseph Bollenger, crossed the plains from Missouri and settled in Napa county, later removing to Santa Clara county, where he purchased and tilled a tract of farm land. On going from there to Contra Costa county he homesteaded a tract, on which eventually he became interested in the raising of stock. To obtain needed pasturage for his large herd of cattle and dairy cows he bought vast tracts of range land. A fine orchard and running water made the Bollenger Cañon farm (as the place was called) a desirable property, and when he disposed of it he received a fair advance on the original investment. Returning to Santa Clara county he bought a ranch for \$30,000, and ten days later sold it for \$60,000. It is needless to state that those were the "boom" days, whose culmination was followed by a reaction in prices almost fatal to the permanent prosperity of the valley. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1884 in Santa Clara county, his possessions were valued at \$200,000, the larger part of which was gained through fortunate handling of real estate. In buying and selling few men had more sagacious judgment; his foresight was keen and his knowledge of land values almost remarkable. His wife, Sarah E., died in 1898. Of their four sons and three daughters, one daughter and one son are deceased. At the time the Bollenger family came to California their daughter, Sarah, was a girl of sixteen years, and not long afterward she became the wife of Mr. Tinnin at Napa. Of their union ten children were born and all but one attained maturity. Three daughters, Mrs. Sarah Akins, Mrs. Mary L. Raley and Mrs. Belsora Crittenden, reside in San Francisco. Mrs. Letitia Ewing makes her home at Stockton. Mrs. Ada Hendsch lives in Calaveras county, and George is at Copperopolis, the same county. Lee is living at Shandon, San Luis Obispo county. William Henry occupies the homestead in Merced county; and Cora, Mrs. Dalzell, is a resident of Stockton. The sons and daughters, in the various communities where they reside, reflect credit upon the training received from their parents, and by probity of character and progressiveness of spirit have won assured positions in social and business circles.

THEODORE J. REYNOLDS. The name of T. J. Reynolds, late of Dos Palos, but now deceased, is widely and favorably known throughout this section of Merced county, and will long be remembered and honored by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. A man of strong and intelligent convictions, honest and upright in his dealings, he won the respect and esteem



of all with whom he came in contact, and gained the confidence and good will of the community in which he resided. A native of New York, he was born in May, 1847, in Hartford, Washington county, which was also the birthplace of his father, J. J. Reynolds. A lifelong resident of New York state, J. J. Reynolds turned his attention to agricultural pursuits when young, and continued to till the soil during his active career. He married Abigail Bump, who lived and died in New York, and into their home six children were born, T. J., the subject of this sketch, being the second in order of birth.

Receiving an excellent education in the public schools of his native county, T. J. Reynolds was subsequently for a number of years engaged in teaching near Hartford, N. Y. In 1866, shortly after his marriage, Mr. Reynolds settled as a farmer in Greenville, N. Y., where he resided twelve years. Removing with his family to Harvard, Clay county, Neb., in 1878, he bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land, from which he improved a good ranch, erecting thereon a substantial set of buildings. Renting his Nebraska farm in 1882 he spent the following two years in New York, being there engaged in agricultural pursuits. Returning to Nebraska in 1884, Mr. Reynolds kept a hotel in Harvard for a year, after which, in 1885, he traded his land in that vicinity for a farm in Hamilton county, near Giltner, becoming possessor of two hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land, on which he lived and labored successfully for five years. Selling that ranch March 6, 1890, Mr. Reynolds came immediately to California, locating in Dos Palos. Buying sixty acres of land lying three-fourths of a mile south of the city, he built a residence, and started a nursery, intending to settle here permanently. The land, however, proved unsuitable for fruit growing, and Miller & Lux exchanged that ranch for sixty acres of land, situated on the avenue which now bears his name, at the corner of Cornelia avenue, in the New Colony. Leveling and checking the land, Mr. Reynolds set out an orchard, and was here actively and profitably engaged in fruit raising and dairying until his death, in August, 1901. He was interested in the leading reform movements of the day, and in his political preferences was an ardent Prohibitionist. He belonged to the Knights of the Macabees, and was a member of the Christian Church.

March 12, 1866, in New York state, Mr. Reynolds married Jane E. Brayton, who was born in that state, as was her father, William Brayton, Jr. Her grandfather, William Brayton, Sr., was a farmer by occupation, and spent the larger portion of his life in New York. William Brayton, Jr., succeeded to the occupa-

tion of his ancestors, and during his sixty-eight years was engaged in general farming. He was a man of prominence in his community, and a valued member of the Baptist Church. He married Maria Hoyt, who was born in Virginia, and died in New York. Ten children were born of their marriage, five of whom grew to years of maturity, Jane E., now Mrs. Reynolds, being the eighth child in order of birth. One son, John, a resident of Hartford, N. Y., served in a New York regiment during the Civil war. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Reynolds has resided on the home farm, which she rents to her son Harry. She now owns forty acres of land, fifteen acres of which she devotes to the culture of fruit, while on the remainder she raises alfalfa. Four children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, namely: Abbie M., wife of V. W. Herman, of Stockton, Cal.; Harry T., having charge of the home ranch; Emma B., of San Jose; and Truman E., living at home. Harry T. Reynolds, the oldest son, married Bonnie Hoyle, a native of Tennessee, and formerly a teacher in the public schools, and they have two children, Vesta and Lois. Mrs. Reynolds is a woman of culture and refinement, highly esteemed by all, and is a consistent member of the Christian Church.

---

CHARLES FOREMAN, D. D. S. Numbered among the successful members of the dental profession is Charles Foreman, a well-known dentist of Dos Palos. Noted for his skill and thorough knowledge of his work, he has acquired an enviable reputation for honesty and ability, and has here built up a large and remunerative practice. He was for some years actively interested in agricultural pursuits, and still owns a nice dairy farm and home on Palm avenue. A native of Iowa, he was born April 1, 1866, in Pottawattamie county, about sixteen miles north of Council Bluffs. His father, Mason Foreman, was born and reared in old Virginia. Moving to Pottawattamie county, Iowa, in 1854, he improved a farm, and was there engaged in stock and grain raising until his death. His wife, who was born in Virginia, her maiden name being Sarah Rodgers, died on the Iowa farm, in 1873. Of the twelve children that she bore her husband, nine grew to years of maturity, and eight are now living, Charles, the eleventh child in order of birth, being the only one on the Pacific coast.

Brought up in Iowa, Charles Foreman began life for himself when but ten years old, having been left motherless when but seven years of age. He worked as a chore boy on a farm, and attended the short terms of the district school

for six years, and then removed to Thayer county, Neb., where he continued as a farm laborer for two years. The ensuing two years he was similarly engaged in Concordia, Cloud county, Kans., after which he returned to Iowa. Settling in Harrison county, he purchased one hundred acres of land, from which he improved a farm, carrying it on until 1891, during the last year being also employed as a barber. Coming from there to California, Mr. Foreman bought a lot in the original colony of Dos Palos, and built a small hotel, which he carried on for two years, at the same time working at the barber's trade. When the site of the colony was changed to its present location, he purchased forty acres of land on Palm avenue, moved his house from its first site to his new possessions, and having rebuilt his residence began the improvement of his land, putting the larger part of it in alfalfa and setting out a small orchard. He embarked in the dairy business, in which he was quite successful. Taking up the study of dentistry under Dr. George Monroe, he completed his studies with a well-known dentist of San Francisco, and beginning the practice of his profession at Colony Center in 1896 has continued here since, being deservedly popular throughout the community, where he has a rapidly increasing patronage. In addition to his other duties, he is engaged in a general real estate business.

In Harrison county, Iowa, Dr. Foreman married Lizzie Ross, a native of that county, and they are the parents of six children, namely: Roy, Ross, Charles, Frank, Florence and Eward. The doctor is a staunch adherent of the Republican party, and is a member of the Fraternal Aid; and of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Foreman is a member of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

---

**JOHN CHATTEN.** Six miles northeast of Visalia on the Millwood road lies the farm which for years has been the home of Mr. Chatten and which each year produces crops of alfalfa, corn and grain, as well as furnishing pasturage for the fine herd of milch cows. The homestead includes one hundred and seventy-two and one-half acres on Elbow creek, with adequate irrigation facilities by means of the Wutchumna ditch, in which company he is a director. Though not entirely under cultivation, every acre of the land is tillable. In addition, Mr. Chatten owns a quarter section of adjoining land which is utilized for grazing purposes. The family residence, built in 1903, is a substantial structure with modern improvements and makes a comfortable home.

A resident of California since 1868, Mr. Chat-

ten is a native of Canada and a descendant of English progenitors. His grandfather, Thomas Chatten, brought the family to America from Norfolk county, England, and settled in Ontario. There the father, Robert Chatten, engaged in farming near Colborne, remaining in the same locality until his death, in 1896, at seventy-eight years of age. During early manhood he married Betsey Doe, who was born in Ontario and died there at seventy-two years of age. Of English ancestry, she was the daughter of James Doe, an Englishman, who crossed the ocean to Canada and became a farmer in Ontario. Among nine children (all of whom attained mature years and seven are still living) John Chatten was next to the oldest child and the oldest son. He was born near Colborne, Northumberland county, Ontario, December 8, 1848, and grew to manhood in the midst of discouraging conditions. Nature had not richly blessed the locality where he lived. A livelihood was earned only by the most arduous labor. After reaching the age of eleven years he was taken out of school and given farm work, one of his most laborious tasks being the picking of stones.

An uncle, Richard Chatten (now living in Visalia), had come to California during the exciting period of 1849, and reports sent to Ontario by him contained glowing accounts of the climate here which differed so radically from the bleak and stormy winters of Ontario. In this way John Chatten was led to leave his childhood's home and seek the Pacific coast country. For two years after arriving in the state he worked for his uncle, but after his marriage he took up independent farming and stock-raising on a tract of one hundred and fifty acres belonging to his uncle. A year later he bought an unimproved tract, which he has since transformed into an attractive homestead. Of recent years he has made a specialty of dairying and to facilitate this work he utilizes a separator. More than ordinary success has rewarded his efforts as a farmer, for he came to this country with nothing and now possesses a valuable property. In his labors he has had the aid of an efficient helpmate. His wife, formerly Miss Celestie Reynolds, was born in Iowa and was brought across the plains by her parents when seven months old. Her entire life in California has been spent in Tulare county. The children born of their union are as follows: Wesley, who follows the engraving business in Portland, Ore.; Arthur, a farmer in the vicinity of his father's home; Wilmot and Ray, who are in Portland; Fred and Elsie, who remain with their parents. The family attend the Christian Church at Visalia and Mrs. Chatten is a member of that organization. In political belief Mr. Chatten supports the Republican party. His activity in local affairs





W. De La Geniere

was displayed through efficient service some years ago as a member of the county central committee of his party, while his interest in educational affairs caused him to accept the office of school trustee of the Elbow district, an office that he filled efficiently for thirty years, meanwhile aiding in building a schoolhouse and in placing the work of teaching upon a broad and solid basis. Other praiseworthy movements have received the benefit of his aid and counsel, and he is justly recognized as one of the leading men of his locality.

---

**WILLIAM DE LAGRANGE.** Distinguished alike for the honored French ancestry from which he is descended and for his own noteworthy life record, William De LaGrange occupies a substantial position among the most respected and highly esteemed citizens of Selma. As a horticulturist, and a man of mechanical skill and ingenuity, he has, during the past quarter of a century, been an important factor in promoting the industrial interests of Fresno county. A son of the late Omie De LaGrange, he was born January 1, 1840, in Washington county, Ohio. His paternal great-grandfather, also named Omie De LaGrange, came to this country at the beginning of the Revolutionary war as an officer on the staff of Marquis de Lafayette, whose sister he had previously married. He was a highly educated man, and after serving in the army until the close of the war received from the United States Government three tracts of land, located in different parts of New York state. He subsequently sent to France for his family, and took up his residence in this country. He died in France, while on a visit to his old home. His son, Barnabas De LaGrange, Mr. De LaGrange's grandfather, came with the family to the United States, locating in Saratoga, N. Y., where he followed teaching for many years. Removing to Ohio in 1830, he settled near Marietta, and subsequently resided there until his death, at the venerable age of eighty-two years.

Born in Saratoga, N. Y., Omie De LaGrange was there reared and educated. In early life he removed to Washington county, Ohio, locating near Marietta, where he became owner of a large and valuable farm. In addition to overseeing the management of his farm, he was a noted contractor and builder, and filled many government contracts in Ohio and West Virginia, building canals and other public works, and becoming a large property owner in both states. In 1892 he came from Parkersburg, W. Va., to California, and thereafter made his home with his son William, in Selma, living here until his death, in 1900, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. He married Elizabeth McClain, who was born

in Pennsylvania, and died in Parkersburg, W. Va., at the age of seventy-four years. She bore him eight children, four sons and four daughters, William being the oldest child.

After receiving a limited education in the common schools, William De LaGrange worked with his father as carpenter and builder in Ohio and Virginia. Enlisting, in 1861, in Company H, Eleventh Virginia Volunteer Infantry, he served as musician in a martial band of twelve members for two years, being employed along a line of sharpshooters. At the expiration of his term of enlistment, in 1863, Mr. De LaGrange engaged in steamboating on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, serving as pilot on the Chesapeake, the Emma Graham, the Mountain Boy, and other large steamers. Coming to the Pacific coast in 1880, Mr. De LaGrange purchased forty acres of land lying one mile southwest of Selma, in Fresno county, and began the improvement of a ranch. In 1884 he was made foreman of the work of building the head gates, bridges and drops of the seventy-six canals on Fowler switch, being thus employed for about a year. Selling his ranch in 1890, Mr. De LaGrange removed to his present estate, which lies four miles northeast of Selma, on the Centerville and Kingsburg ditch. Here he owns a fine orchard and vineyard of twenty acres, both of which produce large quantities of fruit and grapes thriving well under his skillful care. He also carries on an extensive and lucrative business in boring wells and installing pumping plants, using both gasoline and steam power.

In 1870, while living in West Virginia, Mr. De LaGrange married Virginia DeWitt, a native of that state, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Ada Ethel, wife of William Unger; William, of Bakersfield, an electrician, in the employ of the Edison Electric Company; John; and Omie. In politics Mr. De LaGrange is a staunch Republican, and in religion is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**CAPT. ROBERT M. ASKIN.** Although not one of the early settlers of Visalia, the business interests and the high character of his citizenship place Captain Askin among the leading residents of the city. Travel and extensive reading have made him familiar with many portions of the United States, but among them all California is his favorite state, and he believes its business openings to be as substantial as its climate is fair. In business his specialties are plumbing and iron work and along these lines he has built up an extensive and important trade among the people of Visalia and Tulare county.

Captain Askin was born in Dublin, Ireland, April 10, 1838, and received his education prin-

cipally in the King's hospital of his native city. His father, John Askin, was born in England, and under the supervision of the grandfather learned the trade of plumber, which he followed from the time of his removal to Ireland until he died. After leaving England for the Emerald Isle he married Sarah Sophia Shea, a native of Dublin. They became the parents of five children, of whom two sons and two daughters attained mature years, Robert M. being third in order of birth. Hoping to find more advantageous openings in the new world than his native isle offered, in November, 1852, he crossed the ocean to the United States and joined an uncle at Trenton, Canada, where he served an apprenticeship to the tinner's trade. From there in 1854 he went to Jefferson county, N. Y., and after working at his trade for two years there, joined another uncle in New York City.

On settling in Missouri in 1859, Captain Askin found employment in St. Louis, but soon accompanied a Mr. Crippin to Steelville, Crawford county, Mo., where he started a tinsmith's shop. Soon after his commencing in business at that place the Civil war opened. September 6, 1861, found him accepted in Company E, Phelps' regiment, where he served for six months, meanwhile witnessing the battle of Pea Ridge. On the expiration of his time he was honorably discharged. August 14, 1862, he re-enlisted in Company E, Thirty-second Missouri Infantry, as a private, but in October of the same year was made lieutenant, and April 14, 1864, received a commission as captain. During the early period of his service he was under General Grant, but from 1863 until the close of the war he took part in the campaigns under Sherman. It is a noteworthy fact that, while he bore a brave part in thirty-two general engagements, he never missed a roll-call or a meal with his company, and was injured but once, that being a mere surface wound made by a ball while he was charging on a battery at Jonesboro, Ga. July 18, 1865, he was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., one hundred and twenty-six members of the regiment being mustered out at that time, of whom twenty-six belonged to his own company.

When the arms of a soldier were laid aside for the more peaceful equipments of commercial life Captain Askin returned to Steelville and took up work as a tinner, also handled hardware of all kinds. In 1870 he removed to Cuba, Crawford county, Mo., and from there in 1878 went to Salem, Dent county, where he carried a large stock of stoves, hardware and house furnishing goods, and also officiated as postmaster under President Harrison. In the various places of his residence he was an active worker in the Republican party and for one term he served as presiding justice of the county court. For twenty

years he was one of the most influential business men of Salem, but finally closed out his interests in that city and removed to California in 1899, since which year Visalia has been his home and business headquarters.

The first marriage of Captain Askin took place February 22, 1866, and united him with Clara Alice Jameson, who was born in Missouri, and died at Cuba, that state. Four children were born of that union, namely: Charles Robert and Mary Catherine, both deceased; William C., who still lives in Missouri; and John Herbert, who is connected with his father in business at Visalia. The present wife of Captain Askin, whom he married at Cuba, Mo., April 12, 1876, was Frances Amelia Shepard, a native of New York. The children of this union are Arthur Wesley, Adney Horace, Mervyn Leroy, Matie Amelia and Flora Dell. Before coming to California Captain Askin was active in the lodge and commandery of Masons at Salem, Mo., and the Ancient Order of United Workmen at the same place. For years he has been deeply interested in the activities of the Grand Army of the Republic, and when the first post was organized at Salem he became a charter member and was honored by being chosen its first commander. After coming west he transferred his membership to the Gen. George Wright Post No. 111, department of California and Nevada, of Visalia. In religious connections he and his family are members of the Episcopal Church.

---

WILLIAM HENRY TINNIN. Although a native of the same locality as that in which he now makes his home, Mr. Tinnin has traveled much throughout the west and by observation of the soil, climate and peoples of different regions, has not only become conversant with all of the Pacific coast country, but has deepened his original conviction that the San Joaquin valley has a soil and a future surpassed by none. The farm where he was born in 1871 is situated in Merced county, five miles from his present home, but at seven years of age he accompanied his father, A. C. Tinnin, and other members of the family to the farm two miles south of Newman, which since then has always been considered his home, although business interests have taken him into other parts of the country and abroad. The district schools afforded him fair advantages for acquiring an education. Possessing an excellent memory and splendid mental endowments he has acquired a breadth of information that renders his suggestions and opinions valuable. At the time of his father's death he was sixteen years of age, and although so young he nevertheless afterward managed the home ranch with a wisdom of judgment not always surpassed by men of middle age.







*W. G. Pennebaker*

After having remained in charge of the home place for a long term, in 1899 Mr. Tinnin went to Honolulu with a large number of mules for B. T. McCullough, and while on the Sandwich Islands he received two cargoes of mules, which he sold at fair prices. On his return to California in 1900, he became a California buyer for the Western Meat Company of San Francisco, having, in addition to his territory in this state, the supervision of the buying in Oregon and Nevada. After two years he resigned and returned to the old homestead, which he has since rented from his mother. The farm is one of the finest in all of this region. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres, all under irrigation, well adapted to alfalfa, which he makes his principal crop. In his pasture are fifty horses and one hundred and fifty head of cattle, ninety of these being milch cows, of high-grade Durham, Holstein and Jersey breeds. The dairy business is one of his principal interests and has been conducted with profit. When the first creamery was built in the valley, under the supervision of the New Era Creamery Company, he became one of the company's first stockholders and at this writing is a member of the board of directors. In addition to other interests he has engaged in dealing in and shipping hogs to the Western Meat Company. Fraternally he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. By his marriage in Petaluma to Miss Josephine Johnson, who was born in San Francisco, he has two children, Roswell A. and Susie L. While he is scarcely yet in life's prime he has attained a success that is as commendable as it is gratifying. In movements looking toward the development of local resources he has proved to be enterprising and liberal, enthusiastically co-operating with public-spirited projects and progressive plans originated for the benefit of the community.

**WILLIAM G. PENNEBAKER.** With the honors of a courageous pioneer and Civil war veteran Mr. Pennebaker is quietly passing at Visalia the afternoon of a very active existence, whose labors have brought to him a gratifying degree of prosperity and success. He is a member of an old Kentucky family, but himself is a native of Owen county, Ind., and was born January 22, 1836, being a son of William and Lucinda (Findley) Pennebaker, natives respectively of Kentucky and Tennessee. As early as 1835 his father became a pioneer farmer of Indiana, where he made his home successively in Monroe, Owen and Putnam counties. After six years in the county last named he went to Iowa in 1846, settling fourteen miles northwest of Burlington,

where he engaged in farming. Four years were spent in that locality and he then settled in the southwestern part of the same state, in Wayne county. During 1868, he and his wife accompanied their son, William G., across the plains with teams and remained with him until they died.

In a family consisting of five daughters and three sons William G. Pennebaker was the youngest son and next to the youngest child. Owing to the frequent removals of the family and the necessary difficult task of clearing each farm as they settled thereon, he had little opportunity to obtain an education and his entire attendance at school was limited to three terms of three months each. However, being a man of quick observation and a wide range of reading, he has acquired a breadth of knowledge not always secured from text-books, and in the school of experience his education has been thorough. For some years after reaching manhood he continued to cultivate a farm in Iowa, but in 1868 came to California and settled near Farmersville, Tulare county, where he bought two hundred acres of land. The tilling of the soil was made subsidiary to the raising of stock, and the crops secured from the land were used for feeding his cattle, hogs and sheep. For a long period he successfully conducted a stock business on this property, but in 1891 moved to a farm of one hundred acres, where he not only raised cattle, but also gave some attention to the fruit industry. Eventually disposing of the property, he purchased a fruit farm of forty acres one mile southwest of Visalia, and here engages in raising peaches and prunes. Since March of 1901 he has made Visalia his home, but, while retired from active labors, he still superintends his various interests, and at the same time aids in movements for the benefit of his home town.

The Republican party has received the allegiance of Mr. Pennebaker ever since its organization. When the war commenced between the north and south his sympathies were at once aroused in behalf of the Union. Early in 1862 he enlisted as a member of Company I, Fourth Iowa Infantry, assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, in which for two years he served as a hospital steward. During the period of his service he was present at thirteen battles. When the war ended he was mustered out of the service, receiving an honorable discharge at Louisville, Ky., in July, 1865, after which he returned to his Iowa farm. In fraternal connections, he holds membership with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. For about forty-five years he has been a member of the Baptist Church, a supporter of its services and a firm believer in its doctrines. While living in Iowa Mr. Pennebaker was united in marriage with Louisa Jennison, who was born in Indiana and died in California during

the year 1880. Nine children were born of their union, of whom seven are living, all married and established in homes of their own. They are named as follows: Mrs. Sarah E. Rockwell; Laura, wife of W. F. Pennebaker; Sherman T., of Exeter, Cal.; Mrs. Lenora Thomas; William M., of Redondo; and Carl G. and Cora, who are twins; the latter is the wife of Hugh Clotfelter. Bloom F. and one other child are deceased. Mr. Pennebaker's present wife was Martha A. Jones, a daughter of H. D. Jones, a native of Arkansas, who came to California in 1869 and settled in Tulare county.

C. E. BOYNTON, M. D., physician and surgeon of Los Banos, Cal., was born in Groveland, Essex county, Mass., March 16, 1860, and is the only representative of his family on the Pacific coast. His family has long been represented in the New England states. The founder of the name in America was William Boynton, born in East Riding, Yorkshire, England, in 1606, and who came to Essex county, Mass., in 1638. He became a man of affairs in the colonies, acquiring wealth and governmental influence. His son, Joshua Boynton, was born in Rowley, Mass., March 10, 1646, and in 1673 removed to a farm in Newbury, Mass. The next generation was represented by a Joshua, born in 1679, who married Mary Gerrish Dale, and their son Enoch was born in 1727. Enoch was a fisherman and farmer, and served his country in the battle of Louisburg. Enoch, Jr., was born on the old Boynton homestead in 1748, and married Abigail Tarring, and their son, Captain Methusaleh, who was born in 1777, was a sailor and captain of a vessel. He attained distinction in the war of 1812, and was noted for his great physical strength. He married Abigail Dodge, and their son, Enoch, was born in Newburyport, Mass., June 12, 1816. Enoch was a man of courage and strong convictions, and as early as 1836 was stanchly in favor of the abolition of slavery. He married Charlotte Gage Kimball, born in Bradford, Mass., a daughter of George Kimball, of old Massachusetts stock, who died in that state about 1862, at the age of sixty-eight. Thus is traced the American occupation of the family, yet record has been kept of the Boyntons since the time of William the Conqueror, at which time baronets and peers maintained the family prestige, one of the soldiers having been Bartholemew de Boynton, who, in turn, owed his lineage to the vikings of the northland.

Until his seventeenth year Dr. Boynton lived in Groveland, Mass., when owing to the death of his father, he was obliged to earn his own living. At this time he had not a cent in the world, and the position of deck-hand, offered

him by a considerate employer, was readily accepted. His education was a matter entirely of his own getting, for while working he walked to Amherst College and back, studied diligently as only boys spurred by necessity and poverty are apt to do, and in time worked his way through the Massachusetts Agricultural College, graduating in 1881 with the degree of B.S. In 1881 he began traveling through the middle states, continuing his studies at various seats of learning, finally entering the Orange Street Medical College in Syracuse, N. Y., from which he received his professional degree in 1888. A student of more than ordinary application and resource, he carried away the highest honors of his class, and was appointed medical superintendent of the Onondaga Insane Asylum near Syracuse. Holding the same for eighteen months, he came west to Wyoming in 1890, practiced medicine and surgery at Almy and Redcañon, and in the mines near Evanston. A year later he located in Cathlamet, Wash., on the Columbia river, later practicing in the islands of Puget Sound, taking his way from one island to another in a rowboat. His next location was Portland, Ore., and later for three years he was located in Polk county, that state. Coming to San Francisco, he practiced for a time, and then, through a friend, Dr. J. A. Anderson, learned of the excellent opportunity awaiting an ambitious practitioner in Los Banos.

From the start he was successful in Los Banos, and at the end of six months had a creditable and paying practice. Continuing here during 1896-97, he then went to Smithfield, Utah, where he succeeded for a year, but owing to the high altitude was obliged to make a change of location. Then he practiced in Dungeness, Clallam county, Wash., but not liking the place he located in Hamilton, Wash., meeting with success. He next returned to Smithfield, Utah, for a time, but soon after decided to locate permanently in Los Banos, reaching here in 1901. Two years here proved both profitable and pleasant, in the meantime a petition had been signed by the people of Smithfield, calling attention to the favorable impression he had made in that town, and requesting his return. Accordingly he shifted his field of operations, but again finding the altitude too high, he sold out and came back to Los Banos in May, 1904. Since then he has strengthened his hold upon the hearts and minds of the people of this town, and is conducting a practice in every way worthy the best tenets of medical science, having before him a career in which continued success is happily assured. Dr. Boynton has an office equipped with a static machine and the most modern of medical and surgical appliances, and avails himself of the latest and most practical innovations evolved from the

highest professional authorities. He is a Republican in politics, and is an ordained elder in the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Mrs. Boynton ranks with the public-spirited and capable women of California, being an orator of acknowledged strength and persuasiveness, and a power in the ranks of the Republican party. With Mrs. Foster she stumped Utah for President McKinley, and undoubtedly was the means of securing that territory to the Republicans. Before her marriage she was Lucretia Houston Hall, daughter of a physician, and the heir on her mother's side to mental endowments of a high order. Her mother was a medical practitioner and scientist, and did much for the west along these advanced lines.

---

E. T. DIXON. The distinction of being the oldest established druggist in the city of Merced is not the only claim upon the consideration of his fellow townsmen earned by E. T. Dixon. That the town exists at all, taking its place among the flourishing communities of the county of that name, is because such men as Mr. Dixon have known what was required for its building, and have taken the initiative in its foremost industries and improvements. From the time of its incorporation his name has been associated with its political, social, educational, and moral welfare, and there is scarcely a phase of its life which has not been benefited by his strong and practical views, if not active co-operation.

Born in Jackson, Miss., November 13, 1847, Mr. Dixon comes of a family which had its representatives among the earliest settlers of Virginia, where his father, Judge Richard L. Dixon, was born in Abingdon, and where his grandfather, Henry St. John Dixon, was born, and eventually enlisted in the war of 1812. Henry Dixon owned a large plantation in Virginia, but after his son had become established in Mississippi, he spent his last years in the latter state. Judge Dixon was a typical southerner, but his success savors somewhat of the energy of the north. As a lad he bade adieu to the plantation in Virginia, and with naught save what he could carry in a bundle, started on horseback across the mountains to Mississippi, where, in Jackson, his readiness to work and ability won him a position in the county clerk's office. As opportunity offered he studied law and was admitted to practice in the courts of Mississippi, eventually being elected judge of Washington county, a position maintained for fourteen years. In 1870 he came to what is now Madera county, Cal., and after farming four years, engaged in legal practice in Fresno, until his death, at the age of seventy-three years. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and at times during his

life was active in politics, filling, besides the office of judge, that of provost-marshal of Washington county, in the Department of the Mississippi. His wife, formerly Julia Phillips, a native of Jackson, Miss., and a member of an old southern family, died in Fresno at an advanced age. There were seven children in his family, of whom H. S., an attorney of Fresno, and a soldier in the Twenty-eighth Mississippi Volunteer Cavalry during the Civil war, died in Sausalito; J. P., deceased, was a farmer of Kern county, and served in the same regiment with his brother during the war; Edward T.; Louise, who married G. W. Mordecai, of Madera county; W. L., surveyor of Bakersfield; L. L., engaged in the express business in San Francisco; and J. R., a retired farmer of Madera.

Edward T. Dixon was reared on his father's large plantation near Greenville, known as Sycamore, Washington county, Miss., and located on Deer creek. The peaceful existence to which he was accustomed was broken into by the Civil war, which necessitated his taking refuge in Alabama, while his brothers departed to the scene of hostilities. There were no schools in operation during the war, and after the establishment of peace he supplemented his rather meager common-school education by tuition from a private teacher for a couple of years. In 1867, at the age of nineteen, he began to learn the drug business in Greenville, and in 1869 came to California and located in Fresno county, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land, at the same time homesteading an equal amount. Engaging in sheep raising until 1872, he finally sold his land to Mr. Mordecai, and February 28, 1872, removed to the present site of Merced, and was present at the first sale of lots in the town. He himself purchased a lot on Front street, and, after erecting the first drug store in the city, continued the ownership and management of the same up to the present time. The old structure was replaced by one more modern in 1901, the new store being twenty-five by sixty feet in dimensions, and equipped with the innumerable detail which makes a drug establishment an attractive as well as necessary place of business.

Having a keen insight into the future of Merced, he early invested in real estate, both for a home and for business purposes, and among the substantial undertakings, built, with Dr. H. N. Rucker, the Baltic Building on the corner of Sixteenth and K streets, with a frontage of fifty feet, and two stories high. Assisting in the incorporation of the city, he was a member and the president of its first and second board of trustees; he was school trustee two terms, and superintendent of schools of Merced county for two terms, of three and four months each. He has always taken a keen interest in the cause of edu-

cation, and the admirable system at the disposal of the rising generation of today is largely due to his advocacy of thoroughness in scholars and competency on the part of teachers. For years he was chairman of the board of trustees of Merced Lodge No. 208, I. O. O. F., of Merced, and is past chief patriarch of the Encampment, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Ancient Order of Foresters. In religious belief he is an Episcopalian. Mr. Dixon's high standing as a business man of Merced is well earned, for he has not only made a success of his drug enterprise, but has demonstrated his knowledge of banking finance to the satisfaction of all concerned. He was one of the organizers and the first vice-president of the First National Bank of Merced, remaining in the same capacity when it was known as the Commercial & Savings Bank, and also after it was reorganized into the Commercial Bank of Merced. He resigned the position in January, 1904, but still continues a stockholder.

Through his marriage in Napa county, this state, with Minnie Ralston, Mr. Dixon became allied with another pioneer family of the state, Clark and Eliza Ralston having settled here in the pioneer days. Mr. Ralston has survived the changes which have come to the coast country during the past half a century, and is now living retired in Livingston, alert and active notwithstanding his fourscore and four years. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, of whom Florence, a graduate of the San Jose normal, is engaged in educational work in Merced; Julia is a student, class of 1906, in the University of California; Rucker, a bookkeeper in Merced, is a graduate of the commercial department of the high school; James P. died in childhood; William, Richard and Mary, remain at home. Mr. Dixon is a man of earnest and positive nature, of absolute fearlessness in matters of right and wrong, and of noble characteristics which bind to him for all time the friends which pass his way.

---

**WILLIAM HALL HAMMOND.** As president of the Mt. Whitney Power Company William Hall Hammond is sustaining the reputation for business ability and judgment, energy and unusual talent, won by him in the earlier part of his career in Tulare county. This project, which has felt the impetus of a master hand, was set in motion in 1897, when the purchase of the location and water rights on Kaweah was made; in September of the following year the building was begun, and in July, 1899, the power was set in motion and the city of Visalia was lighted. The plant is located thirty-five miles east of Visalia on the Kaweah, where is to be found the finest

water power in the state. The first plant put in is known as No. 1, and has a capacity of two thousand horse-power; it is equipped with Doble Tangential wheels, and has a fall of thirteen hundred feet, brought down in a twenty-two-inch steel pipe. The second plant, known as No. 2, was put in a mile below, water being taken from the middle fork of the Kaweah, and this has a capacity of twenty-one hundred horse-power, the fall being less, but the volume greater. The two together have a capacity of forty-one hundred horse-power, the water returning to the stream above all ditches for irrigation of the valley below. It is carried down by wires and distributed through the county by sub-stations. They now furnish light and power to Visalia, Tulare, Portersville, Lindsay and Exeter. The third plant, which is to succeed the Globe Light and Power Company, lately purchased by the Mt. Whitney Power Company, will be located on the Tulare river, twenty miles above Portersville, and is to have a capacity of twenty-five hundred horse-power. In nine months over one-half million feet of lumber were sawed for the flumes for the first plants, which were conducted for a year by Mr. Hammond himself. In December, 1899, the Mt. Whitney Power Company was incorporated with a capital of \$1,000,000, and with Mr. Hammond as president. The main office is located in Visalia in the Brown building. This is an achievement which has brought to Mr. Hammond much deserved credit and placed him prominently among the financiers of the county.

The Hammond family came originally from Kent county, England, the first immigrant to America locating in Maryland. In that state William Hammond was born, grew to manhood and engaged in business. In 1851 he came to California and two years later died in this state. His son, Richard P. Hammond, was born near Hagerstown, Md., received his preliminary education in that vicinity and graduated from West Point. He served as a major in the Mexican war, after which he resigned from the army and came to California in 1849. He located in San Francisco and in 1857 became port collector for that city. He subsequently became identified with the Southern Pacific Railroad and for many years served as president of the California Pacific Railroad Company. He was very prominent in the municipal life of San Francisco, for fifteen years serving as president of the board of police commissioners, as well as taking an active interest in all movements calculated to advance the general welfare. In 1851 he was speaker of the house of representatives and thoroughly demonstrated while in that position the versatile talents which made of him so valuable a citizen in the formation of a new statehood. He died in San Francisco in 1891, at the age of seventy-one years



and is buried in Oakland. He was a valued member of the California Pioneers of San Francisco, and also acted as regent of the University of California. His wife was in maidenhood Sallie Hays, of Tennessee, and daughter of Harmon Hays, who died in that state, and sister of Col. Jack Hays. She died at her home in San Francisco in 1867. Of her four sons and two daughters, two sons and one daughter are living. Richard P., a prominent civil engineer, was United States surveyor general, and was president of the Golden Gate Park Commission; he died in San Francisco. John Hays, the celebrated mining engineer, is now a resident of New York City; Harry, a successful attorney, died in San Francisco; and William Hall is the subject of this review.

Born in San Francisco September 25, 1857, William Hall Hammond was reared to young manhood in his native city. He was prepared for college in New Haven, after his graduation from the Hopkins grammar school entering Yale University, where he studied for two years. Returning to California he entered the University of California, from which he was graduated in 1879 with the degree of A.B., in the same class with Governor Pardee. After his graduation he came to Tulare county and engaged in farming and stock-raising five miles east of Tulare. This he continued for several years, when he located in Visalia and engaged in the abstract and real estate business with John F. Jordan, which was incorporated under the title of Visalia Abstract Company. Although he has taken up other lines of endeavor, Mr. Hammond is still interested in this business and retains his connection with it. For a time he also took some interest in horticultural pursuits. In 1892 he was elected on the Democratic ticket county clerk by a large majority, and was re-elected for a second term, holding the office from January, 1893, to January, 1899. Refusing a further candidacy he entered upon the accomplishment of the project which has won for him large financial returns, wide commendation and the added esteem and respect of all who have known him. In addition to these extensive interests he is also identified with the Visalia Manufacturing Company, the Visalia Steam Laundry Company, the Kaweah Lemon Company, and the First National Bank, of all of which he is a director, giving to each interest the energy and ability characteristic of all his efforts.

In Visalia Mr. Hammond was united in marriage with Miss May Brown, a native of this city, and the daughter of S. C. Brown. They are the parents of two children, William H., Jr., student of the high school here, and May, a student in Miss Head's School at Berkeley. A strong Democrat politically, Mr. Hammond has taken an active interest in the promotion of the

principles he endorses, being an ex-member of the county committee and also of the state central committee. For several terms he has filled the office of mayor of Visalia and has also served on the school board for several terms. In 1883 he was elected to the office of county supervisor, discharging the duties acceptably for one term. Always an active figure in the commercial life of the city, he has served as a member of the Board of Trade since its organization, and is associated with the Visalia Improvement Association. Fraternally he is prominent, having been made a Mason in Visalia Lodge No. 128, and now belongs to Visalia Chapter No. 44, R. A. M., in which he is past high priest; Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T.; Islam Temple, N. M. S.; and Oakland Consistory, being a Thirty-second Degree Mason. He belongs also to Visalia Parlor No. 19, N. S. G. W., and Knights of Pythias. He is in all things a citizen who bears the impress of talent, energy and perseverance, coupled with dignity of purpose and integrity of aim which have won for him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-townsmen and brought about a personal success neither lessened nor enhanced by the financial returns which his efforts have given him.

---

ASA L. BARTHOLOMEW. An old pioneer and a worthy and esteemed citizen of Merced county, Asa L. Bartholomew is still pursuing his agricultural labors on his ranch of four hundred and eighty acres located five miles northeast of Merced. He purchased this property in November, 1883, and since that time has bent every effort toward its improvement, placing the land under profitable cultivation and adding commodious buildings. In 1893 he erected his present home, a two-story frame house consisting of twelve rooms, finishing all in a modern and approved style. The large ranch is devoted to the cultivation of grain and the raising of cattle.

In Berkshire county, Mass., Asa L. Bartholomew was born June 24, 1827, a son of Andrew and Abigail (Savage) Bartholomew, both owing their nativity to the same state, where the father engaged in farming throughout his entire life. He was reared to manhood on the paternal farm and remained at home until he was twenty years of age, and three years later came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Upon his arrival in San Francisco he followed the course of the many who sought the west at that time—1850—going at once to the mines on Stanislaus river, San Joaquin, now Stanislaus county. Later he engaged in teaming, which work he evidently found more profitable, for he remained so employed for fifteen years. He then engaged in ranching in Stanislaus county until his re-

moval to Merced county, which took place twenty-six years ago, as before mentioned locating upon his present property in November, 1883, and since making this his home.

Mr. Bartholomew has been married three times; his first wife, Mary Sparks, died, leaving him two children, namely: Anna Mary, the wife of Vaughn Gahan of Paso Robles, Cal., and Emma, the wife of Fremont Burrows of Modesto. His second wife was V. Myra Van Ward, and after her death he married Mrs. Emma (Sabers) Brown. She is a native of Toronto, Canada, and the daughter of John Sabers, of Irish birth. He came to Canada when only fifteen years old and engaged in farming, later locating in Illinois, where he married Mary Beach, a native of that state. They subsequently returned to Canada, but when Mrs. Bartholomew was only seven weeks old they once more located in Illinois. Upon the breaking out of the Civil war Mr. Sabers enlisted in Captain Anderson's company and during the service had the misfortune to lose an eye. On returning to the pursuits of a civilian he located in Missouri, where he is now engaged in farming at the age of sixty-six years. By her first husband, Charles Brown, Mrs. Bartholomew is the mother of two children, namely: R. B. DeWitt and Benjamin H., both of whom are at home. Mr. Bartholomew is a Republican in his political convictions and attends the Presbyterian Church.

HENRY FREDERICK FERDINAND SALAU. The pioneers of Merced county include none whose lives have been more eventful or broader in scope than that of Henry Frederick Ferdinand Salau, who resides five miles southwest of Los Banos, and is prominently connected with the agricultural and stock-raising development of his section. Few of the residents in the vicinity of Los Banos have touched at as many ports or are as familiar with the geography of the world as is Mr. Salau, and it is safe to say that none has had so many exciting experiences upon the deep or sailed more miles before the mast. He had ability and enthusiasm, and sufficient energy to break away from conditions which failed to come up to the requirements of his nature. The son of a weaver who had two other sons and two daughters, he found little in the humble environment of his home in Kiel, Germany, to stimulate his energy or satisfy his craving for action. He was born June 3, 1835, and is of Huguenot ancestry, early bearers of his name having fled to Germany from France to avoid religious persecution. His parents, John and Catherine (Krenhoff) Salau, were born in Kiel, the former living to the age of sixty, while the latter died in 1854. The weaver

and his wife were plain, conscientious, and God-fearing people, devout in their attendance and support of the Lutheran Church, and strict in the discipline of their children.

The oldest son in the family, Henry Frederick remained at home until fourteen, when, feeling the touch of poverty and lack of opportunity, he gave vent to the desire which had strengthened each year as he watched the coming and departure of ships in the great harbor. His dream was to become a sailor, to visit distant ports. Aboard the brig Betsey he sailed to London, and then to Quebec, Canada, but before reaching the latter city experienced his first shipwreck, which resulted in eleven of the crew being rescued by the Humboldt of Hamburg, and taken to New York. Three months later he shipped on the ship Humboldt, returned to Hamburg, then on the same ship made two other trips to New York. The last time he came around the Horn to San Francisco, stopped at Acapulco to discharge a cargo of coal, and reached the California city in August, 1858. Thereafter for several years he engaged in the coasting trade between San Francisco and Puget Sound, and in 1861 shipped aboard the clipper ship Challenger, destined for a voyage of one hundred and three days to Liverpool. The Nicholas Biddle was the next ship upon which Mr. Salau shipped, and after reaching New York he took a trip to the West Indies on the barque Warwick. Next, on the clipper ship Magnet, he sailed from New York around the Horn to San Francisco in one hundred and forty days, returning to New York on the Susan Faring, in which also he went on a forty days' journey to the East Indies. Loading with rice, the ship went to London, via the Cape of Good Hope, in one hundred and forty days. He then went to his old home in Kiel, also visiting Hamburg and other German towns. Still entranced with the life of the sea, he shipped on the barque Mary from Bremen to St. Thomas, then on board the Geronimo, of Philadelphia. He was shipwrecked off the coast of Cape Hatteras, this ship going ashore in a gale, but as heretofore, the crew were saved from a watery grave through their ability to withstand exposure and danger. Mr. Salau later became one of the crew of the Josie H. Bates, bound for the East Indies by way of Cape Hope; next was on the Mattapan, bound for San Francisco by way of the Horn. This proved an enjoyable and profitable trip, but was paid for later on when he chanced to be in the harbor at Baker's Island. Lying at anchor, a terrific gale blew the boat into a coral reef, and it soon afterward went to the bottom, not, however, until the crew had all been saved. Going to Honolulu aboard a schooner, Mr. Salau shipped on the whaler Bri-





JAMES DRISKELL

ganza, brought a cargo of oil to Bremen, Germany, then returned on the City of Baltimore to New York. Shortly afterward he went on the Rover to the East Indies, returned to New York, and then on the brig Hamburg went to St. Thomas, and from there to Hamburg. This proved the last trip of this great voyager, who had attained the rank of second officer, and who had profited intelligently and broadly by his visits in many lands. He had absorbed his share of the danger and responsibility of the merchant marine and had encountered many and varied experiences.

During his eleven months in Germany Mr. Salau found employment in a moulding factory, for, like the average sailor, he had accumulated but little money, and was forced to begin at the bottom round of the ladder. In 1866 he came to New York, and thence to Aspinwall, Panama, and San Francisco, arriving in the latter city in April, 1867, on the steamer Moses Taylor. After looking around for a favorable occupation he engaged in farming in the vicinity of Santa Clara until 1869, then went to the West side and entered a hundred and sixty acres of land near Volta, Merced county. This proving of little use, he allowed it to go back, and near Los Banos engaged in the sheep business for several years. In 1871 he located on one hundred and sixty acres of his present ranch, improved the same, added buildings and implements, and engaged in grain and stock raising on as large a scale as the land permitted. Later years witnessed additions to his property, and he now owns two hundred and eighty acres below the canal, and three hundred and twenty above the canal, five miles southwest of Los Banos. Previous to the construction of the outside canal he built a flume and canal with which to irrigate his land, but has since availed himself of the public waterway. The ranch is under dairying, alfalfa and grain, one hundred and eighty-five acres being under alfalfa. The dairy land Mr. Salau leases for \$12 an acre, and the balance of the property is managed by his sons, he having several years ago retired from active life.

Mr Salau has entered into the affairs of his home with the same enthusiasm and thoroughness with which he followed the sea in his youth. He has proved a valuable adjunct to local Republican undertakings, and has creditably served as a member of the county central committee, and as a delegate to state and county conventions. He is fraternally connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is a member of the Lutheran Church. In Kiel, Germany, Mr. Salau married Doretta Salau, a native of Holstein, Germany, and the home thus established has been augmented by five children,

namely: Augusta, who is married to M. Becker, Adolph, Mary, Louis and Doretta. Mr. Salau is a man of strong character, commanding presence and magnetic personality. He carries with him a faithful memory of the people and places he has known and of the incidents which have enlivened his career, all which makes of him an interesting companion, as well as a reliable and instructive source of information.

**JAMES DRISKELL.** Numbered among the pioneer agriculturists of California is James Driskell, an esteemed and highly respected resident of Newman, who came to this state more than forty years ago, and has since been actively identified with its industrial growth and prosperity. A native of Kentucky, he was born October 26, 1828, in Morgan county, a son of Davis Driskell.

Born and reared in Kentucky, Davis Driskell was there engaged in farming during his earlier years. Migrating with his family to Illinois in 1833, he settled at Macoupin Point, in Macoupin county, where he purchased land, and in addition to managing that was also employed as a hotel keeper for five years. Removing to Lee county, Iowa, in 1838, he took up government land near West Point, and there cleared and improved a homestead, on which he was engaged in farming and stock-raising until his death. He married first Mary Dunn, who was born in Kentucky, and died in Illinois. She bore him four sons and three daughters, of whom James, the special subject of this sketch, was the youngest child. After the death of his first wife, he was subsequently twice married.

Attending the short terms of school held in the rude log school house of his boyhood days, James Driskell obtained a limited education in common with the children of the neighborhood, while under his father's tutelage he was well drilled in the various branches relating to general farming. For a short time he worked as a farm laborer in Jefferson and other Iowa counties, and then, in 1848, migrated to Nebraska, locating near Plattsmouth, where he took up a tract of government land, and followed farming for eleven years. Crossing the plains with ox-teams in 1859, Mr. Driskell located in Douglas county, Ore., living first in Roseburg, and afterwards in Canyonville, in both places being engaged in agricultural pursuits. Coming from there to Santa Cruz county, Cal., in 1863, Mr. Driskell settled first on land near Watsonville, and subsequently lived for a year in Watsonville, being engaged while in that vicinity in peeling tan bark. In 1876 he removed to Los Banos, and the ensuing year purchased a squatter's claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he managed for a few



years. Disposing of that property to Miller & Lux, he located in Stanislaus county in 1881, and bought his present ranch of ninety-five and three-fourths acres, adjoining Newman on the east. With characteristic enterprise and foresight, he has planted it largely to alfalfa, and is now carrying on a profitable dairy business, keeping fifty cows, and using a separator.

In Iowa Mr. Driskell married Mahala Cardwell, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of Richard and Mary Campbell Cardwell, an old Tennessee family. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Driskell eleven children have been born, and of these seven daughters and two sons are living. The names of the children are: Mrs. Mary J. Gardener, George W., Mrs. Malicia A. Wisener, Malinda Arizona, deceased, Mrs. Eliza C. Draper, Sarah Matilda, deceased, William Daniel, Mrs. Emma Idella Ward, Mrs. Martha Ellen Tompkins, Mrs. Grace De Etta Gift, Clara Belle.

Politically Mr. Driskell is a zealous advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and religiously he is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**CAPT. HARRISON WHITE.** The genealogy of the White family in America is traced back to Peregrine White, whose name is associated with the historic Mayflower and the early days of hardships on the bleak Atlantic coast. Every generation has given to our country men of valor in war and painstaking industry in times of peace. During the Revolutionary war Silas White, a native of New York, enlisted in a company from that state, and as captain led his men into the thickest of many a struggle with the Tory forces. A son and namesake of this Revolutionary captain left his native New York and in 1842 settled on the Fox river in Illinois, becoming a pioneer farmer of LaSalle county, where he died six years later. Long survived by his wife, he left to her the heritage of an upright life and unstained honor. In maidenhood she bore the name of Maria MacClave. The family of which she was a member came from Scotland to America in an early day and settled in New York, where she was born at Albany. At the time of her death, which occurred in Illinois, she had reached the age of ninety-eight years. Of her ten children who attained mature years five are still living. One of the survivors, Selim, who is now a resident of Coal City, Grundy county, Ill., served through the entire period of the Civil war and held the rank of captain of a company in the Fifty-third Illinois Infantry.

Syracuse, N. Y., is the native city of Harrison White, and June 28, 1836, the date of his birth. When six years of age he accompanied the

family to Illinois and there obtained his primary education in public schools, after which he alternated teaching school with attendance at Wheaton College. The breaking out of the Civil war found him alert to offer his services to his country. When the first appeal came for volunteers to enlist for three months he was quick to respond, and in April, 1861, became a member of Company F, Eleventh Illinois Infantry. At the expiration of three months, on being honorably discharged, he decided to enlist in the cavalry branch of the army, and accordingly helped to organize Company B, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, which was mustered into service at Ottawa in August of 1861, and thence made its way to Cairo. Among his early engagements were those at Forts Henry and Donelson, Corinth and Vicksburg. In the siege of Vicksburg his company was detailed as an escort to General Grant and continued as such until the latter was ordered east as commander-in-chief. Soon afterward he was placed on detached service and for a short time was assistant quartermaster at Vicksburg, after which he joined his regiment and aided General Custer in Louisiana during the reconstruction period. January 26, 1866, he was honorably discharged in Memphis, Tenn., with the rank of captain, having been promoted to that office in recognition of meritorious service at Vicksburg. Somewhat earlier in the war he had served as an orderly sergeant. Though often in the midst of fierce struggles, with the dead and wounded on every hand, he escaped without injury, except during the conflict at Shiloh, where a piece of shell killed his horse and knocked him senseless, but he soon recovered and joined his comrades.

For a year after his retirement from the army Captain White rented a plantation at Yazoo Pass, Miss., but the climate and occupation proved trying, and on account of ill health he returned to Illinois. For some months he conducted a mercantile establishment at Sandwich, Ill., but in the fall of 1868 he sold the business, left Illinois, and traveled up the Missouri to Fort Benton and thence to Helena, Mont., where he engaged in merchandising. Later he carried on a store at a mining camp. During the fall of 1869 he went back to Illinois to visit relatives and friends. The spring of 1870 found him in California, where he settled at Portersville, a small town in Tulare county. For two years he was interested in the sheep business and owned a ranch, but afterward for five years he conducted a general merchandise store with Mr. Putnam. Since 1877 Visalia has been his home and headquarters. Three years after coming to this city he was appointed deputy to the internal revenue collector, William Higby, who had charge of the district embracing Kern, Tulare,



Fresno, Merced and Stanislaus counties, with offices in Visalia. While holding the office of deputy, in which he continued until 1889, he maintained ranch and sheep interests, and still owns a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres on the Tulare river, which he now leases. The land is to some extent under irrigation, water being provided by means of a pumping plant connected with wells. In addition to this property he owns grazing lands. During 1891 he was appointed under sheriff to Sheriff Overall and continued in the office for eighteen months. From 1893 to 1895 he served by appointment as United States gauger. His present position to which he was appointed in 1898, is that of supervisor of the southern district of the Sierra Forest reserve, comprising more than two million acres in Kern, Tulare and Inyo counties, with headquarters in Visalia. The position is one entailing many responsibilities, but he has proved ably qualified to discharge every duty with efficiency and intelligence, his long experience in many avenues of activity having given him a breadth of knowledge and extent of information as rare as it is valuable.

After coming to Visalia Captain White established domestic ties through his marriage to Miss Hattie Pauline Anthony, a native of Watertown, N. Y. He is a member of Gen. George Wright Post No. 111, G. A. R., of which he served as the first commander and afterward by re-election twice held the office. Under appointment by Governor Waterman he served as major and quartermaster on the staff of General Budd, of the California National Guard. Politically a Republican and a leader of his party, for twelve years or more he has been secretary of the Republican county central committee and for two terms officiated as its chairman, always taking an active part in its councils and contributing to its usefulness as an organization. Another important service in behalf of his party has been as a member of the congressional committee. Not only among the members of his own party, but by the citizenship of Visalia irrespective of political ties, he holds the position which belongs to ability of a high order, attractive personality and broad-minded patriotism.

---

**CHARLES JAMES HOBLER.** For many years Mr. Hobler has held an enviable position among the first farmers of Kings county, Cal., and to him belongs the distinction of raising the finest of thoroughbred merino sheep to be found in the vicinity of Hanford, where he has an extensive stock ranch. The high repute in which he is held comes not only from his being a worthy son of good ancestors, but also from the admira-

ble manner in which he has been living out his pre-eminently useful and busy life, his affluent circumstances being but the result of his individual efforts. In tracing the ancestry of Mr. Hobler, we find him to be a direct descendant of a prominent English family. His paternal grandfather, who was of Swiss extraction, was clerk of the Mansion House in London for an unbroken period of forty years, and a painted portrait of him may be found hanging in the halls of the Mansion House to-day.

George Hobler, the father of Charles J., was a native of London, England, where he was reared, educated and lived until he attained the age of twenty-five years. He wedded Miss Ann Turner, a lady born in Devonshire, England. Her father was a breeder of fine Devon cattle and sold to the late Queen Victoria the stock which afterward brought her many prizes at fairs, etc. After marriage, about 1825, the young people went to Australia and during the early years of their residence in that country, Mr. Hobler followed banking in connection with real estate business and stock-raising. Fortune, on her wheel, seemed to be traveling by his side, and at one time he was one of the leading and wealthiest men in the vicinity of Sydney. He subsequently failed in business, however, but by hard work and self-denial, he paid every dollar of his indebtedness. Undaunted, he began anew, and by keen foresight he made a good start and in a short time was again on the road to prosperity. Removing far from the settlements, he took up land and engaged in cattle and sheep-raising on a large scale. His land was in a wild, unsettled district, three hundred miles from the nearest postoffice and here upon this place, shut off from civilization, Mr. Hobler endeavored to retrieve his fallen fortunes. After following this business for six or eight years he became disgusted with the English government, and having been deprived of his land, he sold all his possessions in that country, and severing his connection with both the country and the government, he came to America, making his way to California in 1851.

Securing a favorable location in Alameda county, he took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land on the Spanish Grant, where he improved a place and followed farming for several years. On account of an existing dispute concerning the title to this land and not wishing to be again deprived of his rights, Mr. Hobler sold his interest in this place and removed to Alameda, where the latter years of his life were spent in retirement. Here he died at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Eleven children were born to him and his wife, and of these, one died in infancy, ten growing to maturity; all are now deceased except Charles J. and his sister, Ada,

wife of John Ellsworth, superior judge of Alameda county, Cal.

Born, as he was, on the bank of Hunter's river, near Sydney, Australia, August 16, 1836, Charles J. Hobler spent his boyhood days in the land of his nativity, and when of sufficient age he was placed in a boarding-school, where he remained for four years, during which time he obtained a fair education. He had attained the age of fifteen years when his parents left Australia for a home in California and he worked on his father's ranch until he was nineteen years old, starting out at that time to make his own way in the world. He took charge of a flock of sheep, managing them first in Solano county and afterward in Monterey county. The third year a division was made and Mr. Hobler received for his share, in addition to a certain sum of money, five hundred ewes, and with these as a start, he began sheep-raising on his own behalf in Monterey county. After two or three years he removed his stock to the upper San Joaquin valley, being subsequently located in different counties until 1864.

During that year he took up his sheep into Mendocino county, having at that time about four thousand head. This change, instead of being beneficial to his interests, was quite the reverse, as the settlers killed his sheep and he was afterward compelled to return to the San Joaquin valley in order to save the remnant of his flock, which was reduced to four hundred. Here he remained until 1872, and it was during that year that he purchased a section of land in Fresno county, for which he paid \$6,400. Upon this land he carried on farm pursuits on a large scale, raising grain, planting orchards, etc., and in addition to cultivating his own ranch, he rented six sections of land in the same county and carried on stock-raising extensively. In 1888 he sold his entire possessions for \$35,000 net, and purchased his present home place, four hundred acres, six miles northeast of Hanford, in Kings county and removing to this place, he has lived here ever since. The purchase price, \$18,400, is greatly exceeded by the present value of the place, and here Mr. Hobler continues stock-raising, making a specialty of thoroughbred sheep.

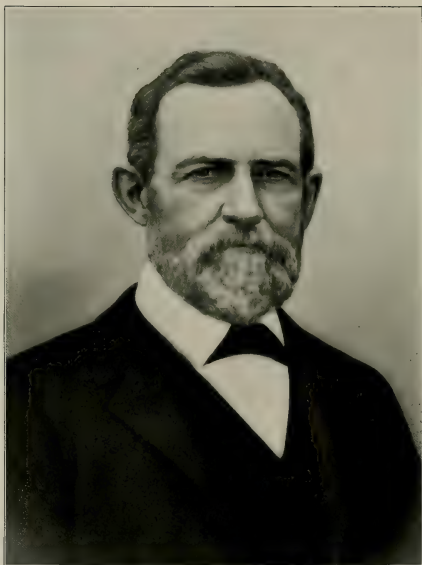
Having invested quite largely in real estate, Mr. Hobler at one time owned one hundred and eighty lots in Hanford, in addition to his ranch. His deep interest in educational affairs is unquestioned, as he donated eight lots for the high school site. Besides this, he has sold at different times one hundred lots that now contain residences. He also purchased twenty acres of land near the city, which he sold seven months later at a fair profit. By his marriage in 1874, he was united with Rosie Hunter, of Canadian birth, who was brought to California by her parents when but

one year old; her family also is of English extraction. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hobler, and of these, three sons, Louis W., Adolph and Charles H., are deceased. Those living are: Lizzie, wife of C. D. Haywood; Rosie, wife of George Kelley, of Hanford; and Bertha, Grace and Gladys. The youngest three are all at home. Politically, Mr. Hobler is a firm adherent of Republican principles, but has never aspired to office. Fraternally he is allied with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons, being a member of the Blue Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter of Hanford. In embracing Masonry, he but followed in the footsteps of his honored father, who was made a Mason in England, and just prior to his removal to Australia the Grand Master's Lodge No. 1, of which he was a member, presented him with a jewel, bearing the date of June 20, 1825, as an emblem of their good-will. This token of esteem is now in the possession of Mr. Hobler, who prizes it very highly, a relic of bygone days, when his beloved father was a much esteemed resident of England.

---

CHARLES FREDERICK WADE, M. D. Medical and surgical science finds skillful expression in the career of Dr. Charles Frederick Wade, a resident of Los Banos since 1891. Besides being a general practitioner, he is the owner of a private hospital on the edge of the town, the surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company for many years, and examining physicians for eight life insurance companies. Dr. Wade comes of old Massachusetts stock, and on both sides of his family inherits professional tendencies. He was born in Boston, Mass., November 17, 1851, a son of Francis F., and grandson of Abraham Wade, the latter of whom spent his entire life in Massachusetts, and counted as his immigrating ancestor a Scotch traveler who arrived off the Massachusetts coast during colonial times. Francis F. Wade was an attorney, who in early manhood married Henrietta Graves, a native of Boston. She died leaving to his care Charles Frederick, and Edgard F., the latter of whom was a druggist, and died in Butte county, Cal. Depressed because of the death of his wife, and hoping much from a general change of opportunity, Mr. Wade brought his sons to California in 1859, settling in San Francisco, where he practiced law until his death in 1864. He was then in the prime of life, being forty years old, and his passing meant much to the motherless boys who would shortly have to depend upon their own resources. He was a member in high standing of the Pacific Lodge of Masons, and a man of ability and resource. The maternal grandfather of Dr. Wade, Dr. Philip Graves, was





JOHN H. EDWARDS

born in England and was a graduate from an English school of medicine. He practiced medicine for many years in Massachusetts, became a pioneer of California when there was need of skilled physicians, and died near Stockton, this state, at the age of eighty-six.

After graduating from the grammar school of San Francisco, Dr. Wade entered a drug store in Montezuma, and at the same time studied medicine under Dr. Lampson. In 1887 he entered the Cooper Medical College for the three years' course, graduating in November, 1889, and soon after engaging in practice in Tuolumne county. When he arrived in Los Banos in 1891 the town was devoid of medical assistance of any kind, and as the pioneer physician and surgeon, he soon worked up a large and lucrative practice. His private hospital is equipped with the improvements sanctioned by present standards of nursing, and he has the contract to care for the sick and injured west of the San Joaquin river, in Merced county. Dr. Wade is examining physician for the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company, the Equitable, Fidelity Mutual Life, Northwestern Mutual Life, New York Life, Mutual New York, Security Trust and Life, and the Massachusetts Mutual Life insurance companies. He is a member of the County Medical Society, the State Medical Society, the American Medical Society, and the Pacific Coast Association of Railway Surgeons.

A Republican in national politics, Dr. Wade is recognized as one of the leaders of that party in the western part of the county. He was postmaster of Los Banos from 1898 until April, 1903, and was Republican nominee for state senator of his district, which is overwhelmingly Democratic. His interest in education has been pronounced and of a practical nature. He is president of the school board, having held that position since the organization of the district, also having been active in organizing the district and securing the erection of the high-school building.

He was made a Mason in George Washington Lodge No. 62, F. & A. M., of Tuolumne county and served twelve years consecutively as master; he assisted in organizing Los Banos Lodge No. 312, in 1892, is its secretary, and was its first master, serving five terms. He is also identified with Sonora Chapter No. 2, R. A. M.; the Pacific Commandery No. 3, K. T. of Sonora, and the Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand; this lodge was organized in Chinese Camp, Tuolumne county, in 1858, and was removed to Los Banos after Dr. Wade came to this town. The doctor has social connections with the Woodmen of the World, the Foresters, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of the Maccabees. Mrs. Wade was formerly Adelaide Mayhew, a native of Tuolumne

county, and daughter of Charles Mayhew, the latter a native of Nantucket, Mass., and a California pioneer of 1852. Two children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Wade, of whom George Royal is a graduate of Heald's Business College, and is a civil engineer; Henrietta Alice is a graduate of the University of California, 1903, and is now engaged in post-graduate work. Dr. Wade enjoys a wide popularity in Merced county, and his professional effort has had a tendency to establish and maintain a high standard. He adheres invariably to the best tenets of the old school, embellishing his practice with personal characteristics as pleasing as they are rare and inspiring.

---

JOHN HENRY EDWARDS. Among the enterprising and progressive agriculturists that improved large and valuable ranches in Merced county was the late John Henry Edwards, whose farm, now occupied by his widow and children, lies about seven miles south of Newman. He was well known throughout this section of the country as a man of great ability, thrift and integrity, well worthy of the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow-men. Public-spirited and far-seeing, he willingly assisted in the establishment of beneficial projects, and well performed his part in advancing the intellectual and moral status of the community. A native of Alabama, he was born August 5, 1830, in Russellville, and died December 17, 1895, on his home ranch near Newman, Cal. His father, James Garrett Edwards, was born in Kentucky of Welsh descent, and removed from there to Alabama and spent his later years in Arkansas.

Educated in the common schools of his native state, John Henry Edwards remained beneath the parental roof until nineteen years of age, when he began life on his own account. On hearing of the discovery of gold in California, in 1849, he joined the tide of emigration that was traveling across the plains to the valleys of California, and located mines in Eldorado county. Subsequently settling in Suisun, Solano county, he, in partnership with his brothers, Charles and James Edwards, began the manufacture of flour, owning mills there for a number of years, and also buying a ranch in that vicinity. Selling out his interests, Mr. Edwards removed to San Francisco, where he was in business as an assayer until 1881. In that year he took possession of the ranch now occupied by his widow. This property, which was subsequently sold, contained six hundred and forty acres above the canal and one hundred and sixty acres below the canal, on which he made his home, he had purchased in 1869. In the years that followed, Mr. Edwards made sub-

stantial improvements on his home farm, rendering it one of the best and most desirable estates in the neighborhood, and was here pleasantly engaged in his independent occupation until his death as above stated. In politics Mr. Edwards was a staunch Democrat, active in the management of public affairs, and for seven years was supervisor of Merced county, dying while in office.

On October 4, 1864, in Suisun, Cal., Mr. Edwards married Sarah Martha Ish, who was born in Saline county, Mo., a daughter of Carroll Whitfield Ish. A native of Tennessee, Mr. Ish first migrated as far westward as Missouri, whence, in 1850, he came across the plains to California. Here he lived in various places, including Sacramento and Sonoma, being engaged in farming and stock-raising. For a time he was a resident of Contra Costa county, later owning land in Solano county, from there going to Winters, Yolo county, where he resided until his death at the age of seventy-six years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Jane Baldrige, was born in Tennessee and died in Yolo county, Cal.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards three children were born, namely: Cora Lee, deceased; Grace Walston and John Henry, both living at home. Under the management of Mrs. Edwards and her son, the home ranch is carried on with marked ability, being devoted largely to dairy purposes, one hundred and sixty acres being sown to alfalfa.

---

ALVAH L. CONKLIN. The younger generation of business men of Bakersfield include none more energetic, progressive or promising, than Alvah L. Conklin, senior member of the firm of Conklin & Coffee, wholesale and retail meat merchants. Far from depending upon the advantage to be gained from the reflected prominence of his father, Hon. Alvah Russell Conklin, for many years connected with the jurisprudence, and legislative and fraternal development of California, this merchant has forged his way to the front solely upon his own merits, depending upon tenacity of purpose, ambition and ability, to connect his name with the best citizenship of the west.

Born in Warrensburg, Mo., August 21, 1868, Mr. Conklin was a lad of seven years when he came to California in 1875, settling with his father in Independence, Inyo county, where he attended the public schools. He developed studious characteristics and at the age of thirteen entered Santa Clara College, where he remained for three years. His first business venture was on a stock ranch with his brother, N. E. Conklin, in Inyo county, where he was fairly successful,

and sold out his interest with gratifying profit in 1899. Locating in Bakersfield, he formed a partnership with J. A. Baker in his present business, continuing the same until February, 1903. Since then George Coffee has purchased Mr. Baker's interest, and the extensive patronage hitherto accorded the establishment has known no diminution of its former proportions. Thoroughly abreast with the times, courteous in the treatment of its many customers, and depending upon reliable and advanced business tactics, the management has won a strong footing in the community, and is appreciated because of the excellence of its commodities, and the moderate prices. Mr. Conklin is public-spirited, generous in his support of charitable and social enterprises, and tactful in the many situations in which a prosperous merchant finds himself in a progressive community. He is a Republican in politics, and is fraternally connected with the Elks. His family consists of his wife, formerly Mary Sheppard, a native of Inyo county, and a daughter, Mollie Irene.

Mr. Conklin feels a just pride in the career of his father, and has ever valued the example of perseverance and high ideals which influenced his own course in life. Hon. Alvah L. Conklin was born in Mehoopany, Wyoming county, Pa., March 12, 1835, and on the paternal side of the family came from the Mohawk valley branch, his mother being a member of the Redfield family of Vermont. He was educated in the public schools of Kingston, Luzerne county, Pa., and at the Wyoming Seminary, and by trade became a printer. As a child, he was unlike the average, in that he realized the promise of his youth, and before the age of twenty had edited two different papers. He studied law under Hon. Lyman Hokes of Wilkesbarre, Pa., and Hon. George S. Tutton of Tunkhannock, and in 1858 removed to Forest City, Holt county, Mo., where he practiced law and published the *Forest City Courier*. In 1861, at the outbreak of the Civil war, he tendered his services in recruiting a company for the Thirtieth Missouri Infantry, Colonel Peabody's regiment of volunteers, and while performing his duty in this connection he was shot down on the road, being the second in the state to thus suffer at the hands of the Bushwhackers in Missouri. Recovering from his wounds, he served four years in the Federal army, filling various responsible positions, and being the first judge advocate to determine the admission of testimony of the negro before a military court.

After the war Judge Conklin settled in Warrensburg, Mo., and from 1868 until 1872 was judge of the court of common pleas of Johnson county. In 1875 he came to California and located at Independence, Inyo county, where he engaged in the active practice of law with Hon.



Patrick Reddy, his brother-in-law. In 1879 he was nominated on the Republican ticket for superior judge of Inyo county, but declined the honor, and in 1882 he was the nominee for lieutenant-governor, winning the nomination over several well-known politicians through a three minutes' magnetic speech. Though the Republican ticket met with defeat, he received six thousand more votes than did the head of the opposition ticket. In 1884 he was nominated as one of the electors-at-large on the James G. Blaine ticket, and after his election was chosen president of the body of electors. Judge Conklin became identified with Kern county in 1892, when he was appointed superior judge to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge R. E. Arick. Taking up his residence in Bakersfield, he was elected judge of the superior court in 1894, and four years later was defeated for the same office. Thereafter he practiced law in Bakersfield until his death, October 5, 1899, at the age of sixty-two years. He was prominent in Masonry, starting out upon his career in Forest City, Mo., as a member of Lodge No. 214, F. & A. M. He was afterward made a member of the Bodie Chapter No. 35, R. A. M., and the Bodie Commandery No. 15, K. T. From 1879 until his death he was a member of the Grand Lodge of California, and for several years was chairman of the committee on grievances. In 1886 he was elected junior grand warden, and the following year was chosen senior grand warden. In 1888 he was elected deputy grand master, and in 1890 was chosen grand master of the Grand Lodge, which position he held for years. Mr. Conklin was gifted with keen reasoning powers, remarkable adaptability, and possessed a comprehensive knowledge of the law. In him was found that strong mental and moral timber which, more than any other agency, has furnished telling strokes toward the supremacy of the state of California.

DR. JOHN P. JOHNSTON. A prominent farmer of Fresno county, and one who in the past fifteen years has proved his business ability, judgment and enterprise, is Dr. John P. Johnston, now located upon a farm of thirty acres in the neighborhood of Fresno. He purchased the farm in 1888 about a month after arriving in Fresno, and has since made the improvements which have placed his property in the front ranks of well-improved and highly developed farms of the region. In addition to this property he also owns seventy acres located on East and Orange avenues, twelve acres of which are devoted to raisins, ten acres to peaches, ten acres to pears, one acre to apricots, while the remainder is devoted to alfalfa and Bermuda grass. Mr. Johnston also devotes considerable time to

stock raising. Another source of income to him is a hundred hives of bees.

A native of Shelby county, Ohio, John P. Johnston was born November 13, 1837. His father, Christopher Johnston, was a native of Scotland and as a drummer-boy served in the Scotch army in Ireland. In 1830 he came to America, settling in Miami county, Ohio, and was there interested in the construction of a saw and grist mill. In 1852 he established himself in the same business in Montezuma, Mercer county, of that state, and continued so employed until 1856, when his son took charge of the mill, and he returned to his farm in Miami county, where his death occurred in 1894 at the age of eighty-two years. By profession Christopher Johnston was a lawyer, but never engaged in the practice of law. In Miami county, Ohio, he was united in marriage with Mary Peck, and of this union were born the following children: John P., the subject of this review; Henry H. P., who is now living a retired life in Fresno; Stephen, located in Shelby county, Ohio; Thomas, a merchant in Los Angeles; William A., who is conducting a jewelry store in Santa Paula, Ventura county; Mary, wife of Joseph Watkins, of Ohio; Julia, who resides with her mother in Piqua, Ohio, where the mother still lives at the age of eighty-three years.

The education of Dr. Johnston was received in the public schools of Miami county, Ohio. At sixteen years of age he assumed charge of his father's saw and grist mill. In this employment he remained until twenty-two years of age, when he took a commercial course, completing the work in bookkeeping. At the same time, however, he continued his work in the mill until 1865, when he entered the office of Dr. H. Potter, in Montezuma, Ohio, where he remained two years, after which he also studied in the office of Dr. Walton, in Piqua, Ohio. Thereafter, during his residence in Ohio, he practiced medicine and was also employed on a farm. In 1888 he came to California, and settling in Fresno, a month later purchased the property upon which he has since made his home. He has met with success in his agricultural pursuits since his settlement in the west and has become the owner of valuable property. In conjunction with the cultivation of alfalfa he has raised Bermuda grass. In one season Dr. Johnston has cut five crops of alfalfa.

Dr. Johnston was married January 1, 1864, to Nancy L. McDaniel, and four children have blessed this union: William R., a raisin grower of Fresno county; Frank W., also a raisin grower, having forty acres devoted to this cultivation; George R., located in Fresno county; and Fanny L., the wife of G. A. Prater, of Lonestar. In his political convictions Dr. Johnston is a Republican and through the influence of this party

has filled various official positions during his residence in the west, acting as school director in his locality. He is a member of the Christian Church. The many sturdy qualities which distinguish the life of Dr. Johnston in this neighborhood have called forth the esteem and respect of his fellow townsmen and he has attained an enviable position as a citizen of Fresno county.

GEORGE A. BALLOU. In all sections of the world the pioneer is held in honor, but especially is this the case in California, where the present generation realizes that the development of the twentieth century is due to the indefatigable determination of those who faced the hardships of an overland journey to the coast and the still greater hardships connected with the transforming of an unknown, sparsely settled region into one of the greatest commonwealths in the nation. The development of Tulare county owes much to the pioneer labors of George A. Ballou, and the retirement and ease he now enjoys have been justly earned by years of arduous effort and application.

When the first settlers came to American shores the Ballou family immigrated to this country from France and afterward members of the different generations bore a part in the colonial and Revolutionary struggles. The trade of weaver was followed by them in the early history of the United States and from that they drifted into the cotton manufacturing business during the infancy of that industry. Ballou's cottons were manufactured at Woonsocket, R. I., and acquired a world-wide reputation through the exercise of the fine business talents of Oliver Ballou, a native of Rhode Island and for years the head of the factory. Harvey, son of Oliver Ballou, was born and reared in Rhode Island and through all his life followed the trades of plasterer and bricklayer, in addition to superintending a farm. At an early age he married Ruth Gould, who was born at Cape Cod, Mass., and died in Rhode Island. His death also occurred in the latter state in 1854. In their family of three sons and four daughters George A. Ballou was next to the youngest. The common schools of Cumberland, R. I., where he was born September 26, 1832, furnished him with a fair education, and he had the further advantage of a term in an academy. Under his father's supervision he learned the trades of plasterer and bricklayer, which he has followed throughout much of his active life.

The year 1850 brought many gold-seekers to California, and among the number was George A. Ballou, who came by way of Panama and settled in San Diego, going from there to Los Angeles eighteen months later. In common with the majority of the pioneers he did considerable pros-

pecting and mining, and it was his good fortune to secure a sufficient amount of gold to repay him for his arduous labors. For eight months he made Los Angeles his home and then spent a short time in San Francisco, afterward working at his trade in Stockton. Subsequent to this he engaged in mining in Mariposa county, and from there returned to work at his trade in Los Angeles. As early as 1860 he became a pioneer of Visalia, which has since remained his home and the scene of his activities. After some years as a wage-worker in laying brick he began to take contracts for such work, and many of the first buildings in the town were erected under his supervision. In 1899 he retired from the trade, and since that year he has given his attention to the management of his property in town and the large tracts of farm lands owned by him. These lands aggregate more than one thousand acres and are scattered through three counties. Purchased at a time when property was much lower than at present, they represent Mr. Ballou's excellent judgment in making investments and comprise to a large degree the savings of a lifetime of labor. Since attaining the age of franchise he has voted the Republican ticket and both in local and general elections supports the men and measures advocated by that party.

THOMAS REED LAVERS. An early pioneer of Kern county, and a veteran agriculturist and stock raiser, Thomas Reed Lavers has spent a busy and useful life, and is now living retired from active business cares in Bakersfield. Energetic, persevering and wise in his management of affairs, he has achieved success in industrial circles. He was born October 15, 1825, in Cumberland county, Nova Scotia, and on the home farm grew to man's estate. Immigrating to Massachusetts in 1847, he worked as a farm laborer until 1852, when he succumbed to a violent attack of gold fever, and came to California by way of Cape Horn, the journey from Boston to San Francisco taking six months. After working in San Francisco for six weeks, he made a trip to the mines, but winter weather proving severe, and mining unprofitable, the heavy rains interfering with the digging, he located in Santa Clara county, where he rented land and engaged in general farming.

In the fall of 1869 Mr. Lavers moved to what was then Tulare, but is now Kern county, and took up a tract of wild land about forty miles northeast of Bakersfield, on Poso creek. Settlers were few and far between, and Visalia, sixty miles away, was the nearest trading point and depot for supplies. He embarked in the cattle business, having all the range he wanted, and carried on a substantial business, having at times





*A. H. Lambau*

from five hundred to one thousand head of stock. Placing a part of his land in tillable condition, he raised hay and grain, and being advantageously located on the main road from Visalia to Kernville had a good home market for his farm products. He also kept a public inn, entertaining people traveling through the country. One half section of this land, which commands water for a large territory, he still owns, but rents it, the rent furnishing him with a good annual income. In 1896 Mr. Lavers built his present residence in Bakersfield, and has since made his home in this city.

In 1875 Mr. Lavers married Mary Gurnett, a native of Canada, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Henrietta E., Lewis, engaged in the draying business in Bakersfield, Winnifred, Lawrence and Josephine. Politically Mr. Lavers is a Republican. Even during war times, when but few men of his political persuasion were to be found in his neighborhood, he remained loyal to the principles of his party.

---

**RUDOLPH HENRY BAMBAUER.** A successful farmer, an active Democrat, and an all-around enterprising man is found in Rudolph Henry Bambauer, a self-made man in the broadest sense of the word, and since 1896 the owner of seventy-nine and three-quarter acres of land three miles south of Newman. Mr. Bambauer is of German ancestry, and his strongest traits are those derived from the fatherland. Born at Columbia, Tuolumne county, Cal., December 16, 1859, he is one of the multitudinous offspring of the men who came to the coast in 1849, and who tarried in the wake of more or less discouraging failure in the mines. His parents, Charles and Adalaid Bambauer, were born in Germany, living in Baden until coming to the United States shortly after their marriage. The elder Bambauer graduated from mining to freighting, and in 1873 located on a farm near Modesto, Stanislaus county, in 1875 removing to one hundred and sixty acres of government land in the western part of Merced county. His land proving unprofitable, he bought forty acres in the Cottonwood district near Newman, improved the same, and remained there for the balance of his life. Of the five sons and three daughters reared in this home Rudolph is the oldest; George lives on a ranch near Newman; Charles lives at Volta, Merced county, and is making a home for his mother, where he and his brother, Edward, conduct a blacksmith shop which is one of the very best equipped shops outside of Stockton; Frank is deceased; Louise is stewardess on a steamer; Mrs. Carrie Rus-

sel is a resident of Newman; and Louie lives at Los Banos, Cal.

After leaving the public schools Rudolph Henry learned the butcher's trade in San Francisco, working for Miller & Lux until 1878. He then turned his attention to blacksmithing in Merced for nine years, and after being injured by a horse, and incapacitated for hard physical labor, came to Fresno in 1887, and engaged as a barkeeper until 1892. Purchasing his present farm in 1896, he is devoting it to alfalfa and a dairy of thirty cows, at the same time leasing nine hundred and sixty acres of grain land with his brother, George, and operating the same in partnership. He has been successful as a dairyman and grain raiser, and has accumulated a competence, due entirely to his saving and industrious habits. He has stock in the New Era Creamery Company, and has otherwise invested in lands and enterprises of an upbuilding nature. As a Democrat he is regarded as promising office-holding material, although as yet his efforts have been confined to aiding his friends, and representing his district in state and county conventions. He is a holder of the degree of honor in the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is otherwise identified with the social life of the county. Mr. Bambauer should regard his past with satisfaction, and his future as full of hope. Should chance turn his steps from farming he could undertake blacksmithing or butchering with every prospect of success, for both of these trades he mastered with the same degree of thoroughness and efficiency which has characterized his every effort in life. He is a highly respected member of the community, and is deserving of credit for the ease with which he has conquered the obstacles which have beset his path.

Mr. Bambauer was married in Merced county to Miss Ella Stahlman, who is the mother of two children now living: Fulton Rudolph and Marvell Ella.

---

**C. C. COWGILL.** A native of Iowa, Mr. Cowgill was born near Bloomfield, Davis county, September 24, 1851. His father, Abraham K. Cowgill, was born and reared in Warren county, Ohio, whence in youth he accompanied other members of the family to Indiana and settled on a farm. In 1849 the time news reached his locality concerning the discovery of gold in California, he determined to seek his fortune in the far west. However, on reaching Iowa and finding the soil fertile and land cheap, he was dissuaded from his original purpose and secured a tract of government land in Davis county,



where he devoted some years to farming. From there in 1860 he moved to Lancaster, Mo. He remained in Missouri until his death, which occurred August 31, 1882, at the age of fifty-nine years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary J. Bunnell, was born in Warren county, Ohio, in 1825, and died March 31, 1901. Of their marriage four sons and four daughters were born. The fourth of these, in order of birth, was C. C. Cowgill.

Mr. Cowgill settled in Bakersfield, October 15, 1875, and made this town his home, and engaged in the practice of law up to May, 1904.

In 1885 he married Nellie Butler, daughter of Col. Thomas Butler, the founder of Bakersfield. Mrs. Cowgill died two years after her marriage, leaving an only child, Edgar.

May, 1904, Mr. Cowgill moved to the city of San Francisco, where he now resides, and is engaged in the practice of his profession.

---

THOMAS WOODVILLE HOLDER. The family represented by the city recorder of Visalia is of old southern blood, the progenitors on both sides having been people of influence and worth. One of the most honored of the name was Isaac Newton Holder, a native of the middle part of Tennessee and for years an active practicing physician. On removing to Alabama he settled at Huntsville, Madison county, where he built up an excellent practice. During the year 1843 he removed to Marengo county, Ala., where he was similarly engaged. Finally, however, he decided that he could find more desirable openings elsewhere, and accordingly sought a location in Missouri, where during 1855 he settled in Lawrence county near Mount Vernon. The stirring events of the Civil war seemed to reach a crisis in Missouri, where feeling ran so high that life and property were in constant danger. For this reason he sought a region where the people were, like himself, strongly Confederate in their sentiments, and from 1862 until 1867 he practiced in Arkansas at Rocky Comfort. During the latter year he removed to Texas and took up farm land in Grayson county, where he carried on general farming until his death, in 1889, at seventy years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Martha Mildred Amos, was born in Tennessee and died in Texas in 1865, at the age of about fifty-two years.

Among four sons and one daughter comprising the parental family, Thomas Woodville Holder was their second child and eldest son. He was born at Huntsville, Ala., March 3, 1842, and received his education in private schools in that state and Missouri. At the opening of the Civil war, in April, 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Sixteenth Missouri Infantry, C. S. A.,

and served for four and one-half years, enduring all the hardships of forced marches, insufficient provisions and frequent engagements. When the cause for which he had struggled was abandoned as hopeless and the southern army laid down their weapons he returned to Arkansas and took up farming pursuits in Little River county. However, the state had suffered so severely by reason of the war that he decided it would be best to seek a livelihood further west. Accordingly in 1869 he crossed the plains with teams to California. From October of that year until February of the next year he remained in San Diego county, and then pursued his journey to Tulare county, where he took up land near Visalia. During 1875 he moved into town and for two years engaged in the meat business. In 1878 and 1879 he served as deputy sheriff. On leaving that position he went to his farm near Visalia, where he spent the year 1880, and the following year was at Lemoore, returning to Visalia in 1882, and in 1883 working with a surveying crew. Since then he has held a number of local positions of trust. In 1884-85 he served by appointment as deputy sheriff, and from 1885 until 1888 held the position of deputy county clerk, after which he served for two years as justice of the peace, and then, in 1891, was re-elected for another term of two years. Since 1896 he has held the office of city recorder by successive elections, and in that capacity has proved a capable and trustworthy official. Active in the Democratic party, he is one of its local leaders and has never failed to give support to the men and measures representing this organization. In fraternal matters he is connected with the Blue Lodge of Masons.

The marriage of Mr. Holder took place in Arkansas in November, 1867, and united him with Sarah Elizabeth Jones, who was born in Arkansas. Seven children were born of their union, namely: Ida; Mrs. Martha Montrose, of San Francisco; Laura, who resides with her parents; Lovina and Russell, both deceased; Royston and Mabel, who are with their parents in the Visalia home.

---

JAMES WILLIAM FEWEL. Doubtless no resident of Tulare county is more deeply interested in its progress and prosperity than the gentleman whose name introduces this article and who, in addition to maintaining various interests in his home city of Visalia, since November 1902, has filled the office of county tax collector. He is a member of a pioneer family of the west and is himself a native of California, having been born in Sonoma county, February 9, 1861. His father, James M., a native of Tennessee, born September 27, 1825, at an early age accompanied



his parents to Missouri, where he resided for a time in Henry county and later in Clay county, eventually in 1849 going to the Indian Territory. The discovery of gold in California caused him to turn his steps toward the Pacific ocean and in 1850 he landed at Dutch Flat, Placer county, this state, where he engaged for some time as superintendent of a mine. In addition he had personal interests in mines that were fairly successful. After five years' experience in the adventurous existence of a gold-seeker he wearied of the work and sought a less exciting occupation. Selecting land in Sonoma county near Windsor, in 1855 he established a home at that place and took up general farming. A man of progressive spirit, he experimented with different products to ascertain what could be most profitably raised. One of his experiments was in the introduction of tobacco, but it did not prove a success. In 1870 he removed to Santa Barbara county, but the next year came to Tulare county, where he has since made his home. For some time he interested himself in raising sheep, but since advancing years have rendered hard labor impracticable he has resided with his son in Visalia.

The marriage of James M. Fewel, in 1855, united him with Miss Melinda E. Prewett, who was born in Missouri and crossed the plains to California in 1850, and who was still a young woman when she died in 1870 in Sonoma county. Two sons and a daughter were born of this union, of whom the latter is deceased. The second child, James William, was educated primarily in Sonoma county, but more especially in the Visalia grammar schools and normal private school. On starting out to earn his livelihood he taught school and then for two years acted as bookkeeper for S. Sweet & Co., of Visalia. While filling a clerical position he had other interests, particularly in the line of buying and selling farm and ranch property. For four years he was employed by the Kings River Lumber Company, as bookkeeper and contractor for their freight delivery, and for three years he acted as grain buyer in Tulare county for the Grangers' Bank of San Francisco. Another industry which necessitated close attention was the buying and shipping of fruit to the San Francisco markets, in which work he engaged extensively during 1899 and subsequent years. In addition he was interested in the Fewel & Anderson Dairy, which he assisted in organizing, but in 1904 disposed of his interest in the plant.

During 1890 Mr. Fewel was united in marriage with Lourena Kellogg, who was born in San Francisco and died at Visalia. The only child of this union is a daughter, Ethel. After the death of his first wife Mr. Fewel was united, in San Francisco, with Daisy D. Simpson, who was born in Newman, this state, and as a girl

resided principally at Madera. Two sons bless their marriage, Richard and Allan P. The Democratic party receives the staunch support of Mr. Fewel and it was upon the regular party ticket that he was elected to the office he now fills. By virtue of his birth in this state he is entitled to membership in the Native Sons of the Golden West and his interest in the society has been constant since he became a charter member of the Parlor organized in Visalia in 1884; at this writing he holds the office of vice-president. The Woodmen of the World and Foresters of America also receive his aid as an active member.

---

**GREENBURY M. KELLY.** An old pioneer of California, Greenbury M. Kelly is remembered as one of the upbuilders of the agricultural interests of Tulare county, where he located upon his arrival in the state in 1857. A native of Alabama, he was born February 13, 1835, a son of Samuel Kelly, who was a farmer and blacksmith in that state until his removal to Arkansas. In the latter state he located in Jasper and followed the same occupations until his death. His wife, formerly Nancy Self, also died in Arkansas.

The youngest child in his father's family, Greenbury M. Kelly was five years old when he accompanied his parents to Arkansas. He there attended the common schools in his boyhood. In manhood he followed his father's example and engaged in farming. Deciding to locate in the more remote west, he crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1857 and upon his safe arrival settled in Tulare county. For about two months he lived at Elkhorn Station, when he located near Visalia and purchased, in 1860, eighty acres of land which now adjoins the city. He made a success of his work and subsequently bought more land adjoining his property until he owned one hundred and seventy-nine acres. He resided in this location until his death, which occurred May 30, 1884. He was a man esteemed for his many sterling traits of character, a progressive and enterprising citizen. In his political preference he was an active Democrat.

In Jasper, Ark., August 24, 1854, Mr. Kelly was united in marriage with Sarah Jane Henderson, who now survives him and makes her home on the old home place, where she owns ninety acres. She was born in Williamson county, Ill., a daughter of William C. Henderson. He was also a native of Illinois, making that state his home until his removal to Arkansas, where he was variously occupied as sheriff of the county, farmer and in the conduct of a general merchandise store in Jasper, until his death. Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Kelly eleven are living, the one deceased, Alta R., being sixth in order of birth. The others are named as

follows: Nancy E., the wife of Columbus Fay; Matilda L., the widow of G. M. Caldwell; Malinda E., the wife of M. J. Pasco, of Oakland; William Wilson, of Bakersfield; Martha Ann, the wife of Scott Owen, of Visalia; Clifford Henderson, at home; Ara Ada, the wife of Creed Archer; Julia Isabelle, the wife of Fred Maskal, of Visalia; Arthur H.; Ethel I., the wife of Hewitt Grant, of Visalia; and Earl E., at home. Mrs. Kelly is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

JOHN L. BUTIN, M. D. The genealogy of the Butin family is traced to France, whence during the perilous year following the revocation of the edict of Nantes a Huguenot family of that name fled to Holland. The head of the house, Peter Butin, left a large fortune and lands in France and sought safety on the island of Kat-sand, Holland, where, as in his native land, he followed the occupation of a chemist. In search of a land where freedom of religious faith was offered, as well as an opportunity to earn a livelihood, he came to America and settled in New York state. With him came his son John, who had been born during the residence of the family on the little island near Holland. Some years after coming to this country he settled in Logan county, Ohio, and there followed farm pursuits. Later he became a farmer and large land owner near Burlington, Iowa, where he died. Next in line of descent was William Butin, a native of Ohio, and in early manhood a farmer near Burlington, Iowa, but later a resident of Jasper county, that state, where he improved a farm near Newton and laid out the village of Galesburg. At the time of his death, which occurred in Jasper county, he was sixty-five years of age.

The marriage of William Butin united him with Nancy Scott, who was born in Alton, Ill., and died in Iowa, leaving three children, namely: Layton, a resident of Nebraska; Emma, who lives in Oklahoma, and John L., of California. Levi Scott, father of Mrs. Butin, was born in Cairo, Ill. As a boy he went through a thrilling experience, when his parents were massacred by the Indians and he alone of all the children escaped. During early manhood he took part in the Black Hawk war. At one time he owned the land now occupied by the city of Jacksonville, Ill., having entered the same from the government. A later location was at Alton, and from there he went to the vicinity of Burlington, Iowa, where he conducted a farm. He built by contract a part of old Fort Des Moines and was otherwise connected intimately with the pioneer days of Iowa. When the first wagon train entered the Willamette valley, Ore., in

1843, he was among the emigrants and settled on the Tualatin plains. When the Indians became troublesome he was among the settlers who formed a company and fought to defend their homes and children. During these skirmishes he was twice wounded by Indian arrows. From the earliest period of his residence in the west he was prominent in public affairs in Oregon. One of the most important services that he rendered was as a member of the first territorial legislature. He carried on a store at Scottsburg, built the first mill there and discovered Scott's Pass, over which he piloted the United States troops. At the time of his death, which occurred in Eugene, Ore., he was ninety-six years of age. His wife had died in Iowa many years before.

At Burlington, Iowa, on the 4th of July, 1855, John L. Butin was born, and grew to manhood on the home farm in Jasper county and received his primary education in country schools. For two years he was a student in the University of Iowa at Iowa City, after which he began the study of medicine under Dr. Fayler of Newton, Iowa. His first course of lectures were taken in the medical department of the University of Iowa and later he was a student in the Northwestern Medical College at St. Joseph, Mo., from which he was graduated in 1882 with the degree of M. D. For a time he engaged in general practice at Dorchester, Saline county, Neb., and from there in 1891 came to California, since which year he has been a practitioner at Madera. In point of years of active professional work, he is the oldest physician in this city. For one term he acted as county physician and for two years served as county health officer. At the time of the organization of the county he was an enthusiastic supporter of the movement whereby it was separated from Fresno county. At different times since coming here he has invested in land, and now owns more than eight hundred acres, divided into three farms, all near Madera and all tillable farm land. A portion of the property is under irrigation and is utilized for the raising of alfalfa. In politics he is a Democrat and fraternally holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Madera.

While residing in Saline county, Neb., Dr. Butin married Dr. Mary Ryerson, who was born at Wilton Junction, Muscatine county, Iowa, being a daughter of Richard Ryerson, of Holland-Dutch extraction. From his native locality in New Jersey Mr. Ryerson moved to Iowa in early days and settled on a farm. Years later he removed to Nebraska and there died. Excellent advantages were given to his daughter, who was graduated from Wilton College, and also, in 1882, from the Woman's Medical College of Chi-

cago. For a year she was engaged as interne in the Cook County Hospital in Chicago. Returning to Nebraska, she engaged in practice there and for one year was honored with the vice-presidency of the Nebraska State Medical Society. At this writing she holds office as county health officer, and it is said that she rivals all former incumbents of the position in the intelligent discharge of its duties and the care with which she guards the public health.

**JACOB NIEDERAUR.** Clearly defined against the background of the history of Bakersfield is the strong and useful career of Jacob Niederaur, one of the typical German-American citizens who maintain the dignity and substantial traits of whatever region they call home. A cabinet maker by trade, an undertaker, one of the incorporators and stockholders of the Southern Hotel Company, and one of the first to appreciate the oil resources of this part of the state, he invested his undertakings with a degree of caution and conscientiousness which won confidence, and his death February 9, 1903, is regarded as a distinct loss to a community which had profited largely by his business sagacity and fine personal characteristics.

Mr. Niederaur was nine years old when he came with his parents to America, having been born in Bavaria, Germany, June 15, in 1841. The family located in Bryan, Ohio, where the father, a skilled mechanic, worked at his trade of cabinet maker, and trained his four sons in this useful occupation as soon as they were old enough to handle tools. Jacob found a large field of endeavor awaiting him when he arrived in Bakersfield in 1860, and here his work took on larger scope, including general inside finishing work and the finer details of cabinet making. He was a thorough master of tools and understood the value of an artistic eye, and soon worked up a paying trade, in time becoming the leading cabinet maker and furniture dealer in the Kern valley. Alert to opportunity, he saw the need of an undertaking establishment in the town, and with characteristic energy and forethought set about supplying the deficiency. In time he built and owned one of the finest brick business blocks in the city, the first floor being devoted to his undertaking and furniture business and the second to a large hall. He became a practical undertaker, studying the business from the beginning, and for a long time had no competitors to detract from his trade. He was successful in both departments of activity.

August 6, 1878, Mr. Niederaur married Lucy J. Williams, who was born in Ross county, Ohio, May 10, 1860, but reared in Vermont, to which state her mother moved after the death of her

husband. Miss Williams received an excellent education, and when sixteen years old came to Bakersfield as a governess for the children of Philo Jewett, and it was while thus employed that she met and married her husband. Mrs. Niederaur lives in the beautiful Bakersfield home with her two children, Philip Williams and Helen Jewett. Mr. Niederaur was a staunch Republican, but never desired or accepted official favors. Fraternally he was connected with the Knights of Pythias. He led an even and temperate life, impressing all with his sincerity and largeness of heart, his capability and public spirit. One of the pleasing features of his life was his ability to make and retain friends, which he chose with his usual caution, and upon whom he showered the wealth of his fine nature and generous appreciation. One of the staunchest of his friends was Franz Buckreus, also a pioneer of the town, and superintendent of the Kern County Hospital for the past twenty years. Between the two early settlers there was cemented a bond of friendship which time, misfortune or success never altered, and as a final testimony of his faith in his comrade, Mr. Niederaur appointed him his administrator without bonds, and guardian of his children. That the trust will be regarded as sacred, and fulfilled to the minutest detail, admits of no question or doubt. Mr. Buckreus continued the furniture and undertaking establishment of Mr. Niederaur until disposing of the latter to Morton & Conley, March, 1904. The furniture business he sold to George Haberfelde about the same time. Mr. Niederaur left an estate of \$70,000, all of which represented honest, painstaking effort, and which in the aggregate is the reward of a self-made man who never lost trace of his high ideals, or strayed from the path of the conservative and painstaking business man.

**WILLIAM H. HILDEBRAND.** One of the finest dairy, stock and alfalfa farms in Kings county is owned by William H. Hildebrand, who lives eight miles south and three miles east of Hanford, and who is known as a pioneer, and one of the first raisers of alfalfa in this section. Although still in the prime of life, and in the enjoyment of vigorous health, the marked success of this honored rancher enables him to rent his land at the present time, and to temporarily retire from its active management. His life-work is to be measured rather by the extent accomplished than by the time taken to accomplish, for he has ever been a disciple of method as well as industry, and has made every hour and day count for its full valuation. An excellent business man, a good judge of stock, and having an accurate knowledge of the nature and kind of soil com-

prising his property, he has turned it to the best possible account, and has been rewarded with a substantial yearly income. The greater part of his ranch is under alfalfa, while he maintains a dairy of sixty cows and a family orchard of five acres, besides several acres under vines. His improvements have been dictated by a thoughtful and cautious mind, and embrace only such advantages as have met with the approval of a solid and practical agriculturist.

Mr. Hildebrand comes from the middle west, and was born near Des Moines, Iowa, July 28, 1851. As the name implies, he is of Teutonic extraction, and both his paternal and maternal grandparents were born in Germany. Early settlers in America, they lived in Pennsylvania. Near Johnstown, that state, the grandfather owned a farm upon which Joseph Hildebrand, the father of William H., was born, and where he was reared and trained to thrifty habits. Joseph Hildebrand saw beyond the old farm an era of greater prosperity farther west, and thus became identified with Ohio while it was yet an unsettled country, later moving to Indiana, and still later to Iowa. Still his restless spirit remained unsatisfied, and, while yet the journey across the trackless plains was matter of wonderment and consternation to the minds of prospective emigrants, he started out to explore the west. Leaving home in the spring of 1853, he arrived in California in the fall of the same year, thereafter mining and prospecting in different parts of the state until 1855. He then located in Nevada City where he found everything very expensive, and afterward represented one of two families who were first to settle at Grizzly Hill, seventeen miles from Nevada City. Grizzly Hill was most appropriately named, and was about as wild, picturesque and wicked a community as was to be found in the west at that time. With true courage, the pioneer settler made the best of the situation, and, being on hand at the opening of the mines, gathered in his share of their rich accumulation. In 1856 he settled in the Vaca valley, Solano county, taking up land, and engaging in farming and stock raising until 1860. His next place of residence was near Madison, Yolo county, where he preempted land and engaged in stock raising until 1869. Disposing of this farm, he went to San Luis Obispo county and rented a farm until 1876, when he came to what is now Kings county, and, being advanced in years, divided his time between his son William and his daughter, at whose house he died at the age of eighty-four years and six months. He was a Whig in the early days, and later espoused the cause of the Republican party. He was reared in the Moravian Church, and in that married Annie Harkrader, a native of Ohio, who survived him

three years, her death occurring at the age of eighty-two.

Until his twenty-fourth year William H. Hildebrand lived at home with his parents, and during that time found too many duties around the farm to permit of anything but a meager education. For a couple of years he worked by the month in the county, and in 1873 came to Kings county and worked for his brother-in-law, Perry C. Phillips, for a year. He preempted his present ranch near Guernsey, in 1874, coming here a single man with well defined ambitions, and with expectations of making a success as a farmer and stock raiser. Putting up a small cabin, he lived in it for nearly four years, and as soon as the ditch was completed he began the raising of grain. A few years later he experimented with alfalfa, and finding it well adapted to his land, he continued to make it his staple product for many years, being almost the first producer of it in Kings county. In 1881 the humble cabin was supplanted by a more pretentious habitation, to which the owner brought his newly wedded wife, formerly Agnes McNamee, who bore him three children, and who died after a comparatively brief married life. These three children, Clarence E., Everett A. and Alma G., are living with their father. Mr. Hildebrand married for his second wife Alice Chapman, a native of Canada. He is a Republican in politics, but has never wanted nor been willing to accept office of any kind. He is a plain-spoken, straightforward, thoroughly honorable man, a considerate neighbor, and a generous contributor to all worthy causes.

---

HENRY FORD CONDUCT. Occupying a noteworthy position among the pioneer residents of Kern county is Henry Ford Conduct, who was one of the very earlier settlers of Bakersfield, and is now actively identified with its manufacturing industries as proprietor of the C. O. D. Soda Works. Settling in Bakersfield before the incorporation of the town, when a dozen or so rude shacks were the only buildings in the locality, he has watched with gratification the many wondrous transformations that have since taken place within its borders, and as a worthy citizen, has contributed his full share toward the development and growing prosperity of his adopted town and county. A son of Sidney Conduct, he was born July 5, 1837, in Newark, N. J., of English stock. His immigrant ancestor, John Conduct, who, on the maternal side, was a descendant of Sir Isaac Newton, came to this country some time during the latter half of the seventeenth century, and according to the records purchased land in Newark, N. J., in 1678. Sidney Conduct, grandfather of Henry Ford, was a prominent citizen of Morristown, N. J., being for many years



president of a bank. His father, Nathaniel Condict, served as colonel of a regiment in the Revolutionary army, and died of smallpox during the war.

A native of Morristown, N. J., Sidney Condict began his business career as a merchant in Newark, N. J. Removing to Illinois in 1842, he took up land in McHenry county, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1854, at the age of fifty-six years. He married Charlotte Renolds, who was born in New Jersey, and died in Illinois, in 1876, aged sixty-three years. She was a woman of refinement and culture, and a member of the Congregational Church. Her father, Abraham Renolds, was an officer in the war of 1812, serving as captain of a company, and at one time assistant adjutant general on General Scott's staff. He was afterward a resident of Paterson, N. J., for a few years, and was sheriff of Passaic county. Subsequently removing with his family to McHenry county, Ill., he purchased a large tract of land, to the clearing and management of which he devoted much of his time. He also loaned money, and as a man of great financial ability and integrity acquired much wealth. He was of English extraction, and was familiarly known as Judge Renolds.

Brought up on the Illinois homestead, Henry Ford Condict attended the district schools until fifteen years old, when he was sent to the Waukegan Academy, where he continued his studies two years. In 1854 he entered the United States Naval Academy, at Annapolis, Md., receiving his appointment thereto from State Senator Washburn, but at the end of three years had to leave the institution on account of failing eyesight, and from 1857 until 1859 remained at home. Coming by way of the Isthmus of Panama to California in 1859, Mr. Condict was engaged in mining in Siskiyou county for more than a year, being fairly successful in his venture. In the spring of 1861 he returned east by the same route that he came, going to New Hampshire, where he had left his wife. Very soon after his arrival he enlisted in Company A, First New Hampshire Light Artillery, as a private, and was elected lieutenant of his company. He was offered the position of captain, but refused the office, not feeling himself qualified for its responsibilities. After the battle of Chancellorsville he resigned, and subsequently went to his old home in Illinois, where he enlisted in Company H, Eighth Illinois Cavalry. During his two enlistments, Mr. Condict participated in some of the more important conflicts of the war, including the second engagement at Bull Run, the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and in many lively skirmishes. Although several balls pierced his clothing, and at the battle of Freder-

icksburg his horse was shot under him, he himself escaped without a wound, and served until the close of the war. His regiment, which was stationed near Washington when Lincoln was assassinated, was sent to Maryland in search of Booth. Mr. Condict was subsequently detailed as clerk to administer the oath of citizenship to all willing to express their loyalty. After participating in the grand review at Washington, his regiment was discharged.

Returning to McHenry county, Ill., Mr. Condict assumed the management of the old home farm, which he conducted for seven years. Desirous of again trying life in California, Mr. Condict arrived in Bakersfield, then a small hamlet, on October 23, 1872, coming from Tipton, a distance of eighty miles, by stage. At once renting the old stage hotel, which was a small shack, the first one built in the place, and which had been used as a tavern only about three months, he ran it for eighteen months, and then sold out. The following two years he had no regular employment, but in 1876 had charge of the ferry across the Kern river, running it for the owner. In 1877 he entered the employ of the proprietor of a small soda works establishment, and, having obtained a good knowledge of the business, he bought out his employer the following year, and has since successfully conducted the works. In April, 1899, his business having so increased that more room and better facilities were needed, he erected his present plant, which he has equipped with all the latest improvements, rendering it in every respect an up-to-date manufactory. In 1878, Mr. Condict also embarked in the draying business, and from that time until August, 1903, when he sold out, he kept three teams busily employed. A man of great enterprise and capability, he has by his own industry, thrift and wise management accumulated a goodly share of this world's goods. On the corner of H and Seventeenth streets he has a very pleasant home, which, with its environments, is most attractive to the passer-by.

On January 4, 1859, Mr. Condict married Nancy J. Young, who was born in Maine, but was reared and educated in New Hampshire. She is of good old Pilgrim stock, her immigrant ancestor having come over on the Mayflower. Mr. and Mrs. Condict have two children, namely: Bertha B., wife of C. L. Hollis, of Fresno, and Charlotte M., a graduate from St. Luke's Hospital Training School for Nurses, at San Francisco, now at home. In national politics Mr. Condict is a Republican, but in local affairs votes for the best men and measures. He served as the first assessor of Bakersfield, and was elected supervisor, but was counted out, although he had fourteen votes to spare. He was one of the promoters, and the first superintendent, of the Bak-

ersfield water works. In 1873 Mr. Condict joined both the Masons and the Odd Fellows, and is also a prominent member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, which he served as financier for twenty-three consecutive years, when in July, 1903, he declined a re-election to that office. He likewise belongs to Hulburt Post No. 127, G. A. R., of Bakersfield, of which he was the first commander.

---

**WILLIAM TIPTON WHITE.** Personal qualities of a high order are responsible for the business and social success of William Tipton White, general manager of the property and store of Miller & Lux at Los Banos. He speaks Spanish and Italian fluently, and has evidenced in all his walks of life a predilection for the cultured and progressive. Almost continuously since 1862 his family has been connected with the firm which has done so much to promote stock raising and merchandising in the state. Born in Paris, Ky., May 27, 1868, he is the only child of Wade and Mary (Fox) White, natives of Kentucky, and the former a nephew of Wade Hampton, that intrepid and capable politician and Revolutionary general of Kentucky. Wade White was of an adventurous turn of mind. He crossed the plains to California in 1849, and after mining for a short time in Nevada and California, he then engaged in the stock business in the territories until 1862, when he became cattle foreman for Miller & Lux, in the San Joaquin valley. For nearly thirty years he continued in the same capacity, his death occurring in San Francisco in 1901.

William Tipton White came to California with his mother in 1872, and was reared in Merced county. His childhood was filled with responsibility, for at the age of eleven he began to clerk in the store of Miller & Lux, at Central Point, continuing thus about four years. With the exception of a start in the public schools his education was the result of his own foresight and energy. He attended school for two years in Merced, and in San Jose for a couple of years. By saving his money and economizing he was also able to take a course at Heald's Business College, from which he was duly graduated in 1885. In 1887 he became a clerk for M. Goldman, at Merced, and was afterward clerk at the El Capitan hotel in the same town. In the spring of 1890 he returned to the employ of Miller & Lux, as clerk in their store in Los Banos, resigning shortly afterward to engage in business on his own responsibility in partnership with A. W. Drummond and J. E. Place. As manager, he succeeded for three and a half years, then disposed of his interest and became manager of the Los Banos store of Miller & Lux. On

account of asthma and generally poor health he resigned in the fall of 1895, and engaged in a general merchandising business in Coulterville, two years later managing a hotel in Jamestown for a couple of years. He acted as manager of the dry-goods and furnishing goods departments for Kutner & Rosenthal, at Madera, for over one year, afterward going to Old Mexico with Hampson & Smith as camp foreman in the construction of the Mexican Central Railroad. This position caused him to visit many parts of Mexico, and resulted in his complete familiarity with the Spanish language. The sojourn in the south further restored his lost health, and upon his return to Los Banos, February 21, 1901, he was appointed manager of the Los Banos store of Miller & Lux, one of the largest establishments in the San Joaquin valley. He has charge of the store, buildings and general belongings of the firm, and has fulfilled his responsibility in a manner pleasing both to his superiors and to the city which long ago arrived at a realization of his worth as a man and citizen.

In Merced Mr. White married Sadie M. Crowell, a native of Stockton, and a daughter of an early settler of the state. Two children comprise the White household, Lester E. and Ethel M. For several years Mr. White has been prominent in Democratic politics, and was formerly a member of the county central committee. He is well known fraternally, being identified with Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. O. F., of which lodge he is serving his second term as noble grand; also the Ancient Order of United Workmen; Woodmen of the World and Knights of Pythias, of Madera.

---

**JOHN OUTHET.** Ever since the memorable year of 1852 the career of John Outhet has run parallel with the growth of California, for when he arrived after the usual horse-train jaunt of many months, in company with Wolcott Vedder, of Chicago, his condition, both physical and financial, permitted of as much improvement as did the enormously resourceful but undeveloped state in which he was about to take up his abode. He was poor, as were the majority of the courageous men who sought to improve the prospects of themselves and families at terrible risks, yet he had grit and determination, and the moral courage of a New England ancestry. Born in Oswego, N. Y., he was educated in the public schools of the then small town of Chicago, to which his parents removed when he was a boy, and he afterward labored by the day at such occupations as were presented to the settlers who comprised the lake community. Saving his money and living frugally, he joined an emigrant train in the spring of 1852, at times numbering one hundred and







Mark Bassett

twenty-five souls, well equipped, and after one hundred and twenty-five days en route, arrived at Sacramento without any momentous incidents happening on the way, having had no trouble with Indians or outlaws. The horses which he had driven across the plains were turned to still further account after bringing their master thus far, for he engaged in freighting between Placerville and the surrounding camps, among which was Diamond Spring.

Freighting seems to have afforded Mr. Outhet a satisfactory livelihood, for he continued thereat until 1869, after which he came to the San Joaquin valley and engaged in farming by the month until 1871. Having satisfied himself that the soil and climate were to his liking, he invested his earnings in one hundred and sixty acres, to which nucleus of his present farm he added on several occasions, and now owns a whole section in one of the most fertile parts of Stanislaus county. For years he was one of the most industrious men in his neighborhood, setting a rare example of industry and progress, and accumulating quite a fortune from his un-failing harvests of wheat and barley. Latterly he has rented his land and is taking life easy, retaining one hundred and sixty acres upon which to live, and attend to his garden and general wants. He is comparatively alone in the world, having never married, yet finds much enjoyment in life, especially in the companionship of his many friends. Politically Mr. Outhet is a Republican, and fraternally he is identified with the Grange.

**MARK BASSETT.** Three miles north of Hanford, Kings county, is located the ranch of Mark Bassett, a steady, enterprising farmer, and one who has in many ways added to the agricultural prestige of the community. He was born in Cornwall, England, August 1, 1848, and was reared to manhood upon a farm, where he remained until he was thirty years old. In search of a land where opportunities were greater than in the mother country he crossed the ocean, and locating in Ontario, Canada, engaged in farming rented land until 1891. In the last-named year he came to Fresno county, Cal., and was engaged for about a year in general work, after which he leased land and worked on contract for the next twelve months. He then rented a vineyard of about one hundred acres, where he remained until December, 1894. Following this he rented various tracts until 1898, when he purchased his present ranch, which consists of one hundred and sixty acres of land, about half of which is devoted to the cultivation of fruit, and the balance to alfalfa. He has since given his attention entirely to the improvement and culti-

vation of his ranch, and has met with success in his undertaking.

The marriage of Mr. Bassett occurred in 1872, and united him with Helena Lander, also a native of Cornwall, and their union has been blessed by the birth of eleven children, namely: Ellen, the wife of Jonas Malott; Mabel; William George, a rancher at Armona; Mark, Jr., working with his father; Thomas John, a rancher in Kings county; Bertha Arline; Edith Annie; Albert Ernest Cecil; Richard Guy; Archibald Leslie; and Harold, who died at the age of nine years. Undesirous of official recognition, Mr. Bassett has never taken an active part in politics, though he endorses the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. Both himself and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he officiates as steward.

#### SAMUEL WELLINGTON HOWARD.

The name of Samuel Wellington Howard is synonymous with the best to be found in country life, with its utility, its charm, its promise, and its bearing upon the progress of the world. Order, system, unflagging zeal and adaptiveness to innovations, the great handmaidens which aid the tiller of the soil, are his by natural right, and he thus has become an influence of worth as a large land owner and grain producer of Stanislaus county. Born on a farm near Racine, Wis., Mr. Howard is the third oldest of two sons and two daughters, and he had the benefit of the common schools of both Wisconsin and Illinois, removing to the latter state with his uncle, Henry Kittinger, when eleven years of age. His parents, Enos and Margaret (Kittinger) Howard, were natives of New York and Pennsylvania respectively, and removed as young people to Wisconsin, where they took up government land and proceeded to make a home in the midst of comparative isolation. The father died on his farm near Racine, and the mother lived to see the glories of the west, living for some time in Redwood City, Cal., where her death occurred at an advanced age.

In McHenry county, Ill., where he lived with his relative until 1867, Samuel Wellington was reared on a farm, and at one time gained some business experience in Green Bay, Wis. In the spring of 1870 he came west to Portland, Ore., and after remaining for two years went to Salt Lake City, from there traveling to California a few months later. Working by the month on a farm in the western part of Stanislaus county, he afterward leased land of about four hundred and eighty acres, to which he added as his grain business increased and he came to better understand the immense fertility of the soil. It was

a happy day when he was able to become a land owner in his own right, and at the present time he is the possessor of eight hundred acres near Westley, devoted to wheat and barley, besides managing a tract of twenty-two hundred and forty acres, also under grain. From the first his spirit of progression has seen ever-widening vistas, and the future will doubtless witness his greater identification with a branch of industry that finds so safe a home in this county. He is one of the great grain farmers of the vicinity of Westley, his land reaching to within a mile of the town, he therefore having the advantages of both town and country.

Mr. Howard's appreciation of the advantages of life is nowhere more apparent than in his home, which is the acme of comfort and refinement, and where all that is useful and enlightening is fostered and encouraged. He married Jennie Powell after gaining his start in Stanislaus county, his wife being a native of Ohio, and the mother of four children. Of these, Clarence, the oldest, is agent of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, at Montpelier, Cal.; Evelyn is the wife of Frank F. Raines, night operator of the Southern Railroad Company at Westley; Angie is gifted with musical talent, and is attending the Kings Conservatory of Music; and Hazel is at home. Mr. Howard's political sympathies are with the Republican party, which he has served as a delegate to state and county conventions. He is the friend of education, of organization, of recreations and of those aids to a happy and contented life which lift the farmer of to-day above his toil-hardened and shut-in predecessor.

---

AUGUSTUS FIFIELD JEWETT. The value of a well-defined purpose steadily pursued, of philosophy in viewing the obstacles and discouragements in life, and of a broad and tolerant attitude toward the world and people in general, find expression in the career of Augustus F. Jewett, one of the conscientious and painstaking fruit-growers of the vicinity of Hanford, Kings county. Mr. Jewett has struggled to his present position with rare courage, worthy of the stern and strong New England ancestry from which he springs and of the training received in a refined and industry-compelling home. He was born in Hillsboro county, N. H., June 15, 1856, and represents a family established in America about two hundred years ago by a forefather who felt the limitations of his ancestral home in picturesque Wales. His parents were Fifield Holt and Melissa L. (Richardson) Jewett, natives of Maine and New Hampshire respectively.

Fifield H. Jewett was a pioneer of 1852 who

brought to the Pacific coast the sturdy traits which succeed independent of book education. The Maine farm offered scant opportunity for attending school, but it developed hard muscles and a good appetite, and consequent strength for controlling the circumstances in which he was placed. His dissatisfaction with the east was not surprising when one considers his active mind and commendable adaptiveness, and probably no youth departed for the sun-blessed Pacific shores with more radiant hope in his heart than this New England farm boy. Arriving in San Francisco after a voyage by water to and from Panama, he worked with fair success in the mines at Georgetown on the American river. In 1858 he took up government land in Placer county, in the Sacramento valley, and followed ranching in partnership with Thomas Jenkinson, about four years. He next returned east for his family and brought them to the home he had prepared, and farmed until 1880. Disposing of this property in 1881, he came to what is now Kings county and bought a farm, he also loaned money and dealt in country properties almost up to the time of his death at the advanced age of eighty-five years. His life was dignified by meritorious service for the Union during the Civil war, when he attained to the rank of first lieutenant in the Lincoln Home Guards of the State Militia. He was particularly averse to holding political office, but nevertheless served on the school board for several years, advancing the cause of education to the extent of his power, having often felt the loss in that direction sustained in his own youth. His wife, whom he brought to California in 1863, materially aided his success with her economy and constant encouragement. Her death occurred at the age of sixty-five, and she left two children older than Augustus F., of whom Lucretia is deceased, and Abbie A. is the wife of Thomas Jenkinson, of Kings county.

As a boy Augustus Fifield Jewett dreamed of a career of legal prominence, and mapped out his life in accordance with this desire. After graduating from the high school of Sacramento, he returned to the farm and remained there until twenty-four years of age, when he entered the Hastings Law School, but was soon obliged to leave, owing to the state of his health. Never strong, he practically lost several years of usefulness out of his life, being unable to perform any kind of work requiring physical exertion. Discouragement followed in the wake of months of suffering and inertia, and when he arrived in Hanford in 1886 to visit a sister, his spirits were not only at low ebb, but his financial resources were nearly exhausted. A couple of months served to restore partial strength and vigor, and with it came a desire to be of prac-

tical use in the world, and to make up for his enforced years of idleness. Becoming interested in the handling of raisins, he rented a small vineyard, and both grew and purchased grapes, going in debt for all required to prosecute his business, trusting to a future good fortune to aid him in his ambition. He had established credit in desirable directions, and in time was not only able to meet his indebtedness, but began the purchase of land in his own right. In 1889 he packed the first full carload of raisins ever shipped out of Tulare county, for Charles King, and has been in the raisin growing business for himself ever since. He owns a ranch of thirty-six acres half a mile from the city limits of Hanford, of which twenty-two acres are under vines and trees, and the balance in pasture. This property is worth about \$300 an acre. He also rents other land, and is increasing his business every year.

For some years Mr. Jewett has taken an active interest in Republican politics, and during 1894 stumped the northern counties in the state in the interests of protection. In Merced county alone he made thirteen speeches. He served as sergeant-at-arms in the California Assembly in 1880, and has held many positions of trust and responsibility. Among his warm personal friends is Senator Perkins, in whose interests he has been unusually zealous. His genial and interesting personality has drawn toward him many other valued friends, and he enjoys a high degree of popularity in political, business and social circles. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World. While acting as trustee of Armona school district he did efficient work in the erection of the public school at Armona. In 1902 he married Edith Shriver, a native of Mariposa county, Cal., and they are parents of one son, Augustus Fairfax. Mrs. Jewett is a daughter of Augustus F. Shriver, a native of Prussia, who came to America with his father when eight years old, escaping from a grave political disturbance in Germany. His early years were spent in the state of Ohio, where he learned the machinist trade, and whence he came to California at the age of nineteen. He was fairly successful in the mines, and about 1859 started a machine-shop and foundry and planing mill at Mariposa, Cal. This he operated successfully for several years, and then removed to Merced, of which he was a pioneer settler and to the upbuilding of which he devoted many years of his life. He had the first plastered house and orange trees in the town, and plied his trade with increasing success. The last years of his life, which were devoted to contracting, he spent in Stockton, Cal., where he died at about fifty-nine years of age. He was a pioneer of both Merced and

Mariposa counties, and as such impressed his worth upon many years of their development. In early manhood he married Ellen Gish, a native of South Bend, Ind., and who, after his death, married W. E. Elliott, with whom she is now living in Humboldt county, this state. Mrs. Jewett was six years old when she came to Merced county, and she was a child when her father died. Her education was acquired in the public schools, and her training was such as to develop a loving and home-giving disposition. Mr and Mrs. Jewett are refined, hospitable and gracious people, and in their quiet and harmonious life furnish a lesson in home making, forbearance and kindness.

---

COURT L. NEWPORT. The enterprise which is a distinguishing feature of the Newport family is reflected in the career of Court L. Newport, a younger brother of William J. Newport and J. B. Newport, mention of whose lives and ancestry may be found elsewhere in this work. The successful horticulturist located six miles northwest of Hanford, and owning eighty acres of rich, productive land, derives considerable satisfaction from the care of his forty-acre orchard and twenty-acre vineyard, and makes a practical study of the best way to achieve the best results. He was born in Lebanon, Warren county, Ohio, March 11, 1858, and through his veins flows the blood of old New England ancestry. As a lad he saw his brother depart for the scene of action during the Civil war, and temporarily his education was suspended owing to the unsettled condition of the country. He was trained to be a model farmer, and to live frugally and with due regard for the future, so that at the age of twenty-six he was the possessor of enough means to enable him to change his sphere of life.

His brother, William J., having come to California in 1873, Mr. Newport followed his example in 1884, arriving in Kings county in due time and finding employment on the ranch of this brother. Four years later he felt justified in establishing a home of his own, and married, November 15, 1888, Ada L. Railsback, daughter of Caleb Railsback, a prominent pioneer of Kings county. Mrs. Newport is a native of California, and received a practical education in the public schools of the state. She is the mother of two children, Alfred Leroy and Ray Corwin. At the time of her marriage Mrs. Newport owned a small ranch, to which her husband has since added, making in all eighty acres. The barren land was not permitted to long retain its crude and useless nature, but was developed and now is covered with fruit-bearing trees and vines, and is one of the neatest and most thrifty little ranches in Kings county. The enterprising own-

er has spared no expense in making it a pleasant home for his wife and children, and on every side are seen evidences of the care and refinement which is encouraged and insisted on in the household. Some alfalfa is grown on the land not under fruit, and the whole yields a comfortable living, and furnishes a wealth of congenial occupation. Mr. Newport is highly respected by his neighbors, and is one of the intelligent and influential members of his community. Though a Republican on national issues, he takes a broad view of local public affairs and supports the men and measures which in his mind are intended to prove of the greatest benefit to the community. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World. He was one of the original stockholders in the Farmers' & Merchants' Bank of Hanford, and has been interested in the development of the oil fields of Kern and Fresno counties, though he has recently disposed of his interests in the latter county, where he held stock in the Esperanza Company.

---

**SAMUEL MILES GILLIAM.** One mile east of the city limits of Visalia, on the Cutler bridge road, lies the Dillon homestead, which for years has been the home of Mr. Gilliam. Notwithstanding the fact that he cannot boast of robust body and, indeed, since the death of his wife has been an invalid, he maintains a close supervision of the place, directing the work of farming and dairying. On the one hundred and sixty acres may be found all the improvements of a first-class dairy farm. Of full-blooded and high-grade Holstein cattle he has about eighty head. The land is largely used for pasturage and seventy acres are under alfalfa, while such other crops as are raised aid in providing feed for the fine herd of milch cows. Water for irrigation is obtained from a branch of the Watson ditch.

The Gilliam family was established in California in 1849, when Jesse Gilliam, a Virginian by birth and a pioneer of Clay county, Mo., crossed the plains with his father and prospected in the gold mines. Favored by fate, he accumulated considerable gold in one year and with the fruits of his toil he went back to the Missouri homestead in 1850. One of his brothers, Gen. Niell Gilliam, a soldier of the Black Hawk war, crossed the trackless desert to Oregon as early as 1844 and perished in the Cayuse war in that country. Their father was a brave soldier of the Revolution and belonged to a pioneer family of Virginia. In the family of Jesse Gilliam was a son, Samuel Thompson Gilliam, who was born in Clay county, Mo., in 1828, and accompanied his father to California at the time of the discovery of gold, making the long journey hither with ox-teams. After a year of fair success in

the mines in 1850 he went to Oregon and settled on government land in Polk county near Dallas, where he married and began housekeeping. In 1858 he disposed of that property and moved to California, settling near Mountainview, Santa Clara county, and engaging in the stock business. From there in 1860 he went to Tulare county and established his home near Farmersville, but in 1867 removed to a tract of one hundred and sixty acres near Portersville, where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising until his retirement from agricultural labors. Though still occupying the homestead, he rents the land to tenants. While still a young man he was ordained to the ministry of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination in Oregon and for years he gave much time to the building up of churches, the planting of new congregations and other pioneer religious work. More recently he has had no special charge, but his interest in the preaching of the Gospel remains unabated. For years he has been popular as an officiating clergyman at weddings and few preachers in the west have united in wedlock more couples than his list shows. His activities are further broadened by a keen interest in the Masonic fraternity.

The marriage of Rev. Samuel Thompson Gilliam united him with Elizabeth Lewis, a native of Tennessee, but after 1852 a resident of Oregon, where her father built the first grist mill in Dallas and brought the first mill race into the town. Eight children were born of the union of Samuel T. Gilliam and Elizabeth Lewis. All but two of these are still living, Samuel Miles being the eldest of the six. He was born near Dallas, Polk county, Ore., February 26, 1854, and at four years of age accompanied the family to California. In boyhood he attended school at Deep Creek, where he had A. P. French as a teacher. It is significant of the frontier conditions of the day when the fact is mentioned that this school and one at Visalia were the only schools in the entire county. During 1872 and 1873 he taught school, thus earning the means necessary to work his way through Heald's Business College, from which institution he was graduated in 1874. From that time until 1885 he was a resident of Portersville, where he carried on a small general store, also acted as Wells-Fargo agent and as postmaster. While living in that town he served as school director and for one term, 1882-84, was supervisor of district No. 1. After selling his store he was deputy county assessor under Seth Smith for two years and under sheriff to George A. Parker for one term, after which, beginning in 1892, he served as supervisor of district No. 3 for four years.

The marriage of Mr. Gilliam was solemnized in Visalia in 1885 and united him with Miss Mary J. Dillon, who was born and reared in







Mr H Bixby

this city, and died here in 1886. In her death the city lost one of its most estimable women, one whose refinement and kindly disposition endeared her to all. During her illness of fifty-two days Mr. Gilliam took the entire care of her; night and day he was by her side, giving every dose of medicine and striving to alleviate the pain of illness by the most vigilant care. When she died he collapsed and suffered a long illness which left him an invalid. Mrs. Gilliam was a daughter of a Kentuckian, Ewell Dillon, a pioneer of 1852 in Visalia, where he erected one of the first buildings in the future city and home-steaded the tract now occupied by his son-in-law. Fraternally Mr. Gilliam is a past officer in the Knights of Pythias and for several terms acted as representative to the Grand Lodge from Portersville. As past master workman he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and has represented the Portersville lodge in the Grand Lodge of the state. The Democratic party receives his staunch allegiance, and he has aided its local councils through efficient service as chairman of the county central committee, a member of the central committee, and a delegate to the state conventions of the party.

---

**MOSES H. BIXBY.** The ancestry of Moses H. Bixby, a well known and progressive vineyardist of Fresno county, may be traced to the early settlers of New England, and among his personal attributes may be noticed characteristics typical of men mighty in the formation of our government. His paternal grandfather, Albert Bixby, came from England to the United States and settled in Vermont, in the course of time participating in the Revolutionary war. In his family was a son Albert, born in the state of Vermont, in which state he grew to manhood and married Eliza Dearborn, a native of Massachusetts. She came of a distinguished family of New England, her father, a sea-faring man and the captain of a vessel, being the nephew of Major General Daniel Dearborn, of Revolutionary fame. When ninety-seven years old this gallant patriot made the opening speech at the dedication of Bunker Hill monument; his name was also perpetuated by being given to the fort which occupied a spot of land now in the heart of the city of Chicago, Ill. The younger Albert Bixby was a millwright and carpenter, and died at the age of forty years.

Born in Windsor county, Vt., March 5, 1848, Moses H. Bixby was reared and educated in the Green Mountain state. When twenty years of age he came as far west as Illinois, locating in Bureau county, where, for three years, he followed agricultural pursuits. For two years fol-

lowing he was likewise engaged in Taylor county, Iowa. In 1873 he came to California, locating first in Alpine county, where he remained for a period of five years, engaging during this time in logging, carrying lumber to Gold Hill and Virginia City. Removing to Fresno county in 1878, he purchased twenty acres of land—that upon which his home now stands—and through perseverance and continued industry has acquired a competence and has built up for himself an enviable reputation as a vineyardist of Fresno county. He is now the owner of eighty acres, at the corner of Clay and Elm avenues, about six and one-half miles south of Fresno, thirty-four acres being set to vines, thirty-eight to various fruits, while he also raises some alfalfa. In the year 1903 his ranch produced forty-four and a half tons of raisins. As an enterprising and progressive rancher, Mr. Bixby occupies a position of prominence in the beautiful and productive county wherein he has resided for so many years.

In Illinois, February 9, 1871, Mr. Bixby was united in marriage with Rachel Fulton, a native of Pennsylvania, and four children were born to them, namely: Blanche R.; John H.; Guy C.; and Kenneth, deceased in infancy. Politically Mr. Bixby is a Republican in national politics, his first presidential ballot having been cast for General Grant, but he reserves the right to vote for the man best equipped for public office in local affairs. He is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**DANIEL RHOADS.** In Daniel Rhoads California found not only one of its earliest but one of its bravest and most useful pioneers. Told with the skill of a Cooper, his life story would adorn the pages of fiction for all time, representing as it does the extremes of deprivation, suffering and success, possible in a country and at a time which has had no counterpart in the world's history. This plainsman of 1846 was born on his father's farm four miles south of Paris, Edgar county, Ill., December 7, 1821, and comes of English ancestry. His paternal grandfather enlisted for service in the Revolutionary war, eventually being advanced to be bodyguard of Washington. His son, Thomas, father of Daniel, was born in Kentucky, removed as a young man to Mississippi, thence to Illinois, and thence to Missouri, his last home before crossing the plains. Thomas Rhoads married Elizabeth Forster, who was born near Pittsburg, Pa., a daughter of Thomas Forster, of Irish and German descent. Of the sixteen children, ten sons and six daughters born to them, fourteen attained maturity.

Of this large family, Daniel Rhoads remained at home with his father as long as he needed

him, accompanying the family to Ray county, Mo., in 1835, and remaining there until his marriage, October 4, 1843, to Amanda Esrey, a native of Clark county, Ill., and daughter of Jesse Esrey. He then established a home for himself on eighty acres of land allotted to him by his father near his own farm, and thus started in life under circumstances more encouraging than had characterized his younger years. His education had been necessarily limited, and his schooling confined to a few months each winter in the schools of Illinois and Missouri, but he was strong bodily and progressive and ambitious. Upon reaching manhood he became interested in an account of John C. Fremont's first trip to California, and he therefore set about making plans to follow the example of this earlier pioneer. Interesting his family and friends in his proposed departure, he outfitted with two yoke of oxen, a wagon, rifle, ammunition and provisions, making the start from home as soon as the snow was off the ground in the spring of 1846. On this journey he was accompanied by his wife, his father and family, his uncle and family and a brother-in-law and family, and during a portion of the time they traveled with other emigrants, bound for the same elusive goal. Crossing the Missouri river April 7, 1846, at St. Joseph, Mo., they entered California by the Donner lake route, passing through Emigrant Gap October 4 of the same year. They were fortunate in escaping any hostile encounter with the Indians, but when near Grand Island, on the Big Platte river, a band of Pawnee Indians managed to stampede all but three of their train of horses, not interfering, however, with their cattle, which they managed to bring through almost intact.

After crossing the Sierra Nevadas Mr. Rhoads' party stopped for a month on Bear river, in the Sacramento valley, to rest from the arduous journey across the plains, and while there made stakes from oak timber, receiving in payment a beef which kept them in meat for some time. For a time Mr. Rhoads worked for Messrs. Grimes and Sinclair near Sutter's Fort, overseeing the Indians, and receiving about \$25 a month for his services. When General Fremont started upon his campaign against the Mexicans, all of the men in the party accompanied him but Mr. Rhoads, who was left in charge of the fort. They were a desolate little band at best, maintaining themselves on a scarcity of provisions, and trying to keep up their courage as best they could. Complications ensued in January, 1847, when an Indian runner brought to Sutter's Fort, by letter to Captain Sutter, the news of the suffering of the now celebrated Donner party, and their imminent danger of starvation. The story of this brave but unfortunate band of men, women and children, who left Springfield, Ill., and

were overtaken by snow in the Sierra Nevadas just as they were entering the promised land, is too familiar to require recapitulation. Having little at his immediate command, Mr. Rhoads and Mr. Sinclair started at once afoot for Johnson's ranch, fifty miles distant, the boggy condition of the roads, owing to the recent rains, making it impossible to travel by horse. Arriving at the ranch, four days were spent by the men, women, children and friendly Indians in drying beef over fires, barbeque fashion, and in cracking wheat and running it through sieves, the only means of milling in those primitive times. With these supplies, Mr. Rhoads, his brother, John P., and twelve other men and pack animals, laboriously made their way over trackless, rocky ridges and canyons, and across swollen streams to the snow-line on the Piny Ridge, just beyond Steep Hollow. Here the pack-train was left in charge of a boy and man, and the relief supplies were packed the remaining distance of eighty miles on the backs of men on snow-shoes. Three days' travel brought them to Bear Valley, at the head of the Bear river. February 5 the party started for Donner lake, each man carrying seventy-five pounds, including a blanket, hatchet, tin cup to make soup of dried beef, cracked wheat and enough rawhide cut in strips to repair the meshes of their snow-shoes. To carry this weight, and travel on snow-shoes over trackless mountains, required no little courage and perseverance, and at Bear Valley half of the party gave out and declared they could go no farther. Seven, however, determined to proceed to their goal even at the risk of their lives. One of the seven who turned back, upon reaching Sutter's Fort informed Mrs. Rhoads that she would never see her husband alive.

With rare far-sightedness the rescue party provided for their return by tying to the limbs of pine trees small packages of beef and wheat in bits of canvas. As they advanced toward the summit of the mountain, the fall of snow was heavy and in depth from twelve to twenty feet. In the face of this appalling danger, the packs of the seven who ventured to advance were replenished from the packs of the seven who had returned to the pack-train, and for two weeks more these seven toiled on toward the snow-covered huts of the starving and despairing emigrants. At least twelve days were consumed in reaching the summit, some slight advance being made each day, and when within two days' from the summit they reached the head of Donner lake, and the camps came in sight February 18, 1847. The lake was covered with thick ice and snow, and they made their way directly down its entire length to the head of one branch of the Truckee river, still continuing to endure the tortures of cold and insufficient nourishment. Dur-

ing the nights, many of which were sleepless, the problem of building fires on the snow offered great difficulties, and was solved by cutting down small green pines, making platforms of them on the snow, and building the fires of dry limbs upon them. Otherwise the fires would have sunk into the snow to a depth of twenty feet or more. They slept while seated around the fires, leaning against each other, and wrapped in their blankets. As a guide for themselves and others they set fire to the tops of dead trees. On approaching the huts of the emigrants the surroundings were so terribly desolate and lifeless that nothing was left but to conclude that all had perished. At last a faint line of smoke was seen coming out of the snow about sixty yards distant, and in answer to their loud greeting a woman's head arose above the snow from a chute connected with a hut twenty feet below. A second woman, ghost-like in her emaciation, soon followed, and seeing the men approaching exclaimed: "O, are you men from California or from heaven?" In this hut they found not only Mr. Keseberg, who was too feeble to rise, but several others, and at the meeting not a dry eye was apparent. Thirty of their number had already joined the great majority in the camps or in their effort to reach the summit of the mountain, and the only articles of food left were a few pieces of rawhide, and bones which had been boiled for soup again and again.

The situation was relieved at once, two days being spent in distributing the provisions, after which the greater number of the survivors accompanied the seven guides on the return trip, making a party of twenty-one in all. During the first five days out three of the rescued ones died, one an infant, carried for a time in the arms of John Rhoads, the second a young Englishman named Denton, and the third, one of the Donner boys who ate too much dried beef. Just before reaching their pack animals they met another relief train on the way to Donner camp, in charge of James F. Reed and William McCutcheon, and which had been sent from Yerba Buena by command of Commodore Stockton. Upon leaving with their pack-train the Rhoads party had but a day's provisions, excepting to profit by the food they had tied to the branches of the trees on the outward journey. Imagine their dismay at finding that wolves had devoured their precious pitances, and they were practically without food of any kind. The last three days they subsisted on rawhide strips of their snow-shoes roasted to a crisp. Thus was enacted one of the strangest and most thrilling experiences which met the early pioneer of the latter '40s. All connected with the unfortunate Donner party must needs be held in grateful memory, for it was through the sufferings of

such that the civilization of the west was inaugurated.

In June, 1847, Mr. Rhoads moved to the Consumme river, and the following October to Sonoma county. During 1848 he returned to the Sacramento valley and settled on the Briggs & Burris ranch, a mile below where Galt has since been built, and was employed by Captain Sutter, at Sutter's mill, when gold was discovered there. Two years he mined during the summertime on the American river, taking out about \$8,000 in gold dust, and in 1850, accompanied by his wife, he returned to Missouri by way of the Isthmus of Panama. After a brief visit with relatives and friends he returned to the Sacramento valley, and in April, 1851, removed to the neighborhood of what is now Gilroy, Santa Clara county. Purchasing a thousand-acre stock ranch, he lived on it for several years, but finally removed his family to San Jose, while he drove his stock across the coast range to the lower Kings river in 1857. In 1860 he removed his family to the home he had built for them two and a half miles northwest of Lemoore, where he continued to live until taking up his residence in San Francisco in April, 1895.

As early as 1865 Mr. Rhoads sold his stock business and engaged in farming, achieving marked success, and accumulating a comfortable fortune, which he placed in different banks, in real estate, and loans, principally in Fresno and Kings counties. He was a member of the Society of California Pioneers, and formerly belonged to the Grange or Patrons of Husbandry. He was at one time one of the directors of the Grangers' Bank of San Francisco, and he was the pioneer and first president of the Bank of Hanford, a position maintained until a year before his death, December 4, 1895. From the time of its organization until his death he was vice-president of the Bank of Lemoore, and for many years exerted a strengthening and wide influence in financial circles in the county. Politically he was a Democrat, and in religion was identified for many years with the Methodist Episcopal Church South. For some time Mr. Rhoads had been troubled with heart disease, and though his end was sudden it was not unexpected. The day of his passing away he had spent in a pleasant manner in his home in San Francisco, and near its close spoke of being weary. At supper, when about to invoke a blessing, as had been his custom for many years, he grew faint, spoke a few words, and quietly and peacefully passed away. Conscious of his approaching end, two years before he had made minute preparation, building close to his old home near Lemoore a substantial vault in which to take his final rest. He also distributed his property among his children, three of whom are living: Mrs. Mary

Kieffer, John W. Rhoads and Mrs. Elvira H. Dawson. His oldest daughter, Sarah, became the wife of John F. Phillips, had a family of six children, and died soon after her husband. These children were reared and educated by Daniel Rhoads and his wife. Mr. Rhoads' body was brought from San Francisco to Lemoore, and his funeral services were conducted December 8, 1895. He was seventy-four years old, lacking three days, and his popularity was attested by the friends and relatives who occupied the two hundred carriages in the funeral cortege. His widow still survives him, making her home in Hanford, where her fourscore years are crowned with good health and spirits.

**JAMES U. VAUGHAN.** When James U. Vaughan went to Tulare county in 1857 there was little to suggest the prosperity which he himself has helped to bring about. To a man who has gained and lost fortunes, and who yet finds himself one of the substantial and influential men in his community, the distance traversed on the road to success seems immeasurably greater, and the changes by the wayside of far more emphatic and impressive kind. Well does this pioneer recall the atmosphere of desolation which brooded over his pioneer ranch twelve miles from Visalia, of his range for cattle which extended along the river on the south side for twenty miles, and of the vast distances stretching out before him with scarcely a settler to intercept between himself and the horizon. The lowing of his kine was a welcome sound in those days, and a human face and voice were something over which to rejoice. Today Mr. Vaughan enjoys the distinction of being one of the foremost fruit-raisers in Kings county, and formerly his name was associated with equal prominence with extensive stock-raising interests, in San Luis Obispo county. He was one of the organizers and directors of the Old Bank of Hanford, and also holds stock in the First National Bank of Hanford. His activity has pervaded the general growth of the locality, and his influence has been, and still is, of a strong, forceful and progressive nature.

Mr. Vaughan is of English descent, and his family was probably established in this country by his paternal grandfather. His father, Reuben Vaughan, was born in Virginia, and when he arrived at manhood went to Tennessee, where he married Levina Nail, daughter of an Englishman who served under General Haynes in the war of the Revolution. From Tennessee Reuben Vaughan went to Alabama, and from there to Holmes county, Miss., where, September 9, 1841, his son, James U., was born on a farm. Seven years were spent in Louisiana, the family then

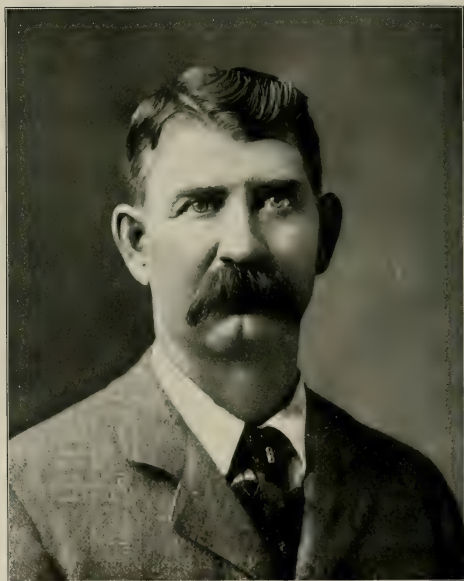
removing to Texas, arriving in the winter of 1849, and remaining there until starting across the plains with ox-teams in the spring of 1852. Locating on a vineyard in the city of Los Angeles, he lived there two years, then removed to a ranch four miles from the city, where he died in 1856, at the age of fifty-six years. His wife, who was of Dutch extraction, died in California at the age of eighty-four, having reared ten of her thirteen children.

James U. remembers the overland trip to Texas, and from there to California, which he reached at the age of eleven. He was less than sixteen when his father died, and thereafter he and his brothers assumed the management of the farm, in partnership with their mother. From the home farm the youth took a drove of stock to the vicinity of Visalia in the spring of 1857, remaining there comparatively alone on the range for many months. In 1862 he married Sarah Ann Tuel, a native of Texas, who came in 1852 with her mother and stepfather to Mariposa county, and in 1858 to Visalia, where she met her future husband. The young couple began housekeeping under crude conditions, but braved the loneliness and monotony of their surroundings, being rewarded by the business success which came their way. The herd of cattle grew to large proportions, and in 1865 Mr. Vaughan drove his stock to San Luis Obispo county, where he took up land and engaged in the cattle business until 1877. This experience terminated disastrously, owing to severe drouth, and resulted in the death by starvation of from seventeen to eighteen hundred head of stock. In 1878 he went to Arizona and engaged in the cattle business, getting together a large band of cattle and realizing large profits until another drouth swept away about four thousand head. Owning a large range of about fifteen hundred acres, he again started in the cattle business in 1893, and possessed about six thousand head of cattle when he sold his ranch and three thousand head in January, 1902. He then shipped about three thousand head to Fresno county and sold them soon after.

Coming to Hanford after clearing up from \$75,000 to \$100,000 in the cattle industry, Mr. Vaughan bought three hundred acres of the Bonanza fruit ranch, one mile north of the city, and placed two hundred and fifty acres in fruit, and the balance under alfalfa. He paid \$60,000 for his ranch, and he also owns ten acres adjoining the city limits, under vines and fruit, where he also has his beautiful country home. The same penetrating thought, thoroughness and business sagacity which distinguished his cattle industry is apparent in his present occupation, and accounts for the measure of success which has already attended his efforts. He has one of the finest fruit ranches in Kings county, his out-







*A. B. Crook*

put consisting of peaches, apricots, prunes and raisin grapes. He is associated in business with his two sons, Andrew H. and William T., each of whom owns a third interest in the fruit lands. His only daughter and youngest child, Lillie A., is the wife of John A. Dunbar of Arizona. Mr. Vaughan is a Democrat in national politics, but independent locally. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He is a splendid example of the benefits of range life, of a moderate and free and untrammelled existence. The largeness of perception and breadth of mind which has characterized his business undertakings is realized in his physical proportions, for he stands six feet one and a half inches in his stocking feet, and weighs about two hundred and twenty-five pounds. Notwithstanding his losses and discouragements he is invariably genial and optimistic in temperament, having an air of satisfaction derived from having conquered stubborn fate in the race for financial supremacy.

WILLIAM BIGLER CROOP, county clerk of Merced county, is a member of an eastern family that became established in New Jersey and Pennsylvania prior to the Revolutionary war. Originally its representatives in this country were known by the name of Grube and the present form was not adopted until early in the nineteenth century. Peter S., who was born at Easton, Pa., in 1801, engaged in the transportation business on the Susquehanna river and superintended the construction of a portion of the Susquehanna canal. For years he made his home near Tunkhannock, Wyoming county, where he cleared and improved a tract of undeveloped land and served as township supervisor. An old-school Democrat, his political opinions were pronounced and supported by his vote. Though he lived to be past eighty-eight years of age (his death occurring in 1889), he was hale and robust to the last, retaining full possession of his physical and mental faculties. In early manhood he married Julia Sleagle, who was born south of Wilkesbarre, near Nanticoke, Luzerne county, and was a daughter of Adam Sleagle, a native of the same county, descended from an old established family of Pennsylvania. Included in the estate of the Sleagle family was a large farm which proved to be underlaid with a rich vein of coal. Mrs. Croop was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and lived in accordance with its precepts, dying in that faith in 1888, when seventy-three years of age. Of her twelve children all but four are still living, but only three make their home in California, viz.: Zachariah T., an orchardist in Santa Clara county; Mrs. M. K. Taylor, whose home is near Newman; and William Bigler, of Merced. An-

other member of the family, Stephen D., came to the coast, and died in Merced county. One brother, Cyrus W., now a resident of Allegany, N. Y., was a soldier in the Civil war, and served with a regiment from Pennsylvania.

The seventh in order of birth among the twelve children, William Bigler Croop was born near Tunkhannock, Pa., January 12, 1852, and grew to manhood on the home farm. Until twelve years of age he attended a subscription school near his home, and then was a pupil in a select school at Factoryville for several successive winters, after which he studied one winter in Rushford (N. Y.) Academy, and two years in Wyoming Seminary at Kingston. At eighteen years of age he was given a teacher's certificate and began to teach, following the occupation during the winters in Wyoming and Luzerne counties, and in the summer months working on his father's farm. In June, 1877, he came to California, and after a short stay in San Francisco, proceeded to San Joaquin county. As an assistant in threshing he was employed on Union Island from the 1st of July until October, when he came to Merced, passed the teacher's examination, and secured a school near Snelling. The following year he began the raising of grain twelve miles west of Merced, but two successive failures of crops obliged him to leave the farm; he then clerked in a store at Merced. During the winter of 1880-81 he taught school in Lane county, Ore., and on his return to Merced the spring following he resumed his position in the store. His next work was that of traveling agent for the Southern Pacific land department, in which capacity he engaged in the sale of lands in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. During 1883 he was employed in the bridge and construction department of the Northern Pacific Railroad in Montana and Idaho, returning in 1884 to Merced and from here going back to Pennsylvania, where he remained for six months. The fall of 1884 found him again in Merced, where he engaged in farming for a year. The four following years were spent in the east, and during two years of the time he engaged in the mercantile business with his brother, C. W., at Rushford, N. Y.

While making his home at Rushford, September 1, 1886, Mr. Croop married Miss Grace M. Beecher, a native of Williamsport, Pa., and a member of the family whose most distinguished representative was Henry Ward Beecher. Remotely of English origin, the Beechers became established in America at an early day, and were pioneers in Allegany county, N. Y. On her mother's side she traced her lineage to the Gordons of Scotland. During girlhood she received excellent advantages in Rushford Academy and prior to her marriage followed the profession

of teacher. Two children have been born of their union, Ada Adele, born in 1887, and Cyrus William, born in 1890.

A few years after his marriage Mr. Croop disposed of his interests in the east and returned to California, where he spent two years in the bridge and construction department of the Southern Pacific Railroad. From 1891 until 1898 he engaged in teaching in the vicinity of Merced, giving up the work in order to enter upon his duties as county clerk, to which office he was first elected in 1898, on the Democratic ticket, by a majority of two hundred and fifty. At the expiration of his first term he was re-nominated by the Democrats without opposition, nor did the Republicans present any candidate for the office, it being the universal feeling among representatives of both parties that his service had been so successful and efficient, due recognition should be made thereof by his re-election. The fact that he was re-elected without any opposition, receiving the largest vote on the ticket, testifies as to the great appreciation of his worth and ability as a public official. His entire attention is given to the duties of the position, including, in addition to the work of county clerk, that of superior court clerk, and clerk to the board of supervisors. He and his family have a pleasant home on Nineteenth street, where he built the house they occupy. In 1874 he was made a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Pennsylvania, and now is connected with Merced Lodge No. 208, in which he is past officer, also from 1900 to 1902 serving as district deputy grand master. In the Encampment he is past chief patriarch, and also has been a prominent officer in the Woodmen of the World. Movements for the benefit of his home town, among them the Merced Improvement Club, receive his hearty support and co-operation, and he is deservedly numbered among the public-spirited citizens of the place.

---

REV. PETER GERALD GAY. During the days when Oliver Cromwell wrested England's scepter from monarchical sway and established a reformation far-reaching in its influence, the Gay family were established in Ireland, where the possession of large landed estates made them a power among the gentry. Tradition indicates that they belonged to Huguenot blood and historic evidences point to their French extraction. John Gay, who was the owner of the large estate known as Gay Brook, situated in the county of Westmeath, near Mullingar, held a position of influence in that part of Ireland, and was an acknowledged leader in his community. Among his children was a son, John Gay, who was born and reared on the family estate and received

his education in Royal College, graduating with the degree of M. D., after which he acted as a steamship surgeon. A fortunate chance, brought about by his recognized ability both as physician and scientist, made him an associate of Dr. Kane in important explorations in various sections of India, where he engaged in professional practice, and he was also located for a time at Cape Town, Cape Colony, Africa, and in Australia. After extended travels and researches in many lands he returned to Ireland and took up the practice of medicine and surgery in Dublin. Since his retirement from professional work he has devoted his time to scientific researches in the quiet of his beautiful country place four miles from Ireland's capital city. During early manhood he chose as his wife Mary Reed, who was born at Carrick Fergus, County Down, Ireland, and traces her lineage to a Scotch family. In County Down her father, David Reed, was born and reared, and there he engaged in the manufacture of cordage. The commercial aptitude which he possessed, and which brought him a fair share of prosperity, came to him less from inheritance than from education and experience. Many of his male ancestors were educators and philosophers and the family talents were toward such studies and professions rather than toward commerce and worldly gain.

In a family originally comprising seventeen children (nine of whom now survive) Peter Gerald Gay was among the younger members and he alone has sought a home in America. He was born in Dublin on New Year's day of 1874. As a boy he attended the Christian Brothers school in Dublin and later took up the study of the classics in Black Rock College, Dublin. From there he was sent to St. Michael's Priory, at Farnborough, Hampshire, England, where for a time he acted as guardian of the crypt where lies Napoleon III and all that is mortal of the beloved and ill-fated Prince Louis, the Prince Imperial of France during the days of the empire. The priory where he was a student owed its existence and support to the benevolence of Empress Eugénie, who in the days of age and loneliness devotes her thoughts to religion and charity. It was his good fortune to study theology and philosophy under the celebrated orator Pere Guilleme, and the confessor of Eugénie, Pere Ibos. On leaving the priory in 1893 he entered upon practical mission work as an assistant to Father Bannon in the slums of London. A year later, with faith deepened by the difficulties of his city labors, he returned to Dublin to continue his studies.

On coming to America in 1895 Father Gay traveled through various portions of the States and then matriculated in St. John's University, at Collegeville, Minn., where he was ordained,

June 21, 1897, by Bishop McGolrich of Duluth, to the ministry of the Roman Catholic Church in appointment to the diocese of Los Angeles and Monterey. For a time he was stationed in the Cathedral at Los Angeles and afterward acted as an assistant in different parishes of the diocese, also served as pastor pro tem. of the congregations at Pasadena, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Fresno. A later and very important task was the building up of the parish and church at Santa Paula, Cal., including the renowned mission of Camulos, whose history is interwoven with much of the romance and adventure of early Californian days. In officiating at a marriage ceremony in the Del Valle family, owners of the famous mission, he used the vestments that had been in possession of the family for more than two centuries. Other missions of which he had charge were Newhall, Ravenna and Lancaster. August 11, 1904, he was appointed to St. Mary's Church in Visalia, where he has the supervision of an important parish and also attends St. Aloysius at Tulare, Sultana and Dinuba. At this writing the parish at Dinuba is erecting a new house of worship, the supervision of which remains in his charge. The edifice at Visalia is substantial and commodious, with admirable facilities for religious services. From the days of Father Dade, its first pastor, to the present time, the church has wielded a potent influence upon the lives of the parishioners. Not only is the congregation one of the first established by the Roman Catholics in the San Joaquin valley, but it also has been one of the most influential and prosperous, and the work of its various pastors, culminating in the success of the present incumbent of the pastorate, has been of a high order both from a temporal and spiritual standpoint, contributing to the religious development of Tulare county and to the welfare especially of such as are identified with its communion.

---

THOMAS H. FRANS. The earliest recollections of Mr. Frans are associated with sights and scenes in California. Although a native of Missouri, born in Buchanan county, May 1, 1853, he was only ten days old when the family left that locality and started across the plains in one of the prairie schooners so familiar to the people of that day. The slow-footed oxen drew the little caravan on their toilsome way through deserts, across streams, over mountains and through still valleys, and finally, after six months of travel, the destination of the pilgrims was reached. In the company were John Bloom Frans, who was born in Kentucky, November 16, 1818, and his wife, whom he had married in Missouri, and who was Elizabeth Fulton, a na-

tive of Indiana. With them and their infant son were the father of Mrs. Frans, Richard Fulton, and her brothers, James and Thomas Fulton, all of whom had made a previous journey across the plains during the early days of the discovery of gold. On arriving in Sonoma county, land was secured on the Mark West creek, five miles from Santa Rosa, and there the grandfather died. In 1864 the father sold his farm in that county and removed to Tulare county, where he bought four hundred and twenty acres on the Cutler bridge road, three and one-half miles from Visalia. The property was in a raw state, but through his efforts was brought under cultivation and improved with a neat farm house. Here, after a few years of devotion to general farming and stock-raising, he died October 23, 1870. In religion he was a member of the Christian Church, a man of high principles and irreproachable character. His wife was born April 4, 1831, and died May 15, 1886. They were the parents of the following children: Thomas H., of Visalia; James M., deceased; Mrs. Emily Parr, who died in this locality; John, Mary and Mrs. Sarah Switzer, all of Visalia; Ellen, who married Edward Hart and resides at Farmersville; and Rebecca, Mrs. Thomas McGovern, who died in this vicinity.

When the family came to Tulare county Thomas H. Frans was a boy of eleven years and afterward his education was pursued in district schools and the old Visalia academy. When he was seventeen his father died, leaving him the eldest of a large family, and the one to whom his mother and the younger children looked for counsel and support. For some years he took charge of the home farm, but when the younger sons became old enough to attend to its cultivation he entered upon independent farming. For fifteen years or more he conducted a large grain farm on the plains. Returning to the old homestead, he purchased the interests of some of the heirs until he acquired one hundred and sixty acres and this he now occupies and cultivates, having sixty acres in alfalfa and the balance in general crops and pastures. The land is entirely low ground, and can be irrigated by seepage, thus rendering it unnecessary for him to resort to flooding, but he has a private ditch connected with the Kaweah river. It is not unusual for him to raise two crops of potatoes the same year, and often he has raised a crop of barley, then planted the land to corn. His specialty is the dairy business, for which purpose he keeps a herd of fine milch cows, and the crops raised are largely fed to his stock.

The marriage of Mr. Frans was solemnized in Visalia and united him with Miss Emma Elizabeth Johnson, whose father, Stephen Johnson, was one of Visalia's early settlers, coming here

in 1870. He was a native of Mississippi, as was also his father. Stephen Johnson was killed in the Sierra Nevada mountains. Mrs. Frans was born and reared in Visalia and by her marriage has two children, Ruby Ione and Richard Fulton, the latter a member of the high school class of 1908. The family are identified with the Christian Church of Visalia, to the support of which Mr. Frans has been a generous contributor, as he has also to movements for the welfare of his community and the relief of the needy. In national politics he favors Democratic principles, but in local elections gives his support to the men whom he deems best qualified to represent the people and discharge official duties with uprightness and intelligence.

STEPHEN E. TULLY. To a splendid record as a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war S. E. Tully has added years of practical experience along agricultural lines in Merced and other counties in California, and has succeeded by his earnest, upright and capable nature. Mr. Tully's political sympathies are at variance with those of his immediate ancestors, for the south claimed the ambitions of both his father and grandfather. Samuel Tully was born in old Virginia, and Martha (Vestal) Tully in the Shenandoah valley in the same state. The parents were married in Virginia, and became very early pioneers of Pickaway county, Ohio, then but sparsely settled. The father lived to be fifty-four, and the mother seventy years old. They reared a family of eight children, two of whom are living. Notwithstanding the southern sympathies of the father, the children espoused the northern cause, and two of the sons served in the same regiment, Company C, Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry; of these, John, the youngest, died in Nashville, Tenn., during the war.

S. E. Tully was born on the paternal farm on the Scioto river, four miles north of Circleville, Pickaway county, Ohio, September 1, 1837, and in early years attended the public schools and the Circleville Academy. At the age of twenty-one he removed to Iowa, and later to Minnesota, spending two years in farming in those two frontier states. Returning to Ohio in 1859, he engaged in farming in Fayette county, and while feeding stock in the afternoon of April 19, 1861, was informed of the firing on Fort Sumter. That evening, after completing his chores, he drove eight miles to Midway, volunteered in Company C, and was mustered in at Camp Anderson for three months. Sent to West Virginia under General MacClellan, he participated in the battle of Rich Mountain, and was later detailed as scout, a precarious service which brought him much adventure and many hairbreadth escapes.

One night on the Little Kanawha, three companies were surrounded by fifteen hundred rebels, but succeeded in holding the enemy at bay for three days and nights, finally being relieved by reinforcements. Mustered out at Danville, at the expiration of his term, Mr. Tully re-enlisted in 1862, in Company F, Nineteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, becoming a part of the Army of the Cumberland, and delegated to cover Nelson's retreat. During his second service Mr. Tully was in the thick of the fight in many of the battles during the remainder of the war, including Chickamauga, Dalton, Resaca, Dallas, Kennesaw Mountain, Snake Creek Gap, Peachtree, Lovejoy Station, Jonesboro, Chancellorsville, and Cold Harbor. His experiences were thrilling in the extreme, especially toward the latter part of the war, for at the battle of Stone River he had thirty-two bullet holes in his blanket, and at other engagements he had his hair shot off and his clothes perforated with bullets. Being transferred to the command of General Thomas, he took part in the battles of Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville, and at the close of the war was honorably discharged at Cincinnati, Ohio, June 14, 1865.

The satisfaction and peace attending the life of the agriculturist was thoroughly appreciated by this brave soldier on returning to Pickaway county, and after farming a year he removed to Shelby county, Ill., remaining there until settling on a farm near Danville, the same state, in 1868. In 1875 he came to Turlock, Cal., and the following year, in January, began to farm in Tulare county, still later purchasing land in Yolo county. In 1886 he located on land in the western part of Merced county, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres seven and a half miles southeast of Los Banos, just outside of the canal. Since then he has engaged in grain raising, and at times has had a thousand acres under grain. Ten acres under irrigation are placed to alfalfa, and it is the intention of Mr. Tully to install an engine and pumps, for irrigating the balance of his farm. He has the best of modern improvements, and his place has the air of being managed by one who thoroughly understands the scientific and practical side of farming.

Mr. Tully is a member of the William A. Seward Post No. 65, G. A. R., of Woodland, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically he votes the same way that he shot during the war, and ever since has been a staunch defender of the Republican party. In Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1866, he was united in marriage with Mary Pennington, a native of Ohio, and daughter of John Pennington, a farmer of Pickaway county. Six children have been reared in the Tully home, the order of their birth being as follows: Alice, living on the home place;



John, a farmer near Modesto; George, a farmer in the San Joaquin valley; Elmer, a business man of Stockton; Lester, a farmer of Merced county; and Ernest, his father's assistant on the farm. None of the pioneers of Merced county can claim greater honor or consideration at the hands of their fellowmen than Mr. Tully, for his life is conceded to be not only a brave and honorable one, but one into which much success has been crowded, and which has been of incalculable benefit to other strugglers on the highway of existence.

**HENRY NEWMAN.** Noteworthy among the active and influential citizens of Visalia is Henry Newman, who is most ably and acceptably filling the position of county treasurer of Tulare county. He is an excellent business man, upright and honorable in all of his transactions, and is highly esteemed for his integrity and trustworthiness. A son of Christian Newman, Jr., he was born in Petersburg, Menard county, Ill., November 27, 1850. His grandfather, Christian Newman, Sr., emigrated from Germany with his family, locating in Beardstown, Ill., as a pioneer.

Born in Saxony, Germany, Christian Newman, Jr., came with his parents to America. He followed the business of a butcher in Illinois for a number of years, living in Petersburg and Springfield. Coming to California in 1859, he settled first as a butcher in Bear Valley, Mariposa county, and was afterwards similarly engaged in Turlock, Stanislaus county. From there he removed to Merced county, settling in Merced a short time previous to his death, which occurred, at the age of sixty-six years, in 1874. He married Margaret Schoeneman, who was born in Germany, a daughter of John Schoeneman, who immigrated with his family to this country and settled in Springfield, Ill., where he was engaged in the transfer business until his death. She died in Merced, Cal., leaving three children, namely: Henry, the subject of this sketch; and John C. and William H., both of Stockton, Cal.

Growing to manhood in Springfield, Ill., Henry Newman was educated in the public schools of that city, and in the Christian Brothers' Academy at St. Louis, Mo., where he was graduated in 1869. The following two years he clerked for his uncle, John Schoeneman, proprietor of the Western hotel, in Springfield, Ill. In 1871 Mr. Newman joined his parents in Mariposa county, Cal., and from 1872 until 1874 assisted his father in Bear Valley. Removing with the family to Merced in 1874, he was employed in the El Capitan hotel until September, 1876, when he engaged in business in Stockton.

From 1880 until 1884 Mr. Newman resided in the city of Fresno. In the latter year he came to Visalia, accepting a position in the Palace hotel, and in 1886 was elected, under the old law, as road master of District No. 6, and served for two years. In the meantime Mr. Newman moved to Exeter, Tulare county, and was appointed justice of the peace, to fill out an unexpired term of two years. He was subsequently elected, and re-elected to the same office, which he filled ten consecutive years, for four years of the time, from 1893 until 1897, serving also as postmaster of Exeter, being appointed to the position by President Cleveland. Nominated on the Democratic ticket for county treasurer in 1902, Mr. Newman was elected for a term of four years, and after taking the oath of office, in January, 1903, removed to Visalia with his family, and his home is open to his large circle of friends and acquaintances.

In Stockton, Cal., in 1877, Mr. Newman married Mary F. Rock, a native of Pennsylvania, and they have five children living, namely: Harry C., of Visalia; Mrs. Alice Corono, of Fullerton, Cal.; Mrs. Vera Powell, of Exeter; Leila and Loretta, living at home. Taking a keen and intelligent interest in public affairs, Mr. Newman is an influential member of the Democratic party, and an ex-member of the county committee. In the congressional convention which nominated Creighton, of Fresno, for congress, he served as secretary. While a resident of Exeter he was one of the organizers of the Exeter Board of Trade, which he served for two years as vice-president, resigning the position on his removal to Visalia. He was made an Odd Fellow in 1874, in Merced Lodge No. 208 and is now past grand of Exeter Lodge, I. O. O. F., and is past district deputy grand master of the Grand Lodge; he also belongs to Orange Blossom Lodge of the Rebekahs, of which he is past noble grand; and is captain of Visalia Canton No. 24. In 1871, at Bear Valley, he was made a Knight of Pythias. He is now past Chancellor of Bonnie Brae Lodge, K. P., is ex-representative to the Grand Lodge, and is also ex-district deputy grand chancellor.

**JAMES L. JAMESON.** Among the representatives of old pioneer families who are carrying on, under more promising conditions, the work undertaken by their sires, mention is due James L. Jameson, a young man of energy and resource, and one of the well-known farmers in Merced county. Mr. Jameson lives three miles southwest of Los Banos, where he owns one hundred and sixty-five acres, all under alfalfa, and developed to a dairy ranch, and he also owns

three hundred and twenty acres of grain land above the canal.

Mr. Jameson has lived in California since 1869, having moved here with his father, Zachariah, from Lincoln county, Mo. His first six years were spent on the farm in Lincoln county where his birth occurred January 18, 1863. He was third oldest in a family of six, of whom Susan, the wife of D. M. Wood, of Santa Cruz, William, a large stock-farmer of the vicinity of Los Banos, and James survive. Emma, deceased, was the wife of G. R. Wood, of Santa Cruz.

Zachariah Jameson had the courage to free himself from a prosperous stock business in Lincoln county, Mo., establish a similar business on the west side of Merced county, Cal., and develop land which up to that time was in its primeval condition. For years he was one of the extensive sheep-raisers on the plains and mountains, and at one time owned over a thousand acres under alfalfa, raising a large number of cattle also. At present he resides at 50 South Third street, San Jose, but still owns six hundred acres of land under irrigation, as well as other valuable country and city property. Mr. Jameson was united in marriage with Hannah Bayliss, who died on the old place in Merced county.

James L. Jameson had better educational advantages than fall to the lot of the average country-reared boy. He attended the public schools, and finally entered the state normal, at San Jose, which he left at the end of a two years' course. He started out on his own responsibility at an early age, engaging in stock-raising and farming, and finally purchased the nucleus of his present land holdings. Formerly Mr. Jameson was identified with Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. O. F., of Los Banos. In national politics he is a Republican.

---

HENRY C. HIGBEE was born in Chittenden county, Vt., May 25, 1828, and comes of a family which for many years had been established in the eastern colonies. His paternal grandfather, Elisha Higbee, was born in Connecticut, served in the Revolutionary war, and died in Vermont, to which he had removed several years before. His paternal grandmother, Nancy Higbee, had a somewhat tempestuous youth, having been captured by the Indians when ten years of age, and held by them for a period of five years. Lewis Higbee, the father of Henry C., was born in Vermont, and had a firm character, which partook of the nature of the granite hills among which his youth was passed. Strong and resolute, and knowing no compromise as far as right and wrong were concerned, he was an ardent supporter of education, was a voluminous reader, and an able legislator when representing his dis-

trict in the state assembly. About 1855 he removed to Beaverdam, Wis., and there engaged in farming for the balance of his life. In his effort to live a wise and consistent life he was ably seconded by his wife, who was formerly Sarah Baker, of New York, and a relative of Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame. Mrs. Higbee was a woman of dignity of manner, aristocratic bearing, and unbounded influence in her home and immediate circle of friends. She was greatly beloved for her rare good nature, and for the wisdom and thoroughness with which she reared her eight sons and two daughters, of whom Henry C. is next to the youngest. A reflection of the mother's patience and the father's strength would seem to have been found in the youngest son of the family, who was state superintendent of public institutions of Pennsylvania for nine years, and who was a scholar of remarkable breadth and erudition. Elnathan Elisha Higbee, D.D., LL.D., was a man of ideal character, and according to a memorial of his life, a righteous man, the friend of humanity; as a youth foremost in athletics and sports, and as a man, a scholar, wise counsellor and orator. He was modest withal, and at his death was the most widely beloved man in the state of Pennsylvania.

As a boy Henry C. Higbee had a longing for the west, a desire which he was able to gratify in 1850, when he moved to Ohio, and the following year to Kentucky. In the spring of 1852 he started across the plains from Cincinnati, Ohio, which was then the center of great excitement over the favorable reports of gold which came from the coast. Coming by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers to Leavenworth, he proceeded by way of the Platte river, arriving at Volcano, Cal., August 15, 1852. For thirteen years he engaged in mining in different parts of the state, spending the last few years in Amador and Calaveras counties, in the latter county investing heavily in copper mines, and eventually losing practically all that he had in the world. With a company of men he started for Arizona in the spring of 1867, but turned back to Los Angeles, and went to the Kern county mines, in the fall of 1867 coming to Visalia, where he made arrangements to purchase four hundred acres of land and engage in the stock business. He now has two hundred and forty acres, twenty of which are under fruit, eighty acres under alfalfa, and the balance under pasture. His home is located three miles south of Visalia, on the Santa Fe Railroad, and has numerous advantages of soil, situation and productiveness. Interest has been shown in the comfortable, pleasant as well as prosperous side of ranching, and the prevailing atmosphere of the home is one of good cheer, hospitality and unbounded good will. Mr. Higbee has been twice married, his first wife having

been Martha A. Miles, of Minnesota, who died in California. The present Mrs. Higbee was Catherine Christie, of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany; by this marriage one daughter, Elna C., has been born. Politically Mr. Higbee is a Socialist.

**DANIEL W. WALLIS.** The ability to concentrate upon a given subject, to master its every detail, and correctly gauge its bearing upon the other industries of the world, has brought a two-fold distinction to Daniel W. Wallis, that of general superintendent of the enormous interests of Miller & Lux at Los Banos, and the reputation of being one of the best judges of horses in the state of California. Marked business ability, control of the resources and usefulness of others, and the power to focus and direct both men and interests, has further aided in his rise to prominence. At the outset of his business career Mr. Wallis had the advantages of good birth, a practical home training, and a good education. Born in Fayetteville, Ala., January 20, 1854, he is a graduate of the Fayetteville Academy and of the San Jose Institute and Business College.

The parents of Mr. Wallis were Daniel and Louisiana (Welch) Wallis, the former a native of South Carolina, and the latter of Alabama. There is martial blood on both sides of his family, his paternal grandfather, William Wallis, and his maternal grandfather, William Welch, both served in the war of 1812, the latter attaining the rank of lieutenant. William Welch served also in the Seminole war in Florida, enlisted from his adopted state of Alabama, of which he was a pioneer settler, and to which he removed from Tennessee. The paternal great-grandfather, John Wallis, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, enlisting from Virginia, where his entire life was spent. William Wallis changed the spelling of the name from Wallace to Wallis. He was born in Virginia, eventually owned a plantation in the old Dominion, and in time moved to South Carolina, but died in Texas. Daniel Wallis was a boy when his parents moved to Alabama, and for several years he was a merchant in Fayetteville and owned and operated a large plantation both of which he conducted until his death. When Fort Sumter was fired on he chanced to be on the ground, and was appointed a member of the commissary department, a position which he resigned shortly after returning to his home. He thereafter improved the opportunity of contracting for government rifles, axes, saddles, bridles and general equipment, and to this end started factories in different parts of the state, of which he made a distinct success. He died the year after the close of the war,

at the age of forty-six years, his wife having died in Alabama in 1857. There were five children in his family, four of whom are living, Daniel W. being the fourth child and only son.

Coming to California in 1871, Daniel W. Wallis completed his education and then engaged in the stock business in Monterey, San Luis Obispo and the surrounding counties, and for three years was located near San Miguel, raising sheep. The years 1876-77 proving disastrous to stockmen, he engaged in the cattle business with Dumphy & Hildreth, managing their extensive cattle interests with headquarters in San Francisco, and traveling throughout Idaho, Utah, and Nevada. Resigning in 1885, he engaged in the horse business in San Francisco, also conducting a large livery business, and at the same time interesting himself in mines in Madera county. The latter venture proving unsuccessful, he entered the employ of Miller & Lux as manager of the Santa Rita ranch, taking the place of Charles Warfield. Mr. Wallis' responsibility included the care of two hundred and fifty thousand acres of land. He resigned the position in 1890 to buy cattle and ship them from Arizona and Nevada, connecting himself with the firm of William Dumphy. At the same time he became manager of the firm's Monterey ranch of thirteen thousand acres, nine thousand of which were under the plow. His next position was with the Spreckels Sugar Company, as superintendent of the Tequiusquito ranch at Gilroy, his duties including the oversight of the ditching and the improvement of the buildings and ranch in general, also the sugar beet industry. Two years later, in 1900, he resigned to accept the superintendency of the Miller & Lux interests at Los Banos, which extend from Dos Palos to Newman, and cover about two hundred thousand acres. The greater part of this land is under the canal, and he has five hundred men in his division. The land is devoted principally to the general cattle business, as well as raising fine horses and mules.

In Nevada, at Battle Mountain, Mr. Wallis married Mattie A. Huntsman, a native of Nevada, and daughter of Dow and Nancy (Greer) Huntsman, natives respectively of Ohio and Missouri. Mr. Huntsman crossed the plains to California in 1847, soon after settling in Battle Mountain, Nev., where he engaged in mining and hotel business. He was a successful and thoroughly practical man, and previous to his death in December, 1903, while mining in the Lehigh valley, Utah, accumulated a competence in money and lands. In the early days, while on a journey to Washoe county, he chanced to meet John Mackey, who was out of provisions, and to whom he gave a sack of flour. Mr. Huntsman is survived by his wife, who still lives at Battle Mountain, and who, with four of her sisters, and her

parents, crossed the plains in 1850. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wallis occurred January 30, 1884. They have one daughter, Mary D. Wallis, a graduate of the Lowell high school, San Francisco, and a young woman of high literary gifts. Mrs. Wallis' reminiscences of the early days of Battle Mountain are interesting, and include accounts of many of the notable personages who contributed by their bravery and daring to the opening up of the west. She is a woman of extreme charm of manner, conversational ability of a high order, and great hospitality. Mr. Wallis is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the San Leseur Lodge F. & A. M. of Kings City, Monterey county; the Humboldt Chapter, R. A. M., of Winnemucca, Nev., and the Eureka Commandery No. 2, K. T. Politically Mr. Wallis is a Democrat, and is a member of the county central committee. Both himself and wife are members of Magnolia Chapter, O. E. S., of Gilroy. Mrs. Wallis is a member of the Episcopal Church.

---

EDWARD E. VINCENT. It is impossible to overestimate the power of the press. As the newspaper finds its way into almost every home, it not only furnishes accounts of social neighborhood happenings and county news, but also presents in brief the issues before state and nation and influences every citizen in formulating decisions concerning important problems before the people. The true journalist has for his ambition not the mere recording of events, but the moral, educational and commercial upbuilding of his community, and it is this ideal that has stimulated Mr. Vincent in his labors as editor and proprietor of the *Madera Mercury*. When he established the weekly edition in March of 1885, the paper was necessarily very limited in the scope of its influence, for the county was less thickly populated than at the present time. However, as settlers became more numerous the circulation of the paper increased. About 1893 a daily was established, but after an experiment of five years it was discontinued, not being profitable at the time. With the progress made in the next two or three years the editor felt justified in again publishing the daily, and accordingly in 1900 it resumed its appearance in the homes of the people of Madera, appearing in the form of a six-column folio, while the weekly is a seven-column folio. September 28, 1903, the plant was destroyed by fire, but a new office and printing room was at once erected, and is now fitted up with a power press and a full equipment for job work.

Mr. Vincent was born in San Francisco November 1, 1853, and was an only son, having one sister, Mrs. Mary Daugueuger, now of Portland, Ore. His parents, Edward Joseph and Mary

Josephine (Petri) Vincent, were natives of France, and came to California via the Horn in 1851. The father, who had previously been employed as a machinist in a surgical manufacturing establishment in France, took up the occupation of a miner on the American river and for almost twelve years followed the adventurous experiences of a prospector and miner in a frontier region. After his return to San Francisco he engaged in business until his retirement, and died in that city in 1881. His wife survived him nineteen years and died in Oakland when eighty-one years of age.

His initiation into the printing business Edward E. Vincent gained at the early age of eleven years and his first work was that of wrapping papers in the office of the *Nevada City Transcript*. During much of the time for sixteen years he was employed on the *San Jose Mercury*, where he filled different positions and gained a comprehensive knowledge of type-setting and printing. From that city he came to Madera in 1885 and established the paper with which his name is now inseparably connected. Staunchly Republican in his political views, his paper is the leading organ of that party in Madera county, and, in addition to the work done for the party through the columns of the paper, he has rendered efficient service as chairman of the county central committee. On the organization of Parlor No. 180 N. S. G. W., at Madera, he became one of its charter members and was elected its first president. Another order with which he has been actively connected is the Woodmen of the World. His marriage, which was solemnized in San Jose, united him with Miss Maggie James, who was born in Missouri, and came to California with her father, William James; her mother was a Miss Brown, a sister of Mrs. Knox Goodrich, of San Jose. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent there are three children now living, Joseph E., James Albert and Kittie.

---

ARTHUR M. McINTOSH, M.D. A man of scholarly attainments, and a close student of the best medical authorities of the day, Arthur M. McIntosh, M.D., is well fitted for his chosen work, being familiar with modern medical and surgical science as applied to the treatment of the human body and its organs. Though young in years and experience, he has made a most favorable beginning in his professional career, and gives promise of becoming ere long one of the best-known and most successful physicians of Kern county, as well as of Bakersfield, his present place of residence. He was born in Elko, Nev., a son of John McIntosh.

John McIntosh was born and bred in Canada, where he spent the first eighteen years of his







*L. M. Blowers*



life. Immigrating then to the United States, he located first in Elko, Nev., where he found employment as clerk in a general store. He was afterward in business for himself in Carlin, Nev., for twelve years, and then for a few years in Elko. Moving from the latter city to Lovelocks, Nev., he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and as a dealer in dry-goods and gentlemen's furnishing goods is now carrying on a thriving trade. He married Mary H. Munson, who was born in Stockton, Cal.

Spending twelve years of his boyhood days in Carlin, Nev., Arthur M. McIntosh attended the public schools of that city, and after the family returned to Elko entered the Elko high school, from which he was graduated at the age of sixteen years. Taking then the teacher's examination, he received a first grade certificate, and afterward taught school one term. Entering the University of Nevada, he completed the freshman year, in the meantime reading medicine. He subsequently continued his studies for a year at the University of California. In 1896 Dr. McIntosh entered the freshman class of the medical department of the University of California, and four years later, 1900, was graduated therefrom with the degree of M.D. The following twelve months Dr. McIntosh was acting assistant surgeon at the U. S. Marine Hospital at San Francisco, and was afterward resident physician at Waldeck's Sanitarium for a year. Coming then to Vacaville, Cal., he was associated in private practice there for one year with Dr. J. W. Stitt. Locating in Bakersfield in October, 1903, the doctor bought the office furniture, practice and good-will of Dr. Snook, and, as his successor, is winning a fair share of the city and suburban patronage, among his patients being some of the leading people of the community. He is a member of the Kern County Medical Association, of the State Medical Association and of the American Medical Association.

**CASSIUS M. BLOWERS.** This pioneer rancher of Grangeville precinct, Kings county, claims more than passing notice, as few, if any, have struggled with more disparaging circumstances, and still brought success out of what to the average man would have seemed an impossibility. His introduction to Kings county in 1874 disclosed a sandy desert, practically worthless, but with the establishment of the irrigating ditch, of which he was an earnest advocate, a new order of things was made possible to the pioneer. His ranch is located three miles northwest of Hanford and is valued at \$250 per acre.

John O. Blowers, the grandfather of Cassius M., was a native of England and immigrated to the United States at a very early day, settling

in Crawford county, Ohio, where he took up land from the government. He made his home there the balance of his life, and passed away at the age of eighty-four years. He was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church and filled the pulpit of that denomination in Bucyrus, Ohio, being the pioneer preacher as well as pioneer farmer of the locality. His son, Lemuel Lane Blowers, was born on the Crawford county farm, making it his home until coming overland to California in 1850. The mines were attracting the newcomers at that time, and he among many others became interested in the mines on the American river. Four years later he took up land in Yolo county, but his death the following year, 1855, when only thirty-eight years old, prevented the consummation of his well-laid plans. His marriage united him with Caroline Foster, also a native of Ohio, and at her death in 1849 she left five children, of whom Cassius M. was the fourth.

Born December 20, 1845, Cassius M. Blowers was only four years old when deprived of the love and care of his mother. When ten years of age he was brought to California by his uncle, R. B. Blowers, who became a pioneer fruit grower of this state, and made the first raisins produced in California. On his uncle's ranch, near Woodland, Cassius M. Blowers spent his boyhood days. When fifteen-years old he began life in new surroundings, and for the following eight years was engaged in teaming to Nevada and the mountain districts. His next venture was farming in Yolo county, but in 1874 he transferred his interests to Kings county, which has ever since been his home. He purchased the right to a railroad claim, paying therefor \$600. As previously intimated, he found the land in a condition unfit for cultivation, being a sandy waste, and he at once put his shoulder to the wheel and assisted in the introduction of the Lower Kings river, Last Chance and People's ditches, which have been such a boon to Kings county. In 1877 the ditches were completed, and Mr. Blowers planted his farm to wheat, the following year setting out a few vines. This latter venture proved successful, and to Mr. Blowers is given the credit for shipping in box form, in 1883, the first raisins that were packed in what was then Tulare county, but which is now a part of Kings county. To him also is due the credit for having originated the system of having fruit cut by "piece work," paying cutters according to the amount of fruit handled. This system, which was inaugurated by Mr. Blowers in 1886, has since been generally adopted by the fruit growers of California. Mr. Blowers has added to his holdings as opportunity permitted, and now has two hundred and forty acres in the home ranch, forty-eight acres being devoted to

vines, seventy acres planted to peaches, apricots and similar fruits, while the balance is in alfalfa and grain. He also owns two hundred and fifty acres in Fresno county, which is devoted to the raising of stock and alfalfa, besides eighty acres in the vicinity of Lemoore, which is planted to fruit, vines and alfalfa.

January 19, 1875, Mr. Blowers was united in marriage with Susie V. McLaughlin, a native of Ohio, and they have eight children, all of whom were born in Kings county on the home ranch. Hulbert Lane conducts a ranch of thirty acres in Kings county; Russell M. is a rancher and fruit raiser, owning thirty acres given him by his father; Olive G. is the wife of George Blowers, who conducts a machine shop in San Francisco; Francis carries on a ranch of fifty acres in Fresno county which was given him by his father; Bessie is the wife of Fred Arther, a rancher of Fresno county; and the three youngest children, Mary, Ralph and Viola Susan, are still at home with their parents. Politically Mr. Blowers is a Republican, and has always taken a keen interest in school affairs, having been a trustee for seventeen years. For about twenty years he has been president of the Last Chance Ditch Corporation, and has also taken an active part in the affairs of the Raisin Growers' Association.

---

AUGUSTUS MARION FIELD, M. D. To the student of history genealogy forms a most fascinating pursuit. Few vocations are more alluring than to trace the lineage of present generations back through the centuries of the past, and it is to be regretted that the lack of printing facilities in previous ages renders difficult a work that presents so many features of interest. While on his father's side Dr. Field finds the family records incomplete and little can be learned of his ancestry save that they were early and substantial residents of New England, fortunately the record of his maternal ancestry is more accurate and complete. His mother, who bore the maiden name of Sophia Amy Hays, was born in New York state, as was also her father, Corkins Hays, a soldier in the war of 1812, and for years a prominent farmer of Athens county, Ohio, where he died at ninety-six years of age. The wife of Corkins Hays was in maidenhood Amy Dake, and her father, Bartlett, was a son of Bartlett Dake, Sr., whose mother was a sister of George III of England and a daughter of George II. The lineage of Dr. Field can thus be traced back through five generations to one of the famous Georges of England.

Near Independence, Buchanan county, Iowa, Dr. Field was born October 19, 1860, being second among four children who attained mature

years. His father, Orrin, was born near Athens, Ohio, where the grandfather, Elisha Field, conducted a blacksmith's shop and a farm. At an early age Orrin Field learned the carpenter's trade and after settling in Iowa he engaged in the building business in addition to improving a tract of farm land. From Iowa he went to Nebraska and settled near Tecumseh and in 1881 came to California, where he followed the carpenter's trade, as well as the occupation of an apiarist. His death occurred near Lemoore, Kings county, at about seventy years of age. During the Civil war he served as a member of an Iowa regiment and always afterward maintained a deep interest in the Grand Army of the Republic. At this writing his widow makes her home near Tulare.

When Augustus M. Field was a boy of nine years he went to Ohio and a year later began to earn his own way in the world, earning a livelihood among relatives of the family in Athens county, where during his youth he learned the builder's trade. In 1883 he went to Kansas and secured employment at his trade first in McPherson and then in Saline counties. When the day's work was ended the evening hours found him with books in hand, diligently endeavoring to acquire the education which had been denied him by stress of poverty. Coming to California in November, 1888, he bought a tract of land near Lemoore, and laid out the property in trees and vineyard, also devoted a part of the farm to general products. While improving the land he worked at the builder's trade as opportunity offered and meanwhile also took up the study of medicine under Dr. W. C. Yates of Lemoore. Later he took the regular course in the California Medical College of San Francisco, from which he was graduated in 1896. After some professional experience gained in San Francisco, he came to Tulare in March, 1897, and has engaged since in a general practice in this city. With a desire to broaden his professional knowledge, especially along the line of his specialties (diseases of women and children), he entered the medical department of the University of Southern California at Los Angeles in 1902, and the following year received his degree from that institution, making him a graduate from the two leading schools of medicine. With high professional aims, he is not content to relinquish his studies, but aspires to keep abreast with every discovery in the science of materia medica. By connection with the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society, by the reading of current medical literature, by a thoughtful study of the varied forms of disease and the different treatments thereof, and, indeed, by every means possible to an ambitious professional man, he has endeavored to attain a skill second to none in his community;

and hopes to remain a close student of therapeutics as long as life is spared. Aside from certain interests in stock raising, he gives his whole attention to his profession. While living at Le-moore he married Miss Elmyra Stiles, a native of San Joaquin county, this state, and, like himself, a member of the Baptist Church. The Improved Order of Red Men and Fraternal Aid number him among their members, and he is further connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Tulare, having been initiated into that body during his residence in Kansas, where he was an active lodge worker and served as noble grand.

---

THOMAS B. MATTHEWS. Always a believer in the adage that "a rolling stone gathers no moss," Thomas B. Matthews is an illustration of its truth, for he presents an example of what steady and continuous effort in one channel of endeavor will accomplish, having devoted himself solely to farm pursuits and stock raising. He gave this business his best thought and energy, and as a reward for this singleness of purpose, capable management and business sagacity, he has acquired about one thousand acres of land in Fresno county, Cal., mostly in the vicinity of Selma, and has won an enviable reputation as a successful farmer and stock dealer.

Being next to the youngest in a family of seven children and the only son, Mr. Matthews was born June 19, 1858, in Salem, Mo. His father, Ransom B. Matthews, a Kentuckian, took up his residence in Missouri when he was a very small child, and this continued to be his home until his death in early manhood. He was united in marriage with Miss Buchertt Anderson, who was born in Crawford county, Mo. She proved to be a worthy helpmeet, and to her lot fell the rearing and educating of their family, which duties she performed in an exceptional manner. Her last days were spent at the home of her son, in Fresno county, Cal.

The common school education of Mr. Matthews was supplemented by a more thorough course in the Salem Academy, and after leaving school he took up the occupation laid down by his father, and to this business the whole of the intervening years have been devoted. January 10, 1879, he arrived at Kingsburg, Cal., and very soon afterward engaged in farm pursuits there, renting land for two years from the railroad company. In 1881 he purchased an eighty acre tract one mile northeast of Selma, which is now his place of residence. Here he carries on farming in connection with stock raising, and has made a decided success of both lines of business. He handles from six hundred to

one thousand head of stock per year, and buys and sells cattle at all times. Having added to his possessions from time to time, he now owns one thousand acres of land near Selma, also a tract at Trimmer Springs, near Kings river. Mr. Matthews has one hundred acres in vines devoted to the raisin grape, and two hundred acres in alfalfa.

By his marriage, in July, 1888, he was united with Annie Allari, who was born in San Francisco, Cal. Two children were born of this union, one died in infancy, and the other, a son, Ransom, was born September 4, 1895. Mr. Matthews has devoted himself exclusively to business and abstained entirely from any participation in public life, yet he has been a supporter in a financial way of public movements tending toward the betterment of his community. As vice president of the Farmers' Bank, and a stockholder of the First National Bank, he holds an indisputable place of prominence among the worthy citizens of Selma. He is also a director of the Fresno Meat Company, and is largely interested in the development of the lumber industry in Kings county. He is a Democrat in politics. Fraternally he affiliates with the Knights of Pythias.

---

JOHN D. MARTIN. A well-known resident of Tulare county, John D. Martin is actively identified with the advancement of its agricultural prosperity, being the owner of two ranches lying near Visalia. In the improvement of his land he takes pride, and has been quite successful. He belongs to the younger generation of business men, his birth having occurred August 14, 1873, in Saginaw county, Mich., where his father, George H. Martin, was born and reared, and where his grandfather, Philip Martin, was a pioneer settler.

Receiving excellent educational advantages, George H. Martin was graduated from college with the degree of M. D., and entered the medical profession. Removing to Texas in 1881 or 1882, he became a large land owner, and for several years was actively engaged in the practice of medicine, and also served as county clerk for one or more terms. He subsequently practiced law in Arkansas, in the Red River district, and served in the state legislature, but later returned to Texas, and there spent his remaining years, dying in Waco. Dr. Martin married Julia Brownning, a native of Texas, and of the children born of this union two sons and two daughters are living. The elder son, Powell Martin, is a rancher in Texas, and John D., the youngest child, is the subject of this sketch and the only member of the family on the Pacific coast. The mother died in Texas.

Brought up in the south, John D. Martin received his education in the public schools of Arkansas, being afterwards graduated from the high school of Waco, Texas. During the days of his boyhood and youth he assisted his father in raising cattle and cotton on the home plantation, there becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits. At the age of fourteen years he began working for the Southern Pacific Railroad, in the bridge department. In 1888 Mr. Martin went to New Mexico, where for a time he was engaged in building flumes for the P. and I. Irrigation Company. Entering then the employ of the Santa Fe Railway Company, he assisted in building bridges in Arizona, between Ash Fork and Prescott. Coming to California in May, 1892, Mr. Martin located first near Bakersfield, but within a month settled near Visalia as a ranchman, working at first for wages. He subsequently engaged in the wholesale wood business in Tulare county, delivering wood in Fresno and Bakersfield. In 1897 he embarked in the wholesale and retail liquor business in Visalia, where he has two stores. He is also actively associated with the agricultural interests of the county, having a farm of four hundred and eighty acres, lying four and one-half miles northeast of the city. This ranch is irrigated by the Mathews ditch, in which he owns a one-eighth interest, and here he raises cattle, horses and hogs, and has two hundred and fifty acres planted to alfalfa. His other ranch, containing three hundred acres, lies six miles south of Visalia, and is devoted to general farming.

In Fresno, Cal., Mr. Martin married Effie Roadcap, a native of Texas, and they have one child, John. Mr. Martin is a true-blue Republican in politics, never swerving from party allegiance.

---

ALFRED H. BYARS, M.D. Through his recognized skill in the medical profession Dr. Byars of Madera has added luster to an honored name. His father, Gen. William Henry Byars, a pioneer of the Pacific coast, has been so long and intimately associated with the progress of Oregon that, were his life record given in detail, it would be found in many respects to be a history of his state. Born in Iowa, he was early orphaned by his father's death. In 1852 he left the surroundings of his youth to seek a home in the then unknown west. In company with his stepfather, Mr. Meyers, he crossed the plains with ox-teams and after a tedious journey arrived in Oregon. The land upon which the family settled and where they proceeded to develop a farm was situated near Oakland, Douglas county, on the Calapooia river. There he grew from youth into manhood. When Indians be-

came hostile and threatened the lives of the pioneers, he shouldered his rifle and accompanied the volunteers who marched out against them. During the Civil war he was a member of the First Oregon Infantry. In the early days, before railroads had been built, he was employed as a mail carrier between Yreka and Eugene, making the trips on his pony. From that work he drifted into the newspaper business and became editor of the *Roseburg Plain Dealer* in Douglas county. Removing from that county to Salem, he was elected state printer and also acquired by purchase the *Oregon Statesman*, of which he was the editor. For one term he served as surveyor-general of Oregon. The various positions which he held were filled with such recognized ability and resourcefulness that he was still further honored in being selected as commander of the Soldiers' Home at Roseburg. After his retirement from that office he returned to Salem, where he now makes his home. While filling all of these important positions, at no time did he sever his connection with or his interest in the work of government surveying and contracting, in which he has built up a reputation for accuracy and painstaking care. In the work of the Grand Army of the Republic he has always taken a warm interest and has been one of the leaders of the organization in his state.

By his marriage to Anna Augusta, daughter of William Slocum, General Byars became associated with an old Kentucky family. In 1852 Mr. Slocum brought his family across the plains from Kentucky, making the trip with ox-teams and settling on a ranch near Myrtle Point, Coos county, Ore. Later he removed to Douglas county and died at Roseburg. During the Indian wars his son, Clay Slocum, bore an active part in quelling the hostility of the red men. General and Mrs. Byars became the parents of three sons and three daughters, of whom two sons and two daughters are now living. Of the sons Alfred H. resides in California and William F. is editor of the *Goldendale Sentinel* in Goldendale, Wash. In point of birth Alfred H. was third among the children. He was born at Wilbur, Douglas county, Ore., November 8, 1872, and passed his early childhood years in Roseburg, same county, but at the age of eight was taken to Salem, the family having removed to that city. Primarily educated in the grammar schools, he was later a student in the Willamette University and afterward was graduated from Armstrong's Business College in Portland.

On the completion of his classical studies, Dr. Byars began the study of the profession to which his active life is being devoted. Under Dr. Davidson of Fresno, Cal., he gained a preliminary knowledge of the science of *materia medica* in 1894. For a year he was a student in the medi-





*Paul Galtès*



cal department of the University of Oregon at Portland and for a similar period acted as interne nurse in the Fresno county hospital. From there he went to St. Louis, Mo., and took his second year's course of lectures in Barnes Medical College. During the summer vacation he was again engaged in the Fresno county hospital, returning in the fall to resume his studies at Barnes Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1898 with the degree of M. D. On his return to Fresno he was appointed superintendent of the hospital with which he had been connected previously, and continued in charge of the institution until 1899, when he came to Madera. Since opening an office in this city he has devoted his attention to his private practice and to his duties as district surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad. His home is presided over by Mrs. Byars, who was Annie E. Limbaugh, a native of Fresno county and of pioneer parentage.

Both in local and general elections Dr. Byars supports the Republican ticket. Since locating in Madera he has become identified with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, of Fresno, and was made a Mason in Madera Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M., of which he served as worshipful master. He is further identified with Yerba Buena Lodge of Perfection No. 1, of San Francisco, Woodmen of the World and Foresters. With high ideals before him for both medicine and surgery, he keeps in touch with every development made in both, and, by the reading of professional journals and by association with the keenest intellects in the professional circles of the state, his own fund of theoretical knowledge is constantly expanding, while at the same time, by means of practical experience in the conduct of intricate cases, he is constantly adding to his professional information and gaining to an increasing extent the confidence of the people of his community. He is a member of Fresno County Medical Society, San Joaquin Valley Medical Society, the Pacific Society of Railway Surgeons and the California State Medical Society.

---

PAUL GALTES. Few residents of Bakersfield have been identified with the history of the town for a longer period than has Mr. Galtes. When he came here in 1871 there was no railroad. Travelers journeyed to and from in the old-fashioned stage coach. The desert village, with its dozen or more little shanties, presented an appearance far from attractive, yet with far-seeing discernment he believed that success awaited the efforts of those who had the fortitude and patience to endure hardships and surmount obstacles. The experiences that have since come to him prove his judgment to have

been sagacious. In establishing himself in business in the town he was greatly aided by his thorough knowledge of the Spanish language, which enabled him to converse with the many Mexicans then resident in this locality.

A native of Spain, Mr. Galtes was born in the province of Catalonia, October 25, 1840, and there in boyhood he became familiar with the manufacture of irons for building purposes. At the expiration of four years' apprenticeship at this trade, when nineteen years of age, he began to work as a journeyman, and in that capacity traveled through many parts of Europe. In 1861 he crossed the ocean to Santiago de Cuba. On the day of his arrival he secured employment as clerk in a large dry goods store and continued for eight years with the same house. When the people in 1868 began to raise a war cry for independence he determined to leave, for he did not wish to take up arms against his native country. For this reason he left Cuba and sailed for Panama, thence proceeding by ship to San Francisco, where he landed December 23, 1868. The appearance of the country pleased him, but he found himself at great disadvantage on account of his lack of familiarity with the English language. On the advice of Archbishop Alamany of San Francisco, who had come from the same Spanish province as himself, he determined to devote some time to study, and accordingly entered St. Vincent's College in Los Angeles, where he devoted four months to language study. At the expiration of that time he secured employment in a bakery in Los Angeles. During the erection of the then leading hotel of the city he aided in the work and on its completion he was appointed steward, having charge of all the supplies. He went to work without asking what his salary was to be. After three months he was paid at the rate of \$75 per month. During the fourteen months he continued in the position he carefully hoarded his earnings and when he left there for Bakersfield he had a small sum as a nucleus of his business enterprises.

Immediately after his arrival, in 1871, Mr. Galtes bought one of the shanties that were then utilized for business purposes. By the payment of a small sum he was enabled to secure the privilege of paying the balance in installments. With \$600 worth of goods he began in business. Such was his success that by good management and having established a good credit in 1874 he had accumulated \$27,000 in general merchandise. In 1878 he erected, at a cost of \$18,000, the first brick block in Bakersfield, and there he conducted general mercantile pursuits until 1888, when he sold out and retired from business. Since then he has given his attention to the management of his numerous property interests and

to the cultivation of his raisin vineyard of fifty-five acres. In all of his work he has received the co-operation of his wife, whom he married in 1874 and who was Mariana Laxague, a native of France near the Spanish border. Seven children were born of their union, but only four attained mature years. The eldest of these, Paul F., is studying in Santa Clara College, with a view to entering the Jesuit priesthood. The younger son, Felix J., a graduate of Santa Clara College, is now a clerk in the Bank of Bakersfield. The daughters, Amelia and Lucy, are students in the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Oakland, Cal. On the incorporation of the city of Bakersfield Mr. Galties was elected a trustee, receiving a larger number of votes than any other candidate on the ticket, and during his incumbency of the office he rendered valuable assistance in promoting movements for the benefit of the town. Though loyal to the land of his adoption, he had never displayed a partisan spirit nor has he taken an active part in political affairs, his preference having been to devote himself wholly to his business enterprises. His greatest desire is to see the young men of the country build and own their own homes, realizing the importance and influence it will have upon the coming generations.

---

JOHN M. HENSLEY. Although not a native of California, the earliest recollections of Mr. Hensley are associated with scenes in this then frontier region. When he was a child of three years his father, J. J. Hensley, who prior to that year (1853) had been a farmer in Missouri, brought his wife and six children across the plains in wagons drawn by eight cows. The family followed the northern route via Salt Lake City and the Humboldt river to Calaveras county, where they established their home. After having devoted some years to mining without favorable results, in 1859 Mr. Hensley moved to Tulare county and embarked in the cattle business. During the fall of 1861 he settled on the Fresno river in what was then Fresno (now Madera) county, where he purchased a tract of raw land and gave his attention to the stock industry. On the Democratic ticket he was elected supervisor of Fresno county and filled the office for one term. His death occurred on Christmas day of 1902. In early manhood he had married Margaret Murray, who was born and reared in Missouri and died in Madera county, October 11, 1898. Her father, Hon. Thomas Murray, was active in the public affairs of Missouri and at one time served as a member of the legislature of that state. When the Hensley family crossed the plains in 1853 he accompanied them and settled at Petaluma, near which town he engaged in farm pursuits. His

death occurred at Santa Rosa when he was advanced in years.

In the family of J. J. Hensley there were nine children, of whom one daughter died at five years of age. The others are as follows: Thomas J., a stockman in Madera county; Samuel P., who resides near Raymond, same county; A. H., who resides at the old home; J. M., of Madera; W. C., who remains at the old home farm; P. J., who lives in Fresno county; G. W., a resident of the city of Fresno; and Martha A., who is married and lives in Madera county. John M. Hensley was born in Cass county, Mo., November 10, 1850, and at three years of age was brought to California, passing his early childhood years in Calaveras county. In 1859 he accompanied the family to Tulare county and from there in 1861 moved with them to the Fresno river, six miles from Raymond. When eight years of age he began to help his father on the farm and from that time forward spent much of his time in the saddle.

Starting out to earn his own livelihood at sixteen years of age, Mr. Hensley secured employment with Jonathan Rae, a sheep-raiser. About 1870 he made his first independent venture by starting out in the sheep business for himself. On six hundred and forty acres situated at Woodville, Tulare county, he established a sheep ranch, which he conducted until the memorable dry year of 1877. The drought caused a loss of eight thousand head out of nine thousand and five hundred and so injured him financially that he sold out the balance of the flock. Returning to his old home, he secured several contracts from Fresno county for keeping up the old Buchanan road and for five years served as constable of Madera township. Meanwhile he bore an active part in Democratic politics and his services were recognized by his party in 1888, at which time he was nominated by them for the office of county sheriff. In the election he won by a majority of about five hundred and in January, 1889, took the oath of office, at the same time removing to Fresno to assume the management of the work.

At the expiration of his term of two years he was honored by re-election to the office with a larger majority than before, and continued in the position until January, 1893. In those days the sheriff's office brought unusual responsibilities and even perils, for the Daltons were here and the Sontag and Evans gang were committing constant depredations. With no small satisfaction Mr. Hensley succeeded in arresting Grant Dalton in Fresno, but he escaped after having been put in the Tulare county jail. The officers of the law pursued him into the mountains, where, in an exchange of shot between them and the desperado, Mr. Hensley's deputy almost lost his life. The Daltons were chased out of this county and went

to Oklahoma, where they and others of their type were the terrors of that territory until finally they were killed at Coffeyville, Kan.

On the expiration of his second term as sheriff Mr. Hensley returned his attention to the sheep business. The prosecution of this industry took him into Wyoming, Montana and other parts of the west, where he bought and sold in large numbers. After carrying on the business for three and a half years he returned to Madera, in November, 1902, and resumed his residence in this city, which he has considered his home since 1885. The position which he now holds, that of under sheriff, he received by appointment in January, 1903. In religion he is an active member of the Presbyterian Church and one of its trustees. The lady who became his wife in Woodville, Cal., and who has since been his efficient collaborer and counselor, was Harriett R. Monroe, a native of Missouri. Born of their union are five children, namely: Etta, Mrs. A. L. Sayer, of Fresno; Walter J., of Madera; Irving, who is in northern California; and Arthur and Rea, who are with their parents in Madera.

**JAMES J. SWEENEY.** A representative citizen of Los Banos, James J. Sweeney is owner of a ranch of eighty-six acres adjoining the city, upon which he conducts a dairy, having from sixty to eighty cows, mostly Jersey, Durham and Shorthorn stock. His dairy is equipped with a separator, and upon the land he has erected ample accommodations for his stock. He ships cream to San Francisco and operates a milk wagon in Los Banos to supply his patrons daily. His entire life has been passed in the state in which he now conducts business. He was born in San Francisco May 12, 1861, and since has owed allegiance to the institutions and opportunities of the coast. His parents, Daniel and Catherine (Lombard) Sweeney, were born in county Roscommon, Ireland. His father was a tailor by trade, and in early manhood immigrated to Sydney, Australia, where he plied his trade until 1849. Setting sail for San Francisco, he arrived in California during the fall of that year, but instead of going to the mines he engaged in a draying business in the embryo metropolis. A shrewd and sagacious manager, he accumulated quite a fortune in valuable town property, but like many other men, became the victim of adverse circumstances, and lost practically all that he had attained. His death occurred at the age of fifty-eight years, his wife having died several years before, aged forty-eight. Three of the four children in the family attained maturity, and of these, Patrick is a barber in Dos Palos, and Garrat C. is a contracting plumber, steam and gas fitter in San Francisco.

J. J. Sweeney is a graduate of St. Mary's College, San Francisco, and for a time was bookkeeper and apprentice to his brother, G. C., learning the gas fitter's trade. In 1884 he located in Hills Ferry and learned the barber trade under his brother Patrick, and when the town of Newman was started he established its first barber shop. For three years he was thus employed, and in 1890 came to Los Banos and started the first barber shop in this town. Nine years later, in 1899, he disposed of his shop in order to devote all of his time to ranching, having begun to raise sheep in the foothills in 1894. Later he bought four hundred and eighty acres of land thirteen miles southwest of Los Banos, known as the Aqua Fria ranch, which he still owns. A few years ago he disposed of his sheep to engage solely in dairying, and his present gratifying success would seem to warrant the wisdom of his decision at that time. His knowledge of sheep-raising is extensive and thorough, and this ability found recognition in 1903 when he was appointed by the board of supervisors as inspector of sheep for Merced county. He is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. O. F., of Los Banos, of which he is past grand; he is also past district deputy grand. Mrs. Sweeney is a member and past grand of the Rebekahs.

The married life of Mr. Sweeney has been a particularly happy one. Mrs. Sweeney was formerly Clara Hoffman, and was born in Alamo, Cal., a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Kornman) Hoffman, natives of Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, respectively. Henry Hoffman came around the Horn from New York in 1852, and started a restaurant business in San Francisco. Eventually he drifted into the mercantile and hotel business in Alamo. In 1870 he came to Dutch Corners, and built the first hotel in what is now Newman. Here he also conducted a butcher business, later removing to Stockton, where he engaged in the sheep business on a part of the Aqua Fria ranch, having as many as twenty-five thousand head of sheep. Mr. Hoffman built the first hotel in old Los Banos, then known as Dogtown, ran a hotel and butcher business for several years, then returned to sheep raising on his ranch. He next ran a hotel on the old San Luis ranch for ten years, but finally returned to Los Banos, where his death occurred in February, 1892, at the age of fifty-six years. He was a Democrat in politics, and in religion a Lutheran. There were three daughters and one son in his family: Caroline, now Mrs. Gysin; E. H., a plumber by occupation; Clara, now Mrs. Sweeney; and Anna, the wife of Bernard Orogren, of this vicinity. Mrs. Sweeney is an artist of more than local reputation, is also expert with the needle, embroidering with exquisite neatness

and coloring, and for many years has been at work upon a silk quilt of varied design, which, when completed, will be a wonder of workmanship and design. The practical things are happily allied with the artistic in the nature of Mrs. Sweeney, for she understands stock-raising and farming, and is her husband's ablest assistant and most earnest sympathizer.

---

THOMAS J. AKERS. A skillful agriculturist and fruit grower, Thomas J. Akers is carrying on a substantial business in his particular line of industry, his finely cultivated ranch lying four and one-half miles northwest of Visalia. He has been very successful in his methods of farming, and as a grain and peach raiser has gained an enviable reputation throughout this section of the county. From a twelve-acre orchard, in the season of 1904, he hauled one hundred eighteen thousand eight hundred pounds of peaches to the cannery, and these were conceded to be the finest delivered to any of the canneries belonging to the California Fruit Canners association, some of the fruit being by actual measurement four inches in diameter. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Wayne county, twenty-two miles south of Honesdale, August 12, 1844. His father, John M. Akers, settled in Wayne county when a young man, removing there from Monroe county, where he was born and brought up. In earlier life he followed the trade of a blacksmith, but was afterward engaged in farming until his death, at an advanced age. He married Mary Jane Nevins, who spent her entire life in Wayne county. Fifteen children were born of their union, twelve of whom grew to years of maturity, and of these eight are now living, three sons and one daughter being residents of California, namely: Mrs. Mary Ann Heberling, of Visalia; R. J., living with his brother, T. J.; Joseph, a blacksmith in Dinuba; and T. J., the special subject of this sketch.

Brought up on a farm, and educated in the district schools, T. J. Akers remained in his native county until after becoming of age. Starting for the Pacific coast in 1866, he sailed from New York City to Aspinwall on the Ocean Queen and from Panama to San Francisco on the Golden Age. At San Jose he formed a partnership with Billy Fitch, and established the first 'bus line between that city and Santa Clara, giving his patrons a thirty-minute service, in order to do which he kept thirty-two horses. At the end of eight years, in 1874, he sold out to a Mr. Millard, giving up the stage business on account of the rheumatism, which he had contracted by night work and the heavy fogs. For two years afterward Mr. Akers was unable to do any work. In 1878 he came to Visalia, at the time being un-

able to put on his coat without help, and hired out to a friend, Mr. Burrell, to ride the lines on horseback and keep up the fences. His health immediately began to improve, and within three months he had recovered the use of his left arm, and began driving a six-horse team on the plow. Mr. Akers continued thus employed for eighteen months, and subsequently worked for other stockmen for eleven months.

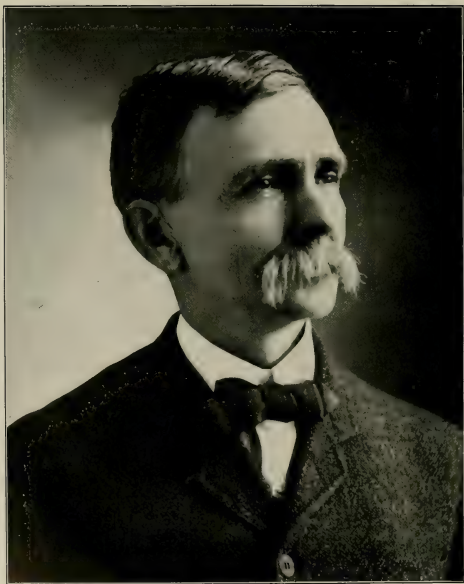
Wishing to establish a home of his own, Mr. Akers, in 1881, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, now included in his present home farm, lying four and one-half miles northwest of Visalia. Beginning at the very bottom, he broke it out, cleared the land, and sowed it to grain, being then the farthest removed from Visalia of any grain-raiser. Plowing deep for his first crop, he harvested twenty-two sacks to the acre, a most satisfactory yield. Meeting with encouraging success, he subsequently bought forty acres of adjoining land, having now two hundred acres in his home ranch, which is sub-irrigated from the St. John's river. He is also a stockholder in the Modoc Ditch Company. He raises grain, alfalfa, cattle and hogs, his farm being one of the most productive in the vicinity, and his estate, on which he erected a fine residence in 1899, being one of the most attractive and pleasant.

In San Jose, Mr. Akers married Mary G. Allen, a native of San Francisco, and they have two children living, namely: Mrs. Clara Housman of Visalia; and Mabel, at home. Mr. Akers takes a keen interest in public affairs, and for three terms of four years each has served as school trustee in the Willow district. In his political beliefs he is a Democrat. While living in Pennsylvania he joined the Odd Fellows, and is now a member of San Jose Lodge, I. O. O. F.

---

DEMETRIUS J. PRATHER, M. D. Although a comparatively new resident of Bakersfield, Demetrius J. Prather, M. D., has already acquired a fair share of the medical patronage of this locality, and is numbered among the most skillful and successful physicians and surgeons of Kern county. Talented, cultured and broadened by travel and experience, he inspires a feeling of confidence in those with whom he is brought in contact, whether professionally or socially. A son of Thomas F. Prather, he was born September 11, 1849, near Columbus, Ga. He comes from honored southern stock, being, according to tradition, the descendant of one of three brothers named Prather, who emigrated from England to the United States in colonial times, and settled in Maryland. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Prather, a life-long resident of





Mr Wood



Georgia, was a planter of prominence, and an influential citizen.

A native of Wilkes county, Ga., Thomas F. Prather was the owner of a large plantation, and kept many slaves. During the Civil war he was captain of a company of militia in the Confederate army, and served throughout the entire conflict, being neither wounded nor taken prisoner, and at the close of the war surrendered. Prior to the breaking out of the war, he had sold his plantation, expecting to come west, and had taken his pay in Confederate money, which was worthless when the war was over. Beginning life anew in 1865, he rented a farm in Georgia, where for a number of years he raised cotton. Moving then to Union Springs, Ala., he there spent his remaining days, dying at the early age of fifty years, in 1873. He married Harriet Brown, also a native of Wilkes county, Ga. She was left an orphan when a little girl, and was brought up and educated by Gen. Robert Toombs, her first cousin. She died when about fifty years old. She bore her husband five children, namely: Gabriella T., wife of William Rankin, of Florida; Julius T., an invalid, residing in Fresno county, this state, was an officer in the Georgia State Reserve Militia during the war of the Rebellion; Anderson T., who died in 1883, aged thirty-five years, served with his brother Julius in the Georgia State Reserve Militia, and both served as guards at Andersonville prison; Demetrius J., the subject of this sketch, and Oscar, who died at the age of twenty-one years.

Spending the days of his boyhood on the home plantation, Demetrius J. Prather attended the village school and academy, laying a substantial foundation for his future education. His parents having lost their entire property, he was forced to work hard to earn his living, and for a while was employed in agricultural pursuits. When twenty-one years old he became clerk in a drug store, and also read medicine for a year. Going then to Mobile, Ala., he attended lectures at the Mobile Medical College, after which he was licensed to practice on a large plantation among the negroes, thus earning sufficient money to complete his medical course. Subsequently entering the Louisville Medical College, he was graduated with the degree of M.D. in the spring of 1876, and for the following seven years was engaged in the practice of his profession in Prescott, Ark. In 1883 Dr. Prather took a post-graduate course at the New York Polyclinic, and then opened an office in Little Rock, Ark., where he remained three years. Going again to New York City, he took a second post-graduate course at the same school in 1886. He then went abroad, and for a year studied in Vienna, Austria. Returning to Little Rock, he continued in active practice there one year, and then made another

trip to Vienna, where he again studied, giving special attention to surgery and obstetrics. From 1890 until 1897 he was one of the leading physicians of Little Rock, Ark., but was forced on account of ill health to seek a more favorable climate. Coming thence to California, Dr. Prather remained in Los Angeles six months, and then located in Oakland, where he remained in active practice until February, 1901. Coming to Bakersfield at that time, the doctor has since been in continuous practice here, and has been very successful, his specialty being diseases of women, in which he exhibits rare skill.

In 1879 Dr. Prather married Gertrude Meredith, who died six months after their marriage. Politically he is a straightforward Democrat, and while a resident of Arkansas took a prominent part in public affairs. He was surgeon-general of the state for six years. Fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He also belongs to the American Medical Association, to the Alameda County Medical Association and to the Kern County Medical Association. Dr. Prather is a man of good financial ability, and has acquired considerable valuable property, owning a ranch in Fresno county, and real estate in Bakersfield.

---

HON. MIRABEAU DALLAS WOOD. Active, enterprising, and of great business aptitude and talent, Hon. Mirabeau D. Wood holds high rank among the prominent citizens of Merced, and is ever among the foremost to forward all projects conducive to the public welfare. He is a man of solid worth, and his intelligence and abilities have met with due recognition from his fellow-men, who have elected him to many public positions of importance, in all of which he has served with credit to himself and to the honor of his constituents. A son of the late Igdaliah Wood, he was born May 22, 1846, in Gadsden county, Fla. He comes of English ancestry, his paternal great-grandfather having emigrated from England to the United States in colonial times, becoming a settler of South Carolina.

Born and reared in South Carolina, Igdaliah Wood was educated for the law, and after his admission to the bar was for some time engaged in the practice of his profession in his native state. Subsequently removing to Florida, he purchased a plantation, and was there engaged in agricultural and horticultural pursuits until his death, at the age of seventy-two years. He was a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married Eliza Dixon, who was born in South Carolina, which was also the birthplace of her father, Abel Dixon, a farmer

and a soldier in the war of 1812. Her Grandfather Dixon, who was of Scotch descent, served in the Revolutionary war. Of the thirteen children born of their union, twelve grew to years of maturity, and four of the sons served in the Confederate army. The mother died in Florida, on the home plantation.

The youngest of the family of thirteen children, Mirabeau D. Wood, grew to man's estate on the home farm, receiving his education at private schools, and in Mount Pleasant Academy. In 1863 he enlisted in Company K, Sixth Florida Confederate Volunteer Infantry, as a private, and being assigned to General Bragg's division, served in many engagements in Kentucky and Tennessee, covering the retreat of the soldiers out of Kentucky after the battle of Perryville, and being at the front in the battle of Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and Chickamauga. Subsequently taking part in the Georgia campaign, he was commissioned second lieutenant, and at the engagement at Kennesaw Mountain had charge of Company F, whose officers had nearly all been killed. July 22, at Peachtree, Lieutenant Wood was captured and sent as a prisoner to Johnson's Island, where he remained until paroled the following spring, when he returned to his Florida home.

In 1866 Mr. Wood became superintendent of a saw mill, a position that he retained two years. In 1868, at the age of twenty-one years, he was elected state senator, representing Washington and Holmes counties in the Florida senate. Resigning the senatorship at the close of the session, he started for California, and arrived in Sonoma county October 22, 1868, the day of the big earthquake. The same fall Mr. Wood began farming in Stanislaus county. Removing to Merced county in the spring of 1869, he bought six hundred acres of land on Bear creek, near Merced, and for ten years was successfully employed in farming and stock-raising. Going then to Sonoma county, he completed the course in the normal school at Santa Rosa, where he also taught school for some time.

Returning to Merced in 1882, Mr. Wood served as deputy county assessor for a year, and in the fall of 1882 was nominated on the Democratic ticket for county treasurer. Being elected, he served most ably for two years, when he was re-elected for another term of two years, and served, in all, from January, 1883, until January, 1887. Being then elected county assessor, he filled the office with eminent satisfaction until January, 1891. The ensuing two years he was engaged in the grocery business. In February, 1893, being appointed by the board of supervisors as superintendent of Merced County Hospital, he served until February, 1897, giving his entire attention to the duties of his office.

Embarking then in the grain business, Mr. Wood was first bookkeeper for the firm of Balfour, Guthrie & Co., in Merced, but was soon afterward made their agent, and in this capacity has since had entire control of their grain buying, warehouse, lands, etc., in Merced county. He is also carrying on a substantial insurance business, representing the Caledonian and the Fire Association of Philadelphia.

In Merced county Mr. Wood married Annie Rucker, who was born in Missouri, a daughter of A. G. Rucker, and died in Sonoma county, Cal. She bore him three children, namely: George Marvin, who died in Merced; Lou, wife of Bert Crane, of Turlock, Cal.; and Jesse D., engaged in business with his father, having charge of the shipping department. For his second wife Mr. Wood married, in Sonoma county, Maron L. England, who was born in Missouri, but reared and educated in Sonoma county, where her father was a pioneer settler. Seven children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wood, namely: Bessie, Dallas England, Marjorie, Barton Dixon, Kenneth Eugene, Carol and Melville. Politically Mr. Wood has always been actively identified with the Democratic party. He was a member and the president of the first board of trustees of Merced, and for one term was a member of the County Board of Education. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and one of its trustees.

---

EDWARD GEORGE BURTON. Prominent among the substantial and successful agriculturists of Tulare county is Edward George Burton, of Visalia, a man of more than average ability and business judgment. From a long line of New England ancestors he has inherited those sterling traits of industry, honesty and thrift that are sure to bring success to the possessor, and win for him the respect and regard of his fellowmen. By persevering effort and diligent use of his native talents he has acquired a goodly share of this world's goods and obtained an assured position in the community in which he resides. A son of the late Asa Burton, he was born in Barton, Orleans county, Vt., January 2, 1835, and there spent his boyhood days.

Asa Burton was born in Norwich, Vt., and when a young man was there engaged in business as a clothier. Removing to Barton, Orleans county, he purchased land, and for a few years lived there as a farmer. Removing to Iowa in 1846, he settled near Fort Madison, Lee county, as a pioneer, and for three years carried on general farming. On hearing the glowing reports of the discovery of gold in California he came with the "forty-niners" to this state, and for nineteen months worked in the mines. Becoming

ill, he returned to Iowa in 1851, and nine days after arriving home died from fever contracted in Panama. He married Minerva Beach, who was born in Rochester, N. Y., and died in Iowa in 1886. She bore him twelve children, eleven of whom grew to years of maturity, and six of whom are now living, Edward George, the seventh child in order of birth, being the only one on the Pacific coast.

Removing with his parents to Lee county, Iowa, when eleven years old, Edward George Burton obtained his education in the district school and at the Denmark Academy. In the pioneer labor of clearing a farm he assisted his father, remaining at home until attaining his majority. He subsequently taught in the district schools winters, and farmed summers, for four years, after which he began farming on his own account near Denmark, Iowa. Coming to Tulare county in 1885, Mr. Burton bought a ranch of seventy acres lying three miles northwest of Visalia, and here continued in agricultural pursuits. Subsequently taking up a homestead claim on White river, fourteen miles south of Portersville, he resided there nearly four years, during which time he improved a valuable ranch. This estate he still owns, but rents it. On account of sickness while there he returned to his original estate, near Visalia, and has since made this his home. He is largely engaged in stock-raising, breeding cattle, sheep and hogs, and raises large quantities of grain, grass and alfalfa, one half of his ranch being sowed to the latter crop. He is interested in the Modoc Ditch Company, and can irrigate his entire farm, although, being sub-irrigated, it does not need flooding.

In Lee county, Iowa, Mr. Burton married Miss Mary Jane Wren, who was born in Quincy, Adams county, Ill., the daughter of Daniel Wren, a well-known farmer. Mrs. Burton is a woman of culture, and prior to her marriage was a school teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Burton are the parents of two children, namely: Mrs. Edith Weston, living near Visalia; and Arthur, a farmer, residing near this city. Politically Mr. Burton is actively identified with the Republican party, and is a member of the County Republican Central Committee. Fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Burton is a valued and consistent member of the Christian Church.

---

CHARLES H. KINKLER. Among the prosperous and respected farmers and stockmen of Tulare county is numbered Charles H. Kinkler, of Visalia, a man of energy and ability, who is now giving his entire attention to agricultural pursuits. Although a skilled electrician and engineer, he prefers the free and independent voca-

tion in which he is now engaged, and takes great pride and pleasure in the management of his ranch, which bears visible evidence of his industry, thrift and enterprise. He comes of excellent German ancestry, and was born in Philadelphia, Pa., March 29, 1866, a son of John Kinkler.

Emigrating from Germany, his native land, to the United States, John Kinkler settled in Philadelphia as a tanner and currier. He subsequently established a tannery in Quakertown, Bucks county, Pa., where he resided several years. Coming to California in 1882, he settled in San Francisco, and there operated a tannery on the old Mission road. Returning east, he died at Atlantic City, N. J., at the age of seventy-eight years. He married Elenore Senef, who was born in Germany, and is now a resident of Atlantic City, N. J. Two sons and three daughters blessed their union, and, with the exception of one daughter, all are living.

The youngest child of the parental household, Charles H. Kinkler was brought up and educated in Philadelphia, attending the public schools of that city. From his boyhood he assisted his father in the tannery, and for three years after coming to California was similarly employed. The following three years he was employed as fireman on the steamboats of the bay and river. Returning then to land pursuits, Mr. Kinkler was for awhile chief engineer and electrician in the Chronicle building, San Francisco, and was afterward connected with the Edison General Electrical company as electrician until it was consolidated with the new organization under the name of the General Electric company. Under the new management, Mr. Kinkler continued in the same position, and installed plants in different parts of the state. In 1893 he came to Visalia as manager and superintendent of the company's plant, and served in that capacity for six years, when the plant was sold to the Mount Whitney Power Company.

Retiring from the electrical business in 1898, Mr. Kinkler began ranching on the Andrew Harrell place, and has met with success in his undertakings. Here he farms two hundred and forty acres of land, all under irrigation, and has one hundred and thirty-five acres sowed to alfalfa. He carries on general farming, devoting considerable attention to dairying, for which his ranch is admirably adapted, and has a good-bearing orchard of twenty acres. His farm is one of the best improved in the county, and his machinery is of the most approved modern construction. He has put in a pumping plant, with a steam engine of eight-horse power, with which he runs his silo, does his pumping and grinding, besides using it for domestic purposes.

In San Francisco Mr. Kinkler married Mary

Riordan, a native of that city, and they have six children, Elenore, Ethel, Charles H., Fern, May and Cleon. Politically Mr. Kinkler is a staunch Republican, and an influential member of the County Republican Central Committee. Fraternally he is very prominent in Masonic circles, and belongs to Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M.; to Visalia Chapter No. 44, R. A. M., of which he is past high priest; to Visalia Commandery No. 28, K. T., of which he is generalissimo; to Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco; and is a charter member of Visalia Lodge of Perfection No. 9.

---

JOHN L. CARSON, M. D., AND EMMA M. (NEWCOMER) CARSON, M. D. The medical profession of Bakersfield, Kern county, has among its able representatives John L. Carson, M. D., a physician of skill and acknowledged ability, and his talented wife, Emma M. (Newcomer) Carson, M. D., who has recently obtained her degree, and become actively associated with her husband in his practice.

A native of Illinois, John L. Carson was born in Washburn, Woodford county, and after completing the course of study in the grammar and high schools was graduated from Eureka College. He was subsequently employed as a clerk in drug stores in different places in Illinois and Kansas, and for two and one-half years was in business for himself as a druggist in Conway Springs, Kans. Going then to Chicago, Ill., he studied at Rush Medical College for a year, after which he was in business in Mobile, Ala., for a year, as a pharmacist. Having to leave the south on account of ill health, Mr. Carson came to California, locating in Los Angeles, where he attended medical lectures a year. Returning to Chicago, he then went to St. Joseph, Mo., where he was graduated from the Northwestern Medical College in 1894. Beginning the practice of his profession in Oakland, Cal., Dr. Carson remained there six months, and was afterward in Livermore, Alameda county, two years. In 1896 he removed to Bakersfield, and has here built up a lucrative patronage, his success having been assured from the first. He has a large general practice, and is also surgeon for the Santa Fe Railway Company at this place. He is very active in numerous medical associations, including the following named: the American, the San Joaquin valley, the Kern County, the California State and the International Railway Surgeons' Association.

August 12, 1889, in Los Angeles, Dr. John L. Carson married Emma M. Newcomer, who was born in Vanwert, Ohio, the daughter of a prominent merchant and capitalist. Her mother, who was the daughter of a physician of note, and

had three brothers that were practicing physicians, was herself a graduate of both the old school and the homeopathic medical colleges, but never practiced medicine. Miss Newcomer was graduated from the Vanwert high school, and from her earliest days had greatly desired to study medicine. In 1885, on account of her health, she came to Los Angeles, and soon after began to read medicine. Owing to the urgent solicitations of her friends, she dropped the study for awhile, but resumed it in the winter of 1888 and 1889. In the fall of 1893 Mrs. Carson entered the medical college at St. Joseph, Mo., and continued her studies there for awhile, but was again persuaded to relinquish them. In 1900, determining to complete her medical education, she entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in San Francisco, and remained there until the spring of 1903. Anxious then to finish her course of study as soon as possible, she entered the Illinois State Medical College, in Chicago, and at the close of the summer term was graduated with honors. Returning to Bakersfield, Dr. Emma M. (Newcomer) Carson immediately began the practice of her profession with her husband, and being a woman of rare culture, talent and judgment, will doubtless henceforth share with him the successes and honors of their professional lives. The Drs. Carson have a finely equipped office, among other things of use to them in their profession being a sixteen-plate static machine, the only one in Kern county. Dr. John L. Carson is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

---

WILLIAM CALCOTE. Four and one-half miles northeast of Visalia, on Elbow creek, lies the valuable farm which is the home of Mr. Calcote and which was his birthplace as well. Few of the men now prominent in agricultural affairs in Tulare county are native-born citizens thereof, the majority having come from the east or from other parts of California; hence in his life an instance is furnished as yet seldom seen in any portion of the county. Having passed his entire life within the limits of the county, he is not only intimately acquainted with its people, but in addition has gained a thorough knowledge of the possibilities of its soil and its opportunities for those desiring to earn a livelihood.

The Calcote family is of southern extraction. In the family of Stephen Calcote, who was a farmer and a soldier in the war of 1812, there were nine children, but one alone survives, A. K., a native of Madison county, Miss., born near Canton, February 11, 1830. On account of being left an orphan at eight years of age he was early forced to earn his own livelihood and thus



was prevented from gaining the education he greatly desired. After having passed the years of youth upon a Mississippi farm, in the fall of 1851 he removed to Marshall, Tex., where he followed teaming. From there in 1854 he crossed the plains with ox-teams, journeying via El Paso and Tucson to Visalia, where he arrived December 15, 1854. Later, during almost three years spent in the mines of Mariposa county, he met with fair success, and thus earned a capital sufficient to enable him to establish a home of his own. Returning to Tulare county, he was here married, September 1, 1856, to Miss Delila Harrell, who was born in Texas, and died in Tulare county, Cal., April 21, 1903. For years he cultivated his home farm on Elbow creek, where he made a specialty of stock-raising, but in 1901 he sold the place to his son, William, and has since lived retired from active labors. Ever since attaining his majority he has voted the Democratic ticket and has been a staunch supporter of party principles. Throughout the community where for years he has been a well-known farmer he bears the reputation of a progressive citizen, capable agriculturist and honorable man.

In the family of A. K. Calcote there were eleven children, eight of whom attained manhood and womanhood, viz.: William, the subject of this article; Henry, who owns a farm adjoining the old homestead; Jackson, who died in 1890, at the age of twenty-two years; Jefferson, a farmer in Sonoma county; Mrs. Mary Ledbetter, of Orosi, Tulare county; Ellen, wife of James Hill, and Daniel, both residents of Visalia; and Mrs. Etta Fenley, who lives in this county. On the farm where he now resides William Calcote was born December 31, 1857, and here as a boy he gained a thorough knowledge of agriculture in all of its details. The school where he studied the three R's stands on his father's farm, and he was a pupil there whenever he could be spared from the farm work. On starting out to earn his own livelihood at twenty-one years of age he engaged in grain farming, but later made a specialty of the stock business. In 1890 he bought one hundred and sixty acres thirteen miles northeast of Portersville, Tulare county. The land is irrigated by the Pleasant valley ditch and he was one of the directors of the company owning the ditch as long as he made his home there. Immediately after establishing his home on that place he began to set out fruit trees and finally had twenty acres in an orchard, of which four acres were in apples, three in prunes, ten in navel oranges, and the balance in different varieties. Twelve acres were under alfalfa and the remainder of the land was utilized for grain, which was raised by means of irrigation. On purchasing the old homestead he returned here in 1901 and has since rented the Portersville ranch. On

his home place he has one hundred and sixty acres, all of which can be irrigated from the Mathews ditch. Seventy-five acres are under alfalfa. The raising of cattle and hogs has been his specialty, and in addition he buys and feeds large quantities of stock.

The marriage of Mr. Calcote was solemnized in Visalia and united him with Miss Janie Houston, who was born and reared in this city, her father, Richard Houston, having been a pioneer and stock-raiser in Tulare county. They have six children, of whom the eldest, Charles, is a forest ranger, and the others, Allen, Ora, Irene, Lila and Alta, are at home. Not only has it been Mr. Calcote's ambition to give his children good educational advantages, but through his efficient service as president of the board of trustees of the Elbow creek school district he has accomplished much in the interests of all the children of the district, and has proved himself a wise supporter of the free school system. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Woodmen of the World. The Democratic party has always received his vote and in former years he acted as a member of the county central committee, but with that exception has not been active in local politics, preferring to devote his attention wholly to his farm work.

JONATHAN K. MILLS. In the combination of real estate and ranching, Jonathan K. Mills has met with a success which places him among the representative men of this section, his home near Le Grand, Merced county, three sections of land which he rents for the purpose of raising wheat, barley and stock, being one of the best improved and well cultivated farms to be found in this region. In his real estate operations he has been no less successful, during his residence here of little more than a year having disposed of over a thousand acres of land, which has tended materially to develop the country and promote the general welfare.

Born in Putnam county, Ill., October 15, 1855, Jonathan K. Mills was a son of Pusey and Lydia (Hartley) Mills, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, who after their immigration to the Prairie state engaged in agricultural pursuits. The elder man died in that location. Reared to young manhood upon the paternal farm, Jonathan K. Mills was trained to the practical duties of an agriculturist, which life he early elected to follow. On becoming independent he located in Missouri and engaged in farming there for five years, when he decided to change his location, and accordingly removed to Kansas. Not quite satisfied with his second choice for a home he then came to California, in 1903 taking up his residence in this section

and renting something less than two thousand acres of land in Merced county. His executive ability has proven equal to the enterprise and he is to-day numbered among the successful ranchmen of the county. Four hundred acres of his large ranch are devoted entirely to the production of barley, which runs as high as twenty sacks per acre.

In Illinois Mr. Mills was married to Olive Spencer, of Putnam county, and of this union were born nine children, four of whom are living, namely: Laura, Mary, Henry and Joseph. In his political convictions Mr. Mills adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and fraternally he is associated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

DAVID S. EWING. Among the professional men who occupy a position of prominence in the esteem of the citizens of Fresno is David S. Ewing, an attorney of more than local note, and one who has won a wide popularity for the sterling traits which distinguish his character. Born in Fulton, Callaway county, Mo., October 24, 1866, he was the son of Henry Neal Ewing, who was a native of the same locality. The grandfather, James Ewing, was born in Kentucky and emigrated to Callaway county, Mo., in 1820, following the example of his father, who had crossed the mountains into Kentucky from his native state—Virginia. The family were of Scotch-Irish ancestry and inherited the sturdy traits which have made of these people some of our most desirable citizens. Henry Neal Ewing was reared in Missouri and educated at Yale University, after which, in 1849, he crossed the plains to California by ox-team. Upon his arrival he engaged in mining for several years, after which he returned to Missouri. He again crossed the plains, and again returned to Missouri during the Civil war. He removed to Kansas City in 1874, where he engaged in business for about six years, in 1880 bringing his family to California and locating in Fresno county. He was the third colonist of Fresno colony, where he purchased a farm one and a half miles southeast of Fresno and set out a vineyard and a forty-acre orchard, as well as made many other valuable improvements. In 1887 he sold out this property and located in Fresno, where his death occurred in 1890. In his religious convictions he was a member of the Baptist Church. His wife, formerly Carrie Martin, was born near Fulton, Mo., the daughter of William Martin, who was a native of Virginia and an early resident of Missouri, settling on a farm adjoining the property of James Ewing. He was of French and German ancestry, and a worthy and esteemed man. Mrs. Ewing died in

Kansas City in 1878, leaving a family of six sons and two daughters, all of whom attained maturity and five sons now surviving: A. D., deputy county clerk of Fresno county; Harry M., of Fresno; Emmet M., who is in business in Victoria, British Columbia; Forest B., a sheep man of Nevada; and David S., the subject of this review.

The second son in his father's family, David S. Ewing was reared to manhood in Fulton, Kansas City, Fresno and the paternal farm in Fresno county. In 1883 he secured employment as a member of the surveying corps on the upper San Joaquin canal, where he remained for about two and a half years, after which, in 1887, he attended the Pacific Business College in San Francisco. Returning to Fresno county, he was employed in the city tax collector's office, and the following year became deputy county school superintendent under Prof. B. A. Hawkins. In 1890 and 1891 he served as chief deputy in the county tax collector's office. In all his official positions he acquitted himself honorably, doing credit to himself and those who placed him in his various capacities. From early boyhood, however, he had an eager desire to study law, and was not content even with the good positions which he so easily secured. At every opportunity he took up the ponderous tomes which held for him the realization of his ambitions, and in 1893 he was admitted to practice by the Superior Court in Fresno county, and began the practice of his profession. He formed a partnership with O. L. Everts, which firm was known as that of Everts & Ewing, and together they built up a general practice. This partnership still exists and is the oldest legal firm in the county. In 1895 Mr. Ewing entered the University of Michigan as a senior in the department of law, being graduated therefrom in 1896 with the degree of LL. B., and again taking up his practice in Fresno. Among the cases which Mr. Ewing has conducted or assisted in conducting may be mentioned those of the "Land Scrippers," The Cosmopolitan Exploration Company vs. the Gray Eagle Development Company et al, in which he took part, that being the first on record to decide against the "Land Scrippers"; and the case of J. G. Roberts vs. The Fresno Democrat Publishing Company, wherein the firm represented the defendant.

In Fresno, May 1, 1898, Mr. Ewing married Grace Maul, a native of Illinois. She was the daughter of Frank Maul, who was born in Germany, and after his emigration to the United States became a grocer in Illinois. He is now living retired in Fresno. Mrs. Ewing is a graduate of the Kewanee (Ill.) high school. To Mr. Ewing and his wife in Fresno, August 15, 1901, were born two daughters, twins, Blanche and



Mildred. In his fraternal relations Mr. Ewing is a member and exalted ruler of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. E., and Manzanita Camp No. 160, W. O. W., which he has served five terms as consul commander. In 1898 he was elected head escort of the Head Camp P. J. Woodmen of the World, and served two years. His wife is a member of the Episcopal Church. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the Fresno County Bar Association.

O. L. EVERTS. The Everts family, represented in Fresno by O. L. Everts, attorney-at-law, were prominent citizens of New England for many years. The first of the name to seek a new location was Gustavus Everts, Sr., who came as far west as Indiana, settling in La Porte, where he followed agricultural pursuits. He was also a resident of Ohio for a time, and in that state his son, Gustavus A., was born. The latter, in young manhood, settled in Putnam county, Ill., and there engaged in stock-raising, making that place his home until his removal to La Porte, Ind., where he followed the same occupation. Deciding to take up his residence in the more remote west, he removed to Fresno, Cal., in 1884, and in this city engaged in the real estate business until the year before his death, when he sought retirement from the active cares of life. He died in 1897, at the age of sixty-three years. Fraternally he was a Mason, and in his political preference adhered to the principles of the Democratic party. For one term he served in the interests of his party as public administrator of Fresno county, Cal. His wife, formerly Rena Newport, was born in Bureau county, Ill., near the city of Princeton, the daughter of P. N. Newport, an extensive farmer and landowner, who now resides in Princeton. Mrs. Everts died in Illinois early in life.

The only child of his parents, O. L. Everts was born in Putnam county, Ill., February 11, 1869, and, after the death of his mother, went to Kewanee, Henry county, Ill., where he made his home with his aunt, Mrs. H. E. Woodruff. He attended the public schools, in time entering and being graduated from the Kewanee high school. In 1887 he removed to Fresno, Cal., and engaged in the real estate business with his father. Previous to this, while a resident of Kewanee, he had read law during his vacations and the desire to make that profession his life-work was so strong in him that in 1889 he returned east, and became a student in the law department of the University of Michigan. Two years later he was graduated from that institution with the degree of LL. D., the year previous having been

admitted to the bar of Michigan, and the same year he was admitted to practice in California. During his college life he was a member of the Phi Delta Phi, a college fraternity. He located, where he has since remained, in offices in the First National Bank building, and entered upon a general practice. In 1893 he formed a partnership with David S. Ewing, the style of the firm being Everts & Ewing. They have since conducted a general practice, and, by their success, winning a place among the most prominent attorneys in the city.

In his political convictions a Democrat, Mr. Everts has been called upon by his party to hold public office, in 1898 being nominated and elected district attorney; his election under the existing political conditions speaking eloquently of the high regard in which he is held. The following January he took the oath of office and served until January, 1903, when he retired, not caring for re-election.

During Mr. Everts' term about five hundred criminal cases in the superior court of the county, many of them being bitterly contested, were handled by his office, and the court records showing the percentage of convictions in the number of cases tried bespeak the ability and energy displayed by him in representing the interests of the people. His discharge of official duties was of so efficient and faithful a character that he won the commendation of the citizens of Fresno county, regardless of party affiliations. After leaving the district attorney's office, Mr. Everts continued the practice of his profession with his partner, Mr. Ewing. For three successive terms he has, with his partner, represented the public administrator of Fresno county. They are now the retained counsel of various banking institutions in the San Joaquin valley, and for other corporations of like character. A great deal of the oil litigation of the valley has been handled by this firm. Among the most notable cases in this connection might be mentioned the suit of the Cosmopolitan Exploration Company vs. The Gray Eagle Company.

In Kewanee, Ill., Mr. Everts was united in marriage on November 1, 1892, with Flora Maul, a daughter of Frank Maul, a merchant of that city, and they have one child living, Frank Gustavus Everts. In his fraternal relations Mr. Everts is prominent. Made a Mason in Kewanee Lodge No. 159, F. & A. M., he is a member of Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M., of which he is past high priest, and of Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., and he belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Foresters. An enterprising and liberal citizen, he takes a most active interest in all that tends to promote the general welfare and is now a member of the

Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of both the County and State Bar Association.

Religiously, Mr. Everts in early life joined the Congregational Church. His wife being a member of the Episcopal Church, in late years their attendance and support have been given to that church.

---

**WILLIAM HAMILTON MOFFETT.** As representative of his district upon the board of county supervisors and as a leading business man of Visalia, where he has made his home since 1892, William Hamilton Moffett is well known throughout Tulare county. A native-born son of the golden west and a member of a pioneer family descended from southern ancestry, he was born in Sonoma county July 31, 1856. His father, James H. Moffett, a native of Tennessee, settled in Missouri at an early day and engaged in farming in McDonald county. When the Pacific coast attracted throngs of adventurous spirits he was induced by favorable reports to cast his lot with the hardy pioneers of the far west. Provided with the necessities of existence, and with ox-teams and wagons, he started across the plains in 1856, accompanied by his wife and family. On reaching Sonoma county he took up land and began to raise stock. In 1860 he removed to Mendocino county where the same industry engaged his attention. In search of a more satisfactory location he came to Tulare county in 1865 and settled in the Lemon Cove district, where he tilled the soil and also raised stock. At the time of his death in 1875 he was fifty-one years of age. Throughout his active life he was an earnest believer in the doctrines of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and at one time officiated as an elder in the same. Politically he voted the Democratic ticket in local and national elections. Two years before his demise occurred the death of his wife, Virginia (Owen) Moffett, who was born and reared in Tennessee, and had reached forty-nine years of age at the time she passed from earth.

The family comprised seven sons and two daughters, namely: James P., now living in Arizona; M. L., who continues to make his home at Lemon Cove; William H. and Columbus B., who are business partners at Visalia; Amanda P., deceased; Virginia C., wife of Rev. J. A. Skaggs, of Selma; Henry Owen, deceased; Eugene L. and John L., who reside at Bakersfield, Kern county. Upon the death of their father the sons took charge of the home place, but in 1879 William H. started out for himself, buying a ranch near Naranjo, Tulare county, where he still owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. On leaving that place in 1892 he removed to

Visalia, where he has since been interested in the livery and feed business. For two years he was connected with J. B. McKinley, then for three years had John H. Dodson as a partner, but since 1898 he and his brother have been the proprietors, and have built up an excellent trade in their special line. Realizing the need of good roads, he has been a firm champion of the plan of oiling the public highways, which he believes to be the most satisfactory scheme for solving the road problem. Reared in the Democratic faith, he has always been a supporter of the principles of that party and on the regular ticket, in 1900, was elected county supervisor for a term of four years.

The marriage of Mr. Moffett took place at Lemon Cove, Tulare county, and united him with Louisa Pogue, who was born and reared in this county. Five children were born of their union, but two, Florence P. and May, are deceased, those living being named Elsie E., J. A. Aubrey and Mildred. The religious faith of his parents, that of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination, represents the doctrines with which Mr. Moffett is in greatest sympathy in matters of religion. Fraternally he holds membership in various societies of Visalia, including the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and Native Sons of the Golden West.

---

**ALFRED E. DEWEY,** who makes his home near Escalon, although still a young man, bids fair to make his mark in the world, as he is an honest and hard-working man. Born August 24, 1873, in the province of Ontario, Canada, he is a son of Henry and Margaret (Osborn) Dewey. Henry Dewey and his wife were natives of Canada, but came to California in 1881, spending a year at Selma, Fresno county, and later moving to Kings county. Although a moulder by trade, Mr. Dewey engaged in the nursery trade while in Kings county, and thousands of fruit trees were planted in that county by his hand. In 1896, however, the family removed to San Joaquin county on account of the ill health of some of its members, and they located on the Myer's ranch, remaining there until the death of the mother, at which time the father came to live with Alfred E.

Alfred E. Dewey is at present engaged in cutting the timber off the bottom lands, carrying this on by means of a steam saw which he owns. He also raises fruit to some extent and devotes part of his time to raising stock, principally hogs. His marriage united him with Miss Dessie Hall, a native of San Joaquin county, and a daughter of John Hall, whose biography appears elsewhere in this history. To Mr. and Mrs. Dewey have





*L. A. Applegati*

been born the following children, Alvin, Ernest and Myrtle. A Republican in politics, Mr. Dewey is true to the interests of his chosen party, as he also is to the interests of his adopted state and country.

**LEWIS H. APPLGATE.** In California, as well as in Oregon, the name Applgate is synonymous of true worth and integrity, and the identification of this family with the early history of both states is well known. Lewis H. Applgate has been a resident of California since 1870 and has been identified with Merced county for nearly thirty years. He was born in Goshen, Clermont county, Ohio, December 21, 1844, a son of Perrine and Susan (Frybarger) Applgate, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Ohio. His paternal grandfather, Elijah Applgate, also born in New Jersey, was of Welsh descent and by occupation was a carpenter and farmer. He removed to Ohio when his son Perrine was but three years old and in that state he followed the occupation of a millwright, erecting many of the early mills of the state. He died in Ohio when forty-five years of age. Perrine Applgate was reared and educated in Ohio and upon leaving school he learned the carpenter's trade under the supervision of his father; his later years, however, were spent in agricultural pursuits. He passed to his final rest in 1888, aged seventy-two years, being survived ten years by his widow, who died in 1898. They became the parents of sixteen children, fourteen of whom reached years of maturity, and of these twelve are still living. With the exception of the two who died in infancy, their family consisted of the following: Andrew J., a manufacturer of Anderson, Ind.; Oliver H. P., a traveling salesman of St. Louis, Mo.; Thomas F., a member of the Thirty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, who died during the Civil war; Angeline, wife of William McClelland, of Goshen, Ohio; Lewis H.; Sallie E. Spence, of Goshen; William P., a successful rancher of Merced county; Margaret C. McClintock; Susan A. Stouder; John P., now deceased, who came to California in 1875; James B., a successful druggist of Perkinsville, Ind.; Joseph H., a farmer near Goshen, Ohio; Lydia A., a deaconess of the Methodist Episcopal Church, engaged in missionary work at Salt Lake City; and Pearl W., vice-principal of the grammar school at Goshen. The two eldest sons also have military careers, Andrew J. as a soldier in Company G, One Hundred and Seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and Oliver H. P., as color sergeant in the Second Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Reared on his father's farm, Lewis H. Appl-

gate attended the common school of his district, supplementing it by a course in Goshen Seminary, after which he began teaching school and so continued until coming to California, since which time he has been engaged in farming. The appearance of the state at that time, with its sparse settlements, was a striking contrast to the many thriving business centers of the present day, scattered throughout various parts of the state. The first year of his residence was spent in Stockton, which place he left intending to go to Nevada. At Knight's Ferry, however, a short stop was made, and he was induced to change his route. In 1872 he arrived in Merced county, remaining but a short time, when he proceeded to Stanislaus county, where he farmed near Turlock, till 1875. Returning to Merced county that year, he, with a partner, rented land six miles east of Merced and for ten months followed general farming. He then embarked in a similar business for himself, renting the ranch upon which he now resides, and which is located along Bear creek, nine miles east of Merced, where for the past twenty-eight years he has given his entire time and attention to raising stock and grain. As he has prospered, he has added to his acreage from time to time, and has made valuable improvements on the land in shape of buildings, etc. His home place contains eleven hundred and sixty acres, devoted to raising grain and stock; another ranch which he owns, seven miles east of Merced, contains six hundred and forty acres, also devoted to the same industry; one mile from Atwater he purchased another section of land devoted almost entirely to the cultivation of barley; in Fresno county he bought a forty-acre alfalfa ranch, and twenty acres in the Yosemite colony, Merced county, which is also devoted to alfalfa. He has always been an advocate of advancement and when called upon to do so has aided all projects that had for their object the development of the county.

Mr. Applgate has been prominently connected with the Grange, having served as overseer two terms and president and master four terms. He is an active member and a director of the California Grain Growers' Association, the object of which is to establish a uniform ocean freight rate from San Francisco to Liverpool, England. He is a Democrat in politics, though never an aspirant for office.

**COLUMBUS FAY.** Not only were the paternal ancestors of Mr. Fay participants in the colonial and Revolutionary wars and the second struggle with England, but his maternal progenitors, the Abbotts, were also of patriotic stock and bore an honorable part in all of the early

wars in which our country engaged. Both settled in Massachusetts during its pioneer history and afterward wielded an influence in the agricultural development of various sections of New England. Edward Fay, Jr., and his father, whose name he bore, were natives of Vermont, the former born at Underhill and there reared to maturity, but later a pioneer of Jefferson county, Wis., subsequently removing to Richland county, the same state, where he died at sixty-three years of age. The wife of Edward, Jr., was Sarah Abbott, a native of Vermont, and a daughter of Timothy Abbott. Like her husband she passed the latter part of her life in Wisconsin and died before attaining old age. Of their five children only one son and one daughter grew to maturity. The subject of this article, who was the youngest of the children, was born in Jefferson county, Wis., October 19, 1848, and grew to manhood in Richland county, that state, where he had such advantages as the country schools of that day and locality afforded. After the death of his father in 1870 he had charge of the home farm, but in January, 1872, started out for himself, traveling through the middle states in search of a suitable location. While traveling through Kansas he met a cattle buyer, with whom he secured employment to assist in driving a herd of two thousand head of cattle across the plains to Nevada. Eight men constituted the force of employes under whose guidance the cattle were driven at a rate of from twenty to twenty-five miles per day. After seventy days from Ellsworth, Kans., they landed at Humboldt wells, in Nevada.

A few weeks later Mr. Fay arrived in Alameda county, Cal., where he secured employment on a farm near Haywards. During the six years of his residence there he made infrequent trips to Oregon and Washington, going as far north as Seattle. In the fall of 1879 he came to Tulare county and settled at what is now Lemoncove, where for five years he engaged in raising grain on a tract of thirteen hundred acres. The ensuing four years were passed on a grain farm near Dry creek. In 1889 he removed to the Millwood road, in the vicinity of Visalia, and settled on a tract of ninety acres which he purchased the following year. Here he has since made his home, engaging in the dairy business with a herd of fine Jersey cows and raising alfalfa by the aid of excellent irrigation facilities. Having given his attention closely to the work of his farm he has had little or no leisure for participation in local politics, nor has he borne any part in the same aside from voting a straight Republican ticket at all elections. The fact that he is thoroughly awake to the need of educational facilities is shown by his efficient service in the capacity of member of the school board of Elbow district.

The marriage of Mr. Fay was solemnized near Visalia and united him with Miss Nannie E. Kelly, who was born in Arkansas and removed to California in company with her parents, Greenberry and Sarah Kelly. The family settled in Tulare county, where Mr. Kelly died, and his widow has since remained on the old homestead. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fay there are two children. The son, Clarence, who is now fifteen years of age, attends the high school of Visalia, and the daughter, Gracie, who is six years of age, is a pupil in the district schools. In religious connections Mrs. Fay is associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church and fraternally she holds membership in the Magnolia Circle, Women of Woodcraft, her talents making her a welcomed worker in both the church and the fraternal organization.

---

AMBERSON BRANDON. There is perhaps nothing of which a man may be more proud than that of gallant service in the cause of his country, nor is there any service that lives longer in the memory of a grateful people. Mr. Brandon was among those who early offered their services to their country in her hour of peril and who never deserted their post until peace crowned their efforts. He enlisted in 1863 in Company M, First California Regulars, and served three years in Arizona and New Mexico, fighting the Indians. He was appointed sergeant and honorably discharged from service at Fort Selden, N. M., in 1866. At the close of his military career he returned to California and turned his attention to teaming and sawmilling in Amador county, and later in Stanislaus and Merced counties, where he has since been engaged in farming.

Since locating in Merced county, in 1896, he has brought about a revelation in farm methods, operating his extensive farms upon the most approved of methods. His home ranch, eight miles from Le Grand, contains thirty-nine hundred and eighty-nine acres, while at one time he farmed seven thousand acres of land in the county. He has two Holt traction engines, the only ones in Merced county, and in connection he also has two separators, with a thirty-four-foot cut. Each engine is a forty-five horsepower, and requires three hundred and fifty gallons of oil per day to operate. Upon his extensive ranch, machinery is made to supersede hand labor; each engine requires only three men, engineer, fireman and water tender, to operate it. The wheels of these gigantic engines, which themselves weigh seventeen tons, are forty-two inches wide, being six feet and eight inches in diameter. Each engine hauls eighteen eight-inch standard plows, turns the furrows, harrows and plants at the same



time. The magnitude of this work must be seen to be understood or appreciated.

In Jefferson county, Wis., Mr. Brandon was born, August 31, 1845, a son of Z. P. and Martha (Enyart) Brandon. The former, a native of Virginia, accompanied his parents to Ohio in early boyhood, where he was reared on a farm and subsequently located for a time in California. When Amberson was about twelve years old his mother died. In 1849 the father came to California to seek his fortune in the mines. Returning to his home in Wisconsin in 1851, he brought his family across the plains to California. In Eldorado county he followed mining and farming until his death in 1892, aged sixty-five years.

Mr. Brandon remained at home until his enlistment in the army, and at the close of the hostilities returned to California. He went into Amador county and purchased with a partner a sawmill, operating it successfully for nine years. At the close of that time he again took up farm life, this time in the vicinity of Turlock, Stanislaus county, which continued to be his home until 1884. Removing to Merced county, he rented land until 1902, when he purchased the ranch upon which he still lives. By his marriage, August 31, 1868, in California, he was united with Julia Misenheimer, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Hartwell and Sarah (Williams) Misenheimer, the former born in North Carolina and the latter in Illinois. In 1853 they came overland to California and are now respected residents of Tulare county, Mr. Misenheimer being eighty years of age and his wife seventy-four. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brandon, all living except one, namely: Susan, wife of J. T. Flanagan; Bernice, wife of E. T. Cunningham; Howard; Myron (deceased); Frances, wife of J. R. Baxter; Lloyd, Roger, Audley, Gladys, Roscoe and Horace. A self-made man in the truest sense of the word and one of the most widely known men in his locality, Mr. Brandon stands deservedly high. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics he is a Republican. It is to such men as he California owes much of her prosperity and greatness.

**JOSEPH H. NOBLE.** As a natural result of his thrift and industry Joseph H. Noble has become a prosperous citizen of Madera county, Cal., which has been his home since 1889. The farm which he now occupies, and which he purchased in 1902, contains three hundred and twenty acres, the west half of District No. 29, and is devoted to raising grain and alfalfa. He is also interested to some extent in stock-raising, and it is his intention to give more attention to this latter

industry each year, with the ultimate idea of changing his entire farm into a stock ranch in time. At present one hundred acres are in alfalfa, and the balance devoted to wheat and barley. His place is located four and a half miles west of Madera, and since purchasing it he has added all of the improvements, in buildings, ditching and checking.

Mr. Noble was born in Marshall county, Ill., June 8, 1859, a son of Elisha and Margaret (McKinney) Noble, both natives of Ohio. Elisha Noble went to Illinois when about twenty-two years of age and spent many years engaged in farming. In 1878 he removed to Nebraska and in 1889 was induced to come to California and locate in Madera county, where he lived until his death in 1901, aged seventy-four years.

The boyhood days of Joseph H. Noble were spent upon his father's farm in Illinois, and he obtained his education in the schools of that state. In 1878 he accompanied his parents to Nebraska and with them subsequently located in Madera county, Cal. He has been a life-long farmer and rancher, and enjoys the prestige he has gained solely by incessant years of toil.

While a resident of Nebraska Mr. Noble was united in marriage with Harriett Becker, and of this union four children have been born: Joseph C., Cora, Minnie and Clinton. In politics Mr. Noble is a Democrat, though never an aspirant for office. As a business man and a citizen, Mr. Noble has won a host of friends and is highly esteemed by all who know him.

---

**HIRAM B. ALGER.** The People's market, owned and operated by the firm of Morgan & Alger, successors to John R. Parr, is one of the most popular and well-conducted enterprises of the kind in Tulare county. As an adjunct to the business life of Visalia the market is without a peer in its facilities for catering to a large and exacting trade, its promoters being men of proved ability and integrity.

Hiram B. Alger, junior member of the firm of Morgan & Alger, owes his birth and early training to Delaware county, Iowa, where his life began on a farm near Edgewood, October 1, 1867. His father, Myron H. Alger, was born in New York in 1844, and was a babe in arms when his parents located in Delaware county in 1845. His entire life has been spent on a farm, and he still makes Delaware county his home, his wife, formerly Cynthia J. Robinson, having also survived the changes of existence. There were four sons and three daughters in this family, and Hiram B., the oldest, was the first to assume the responsibility of self support, engaging in school teaching in different parts of

Iowa after leaving the Upper Iowa University, which he attended for one year. Later he engaged as brakeman on the Central Iowa Railroad, using his wages to secure further educational advantages for himself, a fact which indicates the resource and adaptiveness which has characterized his entire life. Returning to farming in Iowa, Mr. Alger came to California in 1901, and in Visalia engaged in the meat-market business, later becoming a member of the firm of Morgan & Alger, purchasing the business of John R. Parr. The plant covers twelve acres the firm owning their own slaughter houses, and besides supplying the home trade, the products are shipped throughout the county. Mr. Alger has a thorough understanding of his business, has a large acquaintance with stock and business men, and from the beginning of his residence here has impressed the community with his earnestness and sincerity and his keen desire to please.

In political affiliation Mr. Alger is independent, and in religion he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was reared in an atmosphere of piety and responsibility, and has never departed from the belief that a man owes much to his church, and that his influence is largely augmented thereby. He is active in the business and social circles of the church, is secretary of the board of trustees, and contributes generously toward its general support. His marriage with Alice Schroff, a native of Pennsylvania, occurred in Iowa, and of this union three sons have been born, Otto Dean, Donald Wayne and Merle H. Mr. Alger is fraternally connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors.

---

LEVI N. TURNER. In no part of the United States is a more correct appreciation placed upon personal valor and courage than in the west. Possibly conflict with the red men of the plains, with pioneer conditions startling in their crudeness, and with the terrible journey across the prairies and mountains in the early days, are too closely allied with the present to permit of laxity in giving to each man his due where aught of generosity has been required of his nature. It thus happens that the soldier comes into his own again as he gathers around the camp-fires. He is given warm greeting because of his experiences when he embarks in trade, and at all times carries with him the sense of security in the people's esteem, which must needs warm his heart and inspire him with love for all mankind. Such a one is Levi N. Turner, a soldier of the Civil war, who is also a successful hardware merchant of Delano, and whose many fine traits of character have contributed to the

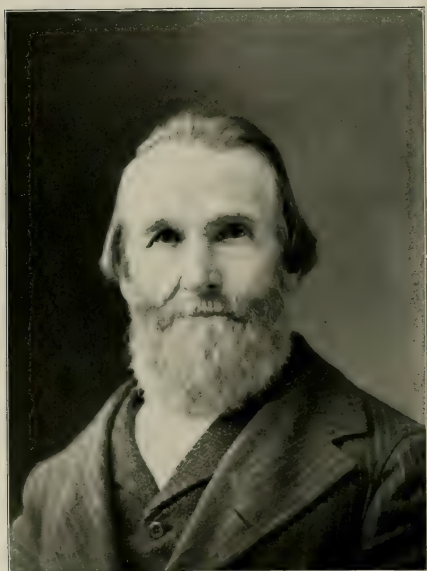
moral and general upbuilding of whatever region he has called home.

Behind his honored name and successful career Mr. Turner has an ancestry which claims a voyager of the Mayflower, and early bearers of the name settled in what now is Turner, Me. From Androscoggin county later members moved to Milo, Piscataquis county, where Levi N. was born April 4, 1838, and where his father, Lyman, was reared and learned the carpenter trade. In early life the father married a Miss Flanders, also a native of Maine, and with her and his children removed overland to Wisconsin in 1845. Settling in Dodge county in the midst of a dense timber district, he cleared a small farm, improved it to general produce, and lived upon it until locating in Faribault county, Minn., in 1873. He conducted a fairly successful grocery business in Minnesota for a few years, and died there in 1893, at the age of eighty-eight years. During the Civil war he was a member of the Home Guard. His wife lived to be seventy-five years old.

Levi N. Turner was seven years old when the family removed to Wisconsin, and remained there until 1865, in the meantime acquiring a common school education, and learning the carpenter trade. In Blue Earth county, Minn., he followed carpentering for five years, and in 1870 engaged in a general merchandise business in Winnebago City, remaining there four years. Afterward he erected a flouring mill in Blue Earth county, operated it successfully for ten years, and upon disposing of it in 1892, took up his residence in California in his present home in Delano. He has found the hardware and implement business lucrative and congenial, and has invested his earnings in paying quarters, owning ten acres in his home place, forty acres six miles south, and one hundred and sixty acres seven miles north of Delano. His home place, on the outskirts of the town, has a pleasant and comfortable residence, with flowers, shrubs and trees, which contribute to the beauty and pleasure of life in this delightful state. In the meantime he has taken a keen interest in the general affairs of the town, has been more or less prominent in politics, and has been especially helpful in organizing the board of trade, and in serving as its vice-president. He has been a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen since 1876.

The war experience of Mr. Turner stands out in bold relief among the incidents which have made his life interesting and useful to his fellow-men. He was working in the lumber camps in Wisconsin when the war broke out, and October 14, 1861, enlisted as a private in Company F, Twelfth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and participated in many of the battles; served with Grant in the western army, and with Sherman on





*C. C. Fisher*

his march to the sea. In front of Atlanta, Ga., he was wounded in both thighs by the same ball, and was laid up in the hospital at Rome, Ga., from July 21, 1864, until the following October. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 1863, and to first lieutenant in 1865, and might have received still further honors, had he been able to rejoin his regiment in January, following his release from the hospital. Mr. Turner established a home ere success had begun to come his way, marrying Mary E. Weaver, a native of New York; they have had three children, two of whom are deceased. Florence E., the wife of Rev. W. L. Miller, residing in Litchfield, Conn., is the only child living.

---

**CHARLES C. FISHER.** Four miles from Visalia, Tulare county, is located the farm of Charles C. Fisher, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres devoted principally to the dairy business. Mr. Fisher is one of the early settlers of this vicinity, having located here in 1879, when he first came to California. He bought this property and made all the improvements, putting up adequate buildings, cultivating the land, and assisting materially in the upbuilding of the best interests of the county. He was born in York, Livingston county, N. Y., August 27, 1830, the youngest in a family of ten children, all of whom attained maturity, although but two sons and two daughters are now living. His father, Josiah Fisher, was born in Massachusetts in 1784, reared in New Hampshire, and in young manhood settled in Livingston county, N. Y., where he engaged as a cabinet and chair maker. In New York state he also engaged in the saw-milling business and the manufacture of lumber, as well as operating a farm which he owned. In 1832 he removed to Michigan and started the first shingle machine in Grand Rapids. Later he located near Elkhart, Ind., where he bought a mill and farmed until 1839. In the last named year he returned to Livingston county, N. Y., and on his old farm resumed agricultural pursuits and also conducted a milling business until his death in 1853, at the age of seventy years. His wife, formerly Orena Goss, was a native of Claremont, N. H., who died in New York.

In childhood Charles C. Fisher accompanied his parents to the state of Michigan, and later to Indiana, when nine years old returning to the scenes of his birth, where he received his education in the subscription and public schools. He remained at home, learning the saw milling, machinist and carpenter trades, until 1853, when he went to Coldwater, Mich., and entered the machine shops of that place. Later he went

to Ligonier, Ind. In 1857 he went to Kentucky, and following this located in southwest Missouri, later locating in Union county, Ky., where he followed saw milling until the breaking out of the war. He then sold out, and returning to Indiana, bought a small farm and in addition to running this he also ran a grist mill at Albion for two years. Returning to Kentucky at the end of this time he conducted a portable saw-mill there for three years, after which he became a master machinist in a large distillery at Uniontown, Ky., on the Ohio river. This establishment has since been rebuilt, and today is the second largest of its kind in the world. Resigning his position in the distillery in 1879, Mr. Fisher came to California the same year. Locating in Tulare county he purchased the farm where he now makes his home, and later bought one hundred and sixty acres near the lake, in Kings county, and also one hundred and sixty acres near Dunlap, Fresno county. His home place is irrigated by the Modoc ditch.

In Kentucky, Mr. Fisher married Martha Culver, a native of Union county, that state, where her death occurred. Politically Mr. Fisher is a Jacksonian Democrat and casts his ballot for the principles of his party. Interested in local affairs, he gave an acre of ground for the Willow school, in the building of which he was one of the chief factors, and has served as school trustee for several terms. One of the early recollections of Mr. Fisher is his trip over the first railroad of the state of New York, the track being wooden rails 4x6, strapped with iron.

---

**BENNI J. HENRY.** Conspicuous among the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of Visalia is Benni J. Henry, who during the past quarter of a century has been actively identified with the industrial prosperity of this section of the state. Kind-hearted, accommodating and pleasant, he is everywhere respected, and is held in high regard throughout the community. Of Scotch-Irish descent, he was born, November 13, 1853, in Savannah, Wayne county, N. Y., a son of John and Margaret (Ferguson) Henry, the latter of whom died in Visalia, while the former is still living.

Brought up on the home farm, in Wayne county, N. Y., Benni J. Henry was educated in the district schools, in common with the neighboring children, being well drilled in the three "R's." Beginning life as a wage-earner at the age of fifteen years, he first worked on a farm at Union Springs, Cayuga county, and was afterward for two years employed in the factory of D. M. Osborne & Co. Making a bold push to the west-

ward in 1877, he came to California in search of a favorable opportunity to advance his welfare, and for a year resided on the line between Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. In September, 1878, Mr. Henry came to Visalia, and the following ten months was employed on the Burrell ranch. Buying his present farm of forty acres in 1879, he at once began its improvement. Clearing the land, he erected a good residence, and has since been prosperously engaged in tilling the soil, raising alfalfa, principally, for which his land is well fitted, being under irrigation, the water coming from the Modoc ditch. Mr. Henry also carries on a part of the old Kelsey ranch, renting fourteen hundred acres of it. There he has good pasture land, raises extensive crops of grain, and has an eighty-acre vineyard and a valuable orchard of ninety acres. He has an especially fine farming outfit, running three eight-horse teams, and having all the necessary machinery and appliances for successfully carrying on his large and lucrative business. He is much interested in stock-raising, keeping a superior grade of cattle and horses.

In Auburn, Cayuga county, N. Y., Mr. Henry married Jennie Ferguson, who was born in the north of Ireland, and into their pleasant household seven children have been born, namely: Gertrude, wife of Charles Smith, city marshal of Visalia; Edith, wife of John Daily, a farmer, living near Goshen, Cal., and Mamie, Robert Lee, Grover C., Earl and Lillian, living at home. Politically Mr. Henry is a steadfast adherent of the Democratic party and is now serving as school trustee in the Willow district. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World. Mrs. Henry is a most estimable woman, and a member of the Methodist Church.

---

**HON. CHARLES A. HART.** Foremost among the pioneer inhabitants of Fresno county was Judge Charles A. Hart, deceased, who in young manhood dauntlessly pushed his way across the continent to a new and uncultivated country, to whose development and advancement he devoted his best efforts and energies. A descendant of a fine old family of New York, well bred and well educated, he rapidly became an acknowledged leader in the establishment of beneficent enterprises in Millerton, the first county seat of Fresno county, and for half a century occupied a post of honor and influence in legal, financial, political, agricultural and social circles.

Judge Hart was born in Geneva, N. Y., November 7, 1820. His father, Hon. Truman Hart, was a well-known banker of western New York, and for several terms represented his district in the New York state senate. His mother,

Susan Carpenter, was also a native of New York state. Removing in childhood with his parents to Palmyra, N. Y., Charles A. Hart attended the grammar and high schools of that town, and was afterward graduated from the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, N. Y. The year following the completion of his college course he was employed as civil engineer and surveyor on the New York & Lake Erie Railroad, having charge of the construction of that portion of the road between Elmira and Binghamton. Returning home upon the expiration of his contract, he studied law for four years in the office of Theron R. Strong of Palmyra, one of the most noted legal practitioners of western New York in those days, and after his admission to the bar was engaged in the practice of his profession for one year in partnership with A. G. Hemingway. Removing then to New York City, he entered upon an entirely new avocation, engaging in business as a commission dealer in wool, hides, leather, etc. Enterprising and far-seeing, and doubtless actuated somewhat by a spirit of adventure, he then decided to put his fortunes to the hazard on the Pacific slope, where he hoped to find a realization of his dreams of future prosperity. Joining a party of forty New England men in 1848, he proceeded by steamer to Brazos, Texas, where the company secured a good outfit and started upon their tedious journey across the wild desert for southern California. The region which they traversed afforded one of the least known and most dangerous routes overland, though the shortest to their destination, and the risk that they took was most appalling. After a long and tedious journey, during which they had numerous skirmishes and other difficulties with the Indians, principally Navajos and Apaches, they arrived at Hill's Ferry, Merced county, Cal., August 7, 1849. Anxious to begin their search for gold with as little delay as possible, the party continued up the Merced river, upon the banks of which they accidentally discovered two "rockers," which had been left there by prospectors. Although entirely ignorant of mining, they started for the diggings with the rockers. On their way they were fortunate enough to meet Captain Cutler, who had served in the Mexican war under General Taylor, and from him received some excellent advice and information in regard to gold mining. For two years thereafter Mr. Hart and his companions worked most successfully in the mines, finding gold in large quantities, not infrequently averaging sixteen ounces per day each.

Upon the expiration of his mining experience Mr. Hart located at Fort Miller, Mariposa county, where he opened a law office and engaged in the practice of his profession. When Fresno county was erected from a portion of



Mariposa county in 1856, and Fort Miller became known as Millerton, and was made the county seat, Mr. Hart was appointed the first county judge, and filled the office with eminent satisfaction to all concerned for one term. Upon retiring from the office, he resumed private practice until 1874, when, his health failing, he acted upon the advice of his physician, Dr. Leach, and retired to his farm, comprising over two thousand acres of fertile and valuable land. When the federal government abandoned Fort Miller as a military post in 1863, Judge Hart purchased the post buildings, one of which he remodeled and ever after occupied as a residence. In the care and cultivation of his land he always took great pleasure, paying especial attention to stock-raising and the culture of fruit, in the latter industry being a pioneer in the San Joaquin valley. After the removal of the county seat to Fresno in 1874, Judge Hart never resumed his legal practice, but made Fort Miller his home until a short time before his death, which occurred May 13, 1903, at the home of his son, Truman G. Hart, No. 233 Blackstone avenue, Fresno, at the venerable age of eighty-three years.

February 18, 1865, Judge Hart was united in marriage with Mrs. Ann (Brénnan) McKenzie, a native of Ireland. By her marriage to Sergeant James McKenzie, who came to Fort Miller with the United States army in 1854, she became the mother of three children, namely: W. H. McKenzie, a capitalist of Fresno; Mary Jane, wife of J. C. Hoxie of Fresno, and E. P. McKenzie, deceased. The only child born of the union of Judge and Mrs Hart is Truman G. Hart of Fresno, of whom a brief sketch may be found elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Hart is highly esteemed by all who have the pleasure of her acquaintance. She is now making her home in Fresno, with her daughter, Mrs. Hoxie.

Judge Hart belonged to that rare type of men who pursue to a consummation their plans in life, in spite of all obstacles which may arise in their paths. In early life he enjoyed unusual advantages in preparing himself for a career in the law, and he brought with him to California those high ideals so characteristic of the well-born and well-bred son of the Empire State. Throughout his life he was actuated by the highest motives, and though the early days of California were fraught with opportunities to gain wealth and temporary eminence by the adoption of questionable means thereto, he was never known to pursue a policy in any way subject to adverse criticism. His life was pure and blameless, both in public and private affairs, his frequently manifested public spirit and liberality of heart and mind endearing him closely to a multitude of friends. The beneficent

effect of his life and work upon the welfare of Fresno county cannot be overestimated, for during the earlier days of the county's development he was one of the most potential factors in placing it upon a sound and substantial basis, high-minded and unselfish motives governing his participation in public affairs. His name will be handed down in history as that of one of the most striking characters and finest citizens in the San Joaquin valley, and the record of his life deserves a permanent and conspicuous place in the historical literature of the commonwealth.

---

ELONZO P. DAVIS. The present city marshal of Bakersfield is eminently qualified for his responsible position, having firmness, tact, strength of character, and broad and liberal tendencies. He is one of the pioneers of this section, and well understands the various human elements which comprise its varied, strenuous life. He was born in Arkansas September 22, 1853, and from his father, Isham T. Davis, inherits the courage and personal influence felt by all associated with him in whatsoever capacity. The elder Davis was born in Tennessee, as was also his wife, formerly Mary Farley, the latter of Scotch extraction. He was a man of iron will and a natural soldier, the beating of a drum or the passing of martial music arousing in him the spirit of tented field and the rush of opposing forces. He shouldered a musket in the Mexican war, the Seminole and all the other Indian wars, and seemed to be protected by the very strength of his courage and daring in the face of danger. He was perfectly at home on the frontier, and as a pioneer of Kern county, where he lived for some years, and where he died after an exceptionally active and useful life. He reared a family of four sons and four daughters.

Bakersfield was a small town when Elonzo P. Davis, the present marshal, arrived in its midst, and at that time he started the livery business with which his name and activity has since been associated. From a small beginning his business has grown with the development of the city. Mr. Davis has been one of the staunch advocates of good horses in this section of the country. In years past he has raised many blooded horses, and still has on hand several valuable animals. His livery equipment is modern and complete, and his name has stood at the head of enterprises of the kind for many years. He has taken a keen interest in Democratic politics, understanding only too well the prejudices and animosities with which the politician in this section has to deal. After an unusually riotous campaign he was elected marshal of Bakersfield in 1903, but the ballots were destroyed by fire,

and through a miscount his opponent assumed the office. Mr. Davis, however, contested his right in the superior court, a ruling in his favor being secured in January, 1904, backed by the approval of the board of city trustees, who maintained that his election has been eminently fair. Thereupon he took up the duties of the office, and has since proved his ability to maintain order in a district noted for its reluctance to give up the old-time frontier methods. January 4, 1882, Mr. Davis married Maggie Hope Taylor, a native of Virginia. They have five children, Myrtle, Elonzo, Pearl, Marvin and Erma.

---

JOHN W. WHITWORTH. Alike in England and America successive generations of the Whitworth family have been characterized by high principles of honor and firmness of purpose. The family was founded in the United States by Henry Whitworth, Jr., a native of Lincolnshire, England, who settled in Ohio in 1848, but soon went farther west to St. Louis. Later his father, Henry Whitworth, Sr., also crossed the ocean and settled in Ohio, where he passed his last days. A brother, John, entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for forty years preached the gospel in the Ohio conference. When the discovery of gold in California attracted countless thousands to the Pacific coast Henry Whitworth, Jr., with the ambition of a young and ardent spirit, determined to seek his fortune across the plains. Accordingly in 1849 he started with a body of emigrants and followed the old Sante Fe trail and the Gila river, proceeding up the coast to old San Jose and thence to Tuolumne county, where he gained his first knowledge of placer mining. Sufficient success met his efforts to induce him to continue mining for a number of years, much of his work meanwhile being in quartz mills and mines. Finally, having wearied of the hardships incident to mining, in 1863 he left the mines and settled upon a farm in Contra Costa county. About 1868 he removed to the west side in Merced county, where he secured an unimproved tract of government land consisting of three hundred and twenty acres. Under his constant and industrious care the uninviting tract was transformed into a neat estate, where waving fields of grain betokened each year a bountiful harvest to repay the farmer's diligent cultivation. Little by little his possessions increased until finally he acquired control of one thousand acres. The management of such a large acreage necessitated much toil, but he was a man of energetic temperament and was never happier than when directing large interests. Although he accumulated a competency he remained an active worker at an age when most men feel they are privileged

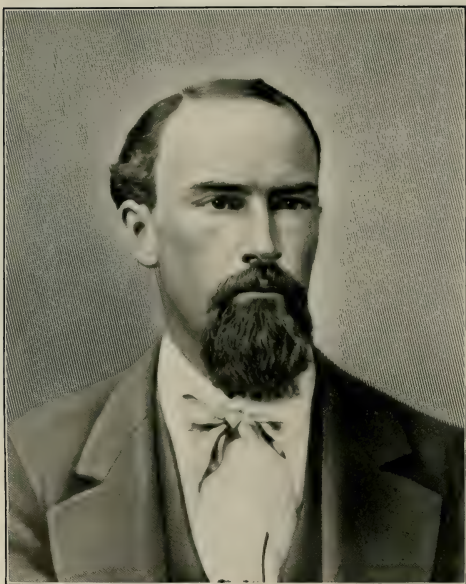
to retire from agricultural cares. Indeed, his activities were never relinquished until death came to him, February 15, 1897, at the close of seventy-two busy years. His wife who bore the maiden name of Ann Hall, was born in Lincolnshire, England, and died in the San Joaquin valley in 1877. They were the parents of two sons, George Henry and John W., and a daughter, Mrs. Mary J. Butts, of Merced county.

During the residence of the family in Tuolumne county John W. Whitworth was born April 8, 1859. Early in life he decided to become a farmer, hence he endeavored to acquire a thorough knowledge of agriculture in all of its details. However, he has followed general agriculture less than dairying, the latter having been his principal occupation for a considerable period. The property which he owns consists of eighty acres under the ditch on the hill and creamery roads, about two and one-half miles south of Newman, in Merced county, directly across the line from Stanislaus county. The land is under alfalfa, which he uses as feed for his herd of thirty cows and the other stock that he keeps on the farm. When the New Era Creamery Company was organized he became one of the first stockholders and has since retained his close connection with this pioneer industry of its kind. Though not active in politics, he has always favored Democratic principles and never fails to support the men and measures of the organization. Personally he is a genial, companionable gentleman, who not only enjoys a reputation as a successful dairyman, but is esteemed as a valued citizen, accommodating neighbor and unselfish friend.

---

CHARLES MANTER. Although a resident of California for more than forty-two years, it was not until recently that Mr. Manter settled upon his fine little fruit farm, two miles and a half west of Hanford, in Kings county, for during the period of his residence in California he has devoted his time and energies to various occupations, principally to mining and ranching. A descendant of sturdy New England parents, and himself a native of Franklin county, Me., where he was born April 6, 1843, Mr. Manter is next to the youngest child in a family of six children born to James and Maria (Norton) Manter, and grandson of Benjamin Manter. The latter, a native of Massachusetts, was for many years a resident of that state, and early took to life on the water. He was a whaler, and upon several occasions took a trip around the West Indies. Late in life, he retired from the sea and moved to Franklin county, Me., when that locality was yet all heavy timber land. Here he cleared and improved a farm upon





*A. A. Mayes.*

which he afterward died at the extreme age of ninety-nine years. His ancestors were from Scotland.

The father of Charles Manter was born upon the above named farm in Franklin county, Me., and was a life-long resident of that vicinity. He followed farming and at the time of his demise was eighty-one years old. His wife, who was born in the same state, passed away at the age of sixty-two years, leaving six children. The boyhood days of Charles Manter were spent upon the home place and he assisted his father in farm pursuits until he attained the age of nineteen years. In January, 1862, he left his New England home for California, the trip being made by water and by the Panama route. Upon reaching his destination, he located for a brief time in Placer county, but afterward found employment on a toll road in Nevada county, where he worked for a short time. Returning to Placer county, he worked on a farm for a couple of years as farmhand and during the winters he contracted at getting out timber for the mines.

During the Civil war Mr. Manter showed his patriotism by enlisting in Company I, Eighth California Regiment, and saw about a year's service at San Francisco and vicinity, afterward returning to the mining district. Here he took up mining with disastrous results, losing everything, and for a year afterward he was deeply in debt. Leaving the mines, he secured work in the flour mills of Marysville, where he worked for a time, but mining still held out inducements to him in spite of his loss and caused him to return to the mines of Sierra and Plumas county, where he worked for wages until the fall of 1871, during which time he was again on the road to prosperity. In the fall of that year he went to Portersville, Tulare county, and became foreman of a large sheep ranch for several years. In December, 1876, he purchased a number of sheep which he took to a recently purchased eighty-acre tract in what is now Kings county, and upon this land, about three miles east of Lemoore, he followed sheep ranching and horse raising until January, 1903, selling out at that time. Soon afterward he purchased twenty acres of his present farm, which he planted in peaches and vineyards, and in the fall of the same year, by an additional purchase, he added twenty acres of land adjoining, the greater part of which is also in vines and peaches. His vineyards contain mostly the celebrated raisin grape, which is so extensively grown in this locality. Mr. Manter is unmarried and his present prosperity is due to his undivided efforts, as he began entirely without capital, and, as a perusal of the above facts will show, he has encountered many difficulties, which he finally overcame.

During his short residence in this vicinity he has already gained the good will of his neighbors and he affiliates with but one fraternal order, the Masons. Politically a Republican, Mr. Manter could never be persuaded to accept office, preferring as he does to devote his undivided time to his business pursuits.

---

ARCHIE ALEXANDER MAYES. From the first years of manhood the energies of Mr. Mayes have been directed to agricultural pursuits and for the past thirty-five years he has been a resident of Stanislaus county, Cal., easily ranking at the present time among the most successful dairy farmers of this county. It was in 1896 that he purchased an eighty-acre tract of land one mile and a half northeast of Crow's Landing and engaged in farm pursuits on his own behalf. He now owns sixty-six acres of his original purchase. His attractive and convenient residence is surrounded by lawns, family orchards, etc., and the land not used as pasture is devoted to raising alfalfa. His dairy is supplied by fifty-five choice cows, and he disposes of his dairy products to the local creamery.

Mr. Mayes is well connected on both paternal and maternal sides of the family. He was born June 19, 1848, in the vicinity of Lexington, Rockbridge county, Va., which was also the birthplace of his father. He is the seventh child in a family of nine born to Albert and Elizabeth (Turner) Mayes, the latter born near Lynchburg, in Amherst county, Va. A farmer by occupation, the father spent his entire life in Rockbridge county, and died in 1855, his widow dying four years later.

The mental training of A. A. Mayes, obtained from the common schools near his home, was necessarily very limited, owing to the unsettled state of the country during the Civil war, which brought about hard times. Obligated early in life to become self-supporting, he naturally chose the occupation of his father and engaged in farm pursuits. After the termination of the war, about 1867, Mr. Mayes left the home of his boyhood and went to Missouri, locating for a couple of years in Pike county near Clarksville. During this time he worked as a farm hand and in 1869 he came to California, which has been his home almost ever since. In the San Joaquin valley, at the junction of the Orestimba creek and the San Joaquin river, he obtained work on a farm and for twenty-five years was in the employ of Crow Brothers, being identified with their business up to 1896. In 1875 he severed his connection with farm pursuits for a time and for one year officiated as superintendent of a street railway in Stockton, then owned by the Crow Brothers. He subsequently took charge of their stock and cat-



the ranch in Nevada for a short time and during the remainder of the time he worked for them he was employed in the San Joaquin valley on the Stanislaus county farms.

The home ties of Mr. Mayes date back to the year of his residence in Stockton, for it was in that city that he married Miss Ella Delano, a woman of high intellectual attainments, who was born in Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Mayes have one daughter, Myra D., and one son, Albert Alexander. The political views of Mr. Mayes coincide with straight Democratic doctrines and he has had much to say and to do in the guidance of that party in his section. His estate is kept in prime condition, clearly giving the best evidence as to the thrifty character and methodical habits of the owner, who has won an enviable reputation, not only as a keen, up-to-date farmer, but also as a clear-headed business man.

---

**FRANCIS W. LAUGHLIN.** The worthy descendant of an honored pioneer family of Stanislaus county Francis W. Laughlin has spent the major part of his life within its limits, and has been actively associated with its agricultural and industrial development and progress. A son of the late James E. Laughlin, he was born March 1, 1857, in Linn county, Kans. His grandfather, William Laughlin, was born in Kentucky, his parents having removed there from South Carolina. Becoming an early settler of Osage county, Mo., he took up land, and was there engaged in tilling the soil the remainder of his life.

A native of Missouri, James E. Laughlin was born October 20, 1829, in Osage county, where his earlier years were passed. From there he migrated to Linn county, Kans., and was there prosperously engaged in farming a number of years. In 1862, with horse and mule teams, he came overland to California, bringing his wife and two children, following the wagon trail through Murphy and Copperopolis, in Calaveras county. At once locating in Stanislaus county, he entered three hundred and twenty acres, being the first person to take up land back from the river, and doing so against the protest of his neighbors, all of whom predicted that he would soon be starved out. He began raising grain, and was so successful that he afterward purchased one hundred and sixty acres of adjoining land, and on his ranch of four hundred and eighty acres continued his agricultural labors for thirty years. Selling out in 1890, he continued his residence in that locality for two years, but was retired from active pursuits. In 1902 he removed to Oakdale, where he subsequently lived until his death, October 26, 1903, at the age of seventy-four years. He married Sarah

E. Moore, who was born in Tennessee, but was reared in Osage county, Mo., whither her father, Patrick Moore, settled as a pioneer farmer. She survives her husband, and now makes her home with her children, having one son and one daughter, namely: Francis W., the special subject of this sketch, and Mrs. Sarah E. Pyeatt of Madera county.

Coming with his parents to Stanislaus county when five years old, Francis W. Laughlin here received all the advantages for obtaining an education that the district schools afforded. Being bred to agricultural pursuits, he naturally adopted farming as his occupation, and at the age of twenty-one years rented and operated a ranch on his own account. In 1886, having made considerable money in his chosen work, he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land, not far from the old homestead, and there carried on general farming for six years. Selling that farm in 1902, Mr. Laughlin located in Oakdale, about one and one-half miles from the village, where he owns and occupies a finely improved ranch of two hundred and forty-five acres. His land is well watered by the ditch and yields him large crops of alfalfa and grain. Most of the time Mr. Laughlin resides in Oakdale.

Mr. Laughlin married, in San Francisco, Mrs. Mamie J. (Gable) Armstrong, who was born in Calaveras county, where her father, William Armstrong, a pioneer farmer and stock raiser, spent the larger part of his life, dying there in 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin have one child, namely: Alpha. Politically Mr. Laughlin is a strong Republican, and fraternally he is a member of Oakdale Lodge No. 275, F. & A. M. Mrs. Laughlin is a faithful and valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**ROBERT H. WALLIS,** a prosperous citizen living five miles east of Le Grand, figures prominently in the affairs of the community. Besides his home ranch of eight hundred and forty acres, five miles east of Le Grand, and the four-hundred-acre ranch adjoining, he leases and owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in the foothills, all of which is almost entirely devoted to the raising of grain, especially barley, of which splendid crops are obtained, and some attention is also given to stock raising.

Robert H. Wallis is a son of John K. Wallis, a native of England, from which country he journeyed to the United States when but seven years of age, accompanying his parents. Locating in Wisconsin, John K. Wallis, when of sufficient age, commenced farming. In 1850 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and settled near Sonora, Tuolumne



county, where he remained six years, engaged in mining. At the end of that period he went back to Wisconsin, again coming west at a later date; this time crossing the plains, through Colorado to Utah, where he mined until death claimed him in 1870, owing to an accident in the mines. He married Elizabeth James, who, like her husband, was born in England and reared in Wisconsin.

A native of Iowa county, Wis., Robert H. Wallis was born October 14, 1859, and reared on his father's farm in that section. At the age of ten years he hired out at \$5 per month to work on a farm. Like his father, he was attracted westward and in 1881 came to California and located near Modesto, where he engaged as a hired hand. As he grew more prosperous he rented land, and in 1885 made a permanent settlement on the ranch where he now lives. He took for his life companion Rosa Dickinson, who bore him two children, John S. and Rosa R. In 1895, Mrs. Wallis' death occurred, a sad bereavement to the family and a large circle of friends. Mr. Wallis is a progressive and public-spirited citizen. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically is an adherent of the principles advocated by the Republican party.

**SAMUEL LA FAYETTE RITCHEY.** In DeKalb county, Tenn., April 12, 1867, S. L. Ritchey was born, a son of Micajah M. Ritchey. The latter was a native of the same state and in 1870 he brought his family to California. He first located on the present site of Modesto, Stanislaus county, where he engaged in blacksmithing and farming for a number of years. In 1882 the family removed to Merced county where the father and his sons are all prominent and successful ranchers, widely known and esteemed for their business ability as well as personal worth. Their ranches are numbered among the first in point of cultivation and improvement in this section.

Reared and educated in Stanislaus and Merced counties, S. L. Ritchey has known no other home. He remained on the paternal ranch and assisted in the home duties until 1892, in which year he took up independent operations and has since been engaged in farming for himself. He is now located one and a half mile from Le Grand, on Mariposa creek, where he has eighty acres of land, six of which are devoted to the cultivation of orchard fruits and a vineyard. He has a well two hundred and seventy-five feet deep, and a twelve horse-power pump, while in many other ways his ranch is well improved. Following the training of his boyhood and young manhood he gives to his work an intelligent and practical in-

terest, and conducts his farming enterprise in a methodical and business-like manner.

Mr. Ritchey married Stella Turner, a native of Texas, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Roscoe and Donald. Politically he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and in his religious affiliations is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**RICHARD CHATTEN.** Living retired in the city of Visalia is Richard Chatten, better known among his personal friends as Dick Chatten, who since October, 1852, has been recognized as one of the upbuilders of Tulare county. He was born in Ontario, Canada, December 11, 1826, the fifth in order of birth of nine children born to his parents. He received his education in the common schools of Canada and New York, and in 1849 returned to Canada with his father, but that same year came back to the States with the determination of going to what was to him the unknown west, which held alluring prospects. After spending six weeks in Illinois he journeyed to St. Louis, and April 1, 1850, he left Leavenworth, Kans., with an emigrant train for the long trip across the plains, reaching California in September of that year.

In Eldorado county he engaged in mining for a time, then followed that same occupation in Mariposa county at Quartsburg and Cotterville until August 1, 1852. During this time he had contracted chills and fever, and, after leaving Cotterville he spent some time in Los Angeles, and in October of that year came to Tulare county, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land ten miles west of the present city of Visalia. Being in its primeval condition, he at once began improving it with buildings, and embarked in the stock raising business. From this small beginning he added from time to time until he acquired four thousand acres in the same locality; six hundred and sixty acres of this is now known as the Mineral King orchard, which he disposed of at a very satisfactory price. He removed to Visalia in 1886 and has since made this city his home, though superintending the work of his various ranches up to the present time.

January 12, 1854, he married Margaret Glenn, who was born in Tennessee and who died in Visalia, leaving one son and three daughters, namely: Eliza, wife of Louis Whitendale, near Visalia; Frances, Etta, and Thomas. For a second wife, Mr. Chatten married, in 1892, Mrs. Leah (Miller) Davis, widow of the late Thomas H. Davis, a pioneer of Antelope Valley. Mrs. Chatten was born in Arkansas and crossed the plains to California in 1856, and since 1857 has

been a resident of Tulare county. Mr. and Mrs. Chatten are much respected by a wide circle of acquaintances in Tulare county. A Republican in politics, Mr. Chatten has never aspired to official positions. He was made a Mason in 1857, and is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, of Visalia.

In all movements that have had for their object the advancement of the social, moral, educational and industrial welfare of Tulare county Richard Chatten has been a prominent factor. He has watched the growth of the county and of California with practical eye, and himself is one of the substantial, conservative and progressive men of the San Joaquin valley, and to such men as he California is indebted for much of her present prosperity.

---

CARL C. CLAUSEN, a successful rancher of Merced county, was born in Denmark April 27, 1849. He remained in his native land until 1870, when he set sail for the new world and finally found himself in Detroit, Mich.

Since 1870, Mr. Clausen has seen many places in the United States, working in a number of different parts before settling in California. Two years of his time were spent in Illinois, three years in Clear Creek county, Colo., and in November, 1879, he came to California, locating in Solano county. There he farmed one year and in 1880 came to Merced county, where he has since resided, with the exception of the year 1894, when he paid a visit to his native land. He was married in California October 12, 1897, to Julie Jacobsen, also a native of Denmark. Three bright children, Carl, Albert and Emery, now bless their home.

Mr. Clausen is a Republican in his political views and stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens. From working on a farm for wages, in his earlier years, he has worked his way up in the world, next leasing a half-section of land and raising grain. In 1897 he purchased his present ranch of eight hundred acres, besides which he owns a good timber claim in the Sierra mountains and leases two sections of land near Le Grand. All his farming land is devoted to grain and his success is richly deserved.

---

HENRY CALCOTE. The purchase of forty acres in 1894 formed the nucleus to which Mr. Calcote has added from time to time until at this writing (1905) his landed possessions aggregate two hundred and forty acres in one body, located four and three-quarters miles northeast of Visalia, and adjoining the old Calcote homestead now owned and occupied by his brother, William. While various farm products are grown on

the land, a specialty is made of the stock business and a large portion of the acreage is devoted to pasturage, while forty acres are under alfalfa. Water from the Mathews ditch furnishes adequate irrigation facilities and enhances the value of the property. Not only has the owner been successful in raising and feeding cattle and hogs, but he has also won exceptional success as a dairyman, and possesses the necessary equipment for this industry, including a modern separator of approved make. The improvements on the place, including a neat farm house, prove him to be a man of energy and resourcefulness, possessing the thrifty qualities necessary to modern farming.

On the Calcote homestead near his present home Mr. Calcote was born September 18, 1859, being a son of A. K. Calcote, whose life record appears elsewhere in this volume, in the biography of William Calcote. Little of special moment occurred to mark the boyhood years of Henry Calcote. The winter months were spent in attendance upon the school of the Elbow creek district, while in the summer he aided his father in caring for the stock and cultivating the land of the home farm. On attaining his majority he started out for himself, his first independent work being as a farmer on the St. John's river, where for seven years he managed the Togue place of one hundred and forty acres, and engaged in raising grain, cattle and hogs. In 1894 he bought forty acres adjoining the homestead and this place, with its subsequent additions of land, forms his present home and the scene of his activities. Like his father, he favors Democratic principles. At one time he was a member of the election board and he has also served as a member of the school board.

The marriage of Henry Calcote occurred in Visalia and united him with Miss Mary Kate Spiese, who was born in Pennsylvania. They have had five children, four now living, Mamie, Della, Fred and Leta. Mrs. Calcote is the only survivor among the four children of Fred and Sophia (Zimmer) Spiese, natives respectively of Nassau and Bavaria, Germany. Her maternal grandfather was lost at sea. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Spiese, a native of Nassau, and a shoemaker by trade, came to America in 1846 and settled at York, Pa. At the opening of the Civil war in 1861 he enlisted in Company I, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, in which he served for three years. After the expiration of his term of service he became a member of Company A, Two Hundredth Pennsylvania Infantry; where he served until peace was declared. After the war ended he returned to York, Pa., where he died at seventy-two years of age. Of his four children (all still living) Fred was third in order of birth, and was born in Germany, November 24,

1842. When four years of age he accompanied his parents to America. March 15, 1860, he was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, and followed the occupation until 1863, when he responded to an emergency call for volunteers in the state militia to protect the railroad bridges of the state. During 1864 he enlisted in Company A, Two Hundredth Pennsylvania Infantry, of which his father and brother, Lewis, also were members. The regiment was assigned to the army of the Potomac and participated in a number of the last engagements of the memorable war. With his father and brother he took part in the grand review and then received an honorable discharge, June 30, 1865, after which he resumed carpentering in his home neighborhood.

From 1872 until 1875 Mr. Spiese was a resident of Pittsfield, Ill., and then came to California, settling in Visalia and following the carpenter's trade. Later he began to take contracts for houses and business blocks. While living in Pennsylvania he married Miss Zimmer, a woman of estimable character and a helpmate to him in all of his undertakings. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Gen. George Wright Post No. 111, G. A. R., in the work of both of which he maintains a deep interest.

---

**WILLIAM WHEALAN**, one of the leading agriculturists of Merced county, possesses exceptional qualifications for the business to which his life has been devoted, and for a period of forty-two years has been identified with the steady growth and development of California. He was born in Seneca county, Ohio, February 17, 1838, and was reared on the farm owned by his father, who was one of the most prosperous and prominent men in his locality. John Whealan, a native of Ireland, came to the United States at an early date, locating in Ohio, and it was there that the greater part of his life was spent, dying there at the advanced age of eighty-four years, six months and eighteen days. He married Mary Barbara Swalley, who was born in Pennsylvania and at the time of her death had attained the age of eighty-two years.

William Whealan remained in the east until twenty-four years of age. In 1862 he went to New York city, taking passage on a steamer bound for the Panama district en route for California. After crossing the isthmus he completed the journey to San Francisco on the steamer St. Louis and soon after his arrival in that city he left for Placerville, where he tried his luck in the mines. Very soon, however, he abandoned this course and returned to San Francisco, where he was engaged as longshoreman for several years. In 1865 he turned his attention to farming, set-

ting first in Napa county and in 1871 in Merced county, renting land until 1875, when he felt able to purchase a place of his own. He then bought the ranch of three hundred and twenty acres upon which he now resides, located eight miles east of Merced, and which is devoted to raising stock and grain. Not having sufficient land for his needs he rents two sections of land, which he devotes to wheat and barley. The prosperity and thrift of the owner will be seen from the comfortable residence, substantial and well-filled barns and finely fenced fields.

By his marriage in Napa county, Cal., March 31, 1867, Mr. Whealan was united with Cynthia Halterman, a daughter of Joseph and Abigail (Barnett) Halterman, who immigrated to California in 1854 with their family, from Ohio, where Mrs. Whealan was born. Mr. and Mrs. Whealan have an intelligent family of nine children, named in the order of their birth as follows: Dena, the wife of George Landis, of Merced; Loretta, who became the wife of Howard Wills, of Le Grand; Ida, the wife of William Sering, of Merced; Minnie; Hattie; Frankie, wife of George D. Farr; William Blaine; Belle and Eugene. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church. Fraternally Mr. Whealan is a member of the Odd Fellows, and Woodmen of the World. In his political views he is ever to be found in the ranks of the Republican party. Mr. Whealan's widespread reputation as a successful stock and grain raiser is the result of a wise selection in choosing his life calling, engaging in the line of work for which he was best fitted and the one most congenial to him. By his public spirit he has gained recognition as one of the men who have ever had the best interest of the county at heart and with time, influence and means have liberally supported all projects that would advance the interests of the citizens.

---

**ALEXANDER BARBOUR**. An expert in the use of tools of all kinds, with a special aptitude for mechanical pursuits, Alexander Barbour was for many years actively identified with the upbuilding of Newman as a carpenter and contractor. A man of great integrity and business ability, honest and honorable in all his dealings, he has won the respect and esteem of his fellow-men, and the high regard in which he is held gives evidence of his upright and manly life. Coming from a long line of thrifty Scotch ancestry, he was born September 15, 1843, in the Island of Bute, a son of Hugh Barbour.

A native of Scotland, Hugh Barbour was born on one of the Cumbrae Islands, near Bute, in the Frith of Clyde, and was there brought up to agricultural pursuits. Immigrating to this country in 1849, he settled in Bradford county, Pa., where

he followed the occupation to which he was bred in his island home, and was there employed in general farming until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Hunter, also was born on one of the Cumbrae Islands, Scotland, and died in Bradford county, Pa. Three boys and two girls blessed their union, and of these the three sons are living, namely: James, living on the home farm in Pennsylvania; Hugh, in Seattle, Wash.; and Alexander, the subject of this sketch.

But six years old when he came with his parents to the United States, Alexander Barbour was educated in the common schools of Pennsylvania, and afterward served an apprenticeship at the carpenter trade. Leaving home in 1877, he removed to Ogle county, Ill., locating at Kings, where he worked at his trade for eleven years. Coming from there to California in 1888, Mr. Barbour purchased his present home estate of thirty acres, situated two miles northeast of Newman, where he has thirty acres of land, on which he raises fine crops of alfalfa. For ten years after coming here, he continued as a contractor and carpenter, assisting in the erection of many houses and public buildings, including among others the building of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for which he took the contract, and helped to finish the Newman school building and the Russ hotel.

In Towanda, Pa., Mr. Barbour married Martha Greening, who was born in Orange county, N. Y., a daughter of Hubert Greening. Her father was a native of New Jersey, as was also her mother, Elmira Lundy. Settling in Pennsylvania soon after his marriage, he there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Barbour have one child, namely: Edward M. Barbour. In politics Mr. Barbour is a strong Prohibitionist, and while living in Illinois was active in public affairs, serving as justice of the peace and as school director.

**MRS. ALICE A. HANNA.** Not since Oakdale took on the dignity and importance of a postal station have the affairs of Uncle Sam been more satisfactorily attended to than under the administration of Mrs. Alice A. Hanna, the present incumbent of the office. Receiving her appointment from President McKinley in 1898, Mrs. Hanna was re-appointed by President Roosevelt in July, 1902, and in the meantime the bulk of matter to be cared for had increased materially with the town's continuous growth, calling for more expeditious methods and larger capacity. That she has been equal to all demands upon her ingenuity and ability admits of no possibility of doubt, and neither does the fact that the citizens appreciate the dependability

and stability of their always genial and accommodating postmistress. This high esteem is also enjoyed by the efficient assistant postmistress, Miss Adella A. Hanna.

Mrs. Hanna represents a family numerously identified with the early and later history of Stanislaus county, and one which has reflected credit upon its business, agricultural and judiciary growth. Born in the state of Massachusetts, she is a daughter of L. T. and Sarah (Smith) Hill, of whom the father was born in Vermont and the mother in New Hampshire, and who became very early settlers of Dixon county, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are at present making their home in Soquel, Santa Cruz county, the former having long since retired from active life. In Vermilion, S. Dak., Mrs. Hanna married J. E. Hanna, son of Judge John Hanna of McConnellsville, Ohio, and thereafter lived principally in South Dakota and Nebraska until coming to California in the fall of 1891. Settling in Oakdale, the climate, wonderfully rejuvenating to the majority, seemed to disagree with Mr. Hanna, who died a few months later without having realized the advantages of climate and business among which he dwelt. His wife continued to reside here, making many friends, and by her strong character and ability winning a stable place in the homes of the elect of the city. Her appointment to the postmastership was received with general approval, and her subsequent admirable management has but strengthened her in the popular regard. Faithfully she is caring also for her children, educating them to the best of her ability and preparing them for lives of usefulness in the future. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church and one of the church's most zealous and earnest workers.

Mention of Mrs. Hanna's family would be incomplete without according due honor in these pages to Judge C. S. S. Hill, her paternal uncle, who, after a career of exceptional activity and usefulness, and while making his home with Mrs. Hanna in Oakdale, died at the age of ninety-two years. This veteran member of the bench viewed complacently his many mile-posts, reflecting in appearance and manner the temperate and sound mind which governed his creditable undertakings. Coming to California in 1852, he soon after stepped into a waiting niche at Knights Ferry, where he became known as one of its most successful pioneer merchants and postmasters, and as probate judge for many years. While Oakdale was still a small village in 1870, he took up his residence here, and for years was one of its most prominent and progressive citizens, interesting himself in its educational and civic advancement, and contributing of his time and means to such of its institutions



as demanded his assistance. Besides owning large tracts of land in the country, he owned and laid out several additions to Oakdale, built several houses, and otherwise contributed to its lasting welfare. The passing years saw no diminution of his interest, although failing powers necessitated less strenuous participation in general affairs. His niece, Mrs. Hanna, spent the years from 1872 to 1874 in his family, and the strong bond of sympathy and good fellowship then formed between them never waned or was interrupted. His was a fine, strong character, and one upon whom his friends and associates could invariably rely. The twilight of his life was unhampered by many of the weaknesses and signs of impairment which often visit and remain with the older grown, and it was felt by all who knew him that his life was one of exceptional worth and interest.

---

**FREDERICK NELSON.** Adjoining Oakdale is what is unquestionably the finest almond orchard in Stanislaus county. Not only are the twenty acres covered with finely developed and prolific trees, but the grove presents an aspect of thrift and painstaking care equaled but rarely excelled in any part of the state. Its owner, Frederick Nelson, has always maintained that whatever was worth doing at all was worth doing well, and in confirmation of his theory his orchard rears its beautiful trees and puts forth its rich, time-honored harvest, guarded as faithfully through the years as a child whose conduct depended upon its sympathetic and kindly surroundings. Mr. Nelson is essentially a lover of the things that have their growth in the soil, and the process affords him endless study and interest. He counts no effort too great to accomplish the best possible on his ranch, and the soil responds generously to his practical and earnest efforts. His home ranch consists of a pleasant California home and of an orchard of various kinds of fruit, intended solely for family use. That he has been successful is evidenced a mile south of Oakdale, where he owns his farm of two hundred and thirty-nine acres, devoted principally to grain raising and under a high state of improvement. His chief pride, however, is his almond orchard, under whose shady trees he wanders gratefully and gladly, feeling the success imparted by their sturdy and unfailing production and the promise held out by the advantages of the climate and soil in which he lives.

Mr. Nelson was born in Ostrejötlan, Norrköping, Sweden, May 14, 1845, and is the second oldest of three sons and three daughters born to his now deceased parents, Nels and Fredericka (Maller) Nelson, the former of whom was a contracting stone mason. Of this family, reared

in an humble and God-fearing home, two sons and one daughter are now living in America, all having made their own way in the world, having had few educational or other advantages in their youth. Frederick was obliged to support himself at the age of eleven, when he found work on a farm near his home, and since that time he has had no help whatsoever in a financial way. Frugal and saving as are the majority of his countrymen, he had sufficient means to come to America in November, 1868, and after locating in Burlington, Iowa, he worked for the railroad there, later going to St. Joseph, Mo., and in 1873 gave further rein to his ambition by coming to Sonoma county, this state. Working on a ranch near Stockton for a couple of years, he began farming for himself on the Calaveras river in San Joaquin county in 1877, devoting his land to grain and cattle, and in time moving to the Latimer ranch, where his former success continued unabated. In 1891 he came to Oakdale and bought twenty-seven acres of his present ranch, adjoining the town, where he has since made his home, and which has richly improved under his energy and good management.

August 28, 1876, Mr. Nelson married in Stockton, Mary Johnson, a native of Vermland, Sweden, who became the mother of six children, the oldest daughter Emma, dying at the age of twenty. Ida is now Mrs. Adams of Sonora; Albert is a farmer of Ione, Ore.; Minnie is the wife of George Crawford of Oakdale; Anna Florence is the wife of J. H. Powell of Oakdale; and Roy Austin is at home. In national politics Mr. Nelson is a Republican, but in local affairs is guided by existing conditions. For five years he was a trustee of the school board in San Joaquin county and has always taken a keen interest in the cause of education. In religion he is a Methodist, and has for years been a trustee, at present serving also as steward. He is a progressive and enlightened citizen, representing the best traits and attainments of the people of Sweden, and finding in his adopted country many who rejoice at his success and his ready adaptation of American customs and language.

---

**GEORGE D. FARR.** The grain and stock resources of Merced county have made independent fortunes for many industriously inclined land owners, with the result that it is one of the best known sections of the state to be devoted to these commodities. One of the most prominent of the grain and stock raisers in the vicinity of Geneva is George D. Farr, owner of two hundred and fifty acres of land, including the town site of Geneva. Prior to the purchase of his present home place he farmed three and one-half sections of land. In his family lives Michael

Farr, the father to whom he owes his early training and education, and whose ambition and hardihood resulted in establishing the family on the coast. The elder Farr was born in Canada, and there married Catherine Nash, with whom he began housekeeping on a northern Canadian farm. He was successful and saved money, and with his wife came to California in 1852, sailing from New York to Aspinwall, and from Panama to San Francisco. After three years of success and failure in the mines along the American river, he began farming in Santa Clara valley, in 1856 removing to San Joaquin county, and from there to Contra Costa county. In the latter county he had a ranch of two thousand acres devoted mainly to stock. He lived for a short time in Livermore, Alameda county. In 1889 he sold his land and came with his son to his present farm near Geneva, where he is enjoying fair health and is in good spirits, notwithstanding that seventy-six years have passed over his head.

George D. Farr was born on his father's farm in Contra Costa county, May 11, 1867, and when old enough to assume responsibility entered into a business partnership with his father. It was largely through his advice that the Contra Costa farm was sold and the one near Geneva purchased. Mr. Farr has effected a transformation in his property, has made many improvements and has exerted every energy to make his ranch a model of its kind. He is progressive, cautious and painstaking, and is one of the best authorities on grain and stock raising in the county. Since locating here he has married Frankie Whealan, a daughter of William Whealan, a prominent rancher in their neighborhood. Four children have been born into the Farr household: Viva, who was accidentally killed September 7, 1904; Zyta, Curtis and Stanley.

**SAMUEL JONATHAN REYNOLDS GILBERT.** The Gilbert family was once prominent in English history, the first American emigrant being a member of the bodyguard of the king. Through an entanglement which endangered his life he was forced to leave the country and chose as his safest location the American colonies. This was before the Revolutionary war, and since that time the family has flourished on American soil. The great-grandfather of Samuel J. R. Gilbert served valiantly in the Revolutionary war, in which he was taken prisoner, and returned to the country of his forefathers.

J. R. Gilbert, born in Woodstock, Vt., in 1806, emigrated to Ohio in the early '40s and located in Akron. After the discovery of gold he crossed the plains to California in 1849, being captain of a large train which he organized. He engaged

in mining in Shasta county for a short time, after which he took up the general merchandise business. In 1852 he returned east for his family, bringing them to California via the Nicaragua route. The remainder of his life was spent in this state, his death occurring in 1879. He is survived by his wife, formerly Dorcas Fillebrown, born in Boston, Mass., in 1816, and she now makes her home with her son, S. J. R. Gilbert, in Visalia, at the age of eighty-nine years. Of her three sons, one is deceased, while the other two, Frank W. and S. J. R., are engaged in business together in this city.

Samuel Jonathan Reynolds Gilbert was born in Akron, Ohio, June 20, 1847, the second child in his parents' family. He was not quite six years old when he came to California, so the greater part of his education was received in the common schools of this state. In young manhood he engaged with his father in the general merchandise business in Shasta, afterward, in 1871, going to Redding, Shasta county, where he put up the first tents of the town, for a time thereafter acting as assistant railway agent. He then entered into the hardware and plumbing business and met with a success which justified his continuance for nearly twenty years. In the fall of 1891 he went to Fresno and for four years was associated with the plumbing department of Kutner, Goldstein & Co. In August, 1900, he came to Visalia and engaged in the tinning and plumbing business, the style of the firm name being Gilbert & Son, the latter being his son Fred S. Gilbert. From a small beginning the business has grown to remunerative proportions and they now cater to an extensive and lucrative trade.

In Shasta, Cal., Mr. Gilbert was united in marriage with Elizabeth Wilhelm, a native of New York and the descendant of an old German family. Born of this union were four sons and three daughters, of whom one daughter is deceased; Mary Winifred is the wife of J. P. Eaton, a prominent business man of Redding, where he conducts a stationery store; George W. is a dentist of Fresno; Fred S. is in business with his father; Walter F. is located in Portland, Ore.; Stella May became the wife of F. W. Velie, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Portersville; and J. R., completes the family. Fraternally Mr. Gilbert is prominent as a Mason, having joined the organization in Redding, Cal., in 1880. He is past master of Blue Lodge No. 303 of Portersville; belongs to Visalia Chapter No. 44, R. A. M.; Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T.; and Islam Temple A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. Politically he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. Mr. Gilbert is a broad-minded, public-spirited citizen and has always given his best efforts to advance the general welfare in what-







*Guy Kilburn*

ever community he has made his home. While a resident of Redding, Cal., he was one of the prime movers in securing that city as the county seat and his aid was invaluable, as it was one of the hardest struggles in the history of that section. He acted as secretary of the immigration committee of that county and in every way made his own interests parallel with those of the city, county and state which he had made his own by adoption. Since his location in Visalia he has shown the same liberal and enterprising spirit and works with the same earnestness toward the progress and advancement of this city. He is a prominent social figure and occupies a position of importance in the business world, as well, enjoying to an unusual degree the esteem of all who know him.

---

**GUY KILBURN.** Numbered among the more prominent and prosperous of the earlier pioneers of California was the late Guy Kilburn, of Newman, who came to this state in 1852, and from that time until his death, January 23, 1903, was actively identified with its agricultural and industrial prosperity. A man of sterling worth and integrity, honest and upright in all of his dealings, he gained the respect and good will of the community in which he resided, and his death was deeply deplored as a public loss. He was born November 17, 1836, in Tioga county, Pa., which was also the birthplace of his father, Wells Kilburn.

Reared to agricultural pursuits, Wells Kilburn was engaged as a tiller of the soil in his native state until 1852, when, with his family, he came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to California, being shipwrecked while en route. Taking up land in Napa county, he was there engaged in his independent occupation of a farmer the remainder of his life. He married, in Baltimore, Md., Ann Guy, a native of that city.

Having obtained the rudiments of his education in his native county, Guy Kilburn completed his early studies at a college in Baltimore, Md. Coming with the family to the Pacific coast, he assisted his father in improving a farm, and afterward engaged in farming on his own account in the Napa valley. Removing to Contra Costa county in 1867, he followed his chosen occupation in Antioch for a year. In 1868 Mr. Kilburn located at Hills Ferry, and having purchased the ten hundred and twenty acres included in his homestead, which lies four miles north of Newman, he began the improvement of a farm. He was for many years successfully employed as a grain raiser, but devoted the latter years of his life to stock-raising and dairying, carrying on an extensive and profitable business until his decease.

In Napa, Cal., Mr. Kilburn married Jeannette A. Smith, who was born near West Liberty, Iowa, a daughter of Egbert T. Smith. A native of New York state, Mr. Smith was born and reared on Long Island, his birth occurring in 1817. When a young man he journeyed on horseback to Ohio, locating in Franklin, where he took up a tract of timbered land, from which he cleared a farm. In 1835 he continued his journey westward to Iowa, where he continued as a tiller of the soil for nearly a score of years. Coming from there to California via Panama in 1852, he was employed in mercantile pursuits at Marysville for two years, and then went to Napa county, where he took up land, which he managed during his remaining years of activity, living in Napa until his death, in 1879, at the venerable age of eighty-five years. Mr. Smith married Sarah Schencke, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Rev. William Schencke, and died, in 1851, in Iowa. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Kilburn nine children were born, namely: Stella, wife of William C. Smith, of Stockton, Cal.; Ada, at home; Ruth, wife of George Stewart, of Stanislaus county; Kate, wife of F. M. Eachus, of San Francisco; E. S., living at home; Ella, wife of W. G. Wilson, of Madera county; Mabel, wife of L. M. Doty, of San Francisco; Charles L., of San Francisco; and Guy, at home. Politically Mr. Kilburn was a staunch Republican in his views; religiously he was a member of the Episcopal Church; and fraternally he was an active and influential Mason, having passed through all the different organizations of the Masonic order, and taken the thirty-second degree. He became a Knight Templar in the Stockton Commandery. Since the death of Mr. Kilburn, the family have sold the dairy business, and two hundred acres of land. The balance of the property is rented for dairy purposes.

---

**ASA EDWARD MOUTREY.** As manager of the Le Grand Rochdale, a general merchandise establishment of this place, Mr. Moutrey ranks among the most prominent business men of this section. A native Californian, he was born in Plainsberg, Merced county, November 16, 1874, a son of Thomas L. Moutrey. The latter was born in Missouri in 1847, his parents being natives of Kentucky. In young manhood he married Elizabeth Hayes, also a native of Missouri and the daughter of Upton Hayes, of Kentucky, a grandson of Daniel Boone. When five years old Thomas L. Moutrey removed to Texas with his parents, and while a resident of that state served as soldier in the Confederate army, being then but seventeen years of age. After the close of the war he followed farming in Texas until

1871, in which year he came to California, first locating in Mariposa county and engaging in agricultural pursuits for some time. In 1873 he removed to Merced county and located at Plainsberg, where he engaged in ranching until 1903, when he removed to Madera, where he remained one year, now making his residence in Le Grand. Four children were born to himself and wife, namely: Asa Edward, the subject of this sketch; Lemuel, Margaret and Fleda.

After attending the public schools of his native county, Mr. Moutrey entered the Pacific University at San Jose and studied for two and a half years. He then returned to Plainsberg and engaged in ranching for a number of years, in 1903 accepting the position of manager in the building of the store of the Rochdale Company, since which time he has been in their employ. This business is incorporated at \$10,000, and carries a full line of general merchandise, three men being employed in the discharge of the work. The ability of Mr. Moutrey to plan and execute and his thorough understanding of the details of the business have added to the profitableness of the enterprise, as well as his uniform courtesy and desire to please the public winning many friends, who regard him both personally and commercially as an acquisition to the society of the place. In fraternal circles Mr. Moutrey is an Odd Fellow, a Mason and a member of the Woodmen of the World. Politically he is a stanch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

---

**JOSEPH LARKIN MOFFETT.** Numbered among the active, enterprising and prosperous agriculturists of Tulare county is Joseph Larkin Moffett, who owns and occupies a well-tilled alfalfa ranch, advantageously located about five miles east of Visalia. Liberal, thoughtful and full of energy, he is ever ready to lend a hand toward the establishment of any good project, and these sterling characteristics have made him respected as an honored and useful member of the community. A son of Henry Moffett, he was born February 13, 1860, in Mendocino county, this state.

Although a native of Tennessee, Henry Moffett was brought up in Missouri, where his parents settled as pioneers when he was a lad. In 1856, convinced by the glowing descriptions of California that this state was surely the emigrant's eldorado, he joined a party bound for the Pacific coast, and crossed the intervening plains with ox teams. Locating in Mendocino county, he took up land and carried on dairying and farming for a number of years. Coming to Tulare county in 1864, he took up land in the Antelope valley, sixteen miles east of Visalia,

and continued in his independent occupation. He was quite successful, and became owner of valuable tracts of land in the Sand creek district. Removing to Visalia in 1887, he was there engaged in the hardware business until 1895, when he sold out his stock to King & Co., and invested the proceeds in land. Taking up his residence in Orosi in 1898, he is a hale and hearty man of seventy-six years, living retired from active business. He is a steadfast supporter of the Democratic party and a valued member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He married Charlotta Smith, a native of Missouri, and they became the parents of thirteen children, eight boys and five girls, Joseph Larkin of this review being the third child in order of birth.

Having completed his early education in the district school, Joseph L. Moffett served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for ten years, being employed in Visalia and Portersville. Turning his attention then to agricultural pursuits, he owned and operated a threshing machine outfit for eighteen summers, being employed in the San Joaquin valley, and at the same time carrying on general farming and stock raising. In 1899 Mr. Moffett purchased his present home ranch, which is situated five miles east of Visalia, and of which he had previously had the management for several years. It contains eighty acres of rich and fertile land, and in addition to raising large crops of alfalfa he raises hogs and cattle. A thorough-going farmer, paying strict attention to the details of his line of industry, Mr. Moffett has been successful in his undertakings.

In Visalia Mr. Moffett married Maggie Carter, who was born and bred in Tulare county, and they have eight children living, namely: Joseph Otto, Henry Clyde, Charles, Ewell, Dorothy, Claris, and Rena and Vena, twins. Politically Mr. Moffett is a stanch Democrat, having never swerved from the faith in which he was reared, and fraternally he belongs to the Visalia Lodge, W. O. W., of which he is a past officer.

---

**MOSES DODGE.** The possession of a ten-acre ranch two miles west of Fresno has brought Moses Dodge a realization of his desire for an ideal country existence and a competence. The modern improvements which add to the value of his property are entirely of his own making, for when he settled in Fresno in 1884 the ground was an undisturbed prairie, and at present is under cultivation to fruit and alfalfa. He is engaged in general farming and some stock raising, in both of which departments of country activity he is well schooled. Mr. Dodge was born in Olney, Suffolk county, Me., October 4, 1831, a son of

Moses and Mary (Leman) Dodge, who had besides, two older and six younger children, four of whom are living. The family was established in America during early colonial times by an ambitious Scotch ancestor, who presumably settled in Massachusetts. Moses Dodge, Sr., died when his son was five years old, having never moved from his native state. He was survived by his wife until her ninety-seventh year.

Owing to the death of his father, and the large family dependent upon the care of his mother, Moses Dodge, Jr., at the age of six years, went to live with a relative in Edgecomb, Lincoln county, Me., and was there reared and educated until his twenty-first year. He then went to Bath, Me., and learned the ship carpenter's trade, two years later removing from there, but for ten years continuing to work at his trade. April 26, 1861, he arrived in San Francisco, after a journey by way of the Isthmus of Panama, thereafter working at his trade for three and a half years, a part of the time at Mare Island. In 1865 he returned to his home in Maine and engaged in farming near Newcastle, and in 1866 married Esther Glidden, now deceased, who became the mother of one son, Walter W., who is married and has one child, Roland, and is a resident of Fresno. In 1884 Mr. Dodge returned to the west and bought his present ranch and in 1894 was again married, in Fresno, to Laura E. Hoffman, a native of Ohio. Since his return to California he has made many friends among his progressive and hospitable neighbors. During his long and active life he has derived pleasure from association with the Masons for many years, and now holds a demit from the Massachusetts lodge. He is a Republican in politics, and in religion is identified with the First Baptist Church of Fresno.

**JACOB IPSSEN.** The success which Mr. Ipsen has achieved has been entirely the result of his own efforts, for he came to Merced county a stranger in a strange land, with no knowledge of either language or customs, and with only his own energy and ambition upon which to build his hopes for a future. He now owns a ranch of four hundred and eighty acres adjoining the town of Le Grand, Merced county, while the Santa Fe Railroad passes through a part of his property, which is given over entirely to the cultivation of wheat and barley, the average yield being seven sacks per acre.

A native of Denmark, Mr. Ipsen was born February 19, 1856, on Bornholm Island, which is sixteen by twenty miles in extent. He is a son of Peter and Margarita (Funk) Ipsen, farmers of Denmark, who never left their native country. Jacob Ipsen received his education in the public

schools of Denmark and was reared to young manhood on the paternal farm. He remained at home until attaining the age of twenty-six years, when, in 1882, he came to California by way of New York City, and after reaching the west located in Merced county, where he worked on the ranch which he now owns for a period of three years. He then rented land and raised grain until 1900, renting from two to four thousand acres of land and devoting the same principally to wheat. In the meantime he purchased his ranch and now gives his entire time to its cultivation and improvement.

In California Mr. Ipsen married Anna Hansen, also a native of Denmark, and they have one son, Arthur, now eight years old. Mr. Ipsen is a Republican in his political convictions, and fraternally affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; he also belongs to the Encampment. He is a self-made man and has acquired a competency since coming to California, as well as winning for himself the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

**HOWARD C. KEELEY,** who has served Stanislaus county as county recorder and auditor, has made his influence felt in both political and business circles of the community and has made for himself a position of prominence among its representative citizens. He was born at Chillicothe, Mo., December 3, 1867, being the sixth child and the youngest son in a family of five sons and four daughters born to his parents, Conrad and Louisa (Miller) Keeley, the former born in Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia, and the latter born in that city December 29, 1832. The father was a carpenter and builder by occupation, and foreseeing greater opportunities in the middle west he removed from his native state to Illinois, afterward locating in Iowa, from which state he removed to Chillicothe, Mo. In the last named place he followed his trade as well as being employed as a farmer. In 1869 he emigrated to California and located at Sonora, where he was likewise employed, fifteen years later seeking a home near Oakdale, Stanislaus county. After four years of the same kind of employment he removed to the neighborhood of Modesto, same county, engaging in farming seven miles north of the city until his death, which occurred January 20, 1900, at the age of seventy-one years seven months and twenty days. In politics the elder Mr. Keeley was a staunch Republican, and at the time of his country's need he enlisted in Company G, of the Missouri Regulars and served from 1861 for a period of three years. His wife survives him, now living upon the home place seven miles north of Modesto, at the age of seventy-one years.

After receiving his preliminary education in the common schools of California, Howard C. Keeley entered the commercial college of Stockton, from which he was graduated in 1898. His first employment afterward was as manager of the Grange Company Warehouse at Montpelier, Stanislaus county, in which connection he remained until 1896. He then entered upon a general merchandise business in that place, in his intercourse with the public winning many friends who recognized his evident ability in public capacity. A Republican in politics, and for five years a member of the Republican county central committee, he was nominated and elected by that party to the office of county recorder and auditor in 1902, acceptably discharging the duties of the same. In Ripon, this state, he was united in marriage with Lillie Ida Melton, of Iowa, whose father Jesse, also a native of Iowa, came to California in the '60s and located in Stanislaus county, where he engaged in farming. His death occurred at Ripon when about seventy-five years old. To Mr. and Mrs. Keeley have been born three children, all of whom are at home with their parents: Jesse C., Clarence and Walter. Fraternally Mr. Keeley is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

---

FRANCIS E. MCKEE. A well-known business man of Le Grand, Merced county, is Francis E. McKee, a dealer in general merchandise in this place with W. C. Kroh. He was born in Grant county, Wis., June 12, 1871, a son of Eli McKee, a native of New England. The elder Mr. McKee located in Wisconsin in an early day and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1872, when he came to California. He settled in Ripon, San Joaquin county, and there became a successful rancher, remaining in that location until his death at the age of sixty-five years. His wife, who survives him and still makes her home in Ripon, was formerly Elizabeth Dickinson, a native of Wisconsin, and the daughter of Putman Dickinson.

Mr. McKee has practically known no other home than that of his adopted state, being reared and educated in San Joaquin county and remaining in the paternal home until manhood. He remained in that county until 1899, the last five years of his residence being engaged in a mercantile enterprise in Lathrop, with B. F. Eastman. In 1899 he came to Le Grand, in September of that year opening a branch store in partnership with Mr. Eastman, which continued about one year, at which time he purchased Mr. Eastman's interest and conducted the business alone until January, 1903, when W. C. Kroh purchased an interest in the business. They have since developed the business and continued to add to an

already extensive patronage, now carrying a stock valued at \$13,000, in the disposal of which the services of four men are required. They are men of undoubted business ability both to plan and execute, of integrity and honor, and hold a high place in commercial and social circles.

Mr. McKee married Laura Williams, a native Californian, and the daughter of Mark Williams, a pioneer of the state. They have one child, Neva, who was born in San Joaquin county. In his political convictions Mr. McKee is a Republican and as a popular man of his party was chosen to the office of deputy assessor of Merced county. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Fraternal Aid Society.

---

CHARLES M. WELCH, an honored agriculturist and stock-raiser owning two hundred and ninety-seven acres of land devoted to diversified farming, has worked his way from a small beginning, and is entitled to the credit due all deserving and persevering men. Mr. Welch is a native of California, being born near Waterford, Stanislaus county, October 25, 1868, a son of Charles E. and Sarah E. (Ramsey) Welch, California pioneers of 1852, the former a native of Maine, and the latter of Missouri.

Philip Welch, the grandfather of Charles M., also was born in Maine, and was a man of pronounced courage and ambition, as were all of the California pioneers of 1849. Leaving a well-tilled and paying farm, he embarked on a steamer to the Isthmus of Panama, crossing which he re-embarked for San Francisco, finally locating in Tuolumne county, where he achieved fair success as a miner. Charles E., his son, in 1852 gathered together his belongings and joined his father on the coast, journeying hither by the same route, and riding across the Isthmus on a mule. He also succeeded as a miner, and eventually settled near Waterford, Stanislaus county, where he owned a thousand acres of land, and rented the Hartley ranch of three thousand acres, for three years. He was married in Stanislaus county to Sarah E. Ramsey. He operated on a large scale in both stock and grain raising, leaving a competency to his family at the time of his death in San Francisco, at the age of fifty-seven.

Educated in the public schools of Stanislaus county, and at the Stockton Business College, Charles M. Welch grew into a knowledge of general farming, of which his father had made a success. He assisted with the work of the home and Hartley ranches for three years. In 1900 he went to Kings county and farmed a couple of years, and during that time purchased his present ranch of two hundred and ninety-seven acres, one hundred of which consists of rich bottom-







GEORGE LAUGHEAD

land, and upon which he located in 1903. Already his ranch shows the effort which he is expending upon it, and while he has the advantage of the work of former owners, his methods are more progressive, scientific, and practical, having behind them a younger brain and more vigorous physique. In 1898 Mr. Welch married Anna Feldhaus, daughter of John Feldhaus, and born in Merced county. Two children have been born into their home, Arlita and Lorina. Mr. Welch has never aspired to political office, although he is an active Democrat, having the greatest confidence in the tenets of his chosen party. He is gifted with an agreeable and jovial nature, a keen sympathy for those less fortunate than himself and a generous heart for the deserving and temporarily embarrassed. Mr. Welch is one of the popular and successful men of the vicinity of Snelling.

**GEORGE LAUGHEAD.** Until the early part of the year 1904 the roll call of the courageous men who came to California in 1849 included the name of George Laughead, to whose remote home in bleak Nova Scotia penetrated the glad news of discovered gold, and whose ambitious nature responded to so rare an opportunity of acquiring a fortune. Working in his little shop in the English dependency yielded him a fair income, for he was a good blacksmith, doing thoroughly and well whatever task came his way to perform, yet at best there was little promise for the future, more especially of the large kind held out by the practically unknown west. He was a single man when he crossed the Isthmus of Panama and sailed up the coast to San Francisco, having no one to care for but himself, and no hindrance in his way save that of absence of money and influence.

After an unsuccessful mining experience Mr. Laughead more fully appreciated the advantages of his trade, and, locating in Stockton, applied it with fair results. First and foremost he was a lover of the soil, and his shop became restricted and unsatisfying as he saw around him the chances of land ownership and development. Coming to the San Joaquin valley, he farmed on the west side of Stanislaus county, finally acquiring large tracts of land, which he set out in wheat, becoming one of the largest grain raisers of his section. He thought nothing of having a thousand acres under wheat, and at present his family own his farm of six hundred and forty acres near Westley, another one-hundred-acre tract in the same locality, and a mountain ranch of over eighteen hundred acres. After years of successful tilling of the soil, acquired solely through his own efforts, and maintained in order by his excellent management and enterprise, he

was counted one of the progressive agriculturists of Stanislaus county. His death was not unexpected, but was nevertheless deeply regretted by appreciators of true and capable manhood, and he was followed to his last resting place by many who had known him in the early days, as well as by those who had shared his later years of prosperity. He was respected by all who knew him, and was held up as representative of a class of men who stand alone in the history of the county, both as to the courage required of them, and the nature of the work they accomplished. In San Francisco, October 1, 1897, Mr. Laughead was united in marriage with Mrs. Isabell Langille, who is the mother of two children, Samuel and Howard Langille, who reside with their mother. Mr. Laughead was a Republican in politics, and fraternally was connected with Modesto Chapter No. 49, R. A. M. Mrs. Laughead, who is a native of Nova Scotia, is a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church at Grayson.

**ROBERT W. FIX.** A prominent citizen of Merced county is Robert W. Fix, a successful ranchman located on two hundred and forty acres about one mile from Plainsberg, and engaged in the raising of grain, for which purpose he also rents six hundred and forty acres. He has been located in the San Joaquin valley since 1876 and has met with a success which has numbered him among the representative men of the county. Born in Bartholomew county, Ind., February 3, 1840, he is a son of William Fix.

William Fix was a native of Wheeling, W. Va., and of German ancestry. In manhood he married Margaret Monroe, a native of Kentucky and of Scotch ancestry. He went to Indiana when a young man and engaged in farming pursuits, where he remained until about 1851, when he located in Davis county, Iowa. Seven years were passed in that location when they removed to Macon county, Mo., where he farmed for seventeen years. His last move was to the state of Texas, where he died at the age of eighty-six years. His wife died in 1903, also eighty-six years old.

Robert W. Fix was reared in the states of Iowa and Missouri and received his education through the medium of the public schools. In Missouri he married Frances Vickers, a native of Kentucky, and in 1872 they removed to Texas, where he farmed for four years. On account of his wife's health he sold his farm in Texas and came to California, and in Merced county he worked as a ranch hand for seven years. He then rented a section of land and raised grain for a number of years. In 1897 he purchased his present ranch of two hundred and forty acres and has since

made this property his home, giving his most earnest efforts toward its improvement and development. Of the seven children born to himself and wife three are now living, namely: Effie, wife of Robert Burchell; Cecil, wife of E. T. Russell of Lodi, this state; and Ora. Mr. Fix is a Republican politically, and in the interests of his party has served as school trustee. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

DANIEL H. GRUBB. Grain and stock are the two commodities upon which Daniel H. Grubb depends for a livelihood, preference being given to the former, of which he has several hundred acres. Mr. Grubb is one of the successful grain raisers of the vicinity of Snelling, where he purchased five hundred acres in 1883, and where he also rents twelve hundred acres of grain land. He is an energetic, well informed, and popular farmer, aiming at the best along agricultural lines. He was born near Madisonville, Monroe county, Tenn., September 12, 1837, a son of Darius and Sarah (Heiskell) Grubb, natives of Virginia.

Darius Grubb was reared on a Virginia plantation, and as a young man went to Tennessee, where he farmed near Madisonville, and where he lived to be fifty-five years old. Daniel H. was eight years old when his father died, and he continued to live at home until after his marriage to Sarah E. Carson, a native of Tennessee. She was born in Madisonville, Monroe county, October 30, 1840, and marrying at the age of twenty-one years, remained in Tennessee until her husband removed to California. Mr. Grubb left his farm to enlist in the Confederate army in Company G, Sixty-third Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Grubb. His company surrendered at the battle of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863, and he soon afterward returned to his home in Tennessee. The conditions in the south after the war influenced him to seek a more promising location, and early in 1866 he came to California, having sailed from New York December 28, 1868, arriving in San Francisco on the ship Golden City, after twenty days on the water. He first went to Stockton, of which he had heard much, but not realizing his expectations of securing work removed to Oakdale. Later he farmed in Stanislaus county for two years. Not content with his location he went to Fresno, but soon returned to Stanislaus county, and farmed until 1883.

Mr. Grubb was a prudent as well as good worker, and in 1883 it was possible for him to realize his ambition of owning a farm of his own, which is located a mile and a half from Snelling. Mr. Grubb is a Democrat in politics. His farm

has kept him far too busy to permit of office seeking, being averse to public life of any kind. He is a staunch friend of education, and has been glad to give his children better opportunities than he himself had in his youth. In the order of their birth the children are: Elizabeth D., the wife of J. L. Allen; Charles F., George, James, Daniel H., Jr., and William.

Mrs. Grubb died September 6, 1902, at her home near Snelling. Her life had been devoted to her home, her husband, and her children, all of whom were at her bedside when she passed away. She had been in poor health for nearly three years, but was a brave and patient sufferer. Hers was a beautiful life, given to many kindnesses and acts of charity. Her passing was not only a loss to her family but to the community at large.

Mr. Grubb enjoys the confidence of the community in which he lives and is regarded as one of its best informed, most public-spirited and influential farmers.

---

ADOLPH BERTRANDIAS, a liquor merchant of Snelling, was born in San Francisco September 25, 1852, and is a son of Alphonse and Frances (Bedadet) Bertrandias, natives of France, the former born February 25, 1823. Alphonse Bertrandias was a carriage-maker and a carpenter during early life. In 1847 he landed at Valparaiso, Chili, South America, and arrived in San Francisco in January, 1850. Until 1853 he mined in Calaveras and Mariposa counties, after that followed his trade of carpenter, and in connection therewith managed a bathing resort in Mariposa county until 1861. At Hornitos he engaged in the lumber business from 1861 until 1869, then went to San Francisco, and from there to Merced in 1872, purchasing some town lots which he improved and made his residence in that city until 1874, when he again returned to San Francisco, where he has since lived a retired life. He was fairly successful in the various lines of business in which he engaged, was always respected by his associates and the public at large, and accumulated a fair competence. Besides Adolph, his oldest son, he has a son Emile, who was born in 1857, and is now a resident of Oakland.

After completing his education in the public schools of Mariposa county, Adolph Bertrandias started to learn the trade of harness making in 1868, following this trade in San Francisco, and later in Snelling, until taking up his present business. He established a home of his own in 1884, his marriage with Rebecca McSwain taking place on January 16. Mrs. Bertrandias was born in Missouri, March 10, 1860, a daughter of Neil and Mary E. (Miller) McSwain; the latter a

native of Kentucky, makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Bertrandias, and is past eighty-one years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Bertrandias have had five children; Neil A. and Adlai, a son and daughter, survive; two sons and one daughter died in childhood. Mr. Bertrandias is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a descendant of a family substantially connected with the pioneer days of the state, and he himself is recognized as a straightforward, intelligent member of the community, having many pleasing and admirable traits of character.

---

**JAMES G. MACKEY.** Among the agriculturists who gave the best years of their life to the development of Kings county, who lent their good name and noble aims to the foundation of its prestige, and who then passed on to the bourne from which no traveler ever returns, must be mentioned James G. Mackey, to whom his community owes much, because of his perseverance and fine traits which characterized his sojourn in the west. During the years of his greatest activity, Mr. Mackey was one of the leading grain and stock raisers in the vicinity of Hanford, and his farm of six hundred and forty acres, now occupied by his widow and five children, bears every evidence of his orderly and systematic habits, his thrift and progressive spirit. He did not become a land owner through any chance of inheritance, but worked long and faithfully for the right to leave those dependent on him secure from want and in the possession of one of the most beautiful and well-equipped rural homes in Kings county.

The life of Mr. Mackey began on a farm in Rockbridge county, Va., where his birth occurred September 1, 1854. He developed early aspirations as an educator, and, after graduating from the high school of a near-by town, taught school for a few terms and also acquired business experience as a clerk in a general store. In 1876 he found his way clear to come to California. Soon afterward he obtained employment on a ranch in what is now Kings county, and after two or three years rented a farm upon which he started to raise grain on a small scale. So successful was he in this department of activity that he rented more and larger tracts, in time having several hundred acres of rented land under grain. The problem of threshing his own products suggested the purchase of a threshing-machine, to which he later added a header, and operated the same throughout the country for several years. In time he bought eighty acres in Fresno county, and later eighty acres of the present home, adding from time to time until a section had been acquired. He also invested in one hundred and

sixty acres in Tulare county. During his last years he devoted his land to stock and general ranching, instituted about all the improvements known to the agricultural world, and built the beautiful home, which illustrated his appreciation of the comforts and luxuries of life.

February 9, 1882, Mr. Mackey married Callavan Woodcock, who came to California with her parents in 1875, from Arkansas, her native state. Five children were born of the union, of whom Minnie C. married Robert Cavanaugh, and is established in a home of her own, while Jasper G., John W., Arthur A. and Annie Maude are living at home. Mr. Mackey was a substantial and painstaking man, and sociable in his nature, being devoted to his friends and hospitable in his home. For many years he was active in politics, and not only served as county supervisor for four years, but was a trustee of both the county and town schools of Hanford. Fraternally he was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The estate of this honored pioneer is valued at \$30,000, all accumulated through his own labor and without the sacrifice of principle or the good will of any of his associates. He was popular and highly esteemed, and one of the county's most deserving and successful settlers. He died at his home five miles northeast of Hanford, June 10, 1902.

---

**WILLIAM YOUND.** One of the extensive grain raisers in Merced county is William Yound, who, in partnership with his brother, George, owns a section of land fourteen miles north of Merced, and four miles from Snelling. They also lease eighteen hundred acres, both properties being under grain, in the raising of which they have achieved marked success. Mr. Yound is an American from every standpoint save that of birth, for he was just five weeks old when his parents, James and Elizabeth (Prescott) Yound, crossed the seas in a sailing vessel, hoping for larger opportunities in America.

James Yound was a brick mason by trade, a calling which he followed for many years in Manchester, England, where his son William was born December 25, 1848. He came direct to New Orleans from the English port, finally locating in St. Louis, where he was known as the leading contractor for ten years. In 1859 he crossed the plains with his family in an ox-train of forty wagons, on the way experiencing many strange happenings, and often encountering the Indians who seemed kindly disposed. Inclement weather, illness, and swollen streams retarded their progress, so that over a year had elapsed ere they arrived in California. For some years the family lived in Eldorado county, where the father engaged in mining, after which he went to Stock-

ton and followed his trade until 1869. He then moved to Merced county and assisted in the construction of many of the first buildings in the town of Merced, working at his trade until shortly before his death at the age of sixty-three years. During the last years of his life he owned a ranch ten miles south of Merced, where he had a dairy, and also raised grain and stock. In politics he was a Republican.

William Youd owes his early education to the public schools of Eldorado and Amador counties, and his agricultural knowledge to his father's teachings and his own observation and experience. He was ambitious as a boy, and still more so as a man, and in 1863 went into partnership with his brother, George, renting four sections of grain land. Since then the brothers have purchased six hundred and forty acres, and continue to rent eighteen hundred acres, all devoted to grain. Mr. Youd married Laura Thompson, a native of Mississippi, and daughter of James Thompson, who came to the coast in 1881. They are parents of three children, namely: Bert, twenty-two years old; Charles, eighteen; and William T., twelve. Mr. Youd is one of the influential and progressive men of his neighborhood, and ranks among the successful and extensive grain-growers of Merced county.

GEORGE A. KAHL. A prosperous rancher, George A. Kahl is located near Plainsberg, Merced county, engaged in the cultivation of an extensive property, having three hundred and twenty acres in his own ranch, and, with his brother, Ernest D. Kahl, is conducting the interests of the old homestead, which consists of thirteen hundred and eighty acres. Their interests are largely given over to the raising of wheat, barley and cattle, as well as other stock, the sale of hogs alone in 1903 amounting to \$1,000. Mr. Kahl is a progressive and enterprising farmer and by his business-like methods and thorough system has met with a success which places him among the representative men of the community.

With the exception of five years and five months, every year of Mr. Kahl's life has been spent in Merced county, where he was born September 26, 1866. He is a son of Adam Kahl, whose biographical sketch appears on another page of this volume. At the age of sixteen he had finished the public school course and then entered the Stockton Business College, passing five years preparing himself by a commercial education for a successful prosecution of whatever line of work he might choose to take up. Afterward he spent five months in San Luis Obispo county. Returning to Merced county, he has since made this his home, engaging in the

cultivation of his extensive ranch. He is a prominent man in his community and has been called upon to serve in public capacity, for ten years, from 1891 to 1901, discharging the duties of justice of the peace. He married Mabel B. Gardner, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of William Gardner. Of this union were born five children, namely: Georgia W., Helena W., Guy and Mabel L., and Evelina M., the second child, is deceased. Politically Mr. Kahl is independent, reserving the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best adapted for official capacity. Fraternally he was a member of the Merced Parlor No. 24, N. S. G. W., for ten years; is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

THOMAS IDLE. The life which this narrative sketches began in Lincolnshire, England, January 26, 1854, where Thomas Idle was born, son of Thomas Idle, Sr., a native of the same locality, and his wife, who was formerly Elizabeth Carnal. His father being a farmer Thomas Idle, Jr., was reared to the practical duties incident to an agricultural life, remaining at home until attaining the age of twenty years. He then, in 1874, immigrated to the western world, seeking the greater opportunities of America. Coming direct to California he located on the Sacramento river where he found employment in the work to which he had early been trained, continuing in this occupation for ten years. In 1877 he returned to England on a visit and on coming back to California he located in Davisville, Yolo county, where he remained for some time. In 1886 he came to Fresno county, purchasing a property of twenty acres, located two and a half miles southeast of the city of Fresno. Since that time he has doubled the number of acres, has made many improvements, and has brought his property under a fine state of cultivation. He now devotes thirty-two acres to the cultivation of raisin grapes, while he has seven acres of fruit trees, among which are one hundred and ten fig trees. Mr. Idle was an active member of the Raisin Growers' Association during its existence. Politically he is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

WILLIAM M. LITTLE, JR., is one of the popular and successful farmers of the vicinity of Snelling, Merced county. The farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which yields abundant harvests of wheat, alfalfa and general produce, has been in the possession of his family since the fall of 1862, having been bought by his father, William M. Little, Sr., a few months after completing







*Gov. Hickey*

the journey across the plains from Randolph county, Mo. The father was born in Virginia, and when young removed with his parents to Randolph county, Mo., where he married Mary J. Thomas, a native of Kentucky, and at present an occupant of the home ranch on the Merced river. Mr. Little was a man of strong personality, and, having learned the carpenter trade as a boy, determined to come to the west, where he supposed larger fields awaited him. He was not long in locating on the Merced river farm, which he improved and worked with his sons, and where he died in 1888, at the age of fifty-seven years. He took a keen interest in the political and other situations in which he found himself, and while in no sense an office seeker, became prominent in the deliberations of the Democratic party in Merced county. At one time he was defeated for the office of county treasurer by a small majority, and he served acceptably on the school board of his district for several terms.

William M. Little, Jr., was born October 15, 1862, near Hopetown, Merced county, on what is now the Barefield ranch, and has devoted all of his life to farming. He has been manager of the home place for several years, living there with his mother, and realizing a liberal yearly income from the rich bottom-land along the river. In 1890 he married Eva Means, a native of Merced county, who was born in March, 1872. Her father, William L. Means, came to California in 1850, having previously served in the Mexican war, enlisting from his native state of Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Little have four children, Leslie, Flossie, Clarence and Howard. Like his father, Mr. Little is a supporter of the Democratic party, and fraternally is identified with Snelling Lodge No. 121, I. O. O. F. He is an agreeable, approachable man, broad-minded and public spirited, and wielding a progressive influence in his neighborhood.

---

**FRANK W. HICKOX.** Prominent among the active and prosperous business men of Bakersfield is Frank W. Hickox, one of the leading contractors and builders of the place. A skilled mechanic, possessing inventive genius and artistic ability, he is well qualified by his native talents as well as by his knowledge and experience for his present occupation. In the fulfillment of his various contracts he is careful, painstaking and honest, and his work invariably stands the test of time. A son of the late George Hickox, he was born July 13, 1859, in Rockford, Ill.

Born and reared in Michigan, George Hickox remained in his native state until early manhood, when he settled as a farmer in Winnebago county, Ill. In 1858, on account of ill

health, he came to the Pacific coast, and for a year was employed in mining on the Klamath river. Returning to Illinois, he remained there until 1861, when he removed to Central City, Colo. There he engaged in placer mining, being half owner of the Franklin mine. He also bought a mountain ranch, from which he carried on a profitable business by supplying the miners of that locality with vegetables. Embarking in a new venture, he assisted in putting up smelting works, but on account of the ignorance of the manager of the smelter the enterprise proved a failure. Selling his interest in the mine for \$60,000 he put a large part of the sum into the smelting works, but was again unsuccessful. He subsequently devoted his time to the care of his ranch, living on it until his death, in 1875, at the age of fifty-three years. He was a staunch Republican, and a typical representative of the self-made men of his day, winning success through his own unaided efforts, his father, who was a farmer, and a Methodist minister, being unable to give him much financial help. He married Eliza Hemminway, who was born in Vermont, where her father, Dr. Joseph Hemminway, was a practicing physician. She died at the age of fifty years, in Colorado.

Accompanying his parents on the long trip by stage across the plains to Colorado, Frank W. Hickox spent his boyhood days on the home ranch. Until twelve years old he attended the little country school near his home, but afterward, for three terms, followed the trail on foot across the mountains to Central City, to continue his studies at the public school of that place. The family then lived for two years on a ranch in the valley, and he attended the schools in Golden City, after which all returned to the mountain ranch. At the age of eighteen years Mr. Hickox began learning the trade of miller, serving an apprenticeship of three years in Golden City. He subsequently spent two years learning the carpenter's trade, after which he worked as a journeyman in New Mexico, and then in different places in Colorado, including Pueblo, Silverton and Colorado Springs. In 1879, during the great booming excitement in Leadville, he helped build many of the houses then erected. Coming to California in 1886, Mr. Hickox started in business as a contractor and builder, and has since filled many contracts of importance, putting up, among other buildings of note in Bakersfield, the high, grammar and H street school buildings; the Grand hotel; the J. J. Mack, the L. P. St. Clair, and the Dinkelspiel brothers' residences; the Producers' Bank building; and many other large business blocks and residences, including his own handsome residence, on the corner of Sixteenth and

F streets. He also erected two business blocks in Tehachapi, and the Kern hotel at Kern City. Since taking up his residence in Bakersfield Mr. Hickox has been very successful in a financial as well as in an industrial way, and has accumulated a good property. He owns an interest in oil lands and stock in the Sunset district, and is proprietor of a well-paying brick yard in Kern City. In 1895 he erected the brick high school building in Fresno, costing about \$50,000, and is now supervising the erection of the new Methodist Episcopal Church building in Bakersfield, which will cost about \$22,000.

In Durango, Colo., in 1882, Mr. Hickox married Orilla Hart, a native of Missouri, and they have two children, namely: Maude E., now preparing to enter the Leland Stanford, Jr. University, at a school in Palo Alto; and Ada F., living at home. Politically Mr. Hickox is an adherent of the Republican party, and for a short time served as city trustee from the fourth precinct of Bakersfield.

**JOSEPH S. MITCHELL.** An enterprising young ranchman of Merced county, located in the neighborhood of Le Grand, is Joseph S. Mitchell, who was born in Nebraska February 1, 1865, a son of J. S. Mitchell, Sr. The latter was a native of Kentucky, who removed to Missouri in young manhood and there served in the Confederate army under General Price. After the close of the war he engaged in the work to which he was trained in his younger days, becoming a successful farmer in the state of his adoption. Feeling, however, that opportunities for advancement lay in the remote west, he came to California in October, 1874, bringing his family and locating in the neighborhood of Snelling. He there engaged in the dairy business, remaining in this county until his death. He married, in Springfield, Ky., Juliet Montgomery, who was a sister of the late J. A. Montgomery of Snelling, Merced county. Their children were named, in order of birth, as follows: Mary, James, Anna, Robert, Joseph S., William and Ella.

From his native state of Nebraska Joseph S. Mitchell accompanied his parents to California when nine years old, and was reared near Snelling, where he attended school in pursuit of an education. At the age of twenty years he became dependent upon his own resources, renting as a first venture along agricultural lines one hundred and eighty acres of land, where he farmed for about eleven years. With his accumulated savings he purchased, in 1896, his present ranch, which consists of one hundred and twenty acres, since which time he has given his best efforts toward its development and proper cultivation. In conjunction with his cul-

tivation of this land he also rents eight hundred acres, which is given over entirely to grain. Mr. Mitchell's home is presided over by his wife, who was formerly Jennie Turner, a native of this county and the daughter of J. T. Turner. They are the parents of five children, namely: Merle, Joe, James, Hugh and Isabel. In his political convictions Mr. Mitchell is a staunch Democrat and has been a member of the Democratic central committee for the past four years.

**FRANK NISSEN RASMUSSEN.** Prominent among the native-born citizens of California who have spent their lives within the state, in every possible way aiding its development, whether relating to its agricultural, manufacturing or financial interests, is Frank Nissen Rasmussen, a well-known farmer and dairyman, living about a mile east of Crows Landing. Of Danish stock on the paternal side, he was born May 24, 1876, in Ferndale, Humboldt county, a son of Jacob Rasmussen.

Born, reared and educated in Denmark, Jacob Rasmussen immigrated to the United States in 1871, and the following two years was a resident of Iowa. Coming to the Pacific coast in 1873, he lived for a time in Marin county, and then settled in Humboldt county, where he cleared and improved a large ranch, and built up an extensive business as a dairyman, establishing the first dairy in the Eel River valley. By energetic industry and good management, he acquired a competency, and is now living at Ferndale, retired from active pursuits. He married Christina Nissen, who was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and they became the parents of two sons and two daughters, of whom Frank Nissen, the special subject of this sketch, is the oldest child.

After completing his studies in the public schools of Ferndale, Frank N. Rasmussen entered St. Mary's College, in Oakland, where he was graduated in 1895. Returning then to Ferndale, he secured a position as clerk and book-keeper, and there proved himself capable and competent. In 1898 he took charge of the Crown Creamery, in Ferndale, a large private creamery, which was supplied with milk from farms that aggregated several hundreds of acres of land, and managed it most satisfactorily to all concerned for four years. Coming to Stanislaus county in 1903, Mr. Rasmussen located at Crows Landing, buying his present ranch of two hundred and forty acres, all of which is irrigated by the canal, and has since made a specialty of raising alfalfa, for which his land is well adapted.

Politically Mr. Rasmussen is a loyal supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Fra-

ternally he is a member of Ferndale Lodge, F. & A. M.; Ferndale Chapter, R. A. M.; Eureka Commandery, K. T.; the Shrine of Islam, and the Eastern Star. A man of genuine worth, he is highly esteemed by all.

---

**HANS PETERSEN.** During the sixteen years of his life in Stanislaus county Hans Petersen was known as an industrious and capable dairyman and farmer, and as a man who earnestly strove to maintain the good name of Denmark on the western coast. He developed a sincere and practical appreciation of the new country to which he came in his vigorous manhood, and set about applying his native adaptability to its improvement. While successful as a tiller of the soil and thoroughly at home in the peaceful occupation to which his life was devoted, he was not born to the occupation, for his father, Peter Petersen, was a musician, who liked better to evoke sweet sounds from his instrument than to toil under the burning sun in a harvest field from sunrise to sundown.

Born in Jutland, the mainland of Denmark, his youth must have witnessed the strife engendered between his own and the southern country of Germany, and its subsequent government by the latter power. Nevertheless, he acquired a practical common school education, and possibly the poverty of the majority of his countrymen illy accorded with the surging ambitions which visited his own heart and brain. At any rate, he immigrated across the sea to America in 1872, and in the vicinity of Oakland engaged in farming until 1877. Various causes conspired to influence his return to Denmark at this time, one of which was Anna Jepsen, daughter of Peter and Cecil Maria (Jorgensen) Jepsen, farmers living in the vicinity of his own home. His marriage to his well remembered schoolmate followed shortly upon his arrival in Jutland, the ceremony taking place in the town of Varde. Afterward Mr. Petersen settled on a farm and remained there until 1882. Mrs. Petersen was educated in the public schools and in early youth evidenced the good judgment and business ability which has marked her management of her husband's estate. Her father died in Denmark in 1887, and her mother lived until 1902.

The memory of the clear skies and wonderful climate of California abided with Mr. Petersen continually, and doubtless with this balmy land his own northern home compared unfavorably. After selling his farm and bidding adieu to the friends of his youth and manhood, he again set sail for the United States, bringing his wife with him and purchasing a small place in Oakdale of about fifteen acres. Later he bought the fifteen-acre tract now owned and

occupied by his wife, and in time bought other property, both improved and unimproved, in the town. A little later he bought four hundred and eighty acres ten miles southeast of Oakdale on Dry creek, and for the balance of his life engaged in dairying there with gratifying success. It was while out at this farm that he contracted blood-poisoning in 1898, and died two weeks later, on May 26. Since then his wife has superintended the large farm, but instead of dairying has utilized it for stock raising, as a less arduous and exacting occupation. Mr. Petersen was a staunch Republican, and in religion was a Lutheran. He was a busy and energetic man, practical and substantial, and prone to look on the bright side of life in general. He possessed the requisites for popularity among his fellow-men, and was invariably looked up to as an honest and fearless man of affairs.

Mr. and Mrs. Petersen were the parents of two children, Peter Marion and Albert. The latter was drowned June 18, 1888, at the age of four years, five months and fifteen days.

---

**DAVID WILLIAM MORRIS.** The present postmaster of Modesto is a man who well deserves the esteem and confidence which is given him by his fellow-townsmen. Though not a native of California nor yet of the country wherein he has made his home for so many years he has still given his best efforts toward the promotion of the welfare of city, county and state, as well as having enlisted in the cause of the country in time of war, having served as captain in the Spanish-American war. A native of Cardiganshire, Wales, he was born April 21, 1860, a son of Morris and Mary (Lloyd) Morris, both likewise natives of the same locality. The father was a farmer by occupation and still makes his home in Wales, being now seventy-two years old, while his wife died there aged seventy years.

Reared to manhood in his native land, Mr. Morris received his education in the common schools, upon the completion of the course securing employment with a grocer, a business which he afterward took up for himself. This work occupied his attention until 1882, but foreseeing greater opportunities on the American continent he immigrated in that year, and landing in New York City remained for a short time in that locality. His next move brought him to the Pacific coast, from San Francisco journeying at once to Modesto, Stanislaus county, where he has since made his home. Upon his locating here, he first engaged in running a restaurant, with which interest he remained connected until 1887, combining then a news agency with the printing business. For twelve years he worked on the *News*. At the breaking out of the Spanish-

American war he was made captain of Company D, Sixth California Regiment of Infantry, National Guards, being mustered into the United States service May 10, 1868. Until December 15 of the same year this regiment performed guard duty at Fort Point, and was then mustered out of service. Returning then to Modesto Mr. Morris once more resumed his business relations, handling in his news agency the San Francisco papers, cigars, stationery, etc. April 24, 1902, he received the appointment to the office of postmaster of Modesto, a third-class office, and he has since acceptably discharged the duties of the same.

Mr. Morris was married in San Francisco to Mrs. Lottie Leet, a native of New Brunswick, having come to California with her parents. Her father, Joseph Ridgeway, a native of England, was a manufacturer and came to California, his death occurring in San Francisco. To Mr. and Mrs. Morris have been born two children, both of whom are at home with their parents, namely: Florence and Irma. Fraternally Mr. Morris is a member of Lodge No. 118, B. P. O. E., of Stockton, and Knights of Pythias of Modesto. Politically he is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. He now ranks as major of the Sixth California Regiment, National Guards, and is much esteemed and liked by all his associates and fellow-citizens.

**THOMAS KEARNEY.** The first immigrant of this family was Samuel Kearney, who came to the United States in 1855. He was born in Ireland in 1816 and reared to manhood upon a farm; then learned the trade of shoemaker, which he followed in Massachusetts, where he located upon crossing the ocean. He remained in the Bay state considerably less than a year, for in 1855 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and after landing in San Francisco went at once to the mines of Tuolumne county. He continued the occupation of miner for nine years, when, in 1864, he went to San Joaquin county and secured employment on a ranch, returning to the avocation to which he had been early trained on the Emerald Isle. Until 1868 he worked for other people, when he rented land and for two years engaged in the cultivation of grain. Coming to Stanislaus county in 1870 he rented land for a like period, and then he purchased the present Kearney home, where he lived until his death in 1900 at the age of eighty-four years. His wife, formerly Sarah Vine, also a native of Ireland, still survives him and makes her home on the family ranch at the age of seventy years. The children born to them are as follows: Michael, of Oakdale; Edward, of San

Francisco; Mary E., who became the wife of Larry Smith; and Thomas, the personal subject of this review, whose birth occurred in Tuolumne county, October 9, 1860.

After the death of his father Thomas Kearney assumed charge of the home ranch, which consists of four hundred and eighty acres, located four and a half miles southeast of Oakdale. The interests of the place are practically given over to the cultivation of grain, in which Mr. Kearney has been very successful, making a place for himself among the enterprising ranchmen of the county. In his political convictions Mr. Kearney follows the example of his father and gives his support to the principles of the Democratic party. His father, Samuel Kearney, had served as school trustee for many years.

**ANTONE LEONI.** In every section of the west are evidences of the thrift and perseverance of men who have passed their childhood in the shadows of the Swiss Alps, and who, after crossing the Atlantic ocean, have developed remarkable loyalty to the country and institutions of their adoption. While all departments of activity seem to be within range of their varied powers of accomplishment, the pastoral life rests with comparative ease upon the shoulders of the sons of Switzerland, and especially are they at home in the development of vineyards and in the general science of horticulture. Antone Leoni belongs to this class of worthy citizens, and in his efforts to ally himself with the fruit-growing industry of Kings county has achieved a success worthy his industrious and painstaking methods.

It was while working on his father's farm in canton Ticino, Switzerland, that Mr. Leoni conceived the idea of coming to California, having heard much about its climate and natural advantages, and believing that it offered superior inducements. He was fifteen years of age when he set sail from European shores in 1875, having been born October 15, 1860. Arriving in San Francisco, he remained there for a time, working at the painter's trade, to which he had applied himself in his native land. December 18, 1875, he came to Kings county and for seven years worked on the ranch of his uncle near Grangeville, during that time laying by every dollar possible, until, in 1883, he found himself in a position to engage in independent farming. Moving to his present farm of eighty acres, three miles south of Hanford, he found a waving wheat-field, which he improved and set to general farming, in a few years setting out a small orchard. Each year he added to his orchard and decreased his general produce, until at present his entire farm is set out to grapes, peaches and apricots. He has ample facilities for caring for his fruit,



and his ranch leaves little to be desired in the way of general improvements.

In 1896 Mr. Leoni was married to Sadie Lane, who was born and reared in California, and of this union one son has been born, Nelson Leoni. Mr. Leoni has never desired to specially identify himself with politics, and his vote has always been determined by his appreciation of the character and abilities of the candidate in question. He is highly respected by his fellow-horticulturists, and has made many warm friends since taking up his abode in this part of the state.

**ELIHU B. BEARD.** Until recently the name which heads this review was borne by a man who gave no little of a long and useful life to the pioneer cause of California, making his presence felt in agricultural, commercial and political circles of Stanislaus county and the city of Modesto, in the latter making his home from 1873 until his death in 1902. Following the inevitable course of the old pioneers he has passed away, but he shall be long revered in the hearts of those who are now enjoying the material aid which he gave to the county in the early days of its history.

A native of Indiana, Elihu B. Beard crossed the plains to California in 1850, arriving in the west with but \$1 upon which to lay the foundation of that wealth which all expected to gain at that period in the history of the state. Like the great majority of people who sought the west at that time he engaged in mining for a while but later sought the more certain returns of a mercantile life. In 1853 he removed to Dry Creek and purchased a small ranch with the proceeds of his few years' work. This proved a successful venture and he later engaged in sheep raising, continuing to add to his land until, at his death, he owned seven thousand acres. On removing from his ranch he located first in San Jose, Santa Clara county, remaining, however, only a short time until coming to Modesto, where he gave his attention entirely to the interests of his large property and also loaned money. A Democrat in his political convictions he became a man of strong influence in political circles, as early as 1854 being elected assessor, in which capacity he continued for many years. Later in life he was elected to the state legislature, where he served two terms, his faithful support being given ever to the interests of his constituents. He was also surveyor for one term. Commercially he became much interested with the business life of Modesto, being connected with the banks of the city many years previous to his death. In religion he was a member of the Christian Church, though his father was a Quaker minister in Indiana, in which state the elder man's

death occurred. Mr. Beard lived to be seventy-five years old, retaining his faculties and his helpfulness in the affairs of the community up to the time of his death.

In the fall of 1856 Mr. Beard was united in marriage with Annie E. Kennan, a native of Missouri. Her father, Thomas, was born in Kentucky and later in life engaged as a farmer in Boone county, Mo., in which state his death occurred while en route to California. In 1854 the mother, Nancy (Cave) Kennan, brought her children to California by ox-teams, the journey consuming six months. They located on the Tuolumne river, joining here her son, Thomas, who had previously crossed the plains and located in the state. To Mr. and Mrs. Beard were born the following children: Thomas K., who is located near Modesto (he married Grace Lewis, a daughter of Alfred Lewis and Diana (Brown) Lewis, and they are the parents of ten children who are all living); Alice F., in the Sandwich Islands, where she conducts an orphan school; William; Annie; Frank C.; Ida S. and John, the five last named being deceased, the last having died in infancy. Mrs. Beard has a pleasant and comfortable home in this city where she has lived for so many years, like her husband a familiar figure in the social life of the place. Like him, also, she is a member of the Christian Church and is active in religious work. Many donations have been made to various interests of the state by those who bear this name, and it is one which will long be remembered among those who best appreciate the devotion and self-sacrifice of those who laid the foundation for the greatness of this western statehood.

**FRANK HICKMAN.** For a number of years past Mr. Hickman has been faithfully discharging the duties of the federal office of postmaster, at Hanford, Kings county, Cal. He was appointed to this office by President McKinley, and reappointed January 31, 1902, by President Roosevelt. This office belongs to the second class postoffices and Mr. Hickman employs as his assistants four clerks and four rural mail carriers, besides three city deliverers; the gross receipts for 1903 being \$12,000.

It was in the city of Clarksburg, W. Va., that Mr. Hickman was born, a descendant from an old southern family. His father, J. W. Hickman, is a native of the same state, where he still lives, residing on a farm. It was upon this identical farm that the boyhood days of Frank Hickman were spent, and, like other boys, he attended the common schools of his locality. Upon reaching his majority, in 1892 he went west to join a brother, who is now manager of the First National Bank at Hanford, in Kings county. Dur-

ing the summer Mr. Hickman worked with his brother in the bank and in November of the same year he entered the business college at Santa Cruz, from which he graduated in June, 1893.

Returning to Hanford he accepted a position as freight agent for the Southern Pacific Railway Company and filled this position in a satisfactory manner for six months. He then resigned to accept a more lucrative position as bookkeeper for Mr. Overman, with whom he remained two years. He next clerked six months in a clothing store and about that time his services were sought by the Mill & Electric Light Company and he officiated as bookkeeper for this company until July, 1897, when he resigned and went east on a vacation. He was subsequently appointed postmaster as previously mentioned and upon his return to California he assumed the duties of this office, and by his genial politeness he has won a large circle of friends. By his marriage, in May, 1903, Mr. Hickman wedded Annie Harris, formerly of Montana, and they occupy a high position socially. In fraternal circles, Mr. Hickman is allied with Lodge No. 104, K. of P.; Hanford Lodge No. 279, F. & A. M., and Hanford Chapter No. 74, R. A. M., all of Hanford. As may be inferred, Mr. Hickman is a Republican in his political preferences.

---

CHARLES F. PRECIADO. During the nineteenth century a Castilian, representative of an ancient family of Spain, crossed the ocean to America and settled in the western part of Mexico, where he acquired large mining interests in Sonora. His son, Y. Preciado, was born at Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, and at the age of eighteen years, during the excitement caused by the discovery of gold in California, crossed the desert in 1848 and was one of the first to try his luck in the placer mines of San Andreas, Calaveras county. Not meeting with the fortune he had hoped for, he sought other occupations and drifted into the stock business in Inyo county, where he was living at the time of the earthquake. Some years afterward he returned to Calaveras county, thence removed to Madera county, from there went to Fresno county, and in 1879 settled on a farm near Borden, Madera county, where he spent the remainder of his active years. Upon retiring from agricultural labors he came to Madera, where he now makes his home. Not only among people of his own nationality resident here, but among Americans as well, he is held in high esteem as an honorable citizen and one of the very oldest surviving settlers of California. After coming to this state he married Adilda Moraga, who was born in Calaveras county, and is a daughter of the late

Carlos Moraga, a Spaniard who was attracted to this country by the discovery of gold.

In the family of Y. and Adilda Preciado there are twelve children, namely: Albert E., who represents the Singer Sewing Machine Company in Madera; Rudolph R., who is a partner of his brother, the subject of this narrative; Ygnacio V., who follows the barber's trade in Madera; Alexander F., an artist living in Madera; Mrs. Lucy Cosgrove, of Madera; Carmelita, who is engaged in the millinery business in Madera; Charles F., also of Madera; Ida, who clerks for her brothers in their store in Madera; Benjamin W., who is a partner of his two brothers in the book and stationery business; Abram, Lita and Henry, who reside with their parents. It is somewhat unusual that all of the members of so large a family are still living and all remain in the town where their parents are passing their advanced years.

The seventh in order of birth among the twelve children was Charles F. Preciado, who was born at San Andreas, October 24, 1878, and passed the years of youth in Borden and Madera, alternating work on the home farm in summers with attendance at the common schools in the winter months. When seventeen years of age he laid the foundation of his present business by forming a partnership with his brother, Rudolph R., and opening a fruit, confectionery and cigar store on Yosemite avenue, Madera, in 1895. The two had a combined capital of \$17. Naturally their beginning was a very humble one. A hole in the wall, 4x8 feet in dimensions, sufficed to hold their stock of goods. In a year they had outgrown those humble quarters and by 1898 they had leased the entire store. The firm of C. F. Preciado & Co. was beginning to be recognized as a growing one. Since then they have steadily pushed their way to a position among the successful business men of their town. They feel a just pride in the fact that no bookstore in the entire county is larger or more complete than theirs. A full supply of county school books is kept on hand, also the latest and most popular novels, a varied assortment of stationery, novelty goods for holiday sale, cigars of the best brands, confectionery, etc. In addition, the brothers are the exclusive agents in Madera for the San Francisco and other important daily papers. To meet the demands of their growing business, it was recently deemed advisable to build a gallery around the first floor, thus giving them practically two stories.

Reared in the Democratic faith, politically Charles F. Preciado has always been a pronounced believer in the principles of that party. When he reached the age of twenty-one years he was appointed secretary of the Democratic county central committee and held that position for two terms. In 1902, as the Democratic candidate, he

was elected county tax collector by a majority of one hundred and fifty, and in January of 1903 took the oath of office for a term of four years. While giving his attention to official work, his brothers maintain a close supervision over the business, thus relieving him of much detail work. He is a member of the Madera Chamber of Commerce and a contributor to movements for the benefit of the town. Included in his fraternal relations are associations with the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which he is past master workman. On the organization of Madera Parlor No. 130, N. S. G. W., he became a charter member and at this writing acts as president of the local body, besides which in 1892 he was honored with the office of deputy grand president of this district.

---

WILLIAM C. TIGHE. As an example of the opportunities offered by central California to young men of ambition, intelligence and tireless energy, the business career of William C. Tighe furnishes a fitting illustration. When he came to the town of Madera, which has been his home and the scene of his commercial activities since 1891, he had a very limited amount of capital and he lacked also the prestige given by experience and influence. In compensation for these disadvantages he possessed force of character and determination, decision of purpose and high principles of honor, together with that optimistic faith in the future which is one of the endowments of youth.

Not only by education, but also by birth as well, Mr. Tighe is a Californian, for he is a native of Oakland, Alameda county, born January 5, 1868. His grandfather, J. W. Tighe, a native of Ireland, followed the butcher's trade in London, England, where J. W., Jr., was born. After some years in that city he brought the family to California via Panama and engaged in business as butcher in Oakland. The same trade was followed by his son, J. W., Jr., who opened a meat market at what is now East Oakland. Later, however, he turned his attention to other forms of activity. For a time he operated in the mines of California and Nevada. From the west he removed to Howe, Grayson county, Tex., where he conducted a hardware store and also acted as postmaster. His death occurred in that village when he was fifty-two years of age. During his residence in California he married Maria Henry, who was born in Boston and died in Oakland.

The only child of J. W. Tighe, Jr., and Maria, his wife, was William C. Tighe, who was reared in his native city of Oakland and attended the local grammar schools. When thirteen years of

age he began to clerk in a men's furnishing goods store on Broadway, between Seventh and Eighth streets, Oakland, where he acquired a thorough knowledge of that business and excelled in his ability as a salesman. Seeking an opening for himself, he resigned there and went to Fresno in 1891, but during the same year proceeded to Madera as offering, in his opinion, a better opening for a man with small capital. With a partner, under the title of Harris & Company, he opened a store in a small frame house occupying the present site of the postoffice. Here a small stock of men's furnishing goods was placed on sale. Reasonable prices and courteous treatment of all won and retained customers. On assuming the entire management of the business, in the spring of 1893, Mr. Tighe leased a room occupying a part of his present location, and to this he has added from time to time until the building is now 100x50 feet in dimensions, with four entrances. Conducted as a department store, the business is the largest of its kind in Madera county. A full and complete assortment is kept in stock of men's furnishing goods, clothing, hats and caps, boots and shoes, dry goods, notions and ladies' tailor-made goods. The equipment is thoroughly up-to-date in every respect. In 1901 the Tighe-Breyfogle Company was incorporated, with Mr. Tighe as president, and the business has since been conducted under that title. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and through his membership in the Madera Chamber of Commerce he has done much to promote the material growth and commercial prosperity of his home city. He is thoroughly alive to the importance of movements tending to promote the standing of California as a member of the great galaxy of states comprising our nation.

---

JOHN Z. WILLIAMS. With the customary zeal of an intelligent cultivator, Mr. Williams, in his efforts as a fruit grower and more especially as a raisin grower, has been amply repaid for his industry, and no more productive fruit farm of its size than his is to be found in the whole of Fresno county. Born in Iowa, January 18, 1852, he is a son of Henry and Harriett (Long) Williams, both parents being natives of Tennessee. The father, who was a life-long farmer, in the early days located in Indiana, but a couple of years later went to Iowa, where he lived until 1868. Subsequently he located in Missouri, and it was there that his death occurred in 1886, when in his seventy-sixth year.

John Z. Williams was seventeen years old when the family moved to Missouri. He assisted his father in farm pursuits until the latter's death, and two years afterward, in 1888, he left that

section of the country for a home in California. Being short of capital, soon after his arrival in California, he rented land in the vicinity of Selma, but two years later was enabled to purchase land and this has been his home ever since. His farm contains thirty-five acres of choice land and is devoted wholly to the raising of fruit and raisins. It is located seven miles from Selma, in Rosedale school district, being five miles south-east of Sanger.

The marriage of Mr. Williams, in Missouri, united him with Miss Lydia Elder, a native of that state. They have reared a family of five children, the two youngest being still at home. The others own ranches in Fresno county and as successful and prominent citizens all reflect great credit on their parents. These children are Mrs. Lena Donner, James L., Robert M., John H. and Lula. Although not an active politician, nor an aspirant to office, Mr. Williams is a faithful adherent of Republican principles and does a great deal of good in a quiet way.

**PHILIP BEDESEN.** For nearly thirty years Philip Bedesen has been a resident of Merced, Merced county, and during that time has been actively identified with its mercantile interests as proprietor of a meat market, having been one of the original members of the firm of Banks & Bedesen, established here in 1875. He has had a varied experience in life, coming from a foreign country to the United States when a boy; subsequently driving teams across the plains when danger from Indians or wild beasts beset every traveler; mining in Colorado in the days of rough experiences and settling in California in pioneer times, when hardships and privations had of necessity to be endured. In the various places where he has lived and worked, Mr. Bedesen has always been regarded as a man of integrity and honor, and in the community where he now resides, and to whose advancement and prosperity he is ever ready to lead a helping hand, he is held in great respect. A native of Germany, he was born, March 15, 1843, in Rhenish Prussia, near Trier, which was also the birthplace of his parents, John and Angeline (Staden) Bedesen. His father died in his native land when Philip was but a small child, leaving three children, of whom two are living. His mother married in Germany for her second husband, Peter Lux, and with her son and daughter they immigrated to America, and settled in Aurora, Ill.

Coming with his mother to Aurora, Ill., when thirteen years old, Philip Bedesen worked as a farm laborer in that locality for about four years. In 1861 he went to Pike's Peak, making the journey with mule-teams. Locating in Central City, he was employed throughout the summer in haul-

ing wood from the top of Bald mountain to Nevadaville, after which he was employed as a driver in a freighter's train, driving a team composed of three yoke of oxen through a country in which the Indians were troublesome. Going to St. Joseph, Mo., in the fall of 1862, he remained there six weeks, and then hired out as a teamster, and drove a mule-team to Denver. Proceeding directly to Black Hawk, Mr. Bedesen worked in the Gregory mines for a couple of months, and then went with ox-teams to Virginia City, Mont., to try his luck in the new mines, known as the Grasshopper mines, and was engaged for a time in placer mining. Becoming acquainted while there with John Banks, a butcher by trade, the two men formed a partnership, and, under the firm name of Banks & Bedesen, opened a butcher shop in Virginia City, it being the second shop of the kind established in that vicinity. This enterprising firm subsequently opened another shop in Central City, and for awhile ran both markets, till selling out the Virginia City market, and later, in the fall of 1865, selling the other. In the meantime, Messrs. Banks & Bedesen had accumulated considerable wealth, having forty pounds of gold dust in their possession after selling out. Concealing this in buckskin sacks, placed either in their pockets or around their waists, they started east, traveling with their own horse and mule teams in a train composed of eight wagons, as far as Nebraska City, where they took a steamer for St. Joseph. From there they went by rail to Philadelphia, Pa., taking their gold dust to the mint, where it was made into coin, which they sold at a premium. After visiting for a time in Aurora, Ill., Messrs. Banks and Bedesen continued their journey westward to Missouri, locating in Daviess county, Mo., where, in partnership, they purchased four hundred acres of land, and were engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1875.

Disposing of their land in that year, they migrated to California, and selecting Merced as a favorable location, opened a meat market, the third one established in the city, and operated it together until the death of Mr. Banks, in 1898. They built a slaughter house on the creek, and also engaged to some extent in farming, owning forty acres of land in the Ash colony, which they devoted to the raising of sweet potatoes, and also raised grain on two hundred acres of land which they rented. Since the death of his partner, Mr. Bedesen has continued the business alone, meeting with marked success.

In 1865, in St. Joseph, Mo., Mr. Bedesen married Elizabeth Stuber, a native of Switzerland, and into their household thus established, nine children have been born, namely: Lizzie, married to John Peak, of Merced; Emma, wife of Judge W. M. Conley, of Madera; Gussie, married to





W. H. McElegy



Frank Ralston, and died in Merced; Charles, died in Merced; Burt, in business with his father; Frank, died in childhood; Frederick, a clerk in Merced; Mary, at home; and William, a student in the University of California. Politically Mr. Bedesen is a Democrat, and fraternally he is a member and ex-treasurer of the Ancient Order of Druids.

**WILLIAM H. McELROY.** Noteworthy among the prosperous and enterprising business men of Merced is W. H. McElroy, a well known contractor and builder of the city. Industrious, energetic and keen-witted, he has taken advantage of every opportunity offered for bettering his financial condition, and has had his full share of work as a contractor, his abilities being recognized and appreciated. He is also actively identified with one of the leading manufacturing industries of this locality, being proprietor of the Merced brick yards, located about a mile north of the city. Here he manufactures brick of a superior quality, using crude oil in burning them and has a large trade in this line of business, his manufactures being readily disposed of in the home market. A son of David McElroy, he was born, March 11, 1866, in Keokuk, Iowa. His grandfather, Thomas McElroy, was born and reared in Scotland, but removed when a young man to Ireland, settling in county Armagh, where he spent his remaining days.

A native of Armagh, Ireland, David McElroy was brought up on a farm. In his youthful days he learned the trade of a civil engineer and surveyor, and afterward worked as a railroad constructor in the old country. Immigrating to the United States, he settled first in Cincinnati, Ohio, as a merchant, and later was similarly employed in Keokuk, Iowa. Removing thence to Ringgold county, Iowa, he carried on general farming there for several years, and then removed to Fresno, Cal., where he resided until his death, in 1894, at the age of seventy-seven years. He married Jane Bell, who was born in the north of Ireland, and came to this country with her father, Adam Bell, and settled on an Iowa farm. She died in Iowa in early womanhood, in 1870. Of the four children born of their union, three are living, namely: Mrs. Elizabeth Vincent, of Iowa; Ruth, wife of Dr. G. L. Lang, of Fresno, Cal.; and W. H., of this review.

Reared on a farm in Ringgold county, Iowa, W. H. McElroy acquired a practical education in the district schools. Leaving home at the age of seventeen years, he served an apprenticeship of three years at the carpenter's trade. Entering then the employ of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company, he worked in eastern Iowa and Missouri, in the bridge department, and

subsequently became foreman of bridge construction, having headquarters in Eldon, Iowa. Migrating to California in 1888, Mr. McElroy worked at his trade in Merced one summer, and then followed carpentering in Fresno for a year. Returning to Merced in the fall of 1889, he has since resided here, with the exception of a short time when he was foreman of work in Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz. Starting in business for himself as a contractor and builder in 1892, Mr. McElroy has filled contracts of all kinds, being kept busily employed at all times. He has erected many of the finest residences and business houses of the city and county, has built sewers and bridges, and taken contracts for paving, his work at all times giving satisfaction, being well and promptly done. He built the Merced county jail, and erected among others the Pednera, Barcroft and Smith Estate buildings.

Mr. McElroy married, in Merced, Rena Vincent, a native of Iowa, and they have two children, Helen and David. Mr. McElroy is a member of the Builders' Exchange of Fresno, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and to the Woodmen of the World. Politically he gives his cordial support to the Republican party. Religiously he is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**ERNEST VOLQUARDS.** Three miles southwest of Visalia, Tulare county, is located the ranch of Ernest Volquards, who is named among the enterprising ranchers of this section. He is a native son of California, having been born in San Francisco January 4, 1869, his father, Ernest Volquards, Sr., having emigrated from his birthplace in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, in 1853. The elder man was a sailor in occupation, following this line of work from the time he was sixteen years of age until his retirement in San Francisco. This was in 1862, when he returned to California as first mate. He spent three years in mining in Placer county. His death occurred in his adopted state in 1898, in the home of his son. He is survived by his wife, formerly Erasmie Jensen, a native likewise of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and who now makes her home with her son. They became the parents of three sons and one daughter, of whom two sons and the daughter are now living.

The oldest child in his father's family, Ernest Volquards, Jr., was reared in San Francisco, receiving his education in the public schools of that city. Upon attaining maturity he engaged as an employe in a nursery, raising stock for four years. In 1886 he went to Fresno county and was employed in the Faucher Creek nursery for the period of five years. At the end of that time he

removed to Tulare county and near Visalia bought his present property, which consists of forty acres of land under a high state of cultivation. This entire property is devoted to the raising of fruit; peaches and prunes occupying the greater part of his attention. One acre is devoted to nursery stock, principally peaches. In 1899 he further improved his property by erecting a beautiful residence.

In San Francisco Mr. Volquards was united in marriage with Emily Quedens, a native of that city, who died in Pasadena in 1900 while there for the benefit of her health. Fraternally Mr. Volquards is associated with the Native Sons of the Golden West, being a member of Visalia Parlor No. 19, of which he is now serving as the second vice-president, and in which he has passed all the chairs. Politically he is independent in his views, reserving the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

---

**HARVEY J. OSTRANDER.** Prominent among the pioneer settlers of Merced county is Harvey J. Ostrander, who for more than half a century has been a resident of Merced, and one of its most respected and valued citizens. In the development of the agricultural, manufacturing and mercantile interests, he has been an active and influential force. Full of vim and energy as a young man, he was among the foremost in establishing beneficial enterprises in the county, and has the distinction of having brought the first steam flouring mill to Merced county; of being the first to improve the land by irrigation; of sowing the first alfalfa seed in this region; and of being the pioneer orchardist and vineyardist of Merced county. The story of his early life reads more like a tale of romance than like the history of a plain, matter-of-fact agriculturist, being filled with thrilling incidents and interesting facts, connected with the early settlement of the state. A son of Alexander Ostrander, Jr., he was born, October 7, 1825, in Madison county, N. Y., of Holland-Dutch ancestry, being a lineal descendant of one Von Ostrander who emigrated from Holland in 1666 and settled in New York state. His grandfather, Alexander Ostrander, Sr., a native of Washington county, N. Y., served as an Indian scout during the Revolutionary war, and afterward settled as a farmer in Madison county, N. Y., where the Ostrander families removed after the war of 1812.

Alexander Ostrander, Jr., was born in Washington county, N. Y., but settled in Madison county with the other members of the families. He was engaged in various business enterprises, owning a good farm, contracting and superin-

tending large business enterprises. Inheriting the patriotic virtues of his ancestors, he served in the war of 1812. He married Mary Annis, who was born of Scotch-Irish ancestors in New York state, being the daughter of an Indian scout during the Revolutionary war. She bore him thirteen children, of whom Harvey J., the subject of this sketch, was the youngest child, and is the only survivor.

Educated in the district schools, and well trained in the arts and science of agriculture by his father, Harvey J. Ostrander remained at home during the days of his boyhood and youth, completing his studies in the village academy. Going west in 1845, he made several trips as a boatman on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and afterward spent a number of months in Wisconsin. Returning from there to New York, he remained in his native state until 1849, when he joined the gold-seekers, starting for the extreme western part of the continent in search of fortune. He came by boat to the mouth of the Rio Grande river, and thence up that waterway to within eighteen miles of Camargo, Mexico, where the boat ran aground and he had to help unload the goods, standing waist-deep in water. He then hired a man to take his personal effects, with those of some of his fellow-passengers, to Monterey, but that man dying of cholera, he hired another.

With eight of his companions, Mr. Ostrander purchased nine mules, one for each, and started across the country for Mazatlan. At Rhinaldo pass the company met some freighters camping. On the way out their guide, McNab, killed one of the party, a young doctor. At Mazatlan the company embarked on a schooner bound for San Francisco, on which there were many other passengers bound for the same point. When forty days out they made the captain land them, having been on short rations (one pint of water for cooking and drinking per day) for two weeks, disembarking about three hundred miles south of San Diego. Continuing the journey on foot, the party came on the third day to a spring around which there was about an acre of grass, on which a Mexican pack train had left a horse whose back was too sore to travel, and this proved a blessing to the almost discouraged travelers, who at once killed the animal for food. Mr. Ostrander and two of his companions walked on, traveling until ten o'clock that night, when they made a camp, built a fire of sage brush and cooked their horse meat, to him the sweetest morsel he had ever eaten. On the fourth day they traveled until sundown, when arriving at a dry creek at night, they dug down beside a big rock for about twenty inches, and to their joy found water. This day was one of the most

trying he ever experienced, the heat being intense. Arriving at El Rosario, a small hamlet of six or eight houses, on the fifth morning, they were given food, consisting of a bowl of soup and meat from a beef's head roasted in the ground. The Mexicans fetched provisions back to the remainder of the party, being induced to do so by reason of the company's equipments, which were exceptionally good, consisting of blankets and clothing, no longer needed after they had crossed the first range of mountains. One of the men left at the spring had died from hunger and exposure.

From El Rosario Mr. Ostrander came as far as San Diego on horseback, having been able to purchase a horse near El Rosario, where he sold his animal. Walking thence to Los Angeles, he and his partner bought horses, each paying \$10 apiece for them. Mr. Ostrander's proved to be unbroken and bucked badly, but as he was a born horseman, and could ride any kind of an animal, he succeeded in conquering the bucking horse, although he was thrown several times. At San Luis Obispo the partners sold their horses, and with one pack-horse between them walked to the mines in Tuolumne county, going via Monterey and Stockton. At the latter place they bought a supply of ham and crackers, and borrowing a pan and shovel engaged in placer mining on the Tuolumne river. Mr. Ostrander bought a rocker made from a shoe box, giving \$6 for it, and made enough in a week to pay for all of his purchases, including overalls, shirts and provisions. He and his partner met with losses and reverses, but made a great deal of money, also. In 1849 they accumulated much gold on Indian bar, but lost it the following year by becoming interested in companies to erect dams at Rogers, Indian and Hawkins bars, to turn the waters from their natural beds, the price of labor being \$8 per day. The dams were all swept away by the high waters that prevailed in September of that year. Mr. Ostrander succeeded in mining at the latter bar only, where in ten days he washed out \$3,000. Always in search of something better, Mr. Ostrander and his partner went to Mariposa county, but were not at all successful there, and after wasting a month's time returned to the Tuolumne diggings, at which time they became interested in the above enterprises. Had he and his partner continued mining they would doubtless have made money, but they opened a store and by trusting the miners soon lost all their capital.

Disgusted with his ill luck, Mr. Ostrander came to the Merced river in the fall of 1850, took in another partner, and for two years was profitably employed in buying and selling beef cattle. Buying a steam flour mill in Stockton in

1853, he removed it to the Merced river, and here put up the first mill south of Stockton. He afterward sold both mill and lands. He assisted in building the first water mill in this locality, was the first to irrigate, set out the first orchard and vineyard, and sowed the first alfalfa seed, raising a crop which he at first found hard work to dispose of, but which, during the drought of 1864, he sold for from \$40 to \$60 a ton. Ever since that time Mr. Ostrander has been prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits, including general farming and stock raising, and was the first man to use the mountain ranges for summer pastures for sheep, taking a flock to the Yosemite ranges as early as 1862. He is now paying especial attention to raising sheep, having four thousand head in Merced and Fresno counties. He was the first president of the Farmers' Canal Company, known afterward as the Crocker-Huffman Canal Company, the first large irrigation company in the state.

Since casting his presidential vote in 1856, at the mouth of a six-shooter, for John C. Fremont, Mr. Ostrander has been a loyal supporter of the principles of the Republican party. When the news of the firing of Fort Sumter, in April, 1861, was heard in Merced county, there was great excitement among the Union and the Confederate sympathizers, and when it was proposed to raise the American flag there were threats of pulling it down. Mrs. Ostrander made her husband promise to refrain from talking politics. On his way to Snelling with a man from Louisiana, the subject of raising the flag was brought up, but Mr. Ostrander, true to his promise, said nothing. When his companion, Mr. Gwyn, said, "If the flag is put up, it will be torn down," Mr. Ostrander could contain himself no longer, and said, "Both of my grandfathers fought in the Revolution, my father fought in the war of 1812, and if the flag is put up and torn down I will kill the ——— that pulls it down." When he returned he told his wife that he had broken his promise. The Unionists decided that it was best to defer the flag raising until the Fourth of July, but the night of the third of July the flag pole was chopped up, so there was no flag raising the next day. The next year, previous to July 4, 1862, Mr. Ostrander obtained from those who had contributed to the purchase of the flag, permission to put it up in his yard, and on that glorious day it was unfurled to the breeze, and strange as it may seem was never molested, but was kept flying during the remainder of the Civil war.

Returning to New York state in 1852, Mr. Ostrander married Lydia Wheeler, who was born in Malone, N. Y., and died, in 1890, in California. Five children were born of their union; namely:

Frank, district attorney of Merced county, who died in 1900; Jasper, a physician, who died in 1902; Willis, an inventor, who resides in Chico; Sadie, the wife of Thomas Crew, of Chico; and Frederick G., a prominent attorney of Fresno, who is an ex-district attorney and ex-judge of Merced county. In 1876 Mr. Ostrander was presidential elector of the fourth congressional district, being elected on the Hayes and Wheeler ticket. He was the first president of the Merced County Agricultural Society and later of Agricultural District No. 21, comprising Merced and Mariposa counties, and was appointed by Governor Markham to serve one term of four years as a member of the Yosemite valley and Mariposa commission. He is a life member of the Society of California Pioneers of San Francisco, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. While he has always participated in all movements that have tended to advance the interests of the community and has taken pride in the success of the same, his greatest pride is in being able to have kept the American flag flying during the Civil war.

**EDWIN JAMES LEONARD.** The present county recorder of Madera county is a descendant from the very earliest settlers in America, for the Leonard family was represented among the pilgrims on the Mayflower and was of English extraction. Both in times of war and peace its members have proved themselves worthy citizens of our republic. They built the first iron foundry in the United States, thus inaugurating an enterprise that has since become of vast extent and importance. During the Revolutionary war one of the family bore arms in defense of independence and liberty. James Leonard, who was a son of this Revolutionary soldier, was himself of loyal and patriotic spirit, which he showed during his service in the war of 1812. During the next generation James Edwin, a son of James, became a soldier in the Black Hawk war and proved himself the possessor of true Revolutionary courage.

James Edwin Leonard was a native of Norwich, Conn., and grew to manhood upon his father's farm. When Iowa was still an undeveloped region he identified himself with its pioneer farmers, settling on a rich tract of bottom-land five miles from Sabula, Jackson county, within close proximity to the Mississippi river. He witnessed the growth of that locality from its raw and crude primeval condition to one of the most fertile and valuable sections of the west. Residing there during by far the greater part of his life, he naturally had a circle of acquaintances that was limited only by the number of pioneers in the county. At the time of his

death, which occurred at seventy-six years, in 1900, he was the oldest surviving settler of the entire county. His wife, who was born Maria Higgins, was a native of Jacksonville, Ill., and died in Iowa. Her father, James Higgins, who was a native of Nova Scotia, removed to Illinois and settled on a farm near Jacksonville, Morgan county, where he died.

Four children comprised the family of James Edwin and Maria Leonard, namely: Henry, who still lives near Sabula, Iowa; Bessie, wife of M. H. Cassell of Los Angeles; Edwin James of Madera; and Mrs. Mary Kuhn of Davenport, Iowa. The third of these, Edwin James, was born near Sabula, Iowa, August 19, 1860, and during boyhood years worked on the home farm during summer months and studied in country schools in the winter. Further educational advantages included attendance at the Davenport high school and two years in Cornell College, where he took the studies of the freshman and sophomore classes. Leaving college before entering upon his junior year, in 1879 he went to Leadville, Colo., to assist in the Grant smelter under ex-Governor J. B. Grant of Colorado, Mr. Leonard's uncle, Judge James Grant, being financially interested in the project. In 1881 he left Colorado for California and settled in Madera (then Fresno) county, where he became interested in the sawmill business. One of his earliest ventures was the building of the Miami sawmill in Mariposa county, where he engaged in the manufacture of lumber with William H. Crooks as a partner. In 1883 he built a new mill with a larger capacity and continued to manage the same with his partner until 1891, when he sold his interest. He then purchased the Oak Park ranch of four hundred and eighty acres, which he improved by building an excellent system of ditching for irrigation. Making his home on the ranch, he engaged in the raising of Holstein cattle there until 1900, when he moved into Madera, and has since disposed of his ranch property. At one time he owned an interest in the Gambetta mine at Grubgulch, Madera county, but after working the claim for three years he sold out.

The marriage of Mr. Leonard united him with Melvina Oxendine, who was born in Calaveras county, her father, Meldred Oxendine, having been a pioneer of this state. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard are the parents of two children, Mamie and Mart. For several years Mr. Leonard was a member of the state Democratic central committee, and he has also served on the county central committee. In 1902 he was the Democratic nominee for county recorder and won the election by a majority of one hundred and fifty-four, taking the oath of office in January, 1903, for a term of four years. In fraternal connec-





*ed. C. Wilson*



tions he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been initiated into that fraternity in the Madera Lodge.

**WILLIAM C. WILSON.** The county of Kern has a full quota of live, energetic, progressive business men, who have been active and influential in developing and advancing its industrial and financial interests. Prominent among the number is William C. Wilson, of Bakersfield, the present county auditor. The descendant of an old and honored Virginia family, he was born August 15, 1851, in Surry county, Va., a son of James Wilson. His paternal grandfather, a lifelong resident of Virginia, was of English descent, his parents having been born in England. He owned a large plantation on the James river, opposite Jamestown, and had many slaves. He served in the war of 1812, belonging to a Virginia regiment. He lived to be seventy-nine years of age.

A native of Virginia, James Wilson was employed in agricultural pursuits during his active career. He died in the prime of life, in 1852, when his youngest child, William C., was but a year old. His wife, whose maiden name was Julia A. Cabaniss, was a native of Virginia, and there spent her entire life, dying at the age of sixty-five years. On being left a widow she and her three sons made their home with her husband's grandfather, living with him until about 1860, when, in order to give her children better educational advantages, she removed to Smithfield, Va. When war was declared, in 1861, she took her family to Rutherford, N. C., and remained there until the close of the conflict, when she returned to Smithfield.

Educated mostly in private schools, William C. Wilson remained at home until 1869, when he came to Fort Jones, Siskiyou county, Cal., where he had an uncle living, borrowing money to pay his fare out. He attended the public schools for awhile, and then began for himself, the first year thereafter being employed as a clerk in a general store. In 1870, having previously returned the money which he had borrowed, and in addition saved enough to pay his expenses through college, he entered Heald's Business College, in San Francisco, from which he was graduated. Mr. Wilson subsequently became hotel and telegraph clerk at the Tubbs hotel, Oakland, and was afterward in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway Company for a time. Coming then to Kern county, he was first agent in Delano, and was then sent to Mojave, where he was agent and operator for a year, during which time the railroad was extended to The Needles.

Resigning his position with the railway company, Mr. Wilson embarked in mercantile pur-

suits in Mojave, and had just got well started when, at the end of two years, he lost everything by fire. Nothing daunted, however, he started anew, and subsequently opened a branch store at Randsburg, putting in a stock worth \$20,000. Again he lost by fire, his branch store and all of his stock, on which there was no insurance, being burned. He had other property, being the owner of valuable mining claims, and these, and his general store in Mojave, he sold, paying up all his indebtedness in full. Continuing his residence in Mojave, he ran a drug store and operated the postal telegraph office until October 9, 1900, when he was for the third time the victim of a fire, his office, store, home and everything being consumed. Having previously built a telephone line from Mojave to Randsburg, a distance of forty-three miles, he now assumed the management of it, taking the superintendency that the operating firm had given up. Putting in an exchange at Randsburg, Mr. Wilson extended the line to the Stringer district and Johannesburg, and was successful in his operations. He also built two business blocks in Mojave, and at Cameron, eleven miles from there, he owned a ranch, the management of which he supervised. In November, 1902, Mr. Wilson accepted the Democratic nomination for county auditor, and was elected by a majority of six hundred and fifty votes. Taking the oath of office in January, 1903, he has since resided in Bakersfield, where he has built a fine, modern residence.

In October, 1890, Mr. Wilson married Annie McNicoll, daughter of A. McNicoll, who is associated with the McNicoll Elevator Company of San Francisco. Politically Mr. Wilson is a Democrat in national affairs. Fraternally he is a member of Tehachapi Lodge No. 313, F. & A. M., which he helped to organize; of Bakersfield Chapter, R. A. M.; and of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

**JOHN MARION JONES.** The sheriff of Madera county is a member of an old southern family. Through his paternal ancestors he traces his lineage to Wales, while his maternal progenitors were of English extraction. His grandfather, W. T. Jones, was a native of old Virginia and became a planter in Tennessee, where he remained until death. The other grandfather, Charles Pigg, was also of Virginian birth and became a pioneer planter of Tennessee. During the war of 1812 he enlisted in the service of the country and took part in the memorable engagement at New Orleans under Gen. Andrew Jackson. In his brave service as a soldier he displayed the inheritance of a patriotic spirit from his father, who was a Revolutionary hero. W. C. and Mary Frances (Pigg) Jones, were natives of

Tennessee and made their home upon a plantation in Smith county, near Gordonsville, that state. From that homestead during the Civil war W. C. Jones went forth to serve the Confederacy as a member of a Tennessee regiment. When defeat met southern arms he returned home and resumed the management of his estate, but later settled upon a plantation in Davidson county.

In the family of W. C. Jones there were five children, all but one of whom are living, John Marion being the eldest and the only one in California. He was born near Gordonsville, Tenn., September 7, 1865, and during boyhood years attended district schools and the Dekalb County normal school at Alexandria, Tenn. His education was brought to an abrupt termination through a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism, which confined him to bed for sixteen months. As soon as he was able to travel he came to the Pacific coast, where in a month he had entirely recovered his strength. After coming to Madera in 1885 he secured employment on the Hely ranch. Two years later he became a teamster with the Madera Flume & Trading Company, and continued in their employ until 1892. His next position was with the Yosemite Stage & Turnpike Company as teamster, engaged in hauling supplies, and later in charge of the teaming and supplies, with headquarters at Raymond. During his last year with them he superintended the oiling of the company's road from Raymond, a distance of twenty-eight miles.

The Democratic party, of which Mr. Jones has always been a firm supporter, brought his name before their county convention in 1902 and made him their candidate for county sheriff. Elected by a plurality of seventy, he took the oath of office in January, 1903, for a term of four years, and has since given his attention with conscientious fidelity to the discharge of official duties. It is his ambition to preserve law and order in the county and every precaution is taken to secure the protection of law-abiding citizens. The State Association of Sheriffs of California numbers him among its members, while fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias, Madera Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M., in which he was made a Mason, and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, in Fresno.

---

**JOHN HENRY ELFERS.** In the annals of Stanislaus county no more worthy name is found than that of John Henry Elfers, who, as owner of a highly-improved ranch lying one mile south of Crows Landing, is an able and important factor in developing and advancing the agricultural interests of this section of the state. A native Californian, he was born July 24, 1864,

in Camptonville, of thrifty German ancestry, being a son of Archibald Diederich Elfers.

Archibald Diederich Elfers was born and educated in Hanover, Germany. When a young man he left the Fatherland, resolving to make his fortune in a newer country. Sailing around Cape Horn in 1849, he came to the gold fields of California, and for nearly twenty years thereafter was employed in mining, being at first located in Downieville, and subsequently in Camptonville. In 1864 he removed to San Francisco, where he resided several years. Locating on the west side of the San Joaquin valley in 1869, he engaged in farming and stock-raising, buying at first a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres. He afterward bought a large tract of land near Crows Landing, Stanislaus county, and made other additions by purchase until he had fifteen hundred acres of land in his possession. Continuing in his chosen occupation, he was successfully employed in agricultural pursuits until 1900, when he turned the management of his large ranch over to his son Louis, and removed to Alameda, where he is now living retired from the activities of business, being a hale and hearty man of more than fourscore years. Of his union with Catharine Elfers, a native of Hanover, Germany, eight children grew to years of maturity, and five are living, John Henry, the special subject of this sketch, being the second son.

Obtaining a practical knowledge of the elementary branches of learning in the public schools, John Henry Elfers was subsequently thoroughly drilled in the art and science of agriculture by his father, with whom he lived and worked until after attaining his majority. Coming to Stanislaus county in 1889, he soon began farming on his own account, and is now carrying on an extensive and profitable business as a general farmer and stock-raiser. He has fifty acres of land devoted to alfalfa and three wheat-fields, one containing one hundred and twenty acres, another containing two hundred and fifty acres, while the third contains three hundred and twenty acres. Mr. Elfers rents eight hundred acres of land from his father, while, in company with his brother Charles, he rents seventeen hundred acres, and in addition to these large tracts he has recently, in partnership with his brother and others, purchased two thousand and four hundred acres of the Jones tract. By the exercise of his native industry and his able business capacity, he is meeting with unquestioned success in his undertakings; he has firmly established himself in the confidence of his friends and fellow-citizens, and has won for himself a good record as an honest man and a valuable member of the community.

In Stanislaus county, near Newman, Mr.

Elfers married Dorothy Kricke, a native of Germany, and they are the parents of two children, Charles and Ruth. Taking an intelligent interest in public affairs, Mr. Elfers is actively identified with the Democratic party, the principles of which he at all times supports.

FRANK EDWIN HOWE. To the born agriculturist, the man who appreciates the dignity and utility of his work, and delights in close association with nature, there would seem to be no more gratifying accomplishment than converting a profitless tract of land into one of fertility and promise. This has been done with more than ordinary zeal and intelligence by Frank Edwin Howe, one of the early settlers of Kings county, and the owner of a ranch of eighty-five acres eight and a half miles south-east of Hanford. Since 1885 Mr. Howe has had his successes and failures in the west. He was born in San Mateo county, Cal., January 31, 1853, and has risen to his present position solely on his own merits, unaided by either influence or material assistance.

Henry Newcomb Howe, the father of Frank Edwin Howe, was born in Maine, but went to New Brunswick at an early age, and devoted his energies to the timber and milling business. He married Rebecca Jane Hall, a native of New Brunswick, and started housekeeping in a lumber camp with few of the advantages or comforts of life. Even in this isolated region the reports of the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast penetrated with disquieting effect, and Mr. Howe was one of the first in his neighborhood to heed the clarion call to fortune. Embarking in a sailing vessel with his wife he accomplished the long and tedious journey around Cape Horn, arriving in San Francisco in 1850, only to find that city practically deserted. Everyone of energy or ambition had taken himself to the mines, and thither went Mr. Howe; but a short experience convinced him that his fate was that of the average miner. He had thoroughly learned the saw-milling business in Maine and New Brunswick, and he naturally depended on his knowledge to tide him over the emergency created by having spent all of his money on the trip to the coast. In the Santa Cruz mountains, near Lexington, he and his brother, James S. Howe, built a saw-mill out of lumber hewed by their own hands, thereafter managing and operating the same until the fall of 1861. Desiring to live on a farm, Henry N. sold his interest in the sawmill to his brother and purchased a farm six miles south of San Jose, where he lived until 1863. His farm proving unsatisfactory he mortgaged it to secure funds to take him to the Caribou mining district. Here also disaster overcame him and he

not only lost all available cash but his farm besides. Nothing daunted, he put his shoulder to the wheel and worked on different farms in Santa Clara county. In the meantime his sons, Frank Edwin and Fred, went to the Mussel Slough district, in what is now Kings county, and purchased a settler's right to four hundred acres of land, assuming the pre-emption indebtedness. They built a house, barn and sheds on their property, and in 1876 the father and the rest of the family came to live on the newly acquired farm. Henry N. Howe later bought eighty acres of railroad land and spent his remaining days there, his death occurring in 1895, at the age of seventy-seven years. The old place still shelters the wife who bravely shared his rising but oft-times discouraging fortunes, and who is now eighty-two years old. Mr. Howe was a Republican in politics, and an extremely public-spirited man, assisting among other things in the finishing of the construction of the Lakeside ditch.

Frank Edwin Howe received as good a preliminary education as the early schools of California afforded, and was reared to an agricultural life. He took up the farm on the Mussel Slough, Kings county, in 1874, prepared for the advent of his parents, and with his brother engaged in stock-raising and general farming. In 1877 a drought afflicted this part of the state and caused almost total loss to the ranchers. The Howe brothers lost seventy-seven head of cattle that year and a big crop of grain, so in March, 1877, they turned their attention to freighting to the Darwin mines. This was their only means of securing feed and seeds, and with the proceeds of their labor they rented from three to four hundred acres of land near Grangeville, and in time bought a threshing-machine, which they operated for several years. The season proved satisfactory and the crop large, and they rented more land and increased both their grain and stock production. In 1878 they purchased a homestead right to eighty acres, made their home there until 1885, and then sold out. Mr. Howe then purchased his present farm of eighty acres. Since then he has farmed alone, and has gradually enlarged his stock and grain interests, and has added alfalfa and dairying. His home farm is devoted exclusively to alfalfa and dairying, and another farm owned by him six miles west of Hanford, consisting of three hundred and twenty acres, is under stock and alfalfa. In 1904 he leased two thousand five hundred acres of land on Tulare lake, which is all under wheat. His operations are characterized by a thorough understanding of his occupation, by caution and business sagacity, and are proving all that he could desire from a financial standpoint.

May 22, 1877, Mr. Howe was united in marriage with Anna M. Dibble, daughter of Edwin

J. Dibble, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Five sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Howe, of whom two died in infancy. Those living are: Edwin H., Albert P., and Chester M., who are working the home place. Mr. Howe is an ardent Republican, and has served as a member of the school board. With his wife he is an active and influential member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It will be seen that Mr. Howe has been a man of courage and perseverance, that he has overcome many obstacles, and that he is entitled to all that a more kindly fate may bring his way. He is a genial and pleasant man and numbers among his staunchest friends the foremost people in the county.

---

**WILLIAM THOMAS MOOREHEAD.** By virtue of the fact that his residence and the larger portion of his land lies in Stanislaus county Mr. Moorehead is a citizen of this county, but he also maintains interests in Merced county by reason of a small part of his farm lying across the county line. A pioneer of this vicinity, he has witnessed its development from a wild country into one of the valuable agricultural regions of the state and has himself been a large contributor thereto. During the period covering about thirty years in which he has made his home on his present farm he has brought the land under cultivation to grain and alfalfa and has acquired dairy interests to the amount of about twenty cows.

The Moorehead family has been identified with Stanislaus county ever since the sixties, and mention of the family history appears in the sketch of Robert C., a brother of William Thomas, published elsewhere in this volume. The subject of this narrative was born near Lewisburg, Greenbrier county, W. Va., July 23, 1844, and at the age of six years accompanied other members of the family to Iowa, where he gained a rudimentary education in the schools of that day and locality. To a large extent, however, he is a self-educated man and has acquired his wide range of knowledge through habits of observation and reading that have characterized all of his mature years. When he was twenty years of age he crossed the plains with his father and two brothers and after his arrival at Boise Basin engaged with them in mining. The placer mines of Eldorado county attracted him to that part of California in 1868, but the results were discouraging and he determined to seek a more certain means of livelihood.

Upon his arrival in Stanislaus county in August of 1869, Mr. Moorehead found a wild country, offering few inducements to permanent settlers. For two years he worked as a farm hand and meanwhile became convinced of the fertility of the soil when crops were selected suited there-

to. In 1871 he began to farm rented land on Crows Creek, and in 1875 bought the place four and one-half miles southwest of the present site of Newman. His landed possessions aggregate two hundred acres, of which thirty-five acres are provided with irrigation facilities that render alfalfa a profitable crop. In addition to his own place he cultivates a rented farm of three hundred and twenty acres adjoining, all of which is under grain. On the organization of the New Era creamery, the first enterprise of its kind in this region, he became one of the original stockholders and has since been associated with its management. Interested in educational affairs, he renders faithful service in the office of school trustee of Newman district. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Honor and in religion is a Presbyterian, being ruling elder of the church of that denomination at Newman. His wife, whom he married in Merced county and who was formerly Mary L. Johnsen, has been a life-long resident of this part of California. During the exciting days of '49 her father, Bernard Johnsen, a native of Germany, came to the gold fields of the west, but after a brief experience in mining turned his attention to farming, and also became interested in sheep-raising on the Merced river. The five sons of Mr. and Mrs. Moorehead, John B., William D., Malcolm E., Charles C. and Marion H., are young men of promise and education, and all, with the exception of the eldest son who is clerking in Modesto, still remain with their father, assisting him in the management of his large interests, and, by the experience thus gained, fitting themselves for positions of usefulness and honor in future years.

---

**WILLIAM J. STOCKTON.** As a representative of the intelligent and hardy pioneers who came to Los Banos at an early period of its settlement, and have since taken a conspicuous part in the development of town and city, we take pleasure in giving to the readers of this volume a brief sketch of William J. Stockton, a well-known and active citizen of this part of Merced county. As a general farmer and grain raiser he has been for many years intimately associated with the agricultural interests of this section, and as a blacksmith has been connected with its manufacturing prosperity. As a public official he has held many positions of prominence and responsibility, in each and every case discharging the duties devolving upon him with commendable punctuality and fidelity. A son of Samuel Whiteside Stockton, he was born, January 25, 1848, in Marion, Williamson county, Ill. His grandfather, Robert Stockton, a native of Virginia, served in the war of 1812 as a commissioned officer. He subsequently settled on a







*Ben Olsen*



plantation in Alabama, removing from there to Mt. Vernon, Ill., as a pioneer.

Born and bred in Alabama, Samuel White-side Stockton became familiar with the various branches of agriculture when young, but began life for himself as a manufacturer of bells in Marion, Ill. In 1859, accompanied by his wife and their four children, he came across the plains to California, settling first in Marin county, and later in Nevada county, where he followed mining for awhile. Locating then in Colusa county, he carried on farming at Grand Island for a few seasons, being afterward similarly employed in Santa Cruz county. He died in San José at the age of sixty-seven years. He married Nancy Pope, who was born in Illinois, a daughter of Benjamin Wood Pope, a native of Tennessee. She survived her husband, and now resides in San José. Of their eleven children, six are living, William J., the firstborn, being the special subject of this sketch.

Living in Marion, Ill., until eleven years old, William J. Stockton there acquired his elementary education. With his parents he moved, in 1859, to California, coming by the Truckee route, and being six months and ten days crossing the plains with ox-teams. In the public schools of Nevada county, he continued his studies, completing his early education at the Watsonville Academy, studying for two years under Professor Van Dorn. He subsequently learned the blacksmith trade with his father, who had a smithy on his farm, and when of age entered into business with his father, with whom he continued in partnership until 1872. In that year Mr. Stockton rented land in Los Banos, and as a grain-raiser and blacksmith built up a large business, farming a thousand acres of land much of the time. In 1890, when the town of Los Banos was started, Mr. Stockton moved his smithy to its present site, and has since been busily employed, being the leading blacksmith of this vicinity.

Several years ago, Mr. Stockton purchased one hundred and fifty acres of land, lying three miles south of Los Banos, and, in partnership with W. L. Garrison, planted it all to alfalfa. He has made improvements of an excellent character on the place, and pays especial attention to dairying, keeping about one hundred head of cattle. In 1890 he embarked in the undertaking business, being the pioneer in that line of industry. He has since attended the Barnes School of Embalming, and has acquired proficiency in the art, which is so essential and in such general use throughout our nation.

Mr. Stockton has four children, Mrs. Belle Garrison, Alice, William J., Jr., and Alma Marion. In the management of town and county affairs he has taken an important part. For

many years he served as justice of the peace, giving eminent satisfaction to all concerned in that capacity; also was county supervisor a number of terms, and for four years was county coroner and public administrator. He was made a Mason at Hills Ferry, and is now a member of Los Banos Lodge No. 312, F. & A. M., which he served as master three terms; he also belongs to Yosemite Chapter No. 12, R. A. M., and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party.

---

BENEDICT OLSEN. His humble home hedged in by the awe-inspiring mountains of Norway, Benedict Olsen was born June 12, 1871, and was reared in a typical home of the peasantry, descended from the historic Norsemen. His education was the best procurable in his home district, and was sufficiently broad to create discontent with his surroundings, no matter how well they had supplied the needs of his forefathers. Yielding to the impulse to immigrate to the United States in 1895, he landed in New York with twenty-four mile posts of his life already passed, and with hope in his heart, and determination in his mind. Crossing the continent to San Francisco, he engaged in the humble occupation of farm hand for a couple of years, and thus demonstrated his ability to till the soil and do with thoroughness and dispatch whatever work was assigned him. As a reward for his ability and faithfulness he was made manager of the James C. McDermott ranch March 12, 1897, and has since been identified with this large and important responsibility.

The McDermott ranch is located three and a half miles north of Newman, and comprises five hundred acres of alfalfa and seven hundred acres of barley and grain land. The owner of this large property is a wholesale meat merchant, with headquarters at No. 345 Tenth street, San Francisco, and from his farm he receives the greater part of the stock required in his business in the city. About one thousand head of cattle are fattened for market every winter and the superintending of these cattle and the planting and harvesting of the grain and alfalfa rest upon the shoulders of Mr. Olsen. That he is thoroughly competent to attend to the task assigned him is intimated by his long retention in the same position, and by the air of thrift and prosperity which pervades every department of the ranch. Pains-taking and conservative, thoughtful of the best interests of his employer, he is a man upon whom all rely who have ever been associated with him in whatsoever capacity, and furthermore, he is able to secure from his subordinates the best possible and most willing service. He is an appre-

ciator of fine stock, of fertile, yielding land, and is able to turn it to the best financial account, as becomes a man of his extended and intelligent experience.

Thus far on his life journey Mr. Olsen is a bachelor, but an eminently genial and social one, taking his part in the diversions by which he is surrounded, and occupying a prominent place in the lodges of the Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World. In politics he is a Republican. That he has prospered beyond his immediate needs is evident from his ownership of a farm of eighty acres three and a half miles north of Newman, upon which he raises alfalfa, and which nets him a handsome addition to his yearly salary.

**HON. ALEXANDER M. DREW.** Conspicuous among the able attorneys of Fresno county is Hon. A. M. Drew, who is meeting with signal success in the practice of his profession in the city of Fresno, which has been his home for the past quarter of a century. A man of undoubted ability and integrity, he is prominent in social, legal, fraternal and political circles, and has now the distinction of representing the Sixty-first district in the state legislature. A son of Elisha Drew, he was born January 17, 1857, in Lena, Stephenson county, Ill. He is descended from an old and honored family of New England and comes of patriotic ancestry, his paternal grandfather, Captain Drew, having served as a private in the Revolutionary army and as an officer in the war of 1812.

A native of New England, Elisha Drew was born in 1806, in the northern part of Vermont. When a young man he lived for a few years in Ontario, Can., from there moving to Illinois in the early forties, and settling first near Galena. He subsequently took up land in Stephenson county, about four miles west of Lena, and there improved a farm. In 1875 he removed to the village of Lena and there spent his declining years, passing away at the venerable age of ninety years. He was in every respect a worthy citizen and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was twice married, by his first wife, Anna Dart, having six sons, namely: James, who died at Sterling, Ill.; Elisha, a resident of Greenville, Tex., who served four years in the Civil war, enlisting first in the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and afterwards in the Forty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded at the battle of Shiloh; Charles, who served in the United States navy during the Civil war and died in New York City; Isaiah, who served in an Illinois regiment during the Civil war and now resides in Marion Center, Kan.; Alfred, a resident of Rockford, Ill.; and Joseph, who served in the

Ninety-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war, was wounded in battle, and died in Kansas in 1865. Elisha Drew married for his second wife Caroline Smith, who was born in Ogdensburg, N. Y., and died in Illinois, at the age of sixty-nine years. Her father, Captain Smith, was an officer in the United States navy during the Revolution. Of this marriage five children were born, namely: Mrs. Montague, who died in Illinois; Mrs. Carrie Hawley, of Illinois; Alexander M., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Mary Lakin, of Palo Alto, Cal.; and Jessie, a teacher in the public schools of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Brought up on the home farm, A. M. Drew obtained the rudiments of his education in the district school, after which he entered the Lena high school, from which he was graduated in 1875. The ensuing year he taught school near Winslow, Ill. Coming to California in 1877, he continued his studies at Howe's normal school, in Sacramento, and after his graduation in 1878 taught school one term in that vicinity. In August, 1878, Mr. Drew located in Fresno, which was then but a small village, with but one brick building within its limits, and a population of four hundred souls. Continuing in his chosen occupation, he taught in the district schools for a time, making Fresno his home, although for four years he was principal of the Iowa Hill schools. During the time he was engaged as a teacher he studied law during his leisure moments, and in 1887 was admitted to the bar. The following year Mr. Drew spent in the law office of Wharton & Shaw, and from 1888 until 1890 was engaged in practice with Judge George A. Nourse and F. H. Short. Since that time he has practiced alone, and has won an extensive and lucrative practice, being one of the busiest and most successful lawyers of the city. Mr. Drew at one time owned a vineyard and orchard of eighty acres, most of which he set out himself, and is still interested in the culture of grapes to some extent. He is one of the oldest members of the Raisin Growers' Association, and frequently presides at its meetings.

In Sacramento, Cal., Mr. Drew married Abbie E. Pratt, a native of Maine, and a graduate of Howe's normal school. Three children have been born of their union, namely: Leslie M., who was graduated from the Fresno high school, and is in the employ of the Raisin Growers' Association; Arthur Homan, a pupil in the high school; and Gertrude S. Politically Mr. Drew is a steadfast Republican, and is a member, and former chairman, of the Republican county central committee. In 1902 he was nominated on the Republican ticket as representative to the state legislature, and was elected

by a majority of three hundred, being the first Republican ever elected in the Sixty-first district, which is strongly Democratic. He is a member of the judiciary and other committees of the house, and has been quite active in legislative matters. Of the sixteen bills which he introduced, nine have become laws. One of the most important of these was the Drew State Text Book bill.

Fraternally Mr. Drew was made an Odd Fellow at Iowa Hill, Placer county, Cal., in 1882, and is now a member and past officer of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F. In 1897 and 1898 he served as grand master of the Grand Lodge of California; in 1898 he went to Boston as supreme representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, and in 1899 went to Detroit in the same capacity. He is also a member and past chief patriarch of Fresno Encampment, Patriarchs Militant, past captain of Fresno Canton, and a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. In religion he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he was formerly a trustee. He also belongs to the Fresno County Bar Association.

During the years of his residence in Fresno Mr. Drew has become intimately identified with numerous movements toward the upbuilding of the city. He is regarded as one of its public-spirited and progressive citizens, and a man who never hesitates to support well-considered projects looking toward the elevation of the social, moral, educational and industrial status of the city.

---

WILLIAM H. PARDEE, M. D. Among the most respected and esteemed residents of Dos Palos is W. H. Pardee, M. D., who has acquired distinction in various walks of life, and is well deserving of particular mention in this biographical work. As a brave soldier in the Civil war he won an honorable record, and as a physician and a minister of the gospel his career has been most useful and noteworthy. A man of broad and enlightened views, patriotic and public-spirited, he is noted for his earnestness of purpose and upright integrity, and wherever he goes he readily makes friends, his never-failing courtesy and genial manners endearing him to all. A son of Samuel Pardee, he was born November 24, 1834, in Windham, Portage county, Ohio. Of distinguished stock, he is a lineal descendant of a French Huguenot family that settled in Connecticut in early colonial times, among his ancestors being men that were active in public affairs and helped to secrete the charter given that state by Charles I, in the old tree at Hartford that has since been known as the Charter Oak. During the Colonial wars, and the stormy

times preceding the great struggle for independence, the name of Pardee was one of prominence and influence, and has not yet lost its prestige, being known throughout New England, and in various parts of the Union, Gov. G. C. Pardee being a kinsman of Dr. Pardee, of whom we write. Asa Pardee, the doctor's grandfather, was a lifelong resident of Connecticut, and a well-to-do farmer.

Born and brought up on a Connecticut farm, Samuel Pardee subsequently became a pioneer of Portage county, Ohio, where he bought land, and was afterward engaged in general farming until his death, in the sixty-first year of his age. He married Celinda Stiles, who was born in Connecticut, of Holland Dutch ancestry, and died in New York in 1835. Her father, Captain Stiles, who came of Revolutionary stock, was born in Connecticut, and died in Vermont. She bore her husband six children, of whom William H., the youngest, is the only survivor.

Left motherless when but three months old, W. H. Pardee was brought up by an uncle, Mr. Collins, a mechanic, in Randolph, Ohio, not far from Hiram, which afterward became famous as the home of the late President Garfield, with whom Dr. Pardee was personally acquainted, both being attendants of the same church. After leaving the public schools of Randolph, Mr. Pardee attended the village academy for a while, subsequently continuing his studies at Bragg Academy. Beginning the study of medicine under Dr. George W. Bettes, of Randolph, he afterward entered the Physio-Medical College at Cincinnati, where he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1861. His period of college life embraced the troublous times preceding the outbreak of the Civil war, when party lines were drawn sharp and distinct, and the students from the north and from the south were divided, each having its special clique, and at times coming into contact with one another. After a memorable speech made in Washington by Senator Wade, a southern boy spoke disparagingly of the address, and of the northern cowards. Dr. Pardee, an ardent Union man, took up the cause of the northerner, hurling back the lie, and a battle royal ensued, in which he came out victorious.

Immediately after his graduation, Dr. Pardee enlisted in the Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but being taken ill was not mustered in with that regiment. On recovering his health he enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into service in February, 1862. At the end of one year and nine months, on account of physical disability, he was honorably discharged from the service. Returning to Ohio, Dr. Pardee located in Marlboro, Stark county, where he remained

as a physician and surgeon for sixteen years. Becoming converted in 1868, he studied for the ministry, and in Ohio was ordained. Removing to Fillmore county, Neb., in 1879, the doctor located in Geneva, where he organized a Christian Church, of which he had ministerial charge for a number of years. He likewise did much pastoral work in other places in Nebraska, organizing several flourishing congregations.

Coming to California in 1895, Dr. Pardee bought forty acres of land in Dos Palos, and embarked in the culture of fruit and the raising of alfalfa, intending to devote his time entirely to agricultural pursuits. He was not allowed, however, to give up either of his professions, being almost forced to practice medicine, being the first physician to locate here, and was also made pastor of the Christian Church. Soon after his arrival the doctor was elected president of Colony Exchange No. 135, and until his resignation was active in its upbuilding and advancement. He is now living retired in his pleasant and attractive home, loved and honored throughout the community.

In Ohio Dr. Pardee married Lucy F. Hough, who was born in Vermont, and died in Dos Palos, Cal. Two children were born of their union, both now deceased, one dying in infancy, and the other, Cora May, dying when twelve years old. Dr. Pardee married in Dos Palos, Mrs. Mary Payne, a native of Ohio. Politically the doctor is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he united with the Masons in Alliance, Ohio; was afterward a charter member of the Masonic lodge at Geneva, Neb., which he served as master two terms; belongs to Geneva Chapter, R. A. M., and to Wilson Post No. 22, G. A. R. also of Geneva.

---

**ALBERT BAKER POWELL, M. D.** A man of superior attainments and culture, well fitted by years of study and experience for a professional career, Albert B. Powell, M. D., is the leading physician of Colony Center, Dos Palos, where he also has a drug store and owns a well-stocked ranch. Well versed in medical lore, he has built up an extensive and lucrative general practice in this part of Merced county, and in his capacity of farmer finds great enjoyment as well as profit, taking especial pleasure in raising and caring for his fine herd of blooded stock. A son of William Henry Powell, a prominent farmer of Toronto, Ontario, he was born, March 13, 1859, near Toronto, of Welsh ancestry. His grandfather, W. H. Powell, a native of Nova Scotia, removed to Ontario, settling on a farm near Toronto, where he spent his remaining years. William Henry Powell married Lucy Jane Hall, who was born in New York state,

a daughter of David Hall, a life-long farmer of that state, and into their household five children were born, of whom two sons and one daughter are living, Albert Baker of this review being the youngest child.

After completing the course of studies taught in the public schools of his native place, Albert B. Powell entered King's University, at Whitby, Ontario. Coming to Pasadena in 1888, he began the study of medicine the following year, and subsequently entered the medical college connected with the University of California, from which he was graduated May 26, 1891, with the degree of M. D. At once locating at Round Valley, Dr. Powell remained there two years, after which he practiced medicine in Petaluma for a year. Removing thence to Amador City, the doctor continued there as a physician for six years, building up a large medical and surgical practice. In 1900 he settled in Tracy, San Joaquin county, where he engaged in the practice of his profession, and was also district surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railway Company for three years. On March 25, 1903, Dr. Powell began the practice of medicine and surgery in the Dos Palos Colony, and has met with excellent success in his professional labors. He established also a drug store, which is complete in all respects. The doctor likewise invested in land, buying a ranch of forty acres, situated two and one-half miles from Colony Center, and here is engaged in raising alfalfa and dairying, having a herd of full-blooded Holstein-Friesians, in which he takes genuine pride.

Dr. Powell married, in San Francisco, Susan Lingenfeltzer, a native of that city, and into their home four children have been born, namely: Gladys E., William H., May E., and Lucy J. The doctor is associated with several fraternal organizations, being a member and medical examiner for the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Knights of the Maccabees, and medical examiner for the Royal Neighbors. He is likewise medical examiner for all of the old-line insurance companies, and is local surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railway Company. Politically he is a Socialist.

---

**JOHN GILL.** A capable and enterprising agriculturist, John Gill is industriously engaged in the prosecution of a calling upon which the support and wealth of our nation is largely dependent, being pleasantly located in Stanislaus county, about a mile north of Newman. A son of the late Samuel Gill, he was born August 2, 1842, in Pickaway county, Ohio.

A native of Ohio, Samuel Gill was reared to agricultural pursuits, and during his earlier life was engaged in farming in that state. Migrat-



ing to Iowa in 1863, he followed his chosen occupation in Ringgold county for nine years. Coming from there to California in 1872, he took up land in Tulare county, and was there employed in stock-raising until his death. He married Elizabeth Lukens, who spent her entire life in Ohio, dying in early womanhood. She bore him three daughters and two sons, John, the special subject of this sketch, being the fourth child in order of birth.

Educated in the common schools of Ohio, John Gill subsequently obtained a practical knowledge of the various branches of agriculture on the home farm. In August, 1864, at the age of twenty-two years he enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventy-sixth Ohio Regiment Infantry, and served till the close of the war. He participated among other engagements in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. He was afterward engaged in farming with his father in Iowa, and came with him to California in 1872, settling in Tulare county, about twenty-two miles east of Visalia, where he was engaged in stock-raising and stock-dealing for twenty years. Going to Fresno, in 1892, Mr. Gill was employed in business as a vineyardist for two years, having eighty acres of land set out with grapes. Removing to Stanislaus county in 1894, he traded his vineyard for three hundred and twenty acres of land, lying a mile east of Hills Ferry, where he resided several years. In October, 1903, Mr. Gill, having previously sold his ranch, rented the farm which he now occupies, and is devoting its one hundred and sixty-two acres to the raising of alfalfa, which is a most profitable crop for this section of the state.

In Ringgold county, Iowa, Mr. Gill married Catherine Bellamy, a native of Kentucky, and they have five children living, namely: Mrs. Laura May Osborn, residing near Portersville, Tulare county; Robert M., of Stanislaus county; Mrs. Alice Kate Dolby, of Stanislaus county; Mrs. Edna Belle Walhouse, of Livermore, this state, and J. Roy, at home. Politically Mr. Gill is a steadfast Republican, supporting the principles of that party by voice and vote.

**IRA V. HILL.** Representative of the wide-awake and energetic farming population of Kings county is Ira V. Hill, a rancher living five miles southeast of Hanford, who owns two other farms besides his home place of one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Hill is a southerner by inheritance and earliest training; he was born near Martinsburg, W. Va., February 11, 1860, a son of George W., and a grandson of William and Mary A. (Kreckseker) Hill, all born in the same county in Virginia. Many of the members of the family have attained to fulness of

years, the paternal grandfather attaining to one less than a century, while his wife reached three score. On the maternal side Mr. Hill comes from a prominent old Maryland family, his mother having been Melvina, daughter of Augustus Bell, both natives of Maryland, the latter a coal mine owner and extensive flour miller of Cumberland, Md. Mrs. Hill died when her son was eight years old, in Jefferson county, Kans., at the age of twenty-eight, her husband surviving her until 1888, when he was fifty-four years of age. George Hill devoted his entire active life to farming, and left the plow to respond to a draft in the Confederate army, serving through the greater part of the war.

The resource which has followed Ira V. Hill through life became apparent at a very early age, and influenced his career in an unmistakable degree. His home was evidently not to his liking after the death of his mother, and at the age of fourteen he ran away and made his way to Jefferson county, Kans., where he worked on a farm by the month during the summer, and attended school during the winter. Later on he journeyed west as far as Colorado, where he worked on the construction of the Santa Fe Railroad until February, 1878, when he continued his way to California, thus accomplishing a trip which he had had in contemplation since early boyhood. In what is now Kings county he attended school in the winter and worked on farms in the summer, but finally inherited what seemed a gigantic fortune to a struggling lad, and which amounted to three thousand five hundred dollars. The high-mindedness which has since been apparent to his neighbors in Kings county was emphasized at this time, when he departed for Baltimore, Md., and took a course in a business college, thereby supplementing an education which he had earnestly striven to make broad and comprehensive.

Well pleased with what he had found in Kings county, he soon after returned and bought his present farm from the railroad company, which was entirely unimproved at the time. Since then he has changed the character of the land, has it all under ditch, and has set out eleven acres in vines, devoting the balance to alfalfa and general farming. He is the owner of an eighty-acre ranch two and one-half miles southeast of Hanford, under pasture, and of forty-seven and one-half acres one and one-half miles south from the city limits, under alfalfa and pasture. December 24, 1882, he was united in marriage with Melissa Liggett, a native of Tennessee, who came to California in 1881. Two sons are being reared in an atmosphere of geniality and encouragement, Monroe C. and George Howard. Mr. Hill is a firm

believer in the benefits of education, and his own struggles to acquire knowledge has induced him to take a particularly active part in furnishing opportunities to the youth of his adopted county. He is a Democrat in politics, and has been a member of the school board for six years, during that time contributing both time and money to the improvement of the school and surroundings. At his own expense he erected at the schoolhouse a substantial shed for the care of horses during inclement weather, and has otherwise contributed to the pleasure and opportunity of pupils of the school. He is a man of high standing in the community, and is noted for his public spirit and practical usefulness.

---

MATTHIAS BECKER. Not only is the name of Matthias Becker identified with the successful dairying interests in Merced county, but he was one of the first to discover and promote the oil industry in the foothills, taking the initiative at great expense, and with faith in the local output of this resource. In the face of ridicule, and of interference with his proposed plans, Mr. Becker succeeded in finding oil at a depth of ninety-five feet; he continued to sink his well to a hundred and forty feet below the surface, the scarcity of funds, and a breakage in the machinery, thereafter hindering operations which it was his intention to continue indefinitely. However, owing to his successful demonstration, an interest in oil was developed, skepticism gave place to faith and enthusiasm, and a company which organized for the purpose, has accomplished much toward getting out the valuable deposits of oil.

Mr. Becker was born in the Rhine province, Germany, February 18, 1858, the fourth child in a family of six children, three of whom are in America. His parents, Matthias and Anna Maria (Haubrich) Becker, were born in the same part of the empire, spending their entire lives in the land which gave them a livelihood. Matthias, Jr., was educated in the public schools of Foehren, near his father's farm, and when he was fourteen he removed with his parents to Essen, Germany, famous as the seat of the great Krupp gun works. The youth availed himself of the opportunity presented by the works, learned the steel rolling trade there, and later operated a gas furnace in a glass factory. In 1882 he came to America and lived in Bethany, Mo., for four months, but farm work did not suit him, and he found employment in the Bessemer Steel Company's works in Pueblo, Colo., remaining there as a roll hand until 1884. At these works the first Bessemer steel rails west of the Mississippi river were made, and he assisted

in the work. This year witnessed his departure for Gonzales, Monterey county, Cal., where he lived on a farm for a year, and then went to Los Banos, Merced county, locating in San Francisco in 1887. As a roll hand he was identified with the Union Iron Works in the latter city, but not being favorably impressed with the work he returned to Los Banos, and, when the land came into the market, homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, his wife preëmpting an equal amount of land. Mr. Becker then engaged in the dairy and stock-raising business on a large scale, but in time sold off the most of his land, at present owning about forty acres, all under irrigation and devoted to alfalfa and dairying. At present he milks about twenty-five cows of the Holstein breed, and is meeting with success in his undertaking. Practically all of the improvements are of his making, giving him a valuable and fertile property.

In Stockton, February 14, 1889, Mr. Becker married Augusta Christian Salau, who was born near Santa Clara, a daughter of Henry F. F. Salau, Sr., mention of whom may be found elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Becker are the parents of seven children, the order of their birth being as follows: Mary Eunice, Adolph Matthias, Matthias, Eugenia Dorothea, Herbert Edmund, Harold Louis, and Muriel Augusta. Mr. Becker is a Democrat in national politics, and fraternally is a member of the Woodmen of the World. He belongs to that class of rugged and determined men who came to the west with little save the advantages of good health and good will, and who work their way into useful grooves, winning respect for their energy, their courage, and their devotion to high ideals.

---

RICHARD BAKER. A life distinguished for its moderation, contentment and peace is that of Richard Baker, the inheritor of New England thrift and reliability, and the owner of a ranch of forty acres three and a half miles north of Newman. This genial farmer is a familiar figure in this section, having lived here since 1884, engaging in alfalfa and hay raising, and pursuing always the even tenor of his ways. Undoubtedly the same kind of existence was pursued by many of his ancestors in Hampshire county, Va., where he was born February 9, 1832, and which also was the birthplace of his parents, Richard and Mary (Martin) Baker, and the scene of the agricultural activity of his grandfather, Michael Baker. Both of these sires participated in the wars of their adopted country, the former in the war of 1812, in which he acquired the rank of captain, and the latter in the war of the Revolu-



tion, espousing the cause of the downtrodden colonists.

The Virginia home of the Bakers was a modest one, yielding a livelihood which permitted of few advantages for the six sons and two daughters, of whom Richard was the second-oldest. He was permitted such education as was obtainable in the rural schools of Hampshire county, but eventually became dissatisfied with his prospects in the Old Dominion and looked around for broader opportunities. In 1853 he took the initial step toward reaching the coast, making his way overland to Missouri, where, the following year, he joined a caravan bound for the land beyond the Rockies. Driving an ox-team the most of the way, he eventually came to San Jose, but the same year went further south to Mexico, and engaged in raising cotton for a year. The experiment proving disastrous, he returned to San Jose, and in 1866 went to Hollister, remaining until 1884. The fall of that year he came to the San Joaquin valley, bought his present farm, and has ever since lived here alone, save for the help required to harvest his products. Mr. Baker has never felt called upon to identify himself with political or other public undertakings, although he votes the Democratic ticket, and is a steady attendant of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He is highly respected for his quiet and unostentatious life, for his honesty and uprightness, and for his generosity in aiding those less fortunate than himself.

---

**GEORGE W. CLUTE.** The owner of three eighty-acre improved stock and dairy farms in Kings county, George W. Clute is a representative of that class of men who embody good birth, fair educational advantages and the perseverance and determination to succeed in any occupation and community to which nature and destiny have assigned them. His practical, progressive and industrious habits as a farmer and stock-raiser have been evidenced in other directions during his long and meritorious career, and were conspicuous when he donned a soldier's uniform and took his place beside the defenders of his cause. Born in Wyoming county, N. Y., August 12, 1839, he is descended on both sides of his family from soldiers of the war of 1812, and his maternal grandfather, John H. Jones, was a paymaster in that momentous struggle. This sire owned a large tract of land in New York, and lived there until his death. His daughter, Harriet, the mother of George W. Clute, was born in New York, and died in Christian county, Ill., at the age of eighty-five years. Her father was a native of Virginia, and her uncle was captured, and presumably murdered, by the Indians. William Clute, the father of George W., was born

in New York state, where he farmed and engaged in trading with the Indians at Schenectady. He served with distinction in the war of 1812, and died at the age of seventy-five years. Three brothers, one of whom was his father, came from Holland to America before the Revolutionary war.

At the outbreak of the Civil war George W. Clute was farming in Wyoming county, N. Y., and at the age of twenty-two had acquired a comfortable competence. He left his home to enlist August 6, 1862, in Company A, One Hundred and Thirtieth New York Volunteer Infantry, and was later transferred to the First New York Dragoons. He arose to the grade of sergeant, and followed the fortunes of one of the bravest bands of men who defended the Union cause. The First Dragoons started out with fourteen hundred and sixty-four men, of whom four hundred and sixty-one were killed, one hundred and thirty-one died of disease, and thirty-three died in prison. The heaviest loss falling to any cavalry regiment during the entire service was sustained at Todd's Tavern. Mr. Clute was twice wounded, a flesh wound in the side and a gunshot wound in the right foot, and after receiving them he lay on the field unattended for two days, having been fighting four days in succession. This occurred May 8, 1864, and he was laid up in the hospital at Alexandria, Va., four months, and was then discharged from further service in the Army of the Potomac.

Returning to his home in New York, Mr. Clute recovered from his trying experiences, and then went to Illinois, where he became foreman of construction on a railroad for three years. He next spent a year in McHenry county, then rented a farm in Christian county, that state, for three years. In 1876 he came to California and settled on railroad land for a short time in Tulare, now Kings county, later purchasing eighty acres in his present neighborhood, which he unexpectedly found was mortgaged for \$1,100. He was obliged to pay the mortgage, and set about improving his farm, remaining on it until purchasing his present ranch of eighty acres in 1898. He is engaged in dairying and stock-raising, and has many fine improvements on his farms. He is public-spirited and enterprising, and interested in local politics, being an active member of the Republican party, and serving its welfare in many ways. For the past twenty-five years he has been a member of the county central committee, attending many county and state conventions. He is active in the affairs of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member and past commander of McPherson Post No. 51. Mr. Clute contributed time and labor to the digging of the ditches of his section, and at one time was superintendent of construction. In 1871 he married

Edna Dodge, a native of McHenry county, Ill., and has five living children: William E., who is renting one of his father's farms in Kings county; Charles D., who is renting the homestead of eighty acres; Elmer, an employe in the freight department of the Southern Pacific Railroad in Hanford; and Edith and Harriet at home. Grace, the second oldest child, died at the age of twenty-six. Mr. Clute has hewn a creditable career out of the rude possibilities of the far west, and is deserving of the universal esteem of his fellowmen.

---

PROF. ELMER EDWARD OGDEN. One of the grandest contributions of the United States toward the elevation of the intellectual and moral status of the entire world is the great system of public instruction, which was developed less than a century ago by a few liberal-minded, clear-sighted men, whose efforts in this line were rewarded by the establishment of our free public schools, supported by general taxation. That these schools may be carried on with the greatest possible benefit to the present generation of boys and girls, care is taken to secure competent teachers only in every department of education. Noteworthy among the instructors thus employed in our own state is Prof. Elmer Edward Ogden, principal of the grammar schools of Merced, a man of scholarly attainments, and of good executive ability. A son of H. T. Ogden, he was born, December 7, 1867, in Iowa county, Iowa, of English ancestors. His grandfather, Robert Ogden, a native of Harrison county, Ohio, became a pioneer farmer of Dubuque county, Iowa.

Born in Harrison county, Ohio, H. T. Ogden was taken by his parents to Dubuque county, Iowa, when a child, and was there reared and educated. Enlisting in Company A, Ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, in 1861, he took part in several of the engagements of the Civil war, and at the siege of Vicksburg was severely wounded. After being detained at the hospital several months, he was honorably discharged from the service on account of physical disability. Returning to Iowa, he continued in his former occupation as a stock-raiser, and was also identified with the management of public affairs for some time as county supervisor. Migrating with his family to California in 1883, he located in Merced county, and for nearly ten years was employed in grain raising, having near Snelling, a ranch of eight hundred acres. Removing to San Joaquin county in 1892, he took up land near Lodi, where he has since been successfully engaged as an orchardist. Professor Ogden is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Free and Accepted Masons, and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He

married Augusta Smith, who was born in Iowa, a daughter of John Smith, who emigrated from Bavaria to Dubuque county, Iowa, going from there to Tama county, Iowa, where he was engaged in general farming until his death. Five children were born of their union, namely: Prof. A. L., principal of the Acampo schools, in San Joaquin county; Elmer E., the subject of this record; V. L., a teacher in San Joaquin county; Mrs. Florence Adams, of Acampo, and E. L., a resident of Merced county.

Coming with the family to Merced county in 1883, Elmer Edward Ogden assisted his father in improving a large ranch, and was also engaged to some extent in freighting, making long and hard trips into the mountains. On attaining his majority, he put into execution the plans that he had previously formed for advancing his education, entering the Stockton Business College, and subsequently taking a normal course. After obtaining his diploma, he taught in the district schools of Merced county two years, following which he studied for a year at the San Joaquin College, in Woodbridge. The ensuing few years, Prof. Ogden taught in the eastern part of Merced county, and then went to Volta, that county, where he was principal of schools for two years. In 1902 he was elected principal of the Merced grammar schools, a position that he has since filled with credit to himself and to the eminent satisfaction of the pupils, teachers, patrons and trustees.

In Plainsberg, Merced county, Prof. Ogden married Alice Wilson, a native of this county, and into their pleasant household three children have been born, namely: Marguerite, Thelma and Irene. The professor is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and is a member and ex-chairman of the county board of education, to which he was elected in January, 1899.

---

IRVING W. RIDER. Numbered among the successful farmers of Fresno county is Irving W. Rider, whose principal interests have been given to the dairy business since his location on his present property of one hundred acres. A native of Herkimer county, N. Y., he was born September 11, 1868, a son of Mathew Rider, a farmer by occupation. His grandfather Curtis Rider, who still resides on the old home place in New York state, was the descendant of sturdy Holland stock and gave to the American branch the many good qualities which distinguish that nationality. Mathew Rider married Frances Norton, also a native of Herkimer county, and the daughter of Samuel Norton, a farmer by occupation and a descendant of English ancestry. Mr. Rider died in his native state, but is sur-





*B Springer*

vived by his widow, who still resides on the old home place.

Of the two sons and one daughter born to his parents Irving W. Rider was the oldest. He was reared on his father's farm, receiving a practical training along agricultural lines, while he attended the public school and Winfield Academy. In the fall of 1888 he came to California, locating first in San Francisco, shortly afterward, however, going to Oregon, where he engaged in farming in Klamath county for one year. Returning to San Francisco he became interested in the milk business, entering the employ of Uhls' X L Dairy & Bottled Milk Company, remaining thus occupied for four years. After one year in which he engaged in the livery business he became associated with E. Stewart in what was known as the Santa Clara Milk Company, a wholesale and retail milk business which was carried on in San Francisco for some time, having three different depots in the city and running fourteen wagons. The company was incorporated with Mr. Stewart as president and Mr. Rider as vice-president. In 1899 Mr. Rider sold out his interest and removed to Stockton, where he established a parcel delivery, eventually disposing of this and spending some time in Santa Cruz and San Francisco, before locating on his present ranch. This ranch of one hundred acres he purchased in 1903, its location on Valeria avenue making it especially desirable. The entire ranch is under alfalfa, while he is engaged in the dairy business. With practically nothing as a beginning in the way of improvements his property now ranks with the best in this section of the county, every acre being under irrigation. He is an enterprising and energetic farmer, with practical and progressive ideas, and well performs his part in keeping in the San Joaquin valley its prestige as an agricultural center.

In Vacaville, Solano county, Cal., Mr. Rider married Lulu May Brown, a native of that place, and born of this union is one child, Russell Elwood. Mrs. Rider is the daughter of George S. Brown, a pioneer of 1857. He was born in Berkshire county, Mass., near Pittsfield, a son of Sherman and grandson of Daniel Brown, both of whom were natives of the same place. The great-grandfather was a native of Connecticut, in which state his parents had settled upon their emigration from England. He served as soldier in the Revolutionary war. Sherman Brown, who was a master mechanic and farmer, in 1850 removed from his home in Massachusetts to Fulton county, N. Y., where he followed these lines until 1852. In that year he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama and locating in Marin county engaged as a builder. Later he removed to Solano county and engaged in farm-

ing and stock raising. Some time before his death, which occurred when he was nearly eighty years old, he made his home with his son, George S. Brown. He married Lucina Lester Warren, a native of Massachusetts, whose father was a farmer of that state, and whose descendants were active in the political life of the east, his grandson, Francis B. Warren, being a state senator. Mrs. Brown died in Solano county, leaving a family of six children.

George S. Brown was born February 13, 1843, the oldest in his father's family, and was reared to young manhood in the eastern states, removing to Fulton county, N. Y., in childhood, where he attended the public schools. In 1857 he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and located in Marin county, where he engaged in the dairy business with his father. He there attended the Petaluma high school, remaining at home until attaining his majority, when he bought a farm near Vacaville, Solano county, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He purchased adjoining land until he had three hundred and twenty acres, but afterward entered the mercantile business in Sacramento. Upon withdrawing from the latter occupation he returned to Solano county and engaged in the fruit business, setting out sixty acres to orchard. He eventually sold this and removed to Santa Cruz, where he engaged in the dairy business and farming until 1900, locating then in Los Banos and following the same occupation. Three years later he purchased his present ranch of one hundred acres, which is devoted entirely to alfalfa. In Sacramento he married Lucinda Peck, a native of Oregon, and born of this union were four daughters and one son, namely: Minnie, Lulu May, Alice, Erna and George. With his family he is a member of the Presbyterian Church. In political affiliations both himself and Mr. Rider are staunch Republicans. During the war Mr. Brown showed his patriotism by serving as a member of a military company in Solano county.

BARNEY SPRINGER. An early settler and a pioneer, Barney Springer is located six miles east of Portersville, Tulare county, where he is engaged in the cultivation and improvement of his property. A native of Greene county, Ill., he was born December 2, 1831, on Mound Prairie. The family was originally German, an ancestor having located in Sweden, then coming to America as early as the year 1600. Mr. Springer's great-grandfather, Isaac, was a resident of New Jersey, his son, Noah, a native of that state, being a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The latter located in Essex county, N. J., where David Springer was born. He served in

the war of 1812, a volunteer from Steuben county, N. Y., where he was a farmer. From there he removed to Madison county, Ill., and was married there in 1825. Subsequently he removed to Jo Daviess county, same state, and followed lead mining for a time, making considerable money. Afterward he lived in Greene county for a time, finally returning to Jo Daviess county in 1832, and in June of that year, he died a victim of cholera, his wife, formerly Sallie Waddell, of Madison county, Ill., following him within twelve hours of the same disease. They were the parents of six sons, of whom Barney Springer was the youngest.

Left an orphan at an early age, he was cared for by relatives until he was four years old, when he went into the home of strangers and was reared to the age of eighteen years, in the meantime acquiring a public school education. In 1850 he decided to cast in his lot with that of the pioneer element which was contributing to the strength and upbuilding of California, and accordingly he crossed the plains, walking the greater part of the distance and driving an ox-team. He left Illinois April 3 and arrived in California September 1. For six weeks he engaged in mining in Nevada county, after which he came to San Jose, Santa Clara county, and engaged as a farmer on rented land. In the fall of 1854 he once more engaged in mining in Nevada county, remaining there for two years, when he returned to San Jose. Two years later he came to Tulare county and located five and a half miles northwest of Tulare and engaged in the raising of hogs. Three years later he located on the Tule river a mile southwest of Portersville, taking up a homestead, the fifth in this county. In 1883 he bought three hundred and twenty acres which he subsequently sold, and which is now owned by the Rosedale Water Company. His home place, six miles southeast of Portersville, to which he moved in 1891, comprises nine acres, although he originally owned four hundred acres. One-half mile from his home he owns a tract of three hundred and twenty acres.

Fraternally Mr. Springer is associated with the Knights of Pythias and the Pioneers of California, and politically he is a Socialist. Personally he is well and favorably known throughout Tulare county, his kindly ways endearing him to old and young alike.

**ROSWELL R. DODGE.** An example of one whose natural inclinations seem to be in the line of agricultural pursuits, is found in Roswell R. Dodge, a young and prosperous farmer and fruit-grower of Kings county, Cal. His productive farm, which came to him by inheritance, contains forty acres of the choicest land in his locality, be-

ing well located one mile west of Hanford. About fourteen acres of his place is in vines and fruit and he rents out twenty acres of his land for market-gardening. Mr. Dodge was born in 1874 on the farm which he now occupies, and he is a son of the late Roswell S. Dodge, whose biography may be found in another part of this history.

Left an orphan early in life, Mr. Dodge was reared by his guardian, his half-sister, with whom he lived until he went away to school. He was given the best education available in his locality and after completing the course of study in the common schools, he became a student at the San Mateo high school, where he completed his studies. Upon reaching his majority, Mr. Dodge came into his inheritance and by the careful, practical manner in which he has managed affairs on the ranch, he has not only shown himself capable of taking care of the property left him, but has greatly improved it, and thereby increased its value, until it is now worth at least \$250 per acre. By his marriage, in 1897, he was united with Daisy Trewitt, who was born in Tennessee and their home is brightened by the presence of one daughter, Dorena. Mr. Dodge is a citizen whom it is good to know; he is well informed on general topics and keeps in touch with the times. Politically, he has always been a Republican and although patriotic and alive to the needs of the nation, he is not active in politics, but his voice is ever raised on the side of justice and humanity. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and in all affairs of life is a man upon whom his neighbors rely and one whom they thoroughly respect.

**HENRY FERDINAND SALAU, JR.,** has made the best of such inherited gifts as industry, integrity, and practical common-sense, and to-day is rated as one of the successful farmers and dairymen of the vicinity of Los Banos. The family connection with California, from the time of its establishment in 1871, up to the present, is known to practically all who live in Merced county, and Ludwig Salau, the father of Henry F., is esteemed as one of the substantial and worthy residents of this section. Ludwig Salau, as well as his son, were born near Lybec, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, the latter March 4, 1857. Besides this only son there were six daughters in the family, two of whom now live in America, and one of whom preceded her father and brother to the United States, settling in California. Losing his wife, Christine (Weaver) Salau, in the old country, father and son sailed for the United States in the fall of 1871, the elder Salau having spent many years as a weaver, and upon his arrival



in America resided with his children until his death in 1882.

When Henry F. Salau, Jr., arrived in the west side of Merced county in 1871, the region was principally a sheep range, and his first employment was as a herder. Two years later he worked on a farm and drove a team, and in 1878 had saved enough money to enter his present ranch, which came into the market in 1887, and upon which he proved up in the spring of 1888. Previous to this he had broken the land and sowed it to grain, and at times had as many as sixteen hundred acres under various grains. In 1891 he homesteaded an additional hundred and sixty acres in the foothills, proved up on it, and devoted that also to grain. He has since gone back to live on the old place, taken up in 1878, and where he has about a hundred and ten acres in alfalfa. This is principally a dairy farm, and is rented out, having a capacity of one hundred milch cows, and one hundred and thirty head of other cattle. The farm is one which demonstrates what can be accomplished when a man possesses energy, resource and taste. The latter is evidenced in the general aspect of the farm. Mr. Salau exerts a social as well as agricultural influence in the community, is a factor in securing good government and superior educational advantages, and is an honored member of Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. F., of Los Banos. In religion he is a Lutheran, and in politics a Republican.

**ALBERT ELLES BROOKS.** The business methods of Albert E. Brooks are such as to win for him the commendation of all who have had occasion to deal with him. His undertaking parlors are modern in all their appointments, thoroughly equipped, and up-to-date in every respect, and present a completeness of detail which give to him a supremacy in his line of work in Visalia, where he is located. A native of the state, Mr. Brooks was born in Butte county, April 11, 1859, a son of Julius Caesar Brooks. The elder man was a native of Ohio, who became a pioneer of Michigan, thence removing to Illinois, then to Iowa, where, near the city of Des Moines, he engaged in farming. Attracted to the west by the multifold opportunities held out in the early days of California, he crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1854, a member of a large train which made the journey in four months and twelve days. Despite their numbers, they had considerable trouble with the Indians, who stole their cattle and horses, Mr. Brooks having but four yoke of oxen left when he reached California. He immediately went to the mining districts in Butte county but instead of engaging in mining opened a dairy and carried milk to the miners by pack-

train. After a time he sold his cattle and bought a mine which, though promising results, had been salted and proved his financial ruin. Forced to seek his livelihood by less precarious means he removed to Sutter county and in the vicinity of Nicolaus engaged in freighting for several years. Once more embarking in the dairy business, he located on Feather river and carried on this work successfully until the floods of 1868-69, during which he suffered great losses, as did all others in that neighborhood. In the fall of 1870 he removed to Burney Valley, Shasta county, and purchased a mountain ranch, where he carried on stock raising. Three years later he removed to Colusa county and engaged in wheat raising on rented land near the city of Colusa. This location remained his home for more than twenty years, when, in 1894, he removed to Lompoc Valley and near Lompoc bought a fruit ranch, consisting principally of an apple orchard, where he now makes his home at the age of seventy-eight years. For thirty years he has officiated as a deacon of the Baptist Church. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. In young manhood he married Mariam Wallace Haskell, a native of Illinois, and she is still living at the age of seventy-four years. Born of their union were six children, four sons and two daughters, of whom Albert Elles Brooks is the third in order of birth.

Albert Elles Brooks received his preliminary education in the common schools of California, when in 1876-77 he attended Pierce Christian College. Upon assuming independence Mr. Brooks' first experience was in the raising of wheat, his interests in that line being very extensive, as he had twelve hundred acres in cultivation. He continued in that occupation for a period of five years, when, in the fall of 1882, he located near Fresno, Fresno county. For five years more he followed farming operations. In 1887 he located in Selma and engaged in the undertaking business with a firm of that city, remaining so occupied for two years. Seeking again an agricultural life he accepted the position of superintendent of the California Prune Orchard at Farmersville, Tulare county, discharging the duties incumbent upon him capably for several years. In 1898 he bought a half interest in the Fresno Undertaking Parlors and retained this interest until 1902, disposing of it then on account of his health. In October, 1903, he came to Visalia and bought the Visalia Undertaking Parlors on the 10th of that month and has since conducted the same.

In Chico, Butte county, Mr. Brooks married Mary Belle Childress, a native of Butte county, and born of this union are four children, namely: Edith Pearl, Bessie May, Roy Oakland and Alvin

Earl. In his fraternal relations Mr. Brooks is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F.; Fresno Encampment No. 87; Canton Visalia No. 24; Fresno Rebekahs No. 158; Woodmen of the World of Visalia and the Acacia Circle W. O. W. of Fresno. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of Fresno, in which he officiated as trustee. In the construction of the building he acted as superintendent and handled all the money without bonds, an evidence of the high esteem in which he was universally held and the confidence which he enjoyed among his fellow-men.

**CHARLES F. EDDLEMON.** At the outbreak of the Revolutionary war Henry Eddlemon enlisted in the defense of the colonies and by valor on the battlefield assisted in gaining independence for our country. With a devotion to duty as strong in times of peace as in war, he took up the quiet life of a tiller of the soil in his southern home. Late in life he took his family to Missouri in a prairie schooner and settled upon virgin soil south of Perryville, where the remaining years of his long life were passed. At a great age he closed his eyes upon the scenes of time, cheered by a Christian's hope of eternal happiness. Throughout life he was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church and a friend of religion.

Michael Sides Eddlemon, father of Charles F., was born in North Carolina March 22, 1822, and grew to manhood in Missouri. During the Mexican war he served for nineteen months in Company I, Third Regiment of Missouri Mounted Infantry. The war ended, he returned to Missouri and embarked in the mercantile business at Pleasant Valley, Perry county, where the ensuing years passed uneventfully. At the opening of the Civil war in 1861 he volunteered his services to the Union, first serving as a captain in the Missouri State Militia, and later acting as first lieutenant of a regiment of Missouri Volunteer Infantry until the close of the war. Exposure to inclement weather and the hardships of army life brought on rheumatism, from which he never recovered. When the war ended he removed to the vicinity of Fort Scott, Kans., where he bought a farm and began to erect a house. Just before the house was completed he died, December 20, 1866. In religion he was a stanch member of the Methodist Church.

The marriage of Michael S. Eddlemon occurred in Perry county, Mo., March 1, 1849, and united him with Mary Conrad, who was born in that county March 17, 1827, being a daughter of Jacob and Selma (Bollinger) Conrad, natives of North Carolina. Her maternal grandfather, Mathias Bollinger, removed from North Carolina to Missouri and settled on the Whitewater

river, in Bollinger county, where he engaged in tilling the soil until his death. Jacob Conrad, who was a son of Peter Conrad of North Carolina, removed to Perry county, Mo., where he was prominent among the early settlers. Both he and his wife remained in Missouri until their death. After her husband's death Mrs. Eddlemon continued on the farm near Fort Scott, Kans., for a period of ten years, but in 1876 brought her children to California and during the greater part of the succeeding years she has made Newman her home. In order of birth her children are as follows: Mrs. Sarah Jane Sever, who died in Kansas; Christopher C., a resident of Newman, Cal.; William Purvis, who makes his home in Nevada, Mo.; Jacob Henry, a merchant in San Jose, Cal.; George E., who died at five months of age; Ellen A., who died in infancy; Charles F., the subject of this sketch, who completes the family and is the youngest of the children. He was born at Pleasant Valley, Perry county, Mo., December 7, 1865, and in infancy accompanied his parents to Kansas. At the time of removing to California he was about ten years of age. For a year afterward the family lived in Contra Costa county and thence removed to Hills Ferry, where he and his brothers became interested in grain farming. In 1878 he began work as a teamster, driving six and eight-mule teams. When he settled in Newman in 1889 he started a dray business, which he has since conducted, having eight head of horses and several vehicles. In addition, in 1898 he became agent for the National Ice Company and now engages in the retail ice business, selling in Newman and vicinity, and shipping from Los Banos on the south to Crows Landing on the north.

The neat residence which Mr. Eddlemon built in Newman forms a pleasant home for himself and wife. The latter, formerly Miss Tessie Gray, was born near Fort Scott, Kans., and remained there until her marriage. On the organization of Oristamba Lodge No. 354, I. O. O. F., Mr. Eddlemon became one of its charter members and is now past grand. In matters political he votes for the men and measures of the Democratic party and in its local work at one time took a very active part as a member of the county central committee.

**GEORGE BRAILSFORD.** To his neighbors and friends who are engaged also in ranching in the vicinity of Hanford, the life of George Brailsford presents an example of industry and worthiness creditable alike to his native country and to the country of his adoption. Born in Yorkshire, England, June 12, 1850, he was reared to mercantile pursuits under the guidance of his father, William Brailsford, who was born in Derbyshire,





*J. N. Patterson*

England, and who became a large hardware manufacturer in Yorkshire. Working with hard metal was evidently not the occupation for which nature intended his son George, for shortly after his marriage to Martha Thompson, who was born in Derbyshire in 1849, he began to plan for a life in the country and far from the marts of trade.

Arriving in New York in July, 1884, Mr. Brailsford came by way of the Canadian Pacific to Hanford, where, after looking around for a time, he purchased forty acres of land, at that time a barren plain. Erecting a house and beginning the improvement of his land, he took great pleasure in the ideal climate and the clearer skies than he had known in England, and developed an inclination to branch out and become one of the foremost ranchers of his locality. He was one of the first in the section to set his land to fruit, and as success came his way he added to his possessions, and now has one hundred and five acres, all under fruit. He has given the subject the study necessary to place himself in the ranks of the successful and promising horticulturists, and his ranch presents every evidence of his thrift and painstaking methods. Fraternal-ly he is identified with Hanford Lodge No. 194, Knights of Pythias.

In early life Mr. Brailsford married in England, and his wife died in May, 1897, at the age of forty-eight years. She was the mother of one son, William H., who is now in partnership with his father, and lives with him on the home place. William H. was ten years old when the family came to America. He married Louise, daughter of Judge Justin Jacobs, the latter the first superior judge to hold that position after the organization of Kings county; he has been on the school board and is now a member of the Republican county central committee. Mr. Brailsford has one grandson, Howard G. The respect of his fellow-men, a comfortable competence, and a home wherein good-will and affection abide, is the heritage of this well-known and popular horticulturist.

**JAMES NELSON PATTERSON.** Residing about three miles west of Dinuba is James N. Patterson, one of the most active and intelligent farmers of Tulare county, and a citizen of worth and influence. One of the original settlers of Mussel Slough, he was a vigorous participant in the memorable troubles with the railroad company, with Major McQuiddy and others valiantly standing up for the rights of the ranchers already established there, and was one of the five men that was for eight months confined in the San Jose jail for his opposition to the company's claims. A son of Joshua Patterson, he was born

April 19, 1841, in Moultrie county, Ill., near Sullivan. His grandfather, James Patterson, a farmer first in Kentucky and afterward in Tennessee, served in the Revolution, taking part in the battle of Cowpens. He married a Miss Nelson, a kinswoman of General Nelson of Revolutionary fame, and both he and his wife became pioneers of Moultrie county, Ill., where they spent their closing days.

Born in Tennessee, Joshua Patterson accompanied his parents to Illinois, and during his earlier life was one of the most prominent citizens of Moultrie county. He followed farming to some extent, but was also interested in milling and mercantile pursuits. He accumulated considerable property, and with others helped to acquire the town site of the present city of Sullivan. He was personally acquainted with Abraham Lincoln. Subsequently migrating with his family to Davis county, Iowa, he improved a fine ranch near Bloomfield, where he lived for a number of years. In 1864, accompanied by his wife and a part of his children, he crossed the plains to California, and settled in Tehama county, sixteen miles north of Red Bluff. In 1878 he moved to Tulare county, where he spent his remaining years on his farm near Grangeville, in what is now Kings county. He was also a participant in the Mussel Slough difficulties. His wife, whose maiden name was Grizzie Ann Cates, was born in East Tennessee ninety years ago, and now resides in Tulare county, making her home with her son James. She bore her husband six sons and an equal number of daughters, and of the seven children that came to California three are living, two daughters and one son.

Having received a practical education in the common branches of learning while attending the public schools of Moultrie county, Ill., and of Davis county, Iowa, James N. Patterson engaged in farming on his own account, marrying and setting up an establishment of his own. In 1864 he started for California, joining a party that crossed the plains with fifty wagons drawn by horse and mule teams. Being unanimously elected captain of the company, he assumed the lead of the train, and followed the old overland trail. Stopping at Julesburg, Colo., where the only dwelling house was a log cabin, he made an impromptu boat in which to ferry the wagons and stock across the river, paying \$400 for the four hundred feet of timber required for its construction. Prior to that time Mr. Patterson had taken a trip to Nevada, Iowa, in 1863, when Eddyville, Iowa, was the western terminus of the railroad, going after two desperadoes, whom he captured and took back to the Davis county jail. Continuing the well-worn wagon roads along the Humboldt, through Austin and Susanville, Mr. Patterson arrived in Tehama county, Cal., where



he engaged in farming for awhile. He soon became active in public affairs, and in 1868 was elected county supervisor. Subsequently resigning the office, he settled north of Red Bluff, where he became well known as a stock raiser and dealer. Removing from there to College City, Colusa county, Mr. Patterson carried on farming, and also opened the first butcher's shop in the town. In the fall of 1877 he located at Mussel Slough, about a quarter of a mile from Grangeville, buying a settler's claim to eighty acres of land, which he graded and improved, sowing it to alfalfa, and setting out one of the finest orchards and vineyards in that locality. The railroad company laid claim to the land in that vicinity, endeavoring to take it away from the farmers, all of whom had settled on it in good faith, and did not propose to give it up without a brave struggle for their just rights. Mr. Patterson tried to buy his ranch, but the company refused to sell excepting at exorbitant prices, and then to but a few of the ranchers, alleging as an excuse that they needed the land for other purposes. Mr. Patterson was one of the foremost in fighting the railroad company, being one of the organizers of the Settlers' League, formed for protection and to try to buy the land or raise money to fight for a title to it. A suit of ejectment was brought by the railroad company, and in the ensuing contest between the railway company and the settlers Messrs. Patterson, Doyle, Purcell, Pryor and Braden were convicted, and for eight months were confined in the San Jose jail, where, having the sympathy of the jailer and of the citizens, who recognized the injustice of the incarceration, they had as much freedom, after the first day, as when at home. Subsequently Mr. Patterson and Major McQuiddy made speeches all over the state, holding mass meetings, and so arousing the active sympathy of the public that the railroad officials were forced to yield, eventually selling to the settlers for \$32.50 per acre. Mr. Patterson was obliged to mortgage his property, and finally to sell off a part in order to pay for the remainder. Locating on his present ranch in October, 1900, he has improved his eighty acres of land, erecting a substantial residence and farm buildings, and is successfully employed in dairying and stock raising, devoting his land chiefly to alfalfa.

In Davis county, Iowa, in January, 1859, Mr. Patterson married Mary E. Jones, a native of Missouri, and they became the parents of seven children, namely: Mary F., wife of S. J. White; Rosalia E., deceased; W. F., engaged in farming near Grangeville; J. B., a farmer near Dinuba; Mrs. Metta C. Gregory, living near Smith Mountain, Cal.; Mrs. Menta Medora Bain, living near Dinuba; and Mrs. Viola Pearl Lochmane, of Tulare county. Mrs. Mary E. Patterson died in

Grangeville, Cal., January 9, 1887. In McPherson county, Kans., near Canton, Mr. Patterson married Mrs. Martha Ann (Jones) Thayer, a sister to his first wife, who was born in Davis county, Iowa, where her father, M. M. Jones, was a prominent farmer, and for many years justice of the peace. He died in Canton, Kans., in his ninety-ninth year. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have one child, Lizzie Mae. Formerly Mr. Patterson was very active in the Christian Church, serving for forty years as elder; he is not a believer in sectarianism, placing his faith in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Politically he is a reformer, independent of party restrictions.

---

JOSEPH L. PEARSALL. Prominent among the prosperous business men of Stanislaus county who have achieved success in mining operations is Joseph L. Pearsall, residing about four miles north of Newman. Active, keen-witted, far-sighted and capable, he has accumulated a competency through his own persistent and energetic efforts, and is now enjoying life as proprietor of a small but valuable and productive ranch. A native of New York state, he was born in 1855 in Chenango county, which was also the birthplace of his father, the late David Pearsall.

One of the most brainy and progressive men of his day, David Pearsall was born, lived and died in Bainbridge, N. Y. He was a farmer by occupation, but was also actively interested in other leading industries of the place, being a lumberman, a millwright, a real-estate dealer, a speculator and one of the most able and influential politicians of that section of the state. He was an extensive landholder, and in his various undertakings was uniformly successful. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Manning, also was born in New York state, and is now a resident of Bainbridge. She bore him four children, three sons and one daughter, Joseph L., the special subject of this sketch, being the oldest child.

After completing the course of study in the common schools, Joseph L. Pearsall was graduated from the Bainbridge Academy. Leaving home in 1879, he embarked in mining pursuits in Colorado, locating first in Leadville, and afterward in other parts of the state. He subsequently spent a short time as a miner in the Wood river valley, Idaho. Going to Washington in 1889, Mr. Pearsall discovered and located the Monte Christo mines, which proved rich in mineral deposits. Selling out his interests in that locality, he went to the Frazer river country, British Columbia, in 1894, and was there engaged in prospecting and mining for four years. Becoming interested in the mining operations in Alaska, Mr. Pearsall visited that region in



1898, and engaged in prospecting in the Nome and Yukon districts, locating the Mattie Gibson mine, which has paid well. He was successful in his operations, and is still interested in the copper producing mines of the Valdez district. On his present home place, Mr. Pearsall has forty acres of land, twenty acres of which he has sowed to alfalfa, while on the other twenty acres he raises olives.

Fraternally Mr. Pearsall stands high in Masonic circles, and has done much to promote the good of the Order. He is a member of Seattle Lodge, F. & A. M.; of Seattle Chapter, R. A. M.; of the Eastern Star; and of the Washington Lodge of Perfection No. 1, of Seattle, Wash. He belongs to Newman Lodge, I. O. O. F. Politically he is one of the leading members of the Republican party, and in 1904 was a delegate to the Stanislaus county convention. Mr. Pearsall has never married, being probably too much engrossed with business matters to attend to domestic affairs.

**JOHN H. DAWSON.** As a citizen who for more than a quarter of a century has been identified with the agricultural interests of Kings county, Cal., John H. Dawson is deserving of especial mention, and as president of the Kings County Live Stock Association, added interest is attached to his name. Born in Grant county, Wis., August 23, 1854, the boyhood days of Mr. Dawson were spent upon a farm, and, like the average farmer's boy, he obtained his education in the district schools. He left home to make his own career in the world, being thoroughly equipped with an ambitious spirit, which needed only the school of experience to broaden its powers and capabilities. After following various occupations in as many different localities, Mr. Dawson finally gave his entire attention to farm pursuits and the result has been even greater than he anticipated, assuring him continued prosperity. He now ranks among the most prosperous and substantial citizens of the Hanford district, having lived since 1882 on his farm, seven and a half miles northeast of Hanford, where he rented for the first few years of his residence, but subsequently purchased the land.

In tracing the ancestry of Mr. Dawson, we find his father, Jacob Dawson, to be a native of Kentucky. He was taken to Missouri by his parents when but seven years old, and in 1847 the father went to Texas for a short time. Returning north to Wisconsin in 1848, Mr. Dawson worked in the lead mines of that state for one year and in 1849 he left that section of the country for California. Upon the present site of Placerville, Mr. Dawson erected a cabin, which proved to be the first in the vicinity, and here

he opened a general store, conducting a good business for several years. Returning to Wisconsin by the Panama route in 1852, in May of the same year, he was united in marriage with Lydia Fuqua, who was born in Kentucky, and taken to Ohio when quite small, and while still young her parents moved to Wisconsin. After marriage, Mr. Dawson settled on a farm in Wisconsin and devoted his entire attention to agricultural pursuits. The intervening years of his life have been spent in that state, and there he still enjoys life amid familiar scenes, having now reached the age of eighty-two years, his wife being seventy-seven years old.

Upon first leaving home, John H. Dawson went to White Pine county, Nev., remaining there about a year, and in January, 1876, he was persuaded to come to California. In Mariposa county he prospected in the mining camps, also followed teaming from the valley to the camps. It was in 1877 that he first took up his residence in Kings county, then Tulare county, and for a time he rented land from Thomas Thornton. This land afterward became the property of David Burris, and, renting from the latter gentleman, Mr. Dawson continued to remain on the ranch for several years longer, renting from 1878-82 sixteen hundred acres of land. The following year he rented twenty-three hundred acres, which he devoted to grain and before the close of that year he purchased two hundred and forty acres where he now lives. In connection with his general farming, he operates a dairy, making a specialty of the latter. He has a twenty-five-acre vineyard and one hundred acres of his land is used in raising alfalfa.

By his marriage, December 3, 1879, he was united with Henrietta Ehrhart, who was born in Decatur, Ill., and four children blessed their union. They are named William Otto, Lucile, Lydia and John Jacob. Mr. Dawson has made a decided success in introducing practical agricultural methods, and he was a director of the People's Irrigation Ditch, from 1886 to 1888, at which time he was elected president, serving until 1896. He then became a director and served two additional terms, resigning in 1898 in order to take a trip to Alaska. During the nineteen months spent in that far northern territory he prospected along Pick river and at Nome. Politically, Mr. Dawson is known as an independent Democrat.

**BENJAMIN F. CROW.** At the foundation of the agricultural success of Benjamin F. Crow is a determination to do well whatever task he undertakes, and to regard honest toil as the rightful heritage of the healthy, normal mind. He not only follows willingly the

occupation of his forefathers, but seeks to improve upon their methods, and to dignify by study and research the oldest means of livelihood to which man is heir. His entire life has been spent in California. He was born near Oakdale, this state, October 30, 1866, the third oldest in a family of four sons and three daughters. His father, Lewis J., is one of the few remaining argonauts of '49 to still retain interest in life, and recall the trials and deprivations which greeted the courageous travelers from the east. He is one of the first who settled in Stanislaus county, where he began to raise stock on the Orestimba creek from where he eventually removed to his present home near Oakdale.

When he was two years old Benjamin F. Crow went to live with his paternal uncle, B. H. Crow, who was not blessed with children of his own, and ever since the two have been inseparable and always friendly associates. The boy was educated in the public schools and given a business training in the Stockton Business College, after which he continued to farm with his uncle, and eventually became a land owner near the latter's farm. He now owns a hundred and sixty acres under the ditch, and leases seven hundred and forty acres for grain and cattle raising, five hundred acres of this being also under irrigation. His property is well cared for and well adapted to the purpose intended, and the future will doubtless witness additions to the scope of Mr. Crow's resources. He has the inspiration of an interesting family to back him in his ambitions, his three sons, Benjamin Thomas, Roy Franklin and Arthur Ward, already displaying the traits which have made their father's success possible. Mr. Crow married in Oakdale, Ida Ward, a native of Stanislaus county, Cal., to whose wise counsel and economy he owes the encouragement and sympathy which have brightened his home and helped him in his upward course. Although in no sense a politician, he is a staunch Democrat, upholding the interests of his party with the same zeal and practical helpfulness which have caused him to be regarded as one of the community's most enlightened and progressive citizens.

---

JAMES S. ROWLAND, a successful blacksmith and wheelwright of Visalia, Tulare county, was born in Rock Island, Ill., November 30, 1848, the second in a family of three children born to his parents, Jacob and Ruth (Hobert) Rowland. The father was a native of Hancock, Md., who became a pioneer of Illinois in 1836, locating east of Alton, where he followed his trade of millwright. He also conducted mills, following this line of work in the Mississippi valley from St. Paul to New Orleans,

during which time his family lived at Port Byron, Ill. In 1877 he came to California on account of his health, locating near Tulare river, where he lived retired until his death in 1901 at the age of eighty-five years. His wife, a native of Boston, Mass., died June 5, 1902, in this state, lacking one month of being eighty-five years old. Of their other two children, Marcus is located in Redlands, while Anna is the wife of Jacob C. Williams, of Visalia.

The education of James S. Rowland was received in the common schools of his native state, after which he engaged as night watchman in the employ of the Racine & Mississippi Railway. Later entering the operating department he was fireman for two years, when he was promoted to the position of engineer which he retained successfully for seven years on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway. In 1879 he followed his parents to California, locating in Visalia, where he engaged in blacksmithing and wagon-making, having learned this trade in Louisville, Pottawatomie county, Kans. For three years following this work he operated the engine in a flour mill in Visalia, after which he engaged again in the prosecution of his trade.

In Louisville, Kans., Mr. Rowland married Frances Wilson, a native of Canada, and they are now the parents of three sons and three daughters, namely: David H., a miller; Jacob, Ray, Alma, Ruth and Laura, all except David H. being still at home with their parents. In his political convictions Mr. Rowland is a Democrat.

---

JOSEPH CARMICHAEL. The young men of to-day who are inclined to underestimate the chances for success in the country, might derive encouragement and a change of opinion from the career of Joseph Carmichael, one of the self-made men of Merced county, and the owner of a ranch of seven hundred and sixty-four acres six miles from Snelling and twelve miles from Merced. Mr. Carmichael inherits the mental and bodily soundness of the sons of Scotland, in which country he was born June 24, 1851. He was educated in the town of Paisley, famous for its peculiar and beautiful shawls, and was reared in the humble home of a weaver, the calling which his father, Thomas Carmichael, adopted in early life. Mr. Carmichael learned the turner's trade in Scotland, following the same for ten years before leaving for the United States in June, 1875. Thomas Carmichael accompanied his family to America, reaching New York in September, and at once proceeded to California, locating at Woodbridge, San Joaquin county.

In 1876 Joseph Carmichael came to Merced county and rented four hundred and eighty acres, embodied in his present farm, purchasing the





*E D Halbert*

same at a later period, when his industry had accumulated sufficient means. He now has seven hundred and sixty-four acres, devoted to wheat, barley, corn, oats and hay, and he is also extensively engaged in raising high-grade horses, keeping on hand from twenty to fifty thoroughbreds. In addition to his home property Mr. Carmichael has two farms in Mariposa county, one containing four hundred and eighty and one four hundred and eighty-three acres, both of which are rented out. Both of the Mariposa county farms have valuable quartz deposits, yet undeveloped, which run from \$300 to \$385 a ton, and from which he hopes in time to reap large financial gains; also deposits of gold were discovered in the early days of placer mining in that county. For several years the Merced county farm had as honored occupants the father and mother of Mr. Carmichael, the former of whom lived to be seventy-seven and the latter seventy-eight years old. Mr. Carmichael has modern improvements on his farm, and under his management his land has increased in value and productiveness. He is scientific, cautious, and thoroughly practical, understanding well the business requisites for successful farming, as well as the theoretical conclusions arrived at by the colleges and students of agriculture throughout this and other lands. Personally Mr. Carmichael fulfils the popular conception of an ambitious and tireless worker, who appreciates and avails himself of the many opportunities for progress and enjoyment now at the disposal of the up-to-date agriculturist.

---

**EDWARD D. HALBERT.** Six miles south of Portersville, Tulare county, on Deer creek, is located the large ranch of Edward D. Halbert, consisting of twelve hundred and seventy-three acres, devoted to the cultivation of grain and the raising of stock. A native of Missouri, he was born in Hickory county, November 23, 1846, a son of Joel B. Halbert. The latter was born in South Carolina, reared in Warren county, Tenn., and in 1842 removed to Hickory county, Mo. He was a physician of considerable prominence in the various communities where he made his home, and practiced his profession in Hickory county until his death, which occurred in 1876, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, formerly Tirza Sherrill, was born in North Carolina and died in Missouri. They became the parents of nine sons and four daughters, of whom Edward D. Halbert was the eleventh child.

A limited education in the common schools of his native state was all that Edward D. Halbert was able to obtain, while he was trained in his home life to the habits of self reliance and industry characteristic of the pioneer lad. In

1864 he enlisted in the Home Guards and was in active service for two months. In young manhood he became interested in saw-milling, building a mill in Missouri, which he conducted until 1869. He then sold and removed to Hermitage, where he engaged as a clerk for a year and a half, when he came as far west as Nevada City and secured employment with the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway as contractor. Later he returned home and engaged in the harness business in Humansville, Mo. After a year and a half he found employment for the same length of time as clerk. Deciding to come west, he located in California in 1873, at Milton engaging as a sheep herder for one year, when he came to the San Joaquin valley. The first two months he spent near Huron, when he located in Tulare county. In 1878 he bought eight hundred head of sheep, and until 1894 was interested in sheep raising. In the meantime, in 1881, he purchased the ranch which he now owns, and which has since been his home. He has met with success in his farming and stock-raising pursuits and is numbered among the progressive and up-to-date farmers of Tulare county. Mr. Halbert was also a half owner in the Minnie Ellen mine from 1897 to 1901, in the latter year disposing of this interest in order to give his time and attention entirely to his ranch.

In Tulare county Mr. Halbert was united in marriage with Ellen Rhodes, a native of Tulare county, and a daughter of William and Sarah (Douglas) Rhodes, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. The mother is now a resident of Portersville. From Tennessee Mr. Rhodes moved to Texas, and from there, in 1857, came across the plains to California. Upon his arrival in the state he located near Visalia and engaged in the sheep business. In 1875 he made a trip to Arizona, driving a band of sheep and in the vicinity of Prescott was located until 1879, when he returned to his interests in California, where he had left his family. In 1880 he located in the vicinity of Los Angeles, where he was accidentally killed in 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Halbert are the parents of four children, namely: Lois, the wife of L. N. Sperry, of Elmwood, Cal.; Edward Fay; Roy Dent; and Ernest Sherrill, the last three named being at home with their parents. In his political convictions Mr. Halbert is a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party.

---

**WILLIAM RADLEY.** As superintendent of the famous Waverly ranch, one of the largest in Fresno county, Mr. Radley fills not only a position of prominence, but one fraught with numerous responsibilities. For the past seven years he has filled this position of trust and this of itself is a testimony of his worth. Born in Hamburg,

Sussex county, N. J., he is one of seven children born to William and Mary (Abbott) Radley, both natives of that state, the former of Sussex county. When but nine years old William Radley, Sr., went to sea as a cabin boy on a merchant ship and followed life on the water for eighteen years, during which time he visited every country on the globe. It is said that travel is the best educator and it is true that Mr. Radley is conversant upon many topics of which the average citizen has little or no knowledge. His father, Joseph Radley, a lawyer by profession, was of English nationality.

Some time after his marriage, William Radley, Sr., went to Australia and for five years was located at Sydney, after which he sailed for San Francisco. Soon after his arrival upon the Pacific coast he came to the San Joaquin valley, purchasing twenty acres of land in the Washington colony, in Fresno county, where he followed ranching pursuits for about thirteen years. Selling his farm in 1902 he retired from active business pursuits and is now spending his declining years at the home of his youngest son, Richard, who is profitably engaged in growing fruit, hay and vines upon his fifty-six-acre farm, three miles west of Sanger. The other children of Mr. Radley are John, Anna, May, William, Thomas and Jennie.

In his early boyhood days, William Radley, Jr., accompanied his parents to Australia and it was in that country that he was chiefly educated. Upon the removal of the family to California he assisted his father in ranching pursuits until he accepted his present responsible position of manager of the Waverly ranch, two miles east of Sanger. The ranch contains five thousand acres, devoted to the raising of wheat and other grains, and constant employment is given to twenty hands; all of the repair work is done at the blacksmith shop which is located on the ranch. As manager of these broad acres the duties of Mr. Radley are manifold, and his personal supervision is given to every detail. Fraternally he is allied with the Odd Fellows. Although a resident of Fresno county for but fifteen years, Mr. Radley has attained a position of prominence accorded to few so young as he, and his many friends predict for him a bright future.

**SAMUEL REY.** There are few men engaged in land occupations in Kings county whose experiences have been so varied, and whose skill in narrating them is so pronounced as in the case of Samuel Rey, owner of a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres in the vicinity of Hanford. In his later years Mr. Rey finds himself the possessor of a comfortable home, of a valuable property, and a ready income from

general farming and the dairying of from between twenty to thirty cows. He is gifted with a retentive memory, and throughout his entire life has been a keen observer of men and events, cherishing in his mind many things of importance which escape the observation of the average sojourner.

Mr. Rey was twelve years old when he came to America with his father, Rudolph Rey, embarking in a sailing vessel which spread its sails upon the ocean for sixty-four days. He was born in Switzerland, September 14, 1838, and landed in the city of New Orleans in the fall of 1850, soon journeying northward to Illinois, where his father engaged in farming until his death, at the age of forty-five years. Samuel Rey was for several years employed in a hotel in Illinois, but in 1857 went to Keokuk, Iowa, where he teamed for about one year. He then removed to St. Joseph, Mo., walking nearly the entire distance, and there learned the barber's trade, which secured him a comfortable living for many years. Best of all his experiences, he likes to recall his association with St. Joseph, with Abraham Lincoln and the Confederate flag. The Great Emancipator used to stroll into the barber shop to be shaved, while in the town. One day he saw a rebel flag swaying in the breeze, and made the remark that he would like to have somebody take that "rag" down. That night, when his actions were covered with darkness, Mr. Rey stole out and took down the flag, presenting it the next morning to Lincoln when he came in for his usual shave. Mr. Lincoln told him to burn the flag, and at the same time presented him with five dollars out of gratitude for his consideration and bravery.

In May, 1861, Mr. Rey enlisted in an escort to cross the plains and protect the emigrants, departing from Omaha, Neb., June 3, 1861, and arriving at Walla Walla, Wash., September 16, after the usual adventures on the plains. Upon receiving his honorable discharge from the service in September, 1861, he engaged in mining at Orafino and Pierce City, Idaho, also profiting by the mining excitement on the Salmon river, later returning to Walla Walla, where he secured employment as steward in a hotel. In the spring of 1862 he went to the Florence Basin mines, and from there to Auburn, Ore., his next stopping-place being the site of Silver City, Idaho, which he helped to lay out, and where he conducted a shop for a few months. Those were exciting times in the new town, and it fell to the barber to help drive the gamblers and cut-throats out of the Golden Chariot and Ida Elmore mines, after they had killed one of the owners and spread consternation through the settlement. Alone and single-handed Mr. Rey descended into the mines, drove the men out,



and won praise from the rugged and honest element assembled for the making of fortunes. At the same time he was operating a shop on Saturdays in the Flint district, nine miles from Silver City, during the daytime of other days busying himself with sorting ores. About this time a twenty-stamp mill was erected in the vicinity, but it was obliged to close down and the camp was abandoned in 1868. Mr. Rey then went to the Carlin district, in Nevada, where he operated a barber shop for a short time, after which he came to Woodland, Yolo county, Cal., on a visit, and then took a trip to British Columbia. For two seasons he mined and prospected in Alaska, but not realizing success, opened a barber shop in Seattle, and operated it successfully for five or six years.

In the meantime Mr. Rey had instructed his brother to purchase a ranch for him in Kings county, sending him the money to pay for it, and himself taking possession of the same in 1877. The ranch consisted of eighty acres, to which he soon added eighty more, and, thus established, he felt the need of somebody to share his rising and now almost certain fortunes. Like so many of his countrymen, he had come to America to get a start in life, and like so many others had left behind him one of whom he thought much, and who had been an incentive to hard and earnest effort. In 1876 Mr. Rey returned to Switzerland by way of Philadelphia, where the Centennial Exposition was then being held, and married, March 17, 1877, Louise Zubrist, a native of Switzerland, who immediately accompanied him to the farm in Kings county. Together this energetic couple have worked for the competence which is now theirs, and during all the years that have passed have maintained that perfect faith in each other, that desire to sympathize and be of practical use, which has made their home a peaceful and happy one. Eight children have been added to the household, and six have been reared from their cradle to maturity in an atmosphere of goodness and encouragement. Of these, Charles R. is a machinist of San Francisco; George Samuel is engaged in hauling cream for the dairy association; Albert P. lives at Randsburg, Kern county; Della L. is making her home in San Francisco; Clara is a stenographer in San Francisco and Annie is attending the state normal school at San Jose. These parents have given their children the best advantages within their power, and all are a credit to the training given them in their youth.

Mr. Rey is a Democrat in politics, but cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, at the time he was performing the humble service of shaving that statesman. He is identified with Mount Whitney Lodge, F. & A. M., of

Dinuba, Cal. His wife is a member of the Christian Church. Mr. Rey is somewhat interested in the development of oil in California, and owns fourteen acres in the Coalingo district, which, though promising, are as yet not in working order. In his heart this early pioneer carries a great love for all mankind and an intense desire to be of use to his fellow-men. In his various wanderings in small towns and mining camps he has invariably made many warm friends, and these tinge his memory with pleasant thoughts, and cause him to be glad that his life has been an active and adventurous one.

---

PETER BONDSON. In Peter Bondson, Kings county, Cal., has a Danish-American agriculturist who reflects credit both upon his native and adopted country, and who embodies those thrifty and substantial traits which make his countrymen a welcome addition to comparatively new countries. Mr. Bondson lives nine miles southeast of Hanford on a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, to which he came in 1875, and upon which he has brought about remarkable changes. The country was extremely wild at that time, and his neighbors were so far apart that the loneliness became monotonous. He assisted in the building of the ditch, which has increased the possibilities of farmers along its course, and until 1892 was engaged principally in grain raising, at which he made a comfortable livelihood. Since then he has conducted a dairy of from thirty-five to forty cows, and devotes considerable attention to raising calves for the market. His farm is well improved, and his family are surrounded with the comforts made possible by his industry and success.

Mr. Bondson came to America in 1870 from North Slesvig, Denmark, where he was born April 1, 1848, and where he received fair educational training in the public schools. He was reared on a farm, as had been generations of his family before him, and he had no thought save to succeed in and dignify this most honorable of occupations. Twenty-two years of age when he set foot in America, he came direct to California, of which he had heard much, and in Sonoma county found employment on a dairy ranch for a couple of years. He then went to Merced county and rented three hundred and twenty acres of land on Bear creek for two years, in the meantime saving his money and intending to embark upon an independent farming enterprise. His expectations were realized in 1875, when he bought and partially paid for his present farm, advantageously located along the ditch, and having excellent watering facilities. His home is presided over by his wife, formerly Delia Nantz, a native of Tulare coun-

ty, Cal., and the mother of three children, the oldest of whom, Estella J., is attending the high school of Hanford, while Pearl and Arthur N. are at home with their parents. Mr. Bondson is a Republican in politics, and with his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a steward, and toward the support of which he is a generous contributor. He is a hard-working, progressive and intelligent man, thoroughly in accord with the people and conditions of his adopted state, and able, by the exercise of consideration and integrity, to make his name respected and honored in the community.

**NIS HANSEN.** It is universally conceded by the majority of people that a man's success in life is measured by the rapidity with which he amasses wealth; the greater his wealth and the more quickly it is accumulated, the greater his success. As an example of one who has some claim to success and whose wealth has been attained in one channel of endeavor, appropriate mention may be made of Mr. Hansen, who, although of foreign birth, has been a citizen of the United States and of California since 1875, and at the present writing is a well-known rancher and fruit-grower in the vicinity of Armona, in Kings county.

United, as he is, by close ties to Schleswig, then a part of Denmark, for it was there that he was born March 17, 1859, Mr. Hansen remained in his native land until he was sixteen years old, spending his boyhood days on a farm. It was early in the year 1875 that he left home and friends and sailed for America to avoid having to serve in the army, having little or no taste for military life. Landing in New York city in May of the same year, he remained there only a short time, proceeding to California. At Vallejo he secured employment in a meat market, and for eighteen months he devoted his best energies to this business, subsequently following ranching pursuits for a time in Solano county, and for a couple of years in Kings county, then a part of Tulare county. A little later, Mr. Hansen purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land, which he at once began to improve and cultivate. Here for years he raised grain and carried on dairy farming to some extent, and in 1888 commenced to put out orchards. The latter yielded such fair returns that more attention was paid to fruit culture with each succeeding year, and at the present writing one hundred acres of his ranch is in fine bearing orchards and vineyards. Having prospered greatly Mr. Hansen has owned from time to time farms in different sections, his possessions now including thirty acres of choice land adjoining his

home ranch, fifteen acres of which is in vines. That part of his land not devoted to fruit is utilized in raising alfalfa and for pasturage, and this season the entire ranch is leased to men who have worked for Mr. Hansen for the past sixteen years.

The home ties of Mr. Hansen date back to 1887, for at that time he wedded Josie Hutton, a native of California. She passed to her final rest in 1891, after a brief wedded life, leaving two children; of these, one is deceased and the other, Jesse, is at the home place. In 1894 Mr. Hansen remarried to Jennie Dickinson, a native of Maine. Four children have been born to this union, one of whom died in infancy, and in 1900 their mother also died. The children are Catherine, Jennie and Louis A. By his third marriage, Mr. Hansen was united with Minnie D. Hough, his present wife, who was born in Michigan, but was reared in Virginia. In his political views, Mr. Hansen is a Republican, but never aspired to office, preferring rather to devote his time and energy to his business pursuits, and by his straightforward methods, he has made many friends in his locality. His fine ranch is worth many times the purchase money, and could not be purchased for less than \$250 per acre, being well located, three-quarters of a mile west of Armona.

**ROSWELL S. DODGE.** The name of Roswell S. Dodge will long be remembered as one of the honored pioneers of what is now Kings county, Cal., but what was formerly a part of Tulare county. Born in Michigan, August 10, 1831, the boyhood days of Mr. Dodge were spent on a farm in his native state, his education being received in the common schools of his locality. In 1852 Mr. Dodge crossed overland to California in search of a more promising field for the cultivation of his ambitions, but his roseate views of the golden future in this locality were somewhat lessened by the arduous toil to which the miners were subjected. In connection with mining operations, he also followed teaming in the mining district, a somewhat hazardous but paying occupation.

In 1870 Mr. Dodge took up his permanent residence in Kings county, and at that time he not only took up a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres of government land, but obtained possession of one hundred and sixty acres of Southern Pacific Railroad land just across the road from his homestead. This land was new and undeveloped and for a time Mr. Dodge teamed for his neighbors to get a start. He was one of the instigators and promoters of the People's Irrigation Ditch, which he assisted in constructing and which opened up the section it

traversed for agricultural purposes, converting the arid, sandy desert into fertile fields. Here upon this land Mr. Dodge improved and cultivated his place until his death in 1881. By his marriage, in 1872, he was united with Mrs. Caroline Adams, who was born in New York, but who with her first husband and one daughter, Hattie J., came to California, where the husband afterward died. By her union with Mr. Dodge, one child was born, a son, Roswell R., and in 1880, the beloved mother passed to her final rest, leaving these two children to the care of her husband, who, however, survived her only one year.

Upon his death, the homestead farm passed to his son, Roswell R., and the one hundred acres of railroad land was left to his step-daughter, now Mrs. H. J. Bulloch. Later events developed the fact that Mr. Dodge's title to the latter place was not clear and in order to retain possession, Mrs. Bulloch was obliged to repurchase it from the railroad company. This she did and she still resides upon this fine farm adjoining the home of her half-brother; here she witnessed the development of the country from a wilderness into fertile and well-improved farms, dotted with happy and attractive homes, and it may be said that she has done her part to aid and bring about this transformation. Politically, Mr. Dodge was a life-long Republican and took an active part in both local and national politics. To such men as he, California owes much of her present prosperity.

---

PETER MILLER. The improvements noticeable in the agricultural sections of Stanislaus county are the direct result of the energetic efforts of a number of progressive, resourceful farmers, among whom Mr. Miller is influential and well known. Eight miles southwest of Newman stands his residence, surrounded by trees that he himself planted and farm buildings that he erected. In every direction, extending along the low foothills, are the acres that he owns and cultivates, embracing an extensive area of valuable grain land. To keep in touch with the developments made in agriculture has been an aim with Mr. Miller for many years, and accordingly he adopts improved methods of machinery and the most modern and improved ideas regarding the rotation of crops and cultivation of the soil.

Of German nationality, Mr. Miller is a representative of that class of German-American citizens whose thrift has been a prominent factor in the progress of the new world. He was born in Holstein, near Hamburg, and is a son of John and Angela (Loss) Miller, natives of the same province as himself. His father followed the occupation of brick-mason and contractor, but died in early life, before attaining the success

that might have come to him had life been prolonged to old age. Later Mrs. Miller became the wife of Claus Ebbs and came to America in 1892. At this writing she makes her home on her son's farm. She was a daughter of Peter Loss, a farmer of Holstein. By her first marriage she has two sons, namely: Peter, with whom she makes her home; and John, who resided on an adjoining farm, till his death in July, 1904. Of her second marriage two daughters were born. The elder is Mrs. Mary Brauer, of Newman, and the younger, Maggie, is the wife of Henry Timm. Ever since the days of Martin Luther the Miller family has been devoted to the religious doctrines for which he stood.

Born October 11, 1856, Mr. Miller is now in the prime of life and the vigor of manhood. As a boy he attended the public schools in the village of Peisen, but when fifteen years of age he began to be self-supporting, and for some years worked on a farm. In 1880 he crossed the ocean to America and then proceeded across the continent to California, where he at once came to the west side of Stanislaus county. Having no means for the renting of a place, in the spring he secured employment as a farm hand by the month. After eighteen months, in the fall of 1881, he secured a farm outfit and with a partner, Charles Hagadorn, began raising grain on four hundred acres of irrigated land. That partnership continued until 1883, after which he engaged in wheat raising with John Hohn, the two continuing in partnership until 1886. During the latter year Mr. Miller purchased six hundred and forty acres on Bennett's Valley road, where he planted trees, erected a house and barns and took up the work of grain raising. By subsequent purchases he has acquired a very large property in low foothill land, his possessions aggregating thirteen hundred and thirty acres. It is worthy of note that almost all of this large tract may be plowed for grain and hay. Fine cattle and horses form a herd of stock whose value is constantly increasing. In the cultivation of the land ten horse-teams and fifty head of mules are used. The latest machinery is utilized, an instance of which fact is to be found in his combined side-hill harvester, the first machine of the kind brought into the valley, and in the operating of which thirty-two mules are used. Besides his grain land he owns forty acres on the Creamery road, where he raises hogs, cattle and horses, utilizing alfalfa for their pasturage.

The first marriage of Mr. Miller united him with Miss Julia Williams, of Newman, a native of California. She died on their home farm and her only child, Julius, also is deceased. The present wife of Mr. Miller was Miss Katie Jørgensen, a native of Holstein, but a resident of

Newman at the time of her marriage. Four sons and two daughters were born of this union, namely: Peter, Jr., Henry, William, Walter, Katie and Elma. During the winter of 1892-93 Mr. Miller renewed associations with the friends of his childhood by visiting his native land. Around him there were many changes to be noticed, but in none was the change greater than in himself. He had left home poor and inexperienced, to go to a strange land with no capital save that of youth and willing hands. When he returned he was influential, experienced and successful, one who by careful observation and frequent reading had acquired a broad fund of information. He had gone away a German, but he returned a loyal American, proud of his adopted country and proud of the success he had attained in the midst of its opportunities. Now, as always, he clings to the Lutheran religion, the faith of his forefathers. In adopting American citizenship he acquainted himself with political affairs and keeps in touch with the issues before our country. Politically he votes the Democratic ticket. Especially in educational matters has his interest been deep and his helpful spirit manifest. Since 1886 he has been a school trustee and at this writing officiates as president of the board. In the capacity of trustee he assisted in the erection of the building now utilized for school purposes in his district. While especially concerned as to the education of the young, he is also interested in all measures looking to the material success and moral training of the boys and girls who are to have the responsibility for the future prosperity of our country. In every respect he has acquitted himself as a patriotic Californian, a loyal American and a helpful citizen of Stanislaus county.

---

EDWIN JAY DIBBLE, one of the first actual settlers in the neighborhood of Guernsey, Kings county, Cal., was born in Oneida county, N. Y., September 8, 1834, and comes of a fine old New England family of Scotch-English extraction. It was well for him that he was a lad of sturdy and reliant characteristics, for responsibility came his way at the age of sixteen, owing to the death of his father, Jesse Dibble, who died at the age of thirty-seven years. His mother, formerly Anna Palms, a native also of New York, lived to be seventy-seven years old and died in Oneida county.

When he arrived at twenty-two years Mr. Dibble left the home farm which he had managed for six years and found employment by the month in his native state. He went to Minnesota in 1860 and was there married, later locating on a rented farm in Allamakee county, Iowa, upon which he lived until 1863. He then

crossed the plains and located near San Jose, Cal., where he rented land and also worked by the day until removing to Santa Cruz county, where he remained until settling on his present farm nine miles south of Hanford, Kings county. His land was a stranger to any kind of improvement, and its development went hand in hand with his active interest in the building of the Lakeside ditch, which came as a boon to the agriculturists and stock-raisers of Tulare county. From a barren region he noted the gradual unfolding of the great opportunities awaiting the enterprise of man, industriously applying himself to making his own home one of fertility and unquestioned promise. Fortunately he has been able to realize his expectations, and has accumulated a competency as a dairyman and grain raiser. In 1890 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres about two miles from the home place, and this is devoted to a dairy of twenty-five cows, and a herd of about one hundred and fifty hogs. This latter farm is under the management of his son George, who is making a practical success as a rancher.

With the assistance of a noble-hearted and helpful wife, who died in 1896, and who was formerly Hannah Blend, a native of Iowa, having been born in 1840, Mr. Dibble has reared a family of eight children, three others having died in early childhood. Of those who reached maturity, Annie is the wife of Frank E. Howe, a rancher; Le Roy is a rancher located near his father; Flora is the wife of Millard Welton, a rancher of Kings county; Judson also lives near his father; Lester has a ranch in the neighborhood; George leases his father's ranch; Abi lives at home; and Jesse assists his brother George. Mr. Dibble had few educational advantages in his youth, and this fact has led him to take a keen interest in the chances accorded the sons of Kings county pioneers. He has served several years as a trustee of schools, but has otherwise refused to hold any office whatever, although a staunch upholder of the Republican party. He is one of the men whose life has commanded respect and whose example is worthy of emulation.

---

JAMES W. RATH. Numbered among the successful business men of Tulare county, James W. Rath occupies a responsible position as head of one of the most extensive fruit canning concerns in the state, located at Visalia. Since his location in this city in 1897 he has held the position of manager of this business, first known as the Sacramento Packing and Drying Company, but is now called the California Fruit Cannery Association. Of strict business methods, con-



servative yet progressive, Mr. Rath has discharged the duties incumbent upon him in such a manner as to win the commendation of all associated with him. Born in Mason county, Mich., May 10, 1858, he is the son of Hans Rath, a native of New York state.

In 1846 Hans Rath went to Michigan and located in Mason county, where he engaged in farming, being at present located near the town of Ludington. His wife, formerly Marie Olsley, was also a native of New York state. She died in her home in Michigan in 1898, leaving a family of three sons and one daughter, of whom the daughter is deceased. The youngest of this family of children, James W. Rath, received his education in the common schools in the vicinity of his home, after which he attended a commercial college at New Haven, Mich. Upon assuming independence he went to New Orleans in 1877, and two years later located in Austin, Tex. He there followed the life of a cowboy for three years, when he came to California and in San Jose engaged as an employe for the San Jose Fruit Packing Company. He continued in this employment for several years, finally being promoted to the position of foreman of the cook room. In 1889 he went to Sacramento with R. I. Bentley and engaged as foreman of the Sacramento Packing and Drying Company, continuing in that location for eight years, when he came to Visalia and entered upon the duties of his present position. From the plans of Mr. Rath the canning factory was built, which has a capacity of about one hundred thousand cases of fruit (principally peaches) during the season, which lasts fifty-five days. This association embraces thirty-six plants from the Columbia river to San Diego, and in the busy season employs from five hundred and fifty to six hundred people. It is numbered among the most important industries of Visalia and adds no little to the financial prestige of the place.

In San Jose Mr. Rath was united in marriage with Ella Arnold, a native of Michigan, and they are the parents of two daughters and one son, namely: Ella, Jean and Arnold. In his political affiliations Mr. Rath is a stanch Republican and gives his support to the advancement of the principles he indorses.

---

DAVID JAMES FRANKLIN REED. A man of varied experience in life, energetic, intelligent and enterprising, David J. F. Reed is numbered among the representative agriculturists and horticulturists of Tulare county, and holds an assured position among the most esteemed and respected residents of Tulare. Although misfortune has sometimes followed him, he has pursued the even tenor of his way unflinching, by

courageous perseverance conquering all obstacles, and is now enjoying to the utmost the reward gained by his years of faithful and intelligent toil. Wherever he has lived, he has been prominent in public affairs, and has rendered noteworthy service to his fellowmen. A son of David Reed, he was born in Massillon, Stark county, Ohio, April 12, 1832. His grandfather, Thomas Reed, the emigrant ancestor, was born in the North of Ireland, and after coming to the United States settled in Ohio, becoming a pioneer of Stark county.

David Reed was a life-long farmer, owning a homestead near Massillon, Ohio. He spent his entire life in Stark county, dying while yet in manhood's prime. He married Susan Simon-ton, who was born in Ohio, of Scotch parentage, her father having emigrated from Scotland to Ohio. Of her union with David Reed, three children were born, of whom David J. F., is the only survivor. After Mr. Reed's death she married for her second husband A. W. Vail, and removed to Laporte, Ind., where she resided until her death, at the advanced age of ninety years. Of her second marriage six children were born, four of whom are still living.

Removing with his mother and step-father to Laporte, Ind., when twelve years old, David J. F. Reed at once began to assist in the pioneer labor of breaking up the rough prairie land, and improving a farm. His educational advantages were very meagre, consisting of a few short weeks in the winter season. Leaving the home farm in 1851, he was clerk in a Laporte hotel for about a year. In 1852, desiring to try the hazard of new fortunes, he went to Chicago, which then contained only forty thousand inhabitants, with scarcely any of the modern improvements so characteristic of the present populous metropolis, its streets being veritable swamps, or mud holes. Entering the employ of the late Frank Parmelee, the founder of the Parmelee Bus Line, he remained with him two years. Returning then to Indiana, Mr. Reed opened a hotel in Valparaiso, but was unfortunate in its management, in the year that he ran it losing all of his capital. Going back to Chicago, he secured a position in the old Union Depot, and the following thirteen years was there employed by the Illinois Central and the Michigan Central Railroad companies, serving as baggage-man the first two years, and as special policeman the last eleven years. He was there during the troublous time of the Civil war, and has no doubt that it was one of the hottest places in the country.

Locating in Plattsburgh, Neb., in 1870, Mr. Reed secured a position as foreman of material, and manager of a construction train, on the Burlington & Missouri division of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and held it for two

seasons. Settling then in Crete, Neb., he engaged in the grain and live-stock business. He built an elevator, but it burned down, and he had to rebuild it. He carried on a grain business, shipping on an average two cars a day to Chicago, and dealt largely in stock, shipping to both the Chicago and the Omaha markets. Successful in his ventures, Mr. Reed continued there for twenty years, in the time accumulating some means. He was an important factor in municipal affairs, and for consecutive terms served as mayor of Crete, and for one term county commissioner of Saline county. Selling his Nebraska property in 1890, Mr. Reed migrated to California, and settling in Tulare county purchased eighty acres of land lying one and one-fourth miles east of Tulare. He has improved the land, having it all under the ditch, and has it all set out to fruit, having a vineyard of thirty acres, while the remainder is devoted to prunes and peaches, in the culture of which he is quite successful. Mr. Reed has also been prominent in public matters in Tulare, having served for four years as a member of the city council, three years of the time being president, and for four years, from January, 1899, until January, 1903, serving as justice of the peace.

In Chicago, Ill., Mr. Reed married Evelyn Powell, who was born in Cayuga county, N. Y., but was brought up in Dupage county, Ill. She died in Crete, Neb., in 1888. Of the five children born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Reed, three died in infancy; Clarence E. passed away at the age of twenty-three years; and Gertie E. lived but eight years. Politically Mr. Reed has been identified with the Republican party since its formation, in 1856 casting his presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He is a consistent and active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and while in Crete served on the official board, being president of its board of trustees.

**EMERIE RENAUD.** In the development and advancement of the agricultural prosperity of Tulare county are men of great intelligence, energy and enterprise, prominent among the number being Emerie Renaud, who owns and occupies one of the most attractive of the many beautiful home farms to be found in this section of the state. It is located about four and one-half miles north of Tulare, and in its appointments and equipments compares favorably with any in the neighborhood. A native of the province of Quebec, and the descendant of one of its oldest and most honored French families, he was born, July 25, 1857, near Montreal, which was also the birthplace of his father, Charles Renaud, Jr., and of his grandfather, Charles Renaud, Sr. The latter spent his entire life of sixty-three years near

Montreal, being engaged in agricultural pursuits, and the farm which he managed for so many years is still in the possession of the family, being owned and occupied by one of his grandsons.

Succeeding to the occupation of his ancestors, Charles Renaud, Jr., carried on general farming during his life, which was comparatively short, his death occurring when he was but fifty-seven years of age. He married Marcellian Pelon, who was born in Quebec, a daughter of Celesta Pelon, a farmer, and she still resides in Montreal. Of the twelve children born to their union, ten are living, Emerie, the third child, being the only one in California.

Like the majority of farmers' sons, Emerie Renaud received his early education in the district schools, at the same time being well drilled in the various branches of agriculture. Leaving home when a boy of sixteen years, he came with a brother and uncle as far westward as Nevada. During the same year, 1874, he came to Sacramento, Cal., where he worked as a farm hand for two years. Thinking, however, to obtain money more rapidly with pick and shovel, he spent four or five years in the mines of Bodie, Cal., and Nevada, but his success scarcely equalled his anticipations. Returning then to Sacramento, Mr. Renaud married, and soon afterward in 1884, settled in Tulare county. Buying a farm on Elk Bayou, he operated it for a year, but found the land almost worthless. Renting land, he embarked in grain raising on a large scale and met with excellent success. Leasing from J. Goldman & Co. the old Stokes estate of three thousand acres, he raised immense quantities of grain, and with characteristic enterprise and thrift rented for a number of seasons a three thousand-acre ranch lying near Portersville. In the management of these six thousand acres Mr. Renaud used as many as one hundred head of horses and mules, employing in his operations twelve eight-mule teams. In 1903 he bought the old J. B. Zumwalt place, containing four hundred and twenty acres, lying north of Tulare, as above stated, and in its care has been exceedingly prosperous. He has one hundred acres of alfalfa, raises much grain and stock, and has a fine dairy, which is equipped with all modern improvements, including a separator. In addition to caring for his home farm Mr. Renaud also rents thirteen hundred acres of land adjoining his own, and devotes this tract to grain and stock raising also. He is continually adding to the improvements of his estate, and has now one of the finest farm residences to be found in this part of Tulare county.

In Sacramento, Cal., Mr. Renaud married Mary Giguere, who was born in Yolo county, Cal., a daughter of Frank Giguere, a '49er, and they are the parents of nine living children, all of







W. L. Pratt

whom are at home, namely: Joseph, Walter, Laura, Flora, Arthur, Blanche, Bryan, Elma and Collis. Politically Mr. Renaud is a steadfast adherent of the Democratic party, and is president of the board of school trustees of the Enterprise district. Fraternally he belongs to Tulare City Lodge No. 306, I. O. O. F.; to Tulare Encampment; and to Olive Branch No. 260, F. & A. M. He is liberal in his religious beliefs, a firm believer in justice, taking the Golden Rule for his guide, his motto being "Do right and it will be right."

**WILLIS LAYTON PRATT, Sr.** The Pratt family, which has a representative in Visalia in the person of Willis Layton Pratt, an old pioneer, came originally from England, three brothers crossing the ocean and locating in Jamestown in the early days of its settlement. They became prominent in the colony and were active participants in the various Indian wars which disturbed the country. In time members of the family located in North Carolina, and it was there that the birth of George Pratt occurred. In manhood he followed the occupation of farmer until his enlistment for service in the war of 1812, during which his death occurred. In his family was a son called Thomas, who was born in North Carolina, and following the example of his early ancestors immigrated to the middle west when it presented all the dangers and hardships of a pioneer country. He located in Putnam county, Ind., and there improved a farm for a number of years. Removing to Missouri he located first in Newton county and afterward in Marion county, this latter location remaining his home until after the war, during which he suffered many hardships and privations and eventually lost his property, when he went to Kentucky to visit a brother and there died at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, formerly Mary Rogers, of Indiana, was a daughter of Samuel Rogers, a native of Kentucky and an early settler of the Hoosier state, where he followed farming as a means of livelihood. He removed to Missouri and died in Stewartsville. From his Scotch ancestry he inherited sturdy traits of character and a loyalty and patriotism that led him to enlist in the war of 1812, a soldier under the command of General Harrison. Mrs. Pratt died in Missouri, leaving a family of three sons and one daughter, of whom one son is deceased. Joseph, who served as a captain in a Missouri regiment during the Civil war, was a lawyer by profession and made his home in Arkansas until his death; Benjamin F., who also served in a Missouri regiment, is a farmer in Missouri; Mary became the wife of Alexander Forman, who served as a soldier in the Civil war and died in Missouri; the

oldest of the family now living is Willis Layton Pratt, who was born in Putnam county, Ind., February 24, 1834.

In his native state Willis Layton Pratt spent the first ten years of his life, removing with his parents to Platteville, Wis., where he gained the greater part of his education in the public schools. In 1851 the family moved to Newton county, Mo., and he there found employment in lead mining until his departure for California in 1854. He was accompanied by his two brothers, the three earning their passage by assisting to drive, receiving for their services \$10 per month, using their own horses. They had outfitted at Neosho, Mo., for the trip, and on the 10th of April started across the plains up the North Platte, thence through Sublett's cut-off, and through Goose Lake country to Yreka, Cal., arriving September 20, 1854. They were there compelled to pay \$1 each night for the privilege of spreading their blankets out on the floor under the dining room table of a hotel. Their first week at mining was one of severe toil and brought them in only \$9; they were more fortunate the second week and made \$150 each. Until November, 1858, Mr. Pratt engaged in placer mining, meeting with a success which justified his long continuance in the work. Returning to Missouri in the last-named year by way of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (being the second party that ever made the trip in that way, as after about three parties had passed over the route the natives resisted so strenuously it ceased to be a passage to the west), Mr. Pratt remained in the middle west until April, 1859. Getting together a herd of one hundred and fifty cattle he, with others, drove them across the plains to Honey lake, Lassen county, where he established a ranch. On the 24th of November of that year he married and located upon his property, where he continued to farm and raise stock until 1861. He then went to Virginia City, Nev., and engaged in the dairy business for one year, then located at Fremont Bend, Yolo county, Cal., where he engaged again in the stock business. The flood of 1862 brought him financial ruin in the drowning of stock and the death of those that escaped the water, and after this disaster he followed grain farming for two years. Locating in Yuba county, six miles from Marysville, he entered government land and in time owned five hundred and twenty acres which were devoted to general farming and stock-raising for about seven years. In 1881 he sold out this property at auction and removed to Tulare county, where he had four hundred and eighty acres adjoining Visalia. He here engaged in the raising of cattle and hogs, and also conducted a dairy. He bought adjoining property until he now owns eight hundred acres, under fence, and well improved in the way of buildings and general

equipments. He built a fine residence on the home place and established two fine dairies which he now rents, and for some time was interested in the first creamery established here, giving no small effort toward its upbuilding. His property is under irrigation, much of the land being given over to the raising of alfalfa.

The wife of Mr. Pratt was formerly Mary J. Jones, a native of Tennessee, who crossed the plains with her father and located in Lassen county. They are the parents of the following children: George, a carpenter in Visalia; Laura, the wife of T. E. Hayes, a farmer in this vicinity; Thomas H., who conducts the dairy on this place; Frances, the wife of E. S. Nichols, of this vicinity; Willis L., Jr., a farmer and dairyman; Joseph, on the home place; and Lillie, the wife of L. J. McWilliams. In his fraternal relations Mr. Pratt is associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and politically is a true-blue Republican, having cast his first ballot for Fremont in 1856. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

MISS AMANDA O. SWANSON. The Swanson family is widely known and honored in Tulare county, where John Swanson, the grandfather of Miss Swanson, built the first irrigation ditch. He came to California in 1849, crossing the plains, and upon his arrival in the state followed mining in Tuolumne county, near Gold Hill. In 1851 he went east via Panama, and after disposing of his holdings, returned with his family, consisting of his wife, Hannah, and their children. He took up eighteen hundred acres of land in Tulare county, in what is now known as the Lemon Cove country, where he was a successful pioneer, inheriting the sturdy traits of character which distinguish the natives of England, from which country his father had immigrated to America.

Coming to California with his parents in 1852, Aaron Swanson was reared and educated in this state. He has followed farming all his life, and now owns three hundred and twenty acres near Lindsay, upon which he is engaged in general farming. Personally he is a man of strong character and progressive ideas, keeping abreast of the times. His wife, formerly Mary N. Fletcher, was a native of La Salle county, Ill., and a daughter of William P. Fletcher, a native of Virginia and a descendant of Scotch-Irish ancestry. When sixteen years of age William P. Fletcher removed to Illinois and located in Jo Daviess county, where he found employment in the lead mines. During the Black Hawk war he served under General Dodge, after which he located within six miles of Freeport. He remained in Illinois until 1850, when he came to California and engaged in min-

ing for three years. Returning to Illinois in that year, he remained a short time, when he located in Iowa, near Leon, and followed farming. In 1862 he crossed the plains and settled in Tulare county, purchasing land on Deep creek, near Visalia, where he established a comfortable home. Later he located in Washington, in which state his death occurred at the age of eighty-one years. His wife, formerly Narcissa Swanson, a native of Ohio, died in Oregon. They left a family of seven children, of whom three only are now living, Mrs. Swanson being the only one left in this vicinity. To Mr. and Mrs. Swanson were born five children, of whom two attained maturity. Of these Willard became a stockman in Tulare county, but is now deceased, his death having occurred in Chicago in 1898.

The only living child of her parents, Amanda O. Swanson is a native of Tulare county, and has spent her entire life within its borders. In 1892 she began improvements upon her property, purchasing twenty acres of land, which was immediately sown to alfalfa. Meeting with a success in her efforts, she has since purchased land adjoining, now owning one hundred and fifty acres two miles east of Tulare, of which seventy acres are under alfalfa. The entire property is under irrigation, and her interests are largely centered in stock-raising. Miss Swanson has won more than local renown for her success as an agriculturist, and especially for the progressive and up-to-date methods which have characterized her efforts. She is prominent in local societies, being a charter member and past officer of the Women of Woodcraft, and also belongs to the Tulare Grange. She is progressive in her views, believing with many others that politics would be elevated to a higher plane, that woman's best interests would be conserved, and the country a happier and better place, if justice and equality were accorded to all.

---

JOSEPH ELLSWORTH TILTON. To Joseph Ellsworth Tilton, who has been a resident of the Golden state for an unbroken period of forty-four years, belongs the distinction of having propagated the Tilton apricot, one of the most successfully grown varieties in the whole of Kings county. Although now well advanced in years, Mr. Tilton oversees affairs on his fruit ranch, located four and a half miles northwest of Hanford, in Kings county. Born in Noble county, Ohio, December 6, 1834, his boyhood days were spent on a farm, and he was educated in the common schools of his locality. At twenty-one he began teaching as a profession and taught four terms in the vicinity of his home. He continued to teach during the winter and farm dur-

ing the summer until 1860, going that year to California, by the Panama route.

In the far west, he spent the first five years of his residence in Solano county, teaching during the winter months and following ranching during the summer months, renting land until 1877. During that year he, like many others, took advantage of the special inducements open to settlers in Kings county, then Tulare, and he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land from the Southern Pacific Company, near Grangeville. Here he farmed until 1880, raising grain mostly. He then set out fruit orchards as an experiment. In the meantime he rented the place which is now his home, and according to the conditions he was to plant and cultivate an eighty-acre tract, realizing for his trouble thirty acres after the first crop. He planted the thirty acres so obtained in fruit and vines. Having subsequently lost his place near Grangeville, he removed to his present home in 1895. He now has fifteen acres in fruit and an equal amount of land in alfalfa, and he ranks among the most progressive and practical agriculturists in his locality. A staunch adherent to the Republican party, he served two terms as one of the horticultural commissioners of Kings county. Fraternally he is allied with the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

By his marriage in Solano county in 1866, Mr. Tilton was united with Elizabeth Reeve, daughter of George Reeve, a native of England and a California pioneer of 1849. Six children were born to them, the three eldest being daughters, named Addie T., Josephine T. and Mary Jane; and the three youngest being sons, Franklin E., George L. and John Wesley. The sons are all engaged in fruit ranching near Lemoore, Kings county. The youngest daughter died at the early age of eighteen years. Addie T. married M. D. Robinson, a prosperous rancher near Grangeville, and Josephine T. wedded G. H. Rogers, also a rancher in Kings county. In religion Mrs. Tilton is an Adventist, and Mr. Tilton a Methodist. Both are highly esteemed by their associates and neighbors and are influential in their immediate community.

---

**THOMAS CALVERT CARRUTHERS.** Public-spirited, enterprising and progressive, Thomas C. Carruthers has been actively identified with the industrial, social and political advancement of Tulare for nearly four decades, and in the growth and development of city and county has given substantial aid. The leading undertaker of this section of the state, he is thoroughly skilled in the art of embalming, and his services are in demand wherever especial care and efficiency are needed. A son of John

Carruthers, Jr., he was born, January 12, 1845, in Ogdensburg, N. Y., coming from honored Scotch ancestry, tracing his descent from the ancient family of "Caer Rythers," who were prominent in the eleventh century. His grandfather, John Carruthers, Sr., emigrated from Scotland to Canada, settling in Ontario, where he continued in business the remaining years of his life.

A native of Scotland, John Carruthers, Jr., was born and reared in Dumfries-shire, living there until after his marriage. Immigrating then to America, he settled near Ogdensburg, N. Y., but afterward removed to Prescott, Ontario, where he purchased land, and having improved a good farm, continued as an agriculturist, meeting with good success in his chosen occupation. He married Mary Calvert, who was born in Scotland, and died in Ontario. Of the six children that blessed their union, four are living, Thomas C., of this review, being the youngest, and the only resident of California.

At the age of sixteen years, having completed the course of study in the public schools of Prescott, Ontario, Thomas C. Carruthers began learning the miller's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years in the nearby town of Morrisburg. Going from there to Sharon, Pa., he followed his trade there until 1864, when he started for California, coming by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and arriving in the month of April. Proceeding to Nevada City, he was employed in mining and prospecting for about three months. Luck being against him, Mr. Carruthers located in Sacramento, and for a time worked at his trade in the Pioneer Mills, being head miller. He subsequently bought the Healdsburg Mills, which he operated successfully, and later built the Alhambra Mill, on Putah creek, in Lake county, that being a burr mill, run by water power. Going thence to Santa Rosa, Mr. Carruthers, in partnership with J. Mather, bought the Santa Rosa Mills, which they rebuilt, putting in machinery for manufacturing flour by the roller process, and there carried on a substantial business for a number of seasons. Coming to Tulare in 1886, Mr. Carruthers, in company with the Bowles Brothers, erected the Tulare Mills, fitting them up with steam power and rollers, and ran them for two years. Disposing of his interest in the mills in 1888, he embarked in the furniture and undertaking business, becoming junior member of the firm of Black & Carruthers.

In 1892 Mr. Carruthers bought out his partner, and carried on the business alone until 1894, when he sold the furniture business to the firm of Wheeler & Johnson, and has since devoted his entire attention to undertaking, for which he perfected himself by taking a complete course in embalming. The Republican candidate in 1898

for county coroner, Mr. Carruthers was elected by a plurality over the other two candidates, and served in that capacity from January, 1899, until January, 1903. For eight years he was one of the school trustees; and for the past eight years has been a member of the city council.

September 25, 1873, in Healdsburg, Cal., Mr. Carruthers married Belle Heizer, and they have one child living, Grace, wife of J. F. Harding, of Salt Lake City, Utah. Robert Heizer, Mrs. Carruthers' father, came from old Virginia to California in 1853, crossing the plains with ox-teams, and being six months en route, bringing with him his wife and three children. He located in Solano county, near Vacaville, where he carried on farming for many years; he died in Tulare, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carruthers, with whom he spent the last few months of his life. His wife, whose maiden name was Susan Hunter, was born in Virginia and died in Healdsburg, Cal. Politically Mr. Carruthers is a staunch supporter of the principles promulgated by the Republican party. Fraternally he belongs to Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., having demitted from Santa Rosa Lodge; to Tulare Chapter, R. A. M.; to the Ancient Order of United Workmen; to the Independent Order of Foresters; and to Tulare Chapter, O. E. S. In 1904 Mr. Carruthers made a trip to the eastern states and Canada, visiting his old home, and renewing acquaintances with old friends, while on the journey taking in the St. Louis Exposition. Successful in his ventures, Mr. Carruthers has through his own efforts acquired some property in Tulare county.

**HENRY C. HEITZEG.** Noteworthy among the most active and esteemed citizens of Tulare is Henry C. Heitzeg, who has been prominently identified with the development and prosperity of this section of Tulare county, and, as opportunity has offered, has given his influence and encouragement to the establishment of enterprises conducive to the public welfare. Of thrifty German ancestry, he was born, March 30, 1859, in Freeborn county, Minn., a son of William Heitzeg.

A native of Hanover, Germany, William Heitzeg immigrated to the United States, hoping in this land of plenty to more quickly establish himself as a householder. Locating in Freeborn county, Minn., he was employed in agricultural pursuits for a few years. Removing to Faribault county, that state, in 1859, he entered land, and by dint of persevering labor improved a farm, on which he resided until his death, at the age of sixty-four years. Loyal to his adopted country, he enlisted in a Minnesota regiment, in 1863, and served until the Sioux outbreak was

quelled. He married Elizabeth Ewald, who was born in Hanover, Germany, and now resides in Tulare. Of the nine children born of their union, eight grew to years of maturity, and seven are now living, four being residents of California, one of Arizona, and two of Minnesota. One son, Aaron, is a blacksmith in Coalinga, and another son, John, is a stockman in Delano.

At the age of sixteen years, having acquired the rudiments of his education in the district schools of Faribault county, Minn., Henry C. Heitzeg went to Freeborn county, where, by working as a farm laborer, he paid his way through the Albert Lea High School, taking the full course of four years. Returning to Faribault county he embarked in agricultural pursuits on his own account, locating near Banks, where he had the management of two farms. Removing to Wells, Minn., Mr. Heitzeg engaged in the harness business there in 1886, and continued for about five years, when, on account of ill health, he was advised by his physician to come to the Pacific coast. Arriving in Tulare on March 12, 1891, he soon began to feel the beneficial effects of the mild climate, and within a month thought himself well enough to work. Returning to Minnesota to settle up his business affairs, Mr. Heitzeg remained there seven months, and in the meantime lost thirty-six pounds of flesh. Concluding that California was the place for him, he came back to Tulare and started in the butcher business as senior member of the firm of Heitzeg & Dreblow. A short time later he bought out the interest of his partner, and continued alone until April 1, 1898, when he formed a partnership with John R. Hitchcock, the firm name being Hitchcock & Heitzeg. Locating on Kern street, the firm built up a large and lucrative wholesale and retail trade in meats of all kinds, and carried on a substantial business as stock raisers and dealers, managing both successfully until June 28, 1903, when Mr. Heitzeg, owing to the pressure of other business, sold his interest to his partner.

In February, 1903, Mr. Heitzeg was elected a director of the Tulare Irrigation District, which worked with the Bond Liquidating Committee, and soon found that if he accomplished the work necessitated by his position he must give it his entire attention. Therefore, after selling out to Mr. Hitchcock, he attempted the almost Herculean task of raising the entire amount of money needed to pay in full the Irrigation bonds and the accrued interest, a sum amounting to \$670,000, although the directors had previously made arrangements to settle for fifty cents on a dollar. In order to do this, Mr. Heitzeg personally interviewed the property owners, many of whom resided in different







*W. H. Blair*

places, including San Francisco, Oakland, Alameda and Stockton, securing their support to an equalized assessment. He was one of the most active workers in securing the needed money, which was collected and paid in full by October 1, 1903, in San Francisco. On returning to Tulare from that city Mr. Heitzeg was appointed one of the committee to solicit funds for a grand celebration and jollification in Tulare, and without any trouble soon had \$3,800 collected for that purpose. At the celebration, October 17, 1903, the day and night fireworks were the most magnificent ever seen in the state, and the celebration one long to be remembered by every participant, although its joy was dimmed by the deplorable death of City Marshal George Martin by William Janes. Mr. Heitzeg subsequently bought land near the Bayou, and has checked and irrigated it. He has now four hundred and forty acres of land lying five miles south of Tulare, one hundred and seventy-five acres of which are sowed to alfalfa, the remainder being devoted to farming, grazing and stock-raising.

In Faribault county, Minn., Mr. Heitzeg married Addie M. Payne, who was born in Cohoes, N. Y., and was reared and educated in Faribault, Minn., where her parents settled in 1867. Her father was a farmer by occupation, both in New York and in Faribault, but subsequently became a merchant and hotelkeeper at Rice Lake, Minn. Two children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Heitzeg. George, who lived but eight months; and Robert L. Politically Mr. Heitzeg is a straightforward Republican, and takes an intelligent interest in public affairs.

**WILLIAM H. BLAIN.** Fifty years of pioneer life have brought to William H. Blain a success which numbers him prominently among the men of the early day, as he came to California in 1854 with only twenty-five cents with which to start the fortune which is now his. As well as winning financial returns Mr. Blain is justly considered one of the best-informed men on the stock question in the San Joaquin valley, becoming thoroughly conversant with it through his wide experience. Born in Pike county, Mo., twelve miles from Bowling Green, January 3, 1839, he was the son of W. W. Blain, a native of Virginia and an early settler of Missouri. The latter engaged as a brick manufacturer, a mason and cooper in Bowling Green, and also conducted a hotel in that city, known as the Blain hotel, which he himself built of brick. In 1844 he also completed the court house in that city. Until his retirement he was engaged in the hotel business, after which he continued his residence there until his death. His wife, formerly Ann Turner, of Virginia, died in Hannibal, Mo. Of their family

of nine children six are now living, and two came to California. The oldest daughter married Hugh Jones, a retired pioneer of 1849, having made the trip to the coast with her brother. She died in Gilroy.

The second child in his father's family, William H. Blain was reared in Bowling Green, receiving his education in the public schools, then of so primitive a character that but scant knowledge could be obtained through a limited attendance. He also learned the stock business to some extent while a resident of his native state, his first trip across the plains in 1854 being made with a drove of cattle. He was then but fifteen years old, yet he took a man's place in standing guard and in all the other duties that fell to the members of the company. They left Missouri on the 20th of April, 1854, and arrived in Santa Clara in October, their journey having been made to Sublett's Cut-off, thence down the Humboldt by way of the Thousand Springs valley to Walker's, thence to Tuolumne county, Cal., this route being selected in order to have feed for their cattle, as there was but little travel that way. Mr. Blain was located near Santa Clara until December of the same year, when he went to Monterey county (now San Benito), where he conducted a stock ranch for one year. Returning to Santa Clara, he engaged in farming on shares until 1857, when he went to Tuolumne county and engaged in hauling lumber. Locating again in Monterey county, he undertook the raising of cattle on shares, being located in Pacheco Pass. He sold out in 1863 and in June of that year drove through to Visalia, Tulare county, and engaged in teaming to the mountains until the spring of 1865, spending his first winter in Wilcox canon. In 1865 he began the sheep business, in which he continued profitably for four years, at the end of that period going to White Pine, Nev., where he opened and conducted a butcher shop, later following the same occupation in Eureka. Returning to Visalia in 1873, he opened a butcher shop here and for many years continued in this occupation. In conjunction he carried on an extensive cattle business, having at one time six hundred head. He owns an improved cattle ranch of thirteen hundred and twenty acres near Monson, Tulare county, on Cottonwood creek; three hundred and fifty acres three and a half miles northeast of Visalia, devoted principally to the cultivation of alfalfa and to stock-raising; about five thousand acres in the foothills of this county, all fenced and devoted to stock-raising; one hundred and sixty acres seven miles east of Visalia, and a handsome residence in Visalia. For a time he also engaged in the dairy business, but abandoned this later and continued alone in stock-raising.

In Santa Cruz Mr. Blain married Sarah Col-

lier, and they became the parents of two children who are now living, Mrs. Laura Zimmerman of Tiburon, Cal., and William, a resident of Bakersfield. In Visalia Mr. Blain was united in marriage with Julia Strube, a native of Texas, who crossed the plains about 1861 and located in Visalia. They became the parents of four children: Frank L., in partnership with his father; George William, deceased; Gladys and Marguerite, the two last at home. Mr. Blain is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Visalia, and in various ways demonstrates his strong interest in the upbuilding of the city and community. He is a member of the Independent Order of Good Templars, of which he is past officer, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In the organization and upbuilding of the San Joaquin Valley Cattle Growers' Association Mr. Blain took an active and helpful part. In religious affiliations the family attend the Presbyterian Church.

---

**JAMES M. SLINKARD.** An enterprising farmer, James M. Slinkard is successfully engaged in the dairy business three miles south of Tulare. A native of the state, he was born in Mariposa county, March 12, 1861, a son of J. M. Slinkard, Sr. The latter was born in Arkansas, in which state he grew to manhood and married, engaging in agricultural pursuits as a means of livelihood. Deciding to immigrate to the more remote west, he crossed the plains in 1852, bringing with him his wife and two children, and on the Gila river another child was born, a daughter, whom they called Melvina Gila. Coming by the southern route, they reached California after a six-months trip, and after disposing of their stock, took passage on a boat bound for San Francisco. From that city they went to Stockton, thence to Mariposa county, where Mr. Slinkard engaged in mining for many years. He met with sufficient success to justify his long continuance in the work, but later located on Bear creek, Merced county, and engaged in grain farming and stock-raising. In 1869 he came to Tulare county and followed the same occupation until his accidental death, which was caused by the brake on his wagon giving way. This occurred October 27, 1899, when he was seventy-three years old. His wife, formerly Harriet Roberts, made her home with her children and died at the home of her son, James M., January 7, 1905.

To Mr. and Mrs. Slinkard were born nine children, of whom Richard J. died at Deer creek, Hot Springs; William J. is located on a ranch at Lincoln, Cal.; Melvina Gila is the wife of B. H. Klein, of White River, Cal.; Charles M. died in 1876; Mollie A. is the wife of J. A. Nor-

vell, of Merced; J. M. is the subject of this review; A. Newton is located in Modoc county, Cal.; Annetta, the wife of Charles Peim, died in Washington; and John A. died at the age of eleven years.

James M. Slinkard remained at home with his father until he was twenty-one years old, in youth attending the district schools of Merced county, where he spent his first eight years, and those of Tulare county. He followed farming in young manhood, at twenty-three years of age renting a farm on Tule river, where he engaged in grain raising. Locating on the property where he now resides he has since carried on general farming and dairying, being engaged in the latter business only since 1900. Of the four hundred and seventy-one acres which he operates along the Southern Pacific Railroad, twenty acres are in fruit, eighty-five acres are in alfalfa, while the balance is given over to pastures and grain. All of this land can be irrigated in the Tulare Irrigation District, of which he has been a director since 1895. In 1897 he was elected president, which office he has since held, working with indefatigable energy to devise means to pay off banks, traveling throughout the county making collections. October 17, 1903, he had the pleasure of watching the burning of the bonds. For all that he has accomplished in this work Mr. Slinkard merits the high esteem in which he is universally held.

In 1885, in Visalia, Mr. Slinkard was united in marriage with Mrs. Ella M. (Churchill) Ayer, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Zenas Churchill, a pioneer farmer of California. Mrs. Slinkard was the widow of Charles S. Ayer. They settled on eighty acres of land on Tule river eight miles southeast of Tulare, where Mr. Ayer died. Before his death he and his wife negotiated for the purchase of the property where Mr. and Mrs. Slinkard now reside, and upon which Mr. Slinkard has put the present improvements. In his political affiliations Mr. Slinkard is a staunch Democrat. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Tulare, where he was first admitted to the organization, and of which he served two terms as noble grand. He also belongs to the Encampment, of which he is past chief patriarch; the Rebekahs; Woodmen of the World; and the Improved Order of Red Men.

---

**THOMAS BLADES** is known throughout Tulare county as a successful stockman, and a citizen of broad and liberal ideas fostered by travel and contact with the world. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, April 29, 1853, the second in a family of seven children, of whom

only four are now living, he being the only one in California. His parents, Henry and Mary (Lincoln) Blades, were both natives of the same place, where the death of both occurred. His father being a farmer, Thomas Blades was reared to the practical duties of a farmer's son, attending the public schools of England until eighteen years old. In 1871 he came to America and located in Pontiac, Mich., finding employment on a farm until 1875. In March of that year he came to California for the sake of a milder climate, locating at Riverside, where he bought six acres within the city limits, consisting of two blocks near the center of the city. This he set out to lemons. He also bought ten acres near Riverside and engaged in horticultural pursuits, but gave the most of his attention to the Riverside Land & Water Company. In 1887 he sold this property and located in Tulare, accepting the position of superintendent in the construction of the irrigation system for the Tulare Irrigation District, also acting as superintendent in the construction of canals and ditches until completed and ready for running water. He then took a trip to the World's Fair, thence to the West Indies, traveling over Cuba and acting as interpreter for the Costa Rica government, as he speaks the Spanish language fluently. For two years Mr. Blades continued his travels, spending considerable time in Central America and on the Isthmus of Panama but eventually returned to Tulare county, having found no climate more desirable than this. Upon his second location in this county he engaged in buying and selling cattle, locating on a fine farm, where he raises high grade Durham cattle. Mr. Blades has been connected with the Elk Bayou Ditch Company for some time, acting as director until 1904, when he resigned from the office.

In Tulare Mr. Blades married Mrs. Elmira Love, a native of Petersburg, Ill. She is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Blades is a staunch Republican in his political convictions, but as a citizen of the community gives his most earnest support to all movements calculated to advance the general welfare regardless of party restrictions.

---

**JAMES HENRY CLAY MCFARLAND.** Prominent among the successful citizens of Tulare county, Mr. McFarland occupies a place of importance as a horticulturist, as well as rancher and stockman. In 1891 he purchased his present property, consisting of eighty acres located four miles south of Tulare, and he has since devoted his time and attention to its improvement and cultivation. Born in Springfield, Mo., August 19, 1849, he is the youngest child in a family of three sons and five daughters, all of whom at-

tained maturity though only five are now living. His grandfather, Jacob McFarland, a native of North Carolina, took his family to Cooper county, Mo., in which state William McFarland, the father of James H. C. McFarland, spent the remainder of his life. In manhood he followed the occupations to which he had early been trained, becoming a farmer and stockman on property located five miles from Springfield, where his death occurred in 1863. In his political affiliations he was a staunch Whig and a supporter of the Union, and upon the breaking out of the Civil war he organized the first Home Guards in the county. His wife was in maidenhood Martha Roberts, a native of East Tennessee, whose father John Roberts, took the family to Missouri, locating first in Cooper county and later in Springfield, where his death occurred. Mrs. McFarland died in 1880. Of her three sons all volunteered their services to the Union: George, now a resident of Springfield, serving in a Missouri regiment; John, also a resident of Springfield, serving in the Eighth Missouri Cavalry; while James Henry Clay McFarland, no more than a lad in years, was mustered into service in the Fourteenth Missouri Cavalry, in Company F, at Springfield, in March, 1865.

James Henry Clay McFarland was reared to young manhood upon his father's farm in Missouri, attending the district school until taking up the duties of manhood, which came early in the pioneer days. After his enlistment for service as a soldier his regiment was sent west for frontier duty against the Indians in western Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico. A battle was fought at Salt river with the Cheyennes and Comanches, who were defeated, the army continuing in that location until the government made a treaty on the site of Wichita, Kans. In November, 1865, Mr. McFarland was mustered out of service at Fort Leavenworth, being discharged at St. Louis. Then just a little more than seventeen years old he returned to school for a time, shortly afterward beginning farming and stock-raising for himself. He located upon a farm of eighty acres five miles from Springfield, and conducted the same with success until 1887, when he came to California and located in Tulare county. In 1891 he purchased his present property, the first purchase consisting of twenty acres, to which he later added sixty acres. Twenty-nine acres of this property are in orchard and forty-five in alfalfa. Until recently he engaged in the dairy business, but this interest he has now disposed of. In addition to this ranch he owns three hundred and twenty acres of the bayou three miles from Tulare, used for stock-raising.

Near Springfield, Mo., Mr. McFarland was united in marriage with Martha Wharton, a native of Greene county, Mo., and daughter of

Emsley Wharton, who moved from North Carolina to Missouri as an early settler and there his death occurred. During the Civil war he served in the Eighth Missouri Cavalry, U. S. A. To Mr. and Mrs. McFarland have been born two children, Clara, the wife of W. C. Abercrombie, of Tulare, and Charles, engaged in stock-raising and dairying six miles south of Tulare. Mrs. McFarland is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In his political convictions Mr. McFarland holds himself independent of party restrictions, giving his support to the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

---

**GEORGE HEIDT.** Actively identified with the agricultural interests of Tulare county is George Heidt, whose well-conducted farm lies about six miles northwest of the city of Tulare. Energetic, industrious, and possessing excellent business qualities, he has been uniformly successful in his labors, giving to whatever he has attempted his best efforts, and from a modest beginning has advanced to a good position, both socially and financially, among his fellowmen. A native of New York, he was born, October 17, 1856, near Pike Pond, now Kenoza Lake, Sullivan county, being the youngest child of Peter and Mary Heidt, who emigrated from Germany to the United States, settling on a farm in Sullivan county, N. Y.

Brought up on a farm, George Heidt attended the district school as a boy and youth, in the meantime becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits. After the death of his father, which occurred when George was seventeen years old, he was practically thrown upon his own resources, from that time becoming self-supporting. With his brother Edward he went to Pennsylvania, where for two years he was employed in getting out tan bark by contract. Returning to his old home, he worked there until April, 1877, when, in search of better opportunities for advancing his financial condition, he came from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast, locating first in San Francisco. Securing employment as a wood chopper in San Mateo county, Mr. Heidt also worked for a Mr. Sweat for a time, and was subsequently in the employ of A. Fay, a dairyman, for five years. Industrious and thrifty, Mr. Heidt invested his savings in land, coming to Tulare county in 1882 and buying his present farm. The season proving a dry one, he went back to the coast, and during the summer worked in a lumber mill. Taking possession of his ranch in the spring of 1883, Mr. Heidt began its improvement, and succeeded in raising a good crop. The same year, having irrigated his land, he began to raise alfalfa, which he has since continued. For a number of seasons Mr.

Heidt worked as a wage-earner on the coast, putting the money that he thus obtained in farm improvements, one year running a farm in San Mateo county. He has two hundred and twenty-seven acres of land in his ranch, forty acres of which he has sowed to alfalfa, the remainder, with the exception of a good-bearing family orchard, being devoted to grain and pasturage. He pays much attention to stock-raising and dairying, and is a stockholder in the Tulare Rochdale Association and the Co-Operative Milling Company.

In San Mateo, Cal., Mr. Heidt married Laura Moore, a native of this state, and into their pleasant household nine children have been born, all of whom are living at home, namely: Charles, Ella, George, Frederick, Elmer, Lester, Albert, Elsie and Mary. Politically Mr. Heidt is a strong adherent of the Republican party, and has rendered good service a number of terms as school trustee, serving in both the Enterprise district and in San Mateo. Fraternally he belongs to Tulare City Lodge, I. O. O. F.

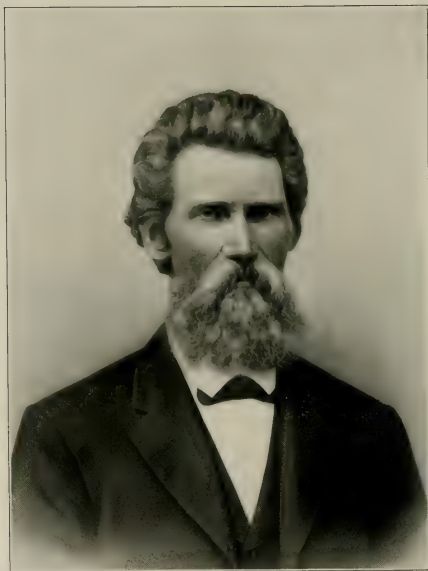
---

**WILLIAM MOSES MUNSON.** The name of William Moses Munson takes high rank among the extensive wheat and barley raisers of Stanislaus county. Operating upon leased land two thousand acres in extent, this honored promoter of a great western resource evidences profound knowledge of his chosen calling, having devoted years to the study of soil and other requisites for its successful carrying on. His ranch has the finest equipment known to modern grain raisers, and his home and family represent the highest type of community well-being which ennobles the western slope. A native son of California, Mr. Munson comes of a family numerous identified with the coast, and established here in 1849 by his father, Charles Munson, a native of Maine and part owner of the boat in which he accomplished the feat of sailing around the Horn with his wife. Charles Munson succeeded as a hotel man of French Camp, one of the important early settlements of the state, and eventually devoted his entire time to farming until shortly before his death in September, 1891, at the age of seventy-one. His wife, Rebecca S. (Elsmore) Munson, also a native of Maine, died in 1882, at the age of fifty-seven. This courageous couple reared their seven sons on their ranch in San Joaquin county, on the old French Camp road. All the children were given as good a public school education as the times permitted, and thoroughly were trained in everything pertaining to farming.

William Moses, the fifth oldest of this family, engaged in ranching in San Joaquin county for several years, and in 1886 became identified with







*Olli . S. Wilson*

Stanislaus county, locating on a ranch near Turlock. In 1896 he changed to his present ranch of two thousand acres six miles west of Crows Landing, which he has since made his home, becoming one of the most prominent and influential of the grain raisers of this section. Through his marriage with Josephine Nicewonger, born near Stockton, San Joaquin county, Mr. Munson became associated with another pioneer family of the state, the head of which is Levi H. Nicewonger, a native of Westmoreland county, Pa., and at present living on a farm on the French Camp road. Though seventy-two years of age, Mr. Nicewonger is still recognized as one of the successful and extensive farmers of his neighborhood, evidencing in mind and heart the moderation and common sense which has characterized his life. Mr. and Mrs. Munson have an interesting family of seven children, all living at home; namely: Mary, Frankie, Merced, William, Josephine, Gertrude and Levi. For many years Mr. Munson has influenced educational matters in Stanislaus county, and as a school director has insisted upon a high standard and competent teachers. Politics have played a minor part in his career, although for years a Republican, a few years ago he changed his preference to the Democratic party. He leads a busy and practically useful life, is popular among his many friends and business associates, and in his home is the personification of kindness and consideration.

---

**OLLI SKEEN WILSON.** This honored veteran of the Mexican war is a member of a colonial family, founded in America by John Wilson, a native of the north of Ireland, of Scotch ancestry, and an immigrant to Virginia, where he enlisted in the Revolutionary service. A son and namesake of this Revolutionary hero was born near Charleston, S. C., and became a farmer in Stokes county, N. C., where he also preached in the Baptist denomination. As early as 1815 he took his family to the then wilderness of Indiana, settling in Washington county, and becoming a pioneer preacher on the Blue river. A tract of land that he entered and later sold for \$10 an acre is now a part of the city of Indianapolis. Among the children born of his marriage to a daughter of Lamar Skeen was a son, Joel, who was born in Stokes county, N. C., and became the owner of a valuable farm on the East Blue river, twelve miles from Salem, where he died at seventy-six years. The wife of Joel Wilson bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Williams, and was born near Salisbury, N. C., where her father, Dill Williams, an Englishman and a sailor, had settled on a farm, remaining there during the balance of his life. At the time of her death, which occurred in Washington county, Ind., she

was seventy-eight years of age. Of her twelve children only three sons and one daughter are living. Three of the sons came to California, namely: Olli Skeen, of Dinuba; Ozborn Lamar, a pioneer of 1849, now living at Hanford; and Wylie, who resides west of Dinuba.

Of the twelve children the second in order of birth was Olli Skeen Wilson, who was born near Salem, Washington county, Ind., December 16, 1823, and received the meagre educational advantages afforded by the subscription schools of early days. In 1846 he enlisted in Company D, Second Indiana Infantry, and went to the south, where he served under General Taylor in various engagements with the Mexicans, including the battle of Buena Vista. At the expiration of his military service he was honorably discharged in New Orleans. During his service in the war his life was once saved by a strange coincidence. In one of his battles he carried in a pocket a purse with money and a Testament. While fighting at the front a ball struck him over the heart, but was diverted by the Testament and thus his life was spared. After his return home he engaged in farming and stock-raising, also served as township trustee for sixteen years, and occupied a position of honor among his associates.

In Jackson county, Ind., Mr. Wilson married Miss Elizabeth Hamilton, who was born in that state and died there in 1870. Her father, James Hamilton, came from the vicinity of the James river in Virginia and as early as 1815 settled in the sparsely inhabited regions of Indiana, where he transformed a tract of raw land into a well improved farm. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson there were seven children, namely: Robert Fulton; Mrs. Theresa I. Weddle, who resides in Dinuba; Rebecca F., who died at four years of age; Mrs. Clara Arnold, who resides near her father; Willard, who died in Indiana in 1870; Sarah J., wife of Edwin Giddings, of this vicinity; and Dora, who died after the removal of the family to California. The eldest son, Robert F., was accidentally killed at Lemoore November 11, 1882, by the explosion of anvils during a gubernatorial celebration in the town.

After the death of his wife Mr. Wilson sold his Indiana farm of four hundred and twenty acres and settled up his business affairs in that state. In 1874 he came to California and was the pioneer settler in the northern part of Tulare county, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres and took up a homestead of the same size, on which he first engaged in grain-raising. Later he laid out a vineyard of twenty acres, planted an orchard, and put a large tract under cultivation to alfalfa. Since then he has sold sixty acres and given two hundred and thirty-three acres to members of his family, but still owns forty-five acres one-half mile south of

Dinuba, as well as town lots in Dinuba and a residence which he rents. On his home place he has a vineyard of twenty acres and an orange grove of two hundred trees, as well as a field of alfalfa and an orchard of assorted fruits. Though retired from active cares, he still superintends his property and in mind and body retains the activity of earlier years. In national politics he gives his support to the Democratic party.

**YEISER HUGH MORRIS.** The rapid development of the rich agricultural resources of Tulare county is due to the strenuous efforts of men of brain and enterprise, who bring to their calling excellent judgment and superior business methods. Conspicuous among this number is Yeiser Hugh Morris, whose finely improved ranch, located about five miles northwest of Tulare, is one of the best in its appointments of any in the vicinity, giving ample evidence to even the most casual observer of his skill and ability as a practical farmer and rural householder. A native of old Virginia, he was born, September 23, 1853, near Scottsville, which was also the birthplace of his parents, John and Lucy (Cleveland) Morris. His paternal grandfather, Lee Morris, a planter, served in the war of 1812, after which he settled near Scottsville, Va., where he spent his remaining days. His maternal grandfather, William Cleveland, was also engaged in agricultural pursuits in the same place.

The fifth child in a family of six children, of whom three are living, Yeiser Hugh Morris grew to manhood on the home farm, obtaining his knowledge of books in the district school and in the graded school of Scottsville, and acquiring a good knowledge of agriculture under his father's wise instructions. Beginning life on his own account at the age of twenty-one years, he went first to Indiana, and for three years was employed at different kinds of work near New Ross. Desirous of seeing more of his native country, Mr. Morris then proceeded westward to Tama county, Iowa, locating near Toledo, where he remained for another three years. Not entirely satisfied with his prospects, he then journeyed to Oregon, and after spending the winter in that state came, in the spring of 1884, to Tulare, Cal. The two ensuing years he worked as a farm laborer, becoming familiar with the agricultural methods employed on the Pacific coast. In 1886 he wisely invested his money in land, buying a farm of eighty acres four miles northwest of Tulare, which is devoted to grain and alfalfa. Enterprising and thrifty, he at once began the improvement of his property by erecting a residence and a set of outbuildings. In the care of his land he has met with well-merited success as

a general farmer, each season raising bountiful crops of grain and alfalfa, and also paying much attention to dairying and stock raising, keeping a fine lot of cattle and hogs. In addition to managing this place, Mr. Morris leases the George H. Ingham ranch which adjoins his place of residence, and consists of two hundred acres of well-improved land owned by his wife.

In 1898, Mr. Morris married Mrs. Bertha (Ray) Ingham, who was born in Syracuse, N. Y., a daughter of Frederick Ray, who migrated from the Empire State to California. Politically Mr. Morris is a faithful supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He finds but little time to give especially to public matters, but he takes a keen interest in everything pertaining to the advancement of the agricultural and industrial prosperity of town and county, and is a member of the Rochdale Association; of the Co-Operative Creamery Company; and of the Tulare Grange.

**DOMINGO GASTAMBIDE** has proven himself one of the successful and enterprising pioneers of Merced county, in whose veins flows the blood of the Latin races. On the paternal side he is of Spanish ancestry. His birth occurred in France in 1843, and his early training was gained on a small farm near Sare. His father, Baptiste Gastambide, moved across the border upon starting out upon his independent life, and there married Maria Elisalda, a native of France, who bore him several children, the oldest of whom is Domingo.

The first event out of the ordinary in the life of Domingo Gastambide was his immigration to America in 1862. Coming at once to California he engaged in the butcher business in the mines at Almaden. Prices were high and business was good, and a year later he removed to Monterey county and began herding sheep. Two years later he began a sheep business of his own in Monterey county, and at the end of eighteen months came to the west side of Merced county and engaged in the sheep business in the foothills, since which time his name has been identified with sheep raising, and he has been one of the most extensive and successful in this line in the county. In 1877 he entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land, added to the tract from time to time, and now has fourteen hundred acres in his home ranch five miles from Los Banos. Here he established a camp in the early days. Each year has witnessed improvements on his place, which is devoted entirely to sheep and grain raising. Besides, he owns twenty-two hundred acres in the foothills, on Ortigalito creek, and at times has three to four thousand sheep. Years of practical experience have made him one

of the best posted and most scientific farmers and sheep raisers in this part of the state, and his advice and counsel regarding these important resources invariably receive the attention due his sound judgment and self-earned success.

The Gastambide home is commodious, well furnished throughout, and with due regard for the comfort and convenience of the happy family under its roof. In San Francisco Mr. Gastambide married Maria Etchevery, who was born in France, and by this marriage four children have been born: Pedro, Maria, Annie and Bertha. Mr. Gastambide ranges his sympathies on the side of Republicanism, and votes that ticket with care and discretion. He is a member of and generous contributor to the Catholic Church at Volta.

---

GEORGE BERTCH. A successful rancher and stockman of Tulare county, George Bertch is located upon his property of seven hundred and fifty acres nine miles west of Tulare, which has been the scene of his labors since the fall of 1882. He was born in Baden, Germany, in Lichtenau, December 11, 1841. His parents, George and Saloma (Faulhauer) Bertch, were both natives of the same place. His father, who was a farmer, brought his family to America in 1853, locating near Buffalo, Erie county, N. Y., making that place his home for many years, eventually coming to California, where he is now spending his last days at the age of ninety years. The mother was burned to death in 1895, by an explosion of a coal oil stove.

Of a family of ten sons and two daughters, of whom five sons are living, George Bertch is the oldest. Until he was twelve years old his home remained in Germany, where he attended the public schools. The trip to America was made upon the sailing vessel Havre, and occupied forty days. After the permanent location of the family in Erie county, N. Y., George attended the public schools for a time, but with the spirit of thrift characteristic of his race he early sought and found employment on neighboring farms, giving to his father all that he made up to the time of his twenty-first birthday. In 1863 he came to California by the Nicaragua route, and after a long and tedious voyage landed in San Francisco June 11, 1863. He easily found employment on farms in Napa county, where he remained for six years, and then located in Ventura county, where he purchased one hundred acres and engaged in general farming and stock-raising until 1873. In the last named year he went to Stanislaus county and followed farming near Grayson, being principally interested in grain raising. After about nine years in that locality he located on Robert's Island, San

Joaquin county, and farmed for two years. In the fall of 1882 he came to Tulare county and with the results of his years of energy and thrift purchased a ranch of seven hundred and fifty acres nine miles west of Tulare. This property was without any improvement at that time. He at once bored an artesian well four hundred and seventy-five feet deep, and as soon as it produced sufficient for irrigation began farming. He put in alfalfa and ever since has engaged in stock-raising. He has met with a most gratifying success, improved his farm, by putting up modern buildings, irrigating by ditch and well, and has brought his property to rank with the most valuable in this section. Two hundred and fifty acres of his extensive ranch are devoted to alfalfa, while his attention is given to the raising of stock and the management of a dairy enterprise.

In Stockton Mr. Bertch married Caroline C. Minges, a native of that city, whose father, John Minges, came to California as a pioneer and became an extensive farmer in San Joaquin county. They are the parents of four children: Laura Pearl Georgia, Carroll Minges, Henry Harrison, and George Leslie, all attending school in Tulare. Mrs. Bertch also owns valuable property, having a ranch of thirty-two acres one mile and a half west of Tulare, which they make their home, as in so doing they are enabled to give their children better school privileges; she also owns a ranch of two hundred and twenty acres in San Joaquin county, as well as property in Tulare. During Mr. Bertch's residence in Tulare of eleven years he served as alderman for four years, being a staunch Republican in his political convictions as well as a citizen whose strongest desire is to advance the general welfare of the community. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and fraternally is prominent in the Odd Fellows lodge, being past grand of the lodge in Tulare, past chief patriarch of the encampment, and both himself and wife associated with the Rebekahs and they are also identified with the Fraternal Aid.

---

JOHN DORR, a German by birth and parentage, was reared in Bavaria, confirmed in the German Lutheran Church and educated in the German schools. In the town of Essingen, Bavaria, where he was born February 12, 1858, he passed his boyhood years in the home of his parents, John and Catherine (Hauck) Dorr, and was one of a family of nine children, all but three of whom still survive. His father is now dead, but his mother is living and still makes her home in Germany. From the age of thirteen years he began to learn the barber's trade under the instruction of his father, and worked at the occupation in his home locality until twenty-two years

of age. Meanwhile, he had read much concerning the United States and all accounts impressed him favorably. Believing he could better his condition he crossed the ocean in 1880 and without delay secured work at his trade in New York, but a year later went south to Texas and worked in Austin and Palestine for a short time. Returning to the northern states, he was employed in Fort Wayne, Ind., for a short period.

Coming to California in June, 1884, Mr. Dorr conducted a barber shop in Galt, Sacramento county. During 1886 he came to Tulare and bought an interest in a barber shop owned by Tony Schenck, continuing in the business for two years with the same partner, but eventually buying him out and operating the shop alone. In 1890 he bought twenty-three acres of wild land in the Bishop colony and from year to year his earnings were devoted to the improvement of the land. Finally, in 1899, he sold his barber business and settled on the property, which is situated three miles northeast of Tulare, and on which he has erected a farm house and other buildings. By the raising of alfalfa he has secured feed for his cows, and a part of the place is in an orchard.

In Cincinnati, Ohio, September 26, 1887, Mr. Dorr married Miss Susan Nicholi, who was born in Bavaria, and died at Tulare, Cal., in 1899, leaving three children, Ida, John Lewis and Nellie. Since becoming a citizen of the United States Mr. Dorr has given steadfast allegiance to the Republican party and has maintained a warm interest in movements conducive to the prosperity of his county, state and country. In the Tulare City lodge he was initiated in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he has also become an active member of the Woodmen of the World.

---

EDWIN E. MORRIS. Previous to his location in California as manager of his son's ranch, known as the Chicago Ranch, Edwin E. Morris was variously interested in the fruits of the state and had become well acquainted with its possibilities. For many years he has been prominently identified with the business life of Chicago, in which city he still owns considerable valuable property, through his work as a merchant broker becoming acquainted with the fruit interests of California. Born in Brighton, Sussex, England, August 10, 1826, he is the youngest child of his parents and the only one now living. Both parents, Joseph and Ann (Marchant) Morris, were natives of Brighton, England, and in her native country Mrs. Morris died, leaving a family of eight children. Every advantage was given Edwin E. Morris in an educational line, receiving his preliminary education in Brighton, after which he was graduated from Eton in 1847. For

one year following he attended Cambridge University, when he left school and learned the trade of miller and engineer in Kent. In 1850 he came to America, locating in New York, where he remained three years, following his trade. Deciding to locate in the newer city of the middle west, Chicago, he became associated in 1853 with the Blackall Company, a tea, coffee and spice firm, superintending the construction of a large factory and roaster in their interests. Later he became a partner in the firm, remaining so engaged until 1861, in which year he established a business of his own, known as the Phoenix Coffee & Spice Mills, in the John Wentworth building. This firm was known as Morris, Claves & Co., which carried on a wholesale coffee and spice trade, during the Civil war filling the largest government contracts of any firm in the city. After the close of the war he sold his interest in the business, and after a relaxation of two years, during which he made a trip to Europe, he engaged as a merchant broker in Chicago, handling California fruits, both dried and green, the firm name in Chicago being Buchanan & Co. As early as 1885 he came to California and bought fruits, and was the first to get advance on bills of lading in the state, principally through his friendship with Banker Gage, of Chicago, from whom he had a strong letter on the subject. He continued to buy fruits until 1890, in which year he retired from active participation in business. Some time previously Mr. Morris' son had bought land in Tulare county and developed what is universally known as the Chicago ranch. Pleased with the idea of locating permanently in California Mr. Morris undertook the management and improvement of the ranch in 1890, and since that time has given his entire time and attention to the same. He now has four hundred and eighty acres of rich land, lying eight miles west of Tulare, of which one hundred and sixty acres are in fruit, the balance being devoted to alfalfa. Mr. Morris still owns property in Lake View, Chicago, and also property near the corner of State and Twelfth streets, which he purchased in 1867, and upon which he built stores and flats which have brought him in a handsome income since. Mr. Morris has made of the Chicago ranch one of the finest fruit ranches in the county, and has met with most gratifying results in his efforts.

In England, in 1857, Mr. Morris was united in marriage with Annie Oliver, a native of London. Her father, William Oliver, is the largest mahogany and rosewood merchant in the world, carrying on a business which was established by William Oliver & Son over a century ago. Mrs. Morris died in 1890, leaving two children, of whom Lydia is the wife of W. S. Wilson, of Baltimore, Md., and Joseph O. is one of the leading attorneys of Chicago, his offices being located in



the Rookery building. Mr. Morris is a member of the Episcopal Church, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. While a resident of Chicago he took an active part in local affairs, and was a citizen upon whom the public honor might safely rest. He was also a member of the Chicago Board of Trade. One of the most important events in the career of Mr. Morris was the introduction of the hog product in England, the years of 1872-3-4-5 and 6 being given over practically to that interest. Mr. Morris is a progressive and broad-minded citizen, a cultured and educated gentleman, an active participant in all that pertains to the general welfare. He has won the cordial good will and fellowship of all with whom he has come in contact since locating in Tulare county by the qualities which have distinguished his citizenship.

---

**HENRY EWING SPEAR.** A native son of California, Henry Ewing Spear is a son of John L. Spear, who immigrated to this state in 1853. Born in Page county, Va., July 1, 1811, he is a son of Jacob and Polly (Hardberger) Spear, both natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Virginia soon after their marriage. There were nine children in the grandparents' family, but during the Civil war Mr. Spear lost track of them and now does not know how many are living. Reared in his native state of Virginia, J. L. Spear there married his first wife, who bore him a daughter, Sarah Ann, the deceased wife of Edward Davis of Exeter. Some time after this marriage Mr. Spear migrated to Missouri and there his wife died in 1836. In 1844 he wedded Mary R. Garvin and to them six children were born, one dying in infancy. Those living are as follows: Jacob; Margaret, wife of John Fox, a resident of Los Angeles county; Frances Eliza, wife of R. C. Glass of Bakersfield; Agnes, wife of John Woolley, a resident of Fresno county; and Henry E., the personal subject of this review.

In 1853 John L. Spear crossed the plains to California. Upon arrival he first settled in Stanislaus county. Two years later he went into the placer mines, following mining until 1861, in that year coming to Tulare county, first settling on eighty acres of timber land, but soon afterward locating near Farmersville, where he resided until his death in 1892.

Henry E. Spear was born near Hills Ferry, Stanislaus county, April 28, 1855. When but a babe he was taken to Amador county by his parents, and in 1861 accompanied them to Tulare county, where he has since made his home. When old enough he took part in the work of the home ranch and in 1884 took entire charge of

the place, which he has since conducted. In addition to this ranch he and his brother, J. B. Spear, own two hundred and eighty acres on section 24, one mile north of Exeter. They also own eighty acres on section 6, township 19, range 26. The majority of this land is devoted to general farming.

Mr. Spear was married in Visalia to Belle (Canfield) Clark, who is a native of Tulare county and a daughter of Cyrus Canfield, who was born in Ohio and during the Mexican war served in the army as captain. In 1850 he crossed the plains to Salt Lake City, where his wife's parents died. In 1853 the journey westward was resumed and after a tiresome trip across the mountains, the party arrived in Los Angeles. Five years later Mr. Canfield removed to Visalia, where he was engaged in the stock business and also served as deputy county clerk. His next location was Owens river and from there he went to Nevada, where he died in 1890. He married a Miss Allen, who was born in New York state in 1827 and died in San Jose in June, 1872.

To Mr. and Mrs. Spear have been born four children, Lena, Laura and Eula, all at home, and John, deceased. Mr. Spear has taken an active interest in educational affairs and has served as school trustee of Locust Grove district for the past seven years. In political belief he is a Democrat, but has neither the time nor the desire to take part in public affairs other than those of local interest. During his residence in Tulare county he has met with financial success, but in gaining his position of prominence he has never neglected the duties of a citizen. He is one of those broad-minded men, firm in his belief, but always open to conviction. Both he and his wife have made scores of true friends in Tulare county, who are at all times happy to receive them within their homes.

---

**SANDY J. WHITE,** of Armona, is one of the many sons of Missouri to contribute to the well-being of Kings county. He was born in Phelps county, near the county seat, December 15, 1857, a son of Isaac N. and Nancy (Hopkins) White, who were born in the south and were very early settlers in Missouri, where the father died at the age of forty-five, two days before the birth of his son, Sandy J. When he was seven years old his mother died, and it fell to his lot to make his home with his maternal grandmother until his fourteenth year. He then struck out for himself and went to Kansas to live on a farm with his uncle near Topeka, and in 1875, when eighteen years old, came to California, arriving in Woodland with ten cents in his pocket. This fact did not discourage him, however, for

he soon found work on a farm, where his willingness and ability not only secured the good will of its occupants, but fair remuneration considering the time and place. In 1878 he came to what is now Kings county, and worked on a ranch for a year, going then into the employ of another rancher with whom he remained a year also. During the following four years he rented a ranch near Hanford, and then went to San Jose, where he clerked in the wholesale and retail grocery business of the Farmers' Union. After five years of mercantile experience he settled in Tulare and engaged in the real-estate business for a year, then married Mary F. Patterson, a native of Iowa, who came overland to California in 1864, locating in Shasta county. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. White, Everett and Lloyd E. Soon after his marriage Mr. White bought a ranch near Tulare, besides lots and residences in the town, three years later disposing of his property and purchasing an eighty-acre ranch three miles south of Armona. This land he set out to vineyard and orchard, occupied and improved it for nine years, and then sold and purchased his present valuable farm. In the meantime he has bought and sold, exchanged and improved other properties, and has encouraged many to take up land and make their home in this fertile and promising community. His farm is under a high state of cultivation and he makes a specialty of fine Jersey stock for dairying. Mr. White is an upright and conscientious man, faithful to friends and duties, and one of the most helpful and progressive up-builders which this county has known.

---

**EDWIN BLODGETT.** Prominent among the active and thriving farmers of the San Joaquin valley is Edwin Blodgett, a man of ability, intelligence and good business capacity, whose handsome property lies eight miles from Oakdale, on the Berneyville road, his ranch being on the Stanislaus river. He is a man of liberal views and of greatest integrity, energetic and capable, and throughout the community is held in high regard as one whose word is as good as his bond. Of English ancestry, he is directly descended from one of three brothers that emigrated from England to the United States in old colonial days and settled in Massachusetts, where numerous members of the Blodgett family still live, honored and respected by all. A son of Solomon Blodgett, he was born September 5, 1848, in Putnam county, Ohio, near Ottawa, and there spent his childhood.

A native of Ontario, Solomon Blodgett learned the trade of saddler and harness-maker when young, serving a full apprenticeship. Subsequently removing to Putnam county, Ohio, he

followed his trade for awhile, after which he was employed in farming for several years. In 1864 he started for California with his wife and four children, and with a bunch of horses. Shipping the latter to St. Louis, he procured his outfit in that city, and came overland across the plains with horse teams, driving the herd. The Indians were somewhat troublesome, stampeding the horses occasionally, but never getting any, Mr. Blodgett's sons assisting him in keeping guard. Three of his uncles were already established here, namely: Nelson Hubbard, Chauncey Hubbard, and Oscar Blodgett, who came by the Carson route in 1849, and settled first as miners at Hangtown. Going directly to Yolo county, Solomon Blodgett entered land on the Sacramento river, in Cache Creek valley, where he improved a farm, and was actively engaged in stock-raising during the remainder of his working life. His declining years he spent with his son Edwin, dying at the age of seventy-two years. His wife, whose maiden name was Sophronia Curtis, was born, reared and married in Ohio, and now, a bright and active woman of seventy-five years, resides with her son Edwin. She bore her husband ten children, seven of whom grew to years of maturity, namely: Edwin, the subject of this sketch; Oscar, of Santa Rosa; Wardie, living near Chico; Ernest, a resident of Washington; George, in business in Sacramento; Mrs. Mamie Donaldson, of Modesto; and Thedie, deceased. Both parents united with the United Brethren Church when young, and faithfully lived up to its teachings.

Coming across the plains with the family in 1864, Edwin Blodgett helped his brothers drive the horses, and during the trip of four months took his turn in standing guard. He subsequently remained at home until attaining his majority, assisting in the pioneer labor of clearing the parental homestead. Beginning life on his account at the age of twenty-one years, Mr. Blodgett entered one hundred and sixty acres of land on Cache creek, and in its improvement was successful. He afterwards bought adjoining land, increasing the size of his ranch to three hundred and twenty acres, and continued in business as a grain and stock raiser. He afterwards farmed in different places along the Sacramento river, being quite prosperous. Coming to San Joaquin county in 1879, Mr. Blodgett continued in his independent occupation on the farm which he now occupies, but later removed to Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, purchasing a ranch there in order that his children might have better educational advantages. In 1897 he returned to the farm on which he now resides, which is advantageously located on the Stanislaus river, and contains fifty-five acres of bottom land. Since his return to the farm Mr. Blodgett has carried

on an extensive and remunerative business as a dairyman and stock-raiser, and in the cultivation of hay, grain and alfalfa. He has also other property of value, owning one hundred and sixty acres of good land in Fresno county, and receiving a good income from its rental.

Mr. Blodgett married, in Yolo county, Cal., Ellen McBride, a native of Ohio, and into their household six children have been born. Solomon, a graduate of Woodbridge College, is a bookkeeper in Sacramento; Elzana also attended Woodbridge College; Samuel is a graduate of Woodbridge grammar school; Edwin, who was graduated from the Oakdale grammar school, is interested with his father in the management of the home farm; Mina and Rosetta complete the family. Politically Mr. Blodgett is a steadfast adherent of the Republican party, and religiously he belongs to the United Brethren Church.

---

**CHARLES P. COLE.** A native-born citizen of California, and a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family of Stanislaus county, Charles P. Cole has been actively identified with the development and advancement of the agricultural resources of this part of the state, and now holds a position of prominence among the younger generation of practical and progressive farmers. Skillful, systematic and thorough in his methods, he is meeting with well merited success in his undertakings, and is held in high estimation throughout the community in which he resides. He was born December 16, 1876, in that part of Stanislaus county that is now included within the limits of the town of Claus.

Lum Cole, Mr. Cole's father, was born in Ohio, reared and educated in Missouri, and in 1849 crossed the plains to California, coming with ox-teams, which, as a boy, he assisted in driving. He was first employed in teaming in the mountains, and in the '50s visited his old home. Returning again to this state, he purchased land in Stanislaus county, becoming owner of ranches near Claus, and was there profitably engaged in farming for a number of years. Disposing of his land in that vicinity, he carried on farming in different places, being first located in Tulare county, then in Kings county, and being now a resident of Fresno county. He is highly respected as a man and a citizen, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity. His second wife, whose maiden name was Hattie Islip, was born in the east, and came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Islip, to Stanislaus county when four years old. Mr. Islip, now a venerable man of four score years, resides with his aged wife in Modesto. By his first marriage, Lum Cole had seven children, and of his union with Miss

Islip three children were born, Charles P. being the second child.

Brought up on a farm, Charles P. Cole attended school in different districts, living first in Stanislaus county, then in Tulare county, completing his education in Kings county. Obtaining a thorough knowledge of the science of agriculture while working with his father, he began farming for himself in 1901, on the old Joseph Trollinger ranch, where he still resides, operating a farm of ten hundred and forty acres, and raising gain and hay principally. He pays some attention to raising stock, making a specialty of breeding mules, for which he finds a ready market.

September 23, 1902, in Stockton, Cal., Mr. Cole married Marion Dolan, who was born in Stanislaus county, a daughter of Joseph Dolan. A native of Boston, Mass., Joseph Dolan grew to manhood in that city. Migrating to the Pacific coast in the '60s, he improved a farm at Montpelier, Stanislaus county, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his retirement from the activities of life, being a very successful farmer and stock-raiser. He was a noted breeder of thoroughbred horses, and raised some of the greatest winners and most famous race-horses in the county. After his retirement he lived in Modesto. His death occurred in Hollister October 8, 1893. He married Lucinda Jones, who was born in San Joaquin county, where her father, John Jones, was a pioneer settler, coming here from South Carolina and becoming one of the largest land owners of this part of California. She survived him, dying in 1896, in Oakland, Cal., leaving four children, namely: Marion, wife of Mr. Cole; Wilbur, living on the old Dolan ranch, in Montpelier; Alvar, of Oakland; and Basil, living with Mr. and Mrs. Cole. Mr. and Mrs. Cole have one child, a daughter whom they have named Dorothy. Politically Mr. Cole is a true-blue Republican, and fraternally he is a member of Escalon Lodge, M. W. A.

---

**ADOLPHUS MITCHELL,** a successful rancher of Tulare county, was born in Hawkins county, East Tennessee, May 28, 1829. His father, Lewis Mitchell, was a native of South Carolina, and the son of Solomon Mitchell, likewise a native of that state. Solomon Mitchell was a patriot and served in the Revolutionary war under General Pickens. After the close of hostilities he came as far west as Tennessee and located in Hawkins county as a farmer, making that section his home until his death. Lewis Mitchell followed the example of his father and in 1836 emigrated to the southwestern part of Missouri, locating in McDonald county, where he engaged in farming until his death in 1861.

He became a prominent man in that locality, as he had been in his home in Tennessee, in that state having served as justice of the peace and postmaster for fourteen years. His wife, formerly Mary Duff, of West Virginia, also died in McDonald county, Mo. Of their family of five sons and one daughter only two sons are now living, the two youngest, Adolphus and Ozro, who live together in their western home.

In the common schools of Missouri Adolphus Mitchell received his education, after which he engaged in working on his father's farm until 1855. On April 21 of that year, in company with his brother, he crossed the plains to California, arriving at the head waters of the Little Yuba river, Sierra county, August 5. For a time he worked for wages in that locality, in the same year going to Mariposa county, where he remained until 1857. In August of that year he came to Tulare county, where he first worked on the range as a cowboy, handling Spanish cattle. In 1860 he made his first purchase of land, buying eighty acres, which was the beginning of the property which to-day numbers twelve hundred and eighty acres, increased by both his own and the efforts of his brother. This property is eight miles southwest of Visalia, under irrigation from the Evans, Watson and Persian ditches, while they also own a foothill ranch of fifteen hundred acres about six miles north of Lemon cove. With his brother he is extensively engaged in the cultivation of wheat and the raising of horses and mules, in addition to which they run a dairy.

In Newton county, Mo., Mr. Mitchell married Susan Bogle, who was born in Bedford county, Tenn., where she spent the first fifteen years of her life. They are the parents of three children, namely: Walter Franklin and Arthur Gaden, at home; and Addie Belle, the wife of Edward C. Jones, who is located two miles south of Dinuba. Politically Mr. Mitchell adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. In all matters that have had for their object the advancement of Tulare county and California he has always given his hearty co-operation.

---

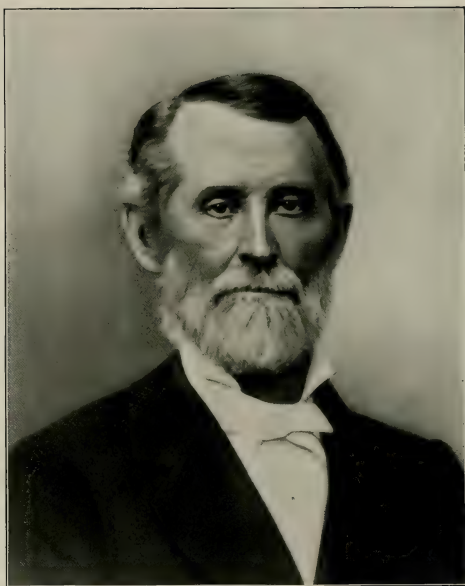
J. D. BRADLEY. The name of J. D. Bradley carries with it weight and influence, as manager of the Crocker-Huffman Land & Water Company's interests at Merced, extensive stock-raiser and land owner, and president of the Commercial Bank. Mr. Bradley comes of a family of which much is reasonably expected, and to whom the community looks for the maintenance of high standards of life and work. His grandfather, Lewis R. Bradley, was twice governor of Nevada, and probably was one of the most

capable and widely advertised executives of the silver state. His life history is found in many periodicals of the west, and briefly told is that of a man who rose upon his own efforts and attained success through the homely attributes of integrity, perseverance and practical common sense. Born in Virginia in 1806, his first independent work was as superintendent of a southern farm at \$80 a year, a position from which he was promoted to purchaser of mules and horses for his employer. From 1843 until 1852 he made his home in Missouri, crossing the plains with cattle during the summer of 1852, and succeeding so well that he returned the following year for a larger band of horses, mules, and cattle. In 1862 he settled in Lander county, Nev., and engaged in stock-raising, and in 1866 settled in Elko county with his son, John R., being pioneers of that then wild region. Always an enthusiastic politician, he served as treasurer and commissioner of Elko county. Elected governor of the territory in 1870, he succeeded himself, his administration being characterized by breadth of mind, intelligence and remarkable sagacity. His son, John R., the father of J. D. Bradley, was born in Virginia in 1835, and married in Missouri in 1857, Elizabeth Hitt, also a native of Virginia, and daughter of Jacob Hitt, a pioneer of Virginia. He became the largest stock-raiser of Elko county, Nev., and filled other important positions than those already mentioned. His death occurred in Reno, Nev., in February, 1902, he being survived by his wife, who still makes her home in Reno, and who is the mother of four daughters and two sons, three daughters being deceased. L. L. Bradley is a resident of Elko county, Nev.

Born on a farm near Stockton, Cal., May 31, 1861, J. D. Bradley was educated in the public schools of Nevada, and from earliest youth was reared to a knowledge of stock-raising. In time he became one of the chief incorporators and president of the Marys River Land & Cattle Company, of which his brother was manager and vice-president, and which was one of the largest concerns of the kind in the territory of Nevada. In 1891 he went to Utah as manager for the Promontory Ranch Company of Promontory, Boxelder county, and in 1894 came to Merced county as manager of the Crocker-Huffman Land & Water Company. The Crocker-Huffman Company owns many thousand acres of land in Merced county, and is one of the largest agencies in central California. Climate, soil and advantageous location conspire to make these possessions among the richest and most desirable in the state.

Two years ago Mr. Bradley began the colonization of a tract of his land, and the results thus achieved point to a future of unexampled pros-





*W. N. Cunningham.*





*E. N. Atter-Cunningham.*



perity. In addition to his other responsibilities Mr. Bradley is president of the Commercial Bank of Merced, which he assisted in organizing. He is prominent fraternally, being identified with Elko Lodge, F. & A. M., of Nevada; the Royal Arch Masons of Ogden; the commandery; and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. Mr. Bradley was married in San Francisco to Emma Donnels, a native of California, and has one daughter, Dita. Mr. Bradley is a man of energy, wise judgment, and practical knowledge of men and affairs, is affable and approachable, a generous contributor to worthy causes, and a friend upon whom his intimates may unerringly rely.

---

REV. WILLIAM NEWTON CUNNINGHAM. No name is more intimately connected with the early religious and ethical growth of Bakersfield than that of Rev. William Newton Cunningham, a life-long Christian worker, and a scholar and humanitarian, whose precept and example serve to strengthen one's faith in the goodness and possibility of human nature, and one's admiration of a self-sacrificing, disinterested and beautiful life. At present occupying twenty-four lots on the outskirts of the city, devoted to the cultivation of fruit, he has returned to the occupation to which he was reared as a child near Huntsville, Madison county, Ala., where he was born May 20, 1825.

From the southern plantation, with its pro-rebellion interests, Mr. Cunningham went to the Cumberland University, at Lebanon, Tenn., from which he was graduated in 1859, he having in the meantime accustomed himself to preaching as a licensed traveling evangelist. His services had become invaluable to the missionary board, and in 1860 he was selected and sent by it to Stockton, Cal., where he built the first Cumberland Presbyterian house of worship in the town. The church was already established in the state, and in connection there was a college in Sonoma county, which was in debt \$7,500. Mr. Cunningham paid off this debt, and organized a new association, known as the Cumberland College Association. For twelve years he was the president and manager of the school, of which he was the largest stockholder, and for which he erected a large concrete building, capable of accommodating a large number of pupils. Education was conducted on a practical and helpful basis, and from the doors of the college many men now prominent in all walks of life in the state, stepped forth as graduates. The failure of the institution was a bitter disappointment to its zealous promoter, yet he managed to save something from the wreck, and to start forth anew with

undiminished belief and as a factor for the uplifting of mankind.

From Stockton, Cal., Mr. Cunningham went to Merced, Merced county; erected a store, and managed the same in addition to following the ministry for ten years. About this time he erected a church at Plainsburg, and in 1882 arrived at Hanford, Kings county, when that town was in its infancy. After erecting a parsonage and preaching a year, he accepted a call to a church in Visalia, but that church was burned about eleven months later. He organized a church at Fresno and later found a field of activity in his present home in Bakersfield. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was not completed and he later reorganized it and after preaching there for a year resigned from active ministerial work. His interest in the church has never diminished and he has been its sincerest friend and supporter, filling the pulpit in time of need, and donating his services to assist in paying off the indebtedness. Incidentally he has served as traveling salesman, but more recently has devoted his entire time to fruit raising.

The home life of Mr. Cunningham has been a particularly happy and harmonious one, for in his wife, to whom he was married in California in 1867, he has found that perfect sympathy which makes burdens light and sorrow a thing to be borne bravely. Mrs. Cunningham, formerly Ellen A. Abbott, a native of Vermont, was reared and educated near Montpelier. She was formerly a teacher, and also often contributed to periodicals for publication. It was the result of her pen that the free library was established in Bakersfield. She is versed in French, Greek, Spanish and Latin and follows the early training she received in her life as an educator. She is quiet and reserved and has always contributed her share to the upbuilding of the institutions that have advanced the educational and moral standards of the country. A son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham, Lucian Abbott, now identified with the Standard Oil Company, operating in the oil fields near Bakersfield. He served as a soldier in the Spanish-American war, after which he served about two years in the Philippine Islands.

---

EDWARD H. MILES. Deservedly popular in the ranks of both business and educational men of Exeter, E. H. Miles occupies a position of prominence won by merit. He is widely known and esteemed as a merchant of good business ability, far-sighted judgment and unswerving integrity, ranking high in the commercial interests of Exeter, while in educational affairs he holds the position of president of the board of trustees of the Exeter schools. A na-

tive of the state where all his life has been spent, he was born near Healdsburg, Sonoma county, October 28, 1862, the fourth child in the parental family. His father, Burke Miles, was born in Indiana, from which state his father, William Miles, removed to Greene county, Ill., and became a farmer. William Miles crossed the plains in 1852, and subsequently six different times, one time crossing alone with his horse and pack animal. He became a farmer and horticulturist in Sonoma county, his death occurring in Portersville, Tulare county, at the age of seventy-six years. Burke Miles crossed the plains also in 1852 and upon his arrival in California engaged in mining in Mariposa county. Returning east he brought cattle across the plains, eventually making his third trip to the west and locating on Dry creek, Sonoma county, as a farmer. In 1867 he settled in Tulare county, one mile northwest of Farmersville, where he purchased land and engaged in its improvement and cultivation. He owned in that section two hundred and forty acres and also owned other property, upon which he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He died in 1888, at the age of sixty-two years. Fraternally he was a Knight Templar Mason and politically cast his ballot with the Republican party. He married Mrs. Catherine Murtha Fitzsimmons, a native of Ireland. While a resident of her native country she married Dr. Fitzsimmons, with whom she came to New York. He became a surgeon in the United States army, and in the early '50s came around the Horn and was stationed at Fort Steilacoom, Wash., where he died shortly afterward. His widow came to California and in Sonoma county married Mr. Miles. She died in 1900, at the age of seventy-three years. By her first marriage she had one son, Charles, who is now engaged in business with Edward H. Miles. The children of the second marriage are as follows: William B., who died on the home place at the age of thirty-six years; Hattie, the wife of D. L. Healy, of San Francisco; Alice, the wife of Philip H. Hering, of San Francisco; Edward H., of this review; and George, a barber in Farmersville.

Edward H. Miles was about five years old when he accompanied his parents to Tulare county, and here he was reared to young manhood on the paternal farm. He received his education in the district schools and at the same time was thoroughly drilled in the practical duties of a farmer's son. He also attended the Visalia Normal School, from which institution he was graduated in 1881 with honors. Following his graduation he engaged in teaching for five terms in this county, during which time he also farmed and clerked. In 1898 he withdrew from educational work and engaged in the mercantile

business in Exeter, purchasing the interest of F. S. Montgomery, of the firm of Teague & Montgomery, the firm name thereafter being known as Teague & Miles. In 1902 Mr. Teague sold his interest to Charles Fitzsimmons, since which time the business has been conducted under the title of E. H. Miles & Co. They have purchased the brick building in which their business is located, adding to the original dimensions of 50x60 feet a storage building 24x50 feet. Mr. Miles also owns the old home place near Farmersville, consisting of one hundred and forty acres, all of which is under the People's Ditch, a concern of which his father was president for many years. This farm is now leased and is devoted to the cultivation of alfalfa, while there is also an orchard of twenty acres; he also owns a twenty-acre orange orchard two miles southeast of Exeter. Mr. Miles was largely instrumental in the organization of the California Talc & Soapstone Company, of which he acts as a director, and for the past twelve years has served as secretary of People's Ditch Company.

Mr. Miles was made a Mason in Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., of which he served as master three terms; is also a member of Visalia chapter No. 44, R. A. M., of which he is past high priest; Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T., of which he is past excellent commander; and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. He also belongs to Knights of Pythias, of Exeter, of which he is past chancellor, and Woodmen of the World. He is a member of Visalia Parlor No. 19, N. S. G. W. Politically he is a staunch Republican and is active in the councils of his party, being an ex-member of the county central committee.

JUDGE THORNBERRY BROOKS. Occupying a most picturesque and beautiful location seven miles north of Hanford, in the Kings river district, apart from the distracting influences of city life, stands the cozy home of Judge T. Brooks, who is one of the prominent pioneer ranchers of Kings county. His landed possessions comprise three hundred and twenty acres in Kings county, besides three hundred and twenty acres in Fresno county. He was born December 22, 1822, in Jackson county, Ga., a son of Isaac and Genesee (Fowler) Brooks, natives of Georgia and South Carolina, respectively. In 1833 the family removed to a farm near Columbus, Ga., and there the son passed his years until reaching young manhood. He then learned the butcher business, and later the carpenter's trade, following this until 1850. February 11 of that year he started for California, embarking at New Orleans with six hundred other passengers, and landing at San Francisco

in the following April. After looking about the country for three weeks he became interested in the mines around Sonora, and for five years thereafter was engaged in mining with varying degrees of success. In 1852, in addition to looking after his claims, for two years he operated a sawmill on Hangtown creek, one of the oldest mills in the state, in which he had bought an interest. In 1855 he rented land on the Sacramento river, in Sacramento county, and engaged in ranching and also raised vegetables to some extent, but this in time became unprofitable on account of the high rents demanded, and in 1866 he came to Kings river, settling on what was thought to be government land, but after five years of hard labor spent in improving the tract a Spanish grant was floated over him and he was obliged to seek other quarters, being allowed only such improvements as were portable. Not discouraged by this experience, however, he crossed over to the other side of the river and purchased one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he established his home and began life anew as a stock-raiser. This was in the days before the adoption of the fence law, which was passed in 1873, and as a consequence Mr. Brooks lost one hundred head of horses, never being able to trace them in any way.

January 9, 1855, near what is now Placerville, Cal., Mr. Brooks was married to Frances A. Foster, who was born in Alabama. Her father, John C. Foster, came to California in 1849, and Mrs. Brooks came to the state in 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks became the parents of eight children, as follows: Susan A., the widow of Jefferson Hames; Charles H., who assists his father with the duties on the ranch; Georgia, a teacher in the schools of Kings county; Edward L., also a rancher; Mary A., the wife of J. N. Bowhay; Amos B., William A. and Wesley W. Although well advanced in years, Mr. Brooks is hale and hearty, with every evidence of many years to his credit in which to enjoy his present happy surroundings. Politically he is a stanch Democrat, but always has refused official positions.

GREENBERRY CATRON is remembered throughout Tulare county as one of the substantial and enterprising agriculturists and stockmen of this section of the San Joaquin valley, the results accomplished by his energy and ambition visible in the home which he left to his widow as well as wide lands improved and cultivated in various parts of the community. He was born in Lafayette county, Mo., October 10, 1820, a son of Solomon and Elizabeth (Jennings) Catron, natives respectively of Tennessee and Virginia. Solomon Catron emigrated from his

native state to Missouri, where he engaged in farming until his death. His wife also died in that state at the age of ninety-five years.

Greenberry Catron became a soldier in the Mexican war in 1846, leaving the peaceful farming pursuits which had occupied his attention from early boyhood. After the war he crossed the plains in 1849, the six months' trip being made with ox-teams. He was accompanied by two brothers, Christopher and Glenville, the latter of whom died in the mines, while the former returned east and is now residing in Holt county, Mo. Upon his safe arrival in California Mr. Catron engaged in mining on Feather and Yuba rivers, and also farmed some in Lake county. In 1864 he located in Tulare county, purchasing the farm of one hundred and sixty acres which now forms the home of the family. At that time it was nothing but a barren plain, but he immediately began improvements, putting up adequate buildings, erecting fences and setting out trees. To-day this place is famous throughout Tulare county for its immense cactus, of the lobe variety, which grows as large as trees. He also bought one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his property, and at his death owned the half section in one body, besides owning a mountain ranch of eight hundred and seventy-one acres at the foot of Blue Ridge, in the Yokohl valley, which was utilized exclusively for stock-raising purposes. On his home property he carried on general farming and stock-raising successfully, being numbered among the prominent agriculturists of Tulare county. He died in his home two and a half miles northwest of Exeter, May 11, 1901, in his seventy-second year. He was a member of the Baptist Church and politically was a stanch Democrat.

Mr. Catron's widow was formerly Mrs. Amanda Melvina (Maxon) Wolbert, to whom he was united in marriage June 2, 1881. She was born in Jefferson county, N. Y., a daughter of Erasmus D. Maxon, a native of the same place. His father, Paul C. Maxon, was born in Connecticut and settled in Jefferson county, N. Y., where he followed farming until his death. Erasmus D. Maxon was a farmer in occupation, and in young manhood removed to Jackson county, Wis. He there enlisted in the Fourteenth Wisconsin Cavalry, and served for three years in the Civil war, after which he returned to his farming operations in that state. In 1873 he came to California and settled near what is now Exeter, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved and cultivated until his death in 1881, at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife, formerly Hannah Crouch, of New York state, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Resigue) Crouch, died in Tulare county, at the age of sixty-one years. Of their ten children

seven are now living, a son, Harrison, having served in the Civil war as a soldier in a Wisconsin regiment. Mrs. Catron was the third in order of birth and was reared to womanhood in Wisconsin, whither she accompanied her parents in 1849. In 1876 she came to California, and married Mr. Catron a few years later. She is the mother of the following children: Everett Wolbert, of Exeter, and Birdine, the wife of Sherman Pennebaker, of Exeter. Mr. Catron was a member of the Society of California Pioneers of San Francisco. Mrs. Catron is a woman of business ability and judgment and has conducted her affairs in a capable manner since the death of her husband.

---

F. M. COOK. It is universally conceded that the banner vineyard of Tulare county, and probably of San Joaquin valley, is that of F. M. Cook, who located at Orosi as one of the first horticulturists of this section. He purchased sixty acres of land in section 18, which was then nothing but a stubble field, set it to raisin grapes, all Muscat, and has since met with a success which has placed him prominently among the horticulturists of Tulare county. Born in Van Buren county, Iowa, November 10, 1852, he was the oldest in a family of six children, of whom four are now living. His father, James Cook, was a native of Ohio and the representative of a family prominent in that state. In young manhood he removed to Illinois and there married Elizabeth Killebrew, a native of that state, a descendant of sturdy Scotch ancestry. Mr. Cook finally took his family to Van Buren county, Iowa, and there engaged as a farmer until his removal to Illinois, thence in 1868 to California. Upon reaching this state he located first in Solano county, later in Colusa county, still later in Tehama county, his last residence being in Willows, where his death occurred. He is survived by his wife, who makes her home in Fresno.

Until he was three years old F. M. Cook remained in Iowa, his father at that time going to Illinois, and in that state he attended the district schools in Scott county. When sixteen years old he made the memorable trip to California, crossing the plains with mule teams and being four months on the journey. After locating in Solano county he attended the common school for a time, remaining at home until attaining his majority. He then engaged in grain-raising near Willows and also gave some time to the stock business. In 1884 he removed to Fresno county and near Malaga bought new land and set out a fifty-acre vineyard. This he conducted successfully for six years, when he

came to Orosi, Tulare county. Purchasing sixty acres he set it out to grapes, and has realized each year for the last six years from sixty to sixty-two tons of fruit. In 1904 he realized sixty-seven tons from forty-four acres. Besides the Muscat he has set out the Thompson seedless and has met with a success in its cultivation. In addition to the sixty acres already mentioned he owns twenty acres across the road set out to Muscat and Thompson seedless; a twenty-acre vineyard of Zinfandel at Sultana; and twenty acres southeast of Sultana, making one hundred and twenty acres in all, all devoted to the cultivation of grapes. The ranch is finely developed and cared for, all being under irrigation.

In Willows, Cal., Mr. Cook was united in marriage with Sarah Elizabeth Cartwright, a native of Iowa, and they are the parents of three children, Francis Elmer, James Ernest and Virgil. Mr. Cook has been prominent in his community and has taken an active part in all movements calculated to advance the general welfare. For over twelve years he served as school trustee, and although a Democrat in national politics never allows his views to stand between him and a vote for a man whom he considers qualified to discharge public duties satisfactorily. He is a director and stockholder in the Bank of Dinuba, as well as a director in the Alta Irrigation Company, being elected to this latter in 1902. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of Orosi, in which he officiates as trustee. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in Fresno in 1886, and belongs also to Knights of Pythias of Orosi and Woodmen of the World, being past councillor commander. He is also identified with Women of Woodcraft. For some time he was associated with the Raisin Growers' Association and was exceedingly active in its work.

---

JOHN F. DAULTON. In what is now the county of Madera, but was then a portion of Fresno county, J. F. Daulton was born January 24, 1862, being a son of the late Henry Clay Daulton, one of the most influential stockmen in this part of the state. The family possessing ample means, he was given every advantage for obtaining an excellent education, and for a time studied in the Stockton Business College. From his father he inherited a fondness for stock and at an early age he selected stock-raising for his life work. At the age of twenty-two he started out for himself as a sheep-raiser in Madera county and from a small beginning accumulated a large flock in later years.

Upon the death of his father in 1893, J. F. Daulton took charge of the estate and has since maintained a close supervision of the ranch and







G. P. Kelrey

the stock. To promote the interests of the family, in 1898 he incorporated the Daulton Ranch Company, of which he is president and manager. In the ranch there are seventeen thousand acres, all under fence, and supplied with water by means of flowing springs. Of the entire tract four thousand acres are under cultivation, mostly in grain, while the remainder of the land is utilized as a pasture for the stock. In sheep he makes a specialty of the Merino breed and at this writing has about eight thousand head on the ranch. In 1889 he moved from the ranch into Madera, where he has since made his home, but his residence in town has never interfered in any respect with the close supervision he maintains of the ranch and stock.

The marriage of Mr. Daulton, in San Jose, united him with Addie M. Raynor, who was born in Connecticut and came to California with her father, W. M. Raynor, a sheep-raiser, and the owner of twelve thousand acres in Merced, Mariposa and Madera counties. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Daulton comprises four children, namely: Hazel, Raynor McErlane, Henry Clay and Erma. Mrs. Daulton is a member of the Presbyterian Church and the family are attendants upon its services. From the time of attaining his majority Mr. Daulton has voted and worked with the Republicans. Formerly he was a member of the Republican county central committee. As the nominee of his party, in 1898 he was elected supervisor of the third district of Madera county for a term of four years, and during this time the court-house was planned and completed. His fraternal relations include membership in the Masonic Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M., of Madera; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he is past grand of the local lodge; Ancient Order of United Workmen at Madera, and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks at Fresno.

GEORGE POWERS KELSEY has the distinction of being the second oldest native son of Merced county now living in the county, where he was born May 25, 1855, and is the owner of a ranch of eighty-six hundred acres, of which one hundred and sixty acres of bottom land are under alfalfa, and he has about two hundred and fifty head of stock. A number of tenants occupy the pasture lands, the owner occupying sufficient for his needs. His home is on an elevation overlooking the Merced river, half a mile from Merced Falls.

Mr. Kelsey is a graduate of the University of California, class of 1879, and by profession is a civil engineer. A justifiable pride of ancestry is a family characteristic, the earliest emigrant bearing the name having arrived on American

shores from England in the early part of the eighteenth century. Connecticut is supposed to have been the destination of this remote sire, for the paternal great-grandfather was born in that state, moving, however, to New York state later in life, and there Erastus Kelsey, the father of George P., was born. On the maternal side Mr. Kelsey is of Revolutionary stock, his maternal grandfather, Powers, having served in the British army. His great-grand-uncle, Judge Stephen Powers, at one time served as United States minister to Switzerland. His mother, Malinda (Powers) Kelsey, was born in Wisconsin. She bore her husband six children, two of whom died in early childhood, and those living are: Charles, now living in Mariposa county; George P.; Horace G., of Merced county; and Dr. A. L. Kelsey, of Los Angeles. Erastus Kelsey went to Illinois from New York in 1842, and assisted in the laying of the first plank walk in what is now the city of Chicago. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California, mined along the American river in Placer county, and was so successful that he took a trip back to Illinois during the summer of 1851. In 1852 he located on the Merced river in the county of that name, entered and purchased land to the extent of eight thousand acres, which he sold to his son, George P., in 1881, and upon which he engaged in general farming, stock and grain raising. Mr. Kelsey later bought a section of land near Antioch, on an island in the San Joaquin river, which he still owns and occupies. Still active, he is the fortunate possessor of good health, cheerful spirits and many friends, and besides has an ample share of worldly goods. He is a Republican in politics, and has ever been regarded as a public-spirited, generous and broad-minded man.

From the public schools George P. Kelsey entered the University of California, his classmates including George C. Pardee, the present governor of California; Judge F. W. Henshaw, Judge C. W. Slack, Prof. E. O'Neil and Charles Butters, the mining expert. Shortly after his graduation, Mr. Kelsey learned civil engineering and surveying, which he has practiced to some extent ever since, and for which he has particular aptitude. He was a school teacher in Merced county for one year, and since buying his father's ranch in 1881 has practically devoted his energies to its cultivation. He has taken a commendable interest in Republican politics and was supervisor of the county four years. He married Frances Overstreet, who was born in San Francisco in 1866, a daughter of William F. Overstreet, a pioneer of Mariposa county, Cal. They are the parents of the following children: Eudora M., Grace L., Lillian, Lawrence DeW., Ruth N., George W., Francis O. and Ethel. Mr. Kelsey has a pleasing and in-

teresting personality, and is a good conversationalist, well versed in the current topics of the day. He is held in high esteem by his many friends for his honorable and upright dealings and his public spirit.

---

JOHN J. DOYLE, an esteemed resident of Portersville, Tulare county, was born in Lafayette, Ind., April 19, 1844, a son of John Doyle. The latter was a native of Kentucky, who removed to Indiana in 1829, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death in 1876. His father, William Doyle, came from Ireland when a lad, locating in Virginia and later in Kentucky, his death occurring in the latter state. John Doyle married Sarah Wilson, a native of Virginia, who in 1876 died in California, where she was brought by her son, John J., on his second trip to the coast. Mr. and Mrs. Doyle became the parents of sixteen children, nine sons and seven daughters, of whom John J. was next to the youngest.

Until attaining his majority the home of John J. Doyle remained under the parental roof in Lafayette, Ind., where he took a commercial course. In the meantime he had become much interested in California, and despite the wishes of his mother made the trip. He lacked the money to pay his passage, having only a Henry rifle, a brass watch and \$2 in Missouri state currency, but managed to work his way across, trading the watch for a shotgun and afterward selling that for \$15. He was three months en route, and after his arrival in the state worked in Sierra valley, Plumas county. He would have been satisfied to remain in the state, but learning of the death of two brothers and knowing the condition of his mother he at once returned to Indiana by way of Panama, having upon his arrival at home \$18 in gold. In 1867 he brought his mother via Nicaragua to California and located in Sonoma county, engaging in farming on land purchased by his mother. Two years later he taught school in the old Santa Rosa district. In the fall of 1870 he came to the San Joaquin valley and located near the Cottonwoods, in Merced county, on the west side of the valley, and engaged in grain farming for two years. In 1871 he came to Tulare county on a business trip and while here took up the cause of the citizens against the Southern Pacific Railway Company, the case famous throughout the San Joaquin valley, which remained unsettled from 1874 to 1883. During this time Mr. Doyle made two trips to Washington to champion the citizens' cause, spending eight months trying to settle the matter, but finally had to admit defeat as the bill never came up. The matter was taken through the courts and was finally ended and five citizens of the Mussel Slough district trouble were sen-

tenced to spend eight months in jail, though there was nothing actually proven against them, the court being owned by the railroad company.

Mr. Doyle afterward became a staunch friend of Mr. Huntington, of the Southern Pacific Railway Company, who had been kept in ignorance of the actual facts in the difficulty just mentioned. The two men remained firm friends until the death of Mr. Huntington. Subsequently Mr. Doyle located near Grangeville, Kings county, and farmed there until 1885, when he removed to the mountains of Tulare county, taking up a timber claim of one hundred and sixty acres and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, which he still owns. In February, 1893, he removed to Portersville, Tulare county, while he gives his attention to his mountain ranch. This property is famous for the fine apple orchard which is widely known, and for the fruit upon which Mr. Doyle has won several medals at the Agricultural Fair.

In Kings county, Cal., Mr. Doyle was united in marriage with Lillie Alice Holser, a native of Prairie City, Cal., and they have three children, Chester H., Ruby S. and Floreda Alice. Until 1876 Mr. Doyle was a Democrat but after that became a member of the Workingmen's Party, in 1879 being a delegate to the state convention. There he had a strong altercation with Dennis Kearney, and on account of the demonstration he left the convention and since that time has not been an active participant in political affairs. During his residence in Kings county he served two terms as justice of the peace of the Lemoore district. Mr. Doyle is a man of ability and has proven himself a helpful and practical citizen wherever he has made his home.

---

ALBERT LINCOLN HOBBS. The extent to which the people are interested in the raising of fruit has made the packing business one of the principal industries of Fresno county, and among the men who have given their time and attention to the occupation mention belongs to the subject of this narrative, who is the president, manager and principal proprietor of the A. L. Hobbs Company, of Fresno. Under his close personal oversight a large business has been established. A packing house and seeding plant has been erected of suitable dimensions (225x100 feet) for the business conducted, and with adequate facilities for shipment via the Southern Pacific Railroad. A specialty is made of the packing of figs and the seeding and packing of raisins, of which latter the output is about fifty tons per day. In addition to this plant, Mr. Hobbs purchased and now conducts a packing house at Selma. From these two houses shipments are made to all points of the compass.

The Hobbs family is of New England extraction. Daniel Hobbs, a native of Massachusetts and a soldier in the Revolutionary war, became a pioneer of Maine, where his son, Josiah, was born and reared, and followed farm pursuits. Charles Cyprian Hobbs, a son of Josiah, and likewise a native of Maine, became a farmer and lumberman of that state, where he held many local offices and was a leader among the Jacksonian Democrats of his vicinity. In religion he was of the Universalist faith. At the time of his death, in 1888, he was eighty-four years of age. In early manhood he married Isabella Henderson, who was born in Nova Scotia, being a daughter of John Henderson, also a native of that peninsula, of Scotch descent, and by occupation a farmer. When she died in 1899 she had reached the seventy-fifth year of her age. Of her five children, four are living, Albert Lincoln being the second of these and the only one to settle on the Pacific coast. He was born at Norway, Oxford county, Me., October 26, 1861. As a boy he learned many lessons of patient toil when striving to cultivate the homestead, which was one of the most sterile and rocky farms in all of Maine. There Nature gave reluctant response to the labors of man.

After having completed his studies in the public schools and Norway Academy, A. L. Hobbs began to teach school at twenty years of age and for two years he followed that occupation. Meanwhile he had resolved to seek a home in a region where the struggle to gain a livelihood might not be waged under such dire stress of stern climate and sterile soil. Attracted to California by what he had heard concerning the state, in the spring of 1883 he crossed the continent to San Francisco, from there going to Stanislaus county. Work was difficult to secure. For three weeks he chopped wood in return for his board, after which he worked as a farm hand for two years. At the expiration of that time he returned to Maine, where he engaged in the meat and produce business and the packing of apples. During 1888 he again came to California, this time settling at Santa Cruz, where he engaged in the dairy business. Since 1890 he has been identified with the business interests of Fresno, beginning as a retail dealer in produce and fruit on Fresno street, but a year later moving to larger quarters on I street between Fresno and Mariposa. As a member of the firm of Hobbs & Parsons, in 1892 he embarked in the wholesale trade on Tulare street, where even more than the anticipated success rewarded his efforts. In 1897 the Hobbs-Parsons Company was incorporated with himself as president and manager, but three years later the business was divided, his partner retaining the wholesale department, while he took charge of the packing interests

and established the company of which he is now the chief member.

While in Santa Cruz Mr. Hobbs married Alice Steinmetz, who was born in this state, her parents having been pioneers of 1849. Of this union there is a son, Charles Steinmetz. Mr. Hobbs is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Sequoia Club and contributes to the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife is a member. From the time of casting his first ballot he has been stanch in his allegiance to the Republican party, and his services in its behalf have been recognized in his appointment as a delegate to conventions; as a member of the county central committee for eight years, and also of the executive committee of the same. At one time he was a director of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and his interest in this important organization has been continuous. As a business man he has proved himself possessed of exceptional ability, while personally his qualities of mind and heart are such as to win the friendship and confidence of associates.

---

JAMES MITCHELL CLARK. During his comparatively brief life James Mitchell Clark succeeded in his chosen vocation, that of farming and stock-raising, and from comparative poverty raised himself upon a good name, an honorable character, and well directed industry. His death January 21, 1899, removed from the pioneer ranks of Kings county one who had developed its resources intelligently and well, and who left an unincumbered section of land, replete with modern improvements, to tell the story of his struggles, unflinching application and practical business ability.

Of the early life of Mr. Clark little is recalled, save that he was of humble parentage, and in his youth had comparatively few educational advantages. The farm in Maine, where he was born August 17, 1849, held out little inducements to an able-bodied and progressive young man, and in 1871 he came to California and found work by the month on a ranch in the vicinity of Merced. Later on he ran a threshing-machine in that neighborhood, and at the same time rented land and raised grain. In 1875 he removed to what is now Kings county, and with his brother, A. W. Clark, purchased the section of land now owned by his wife and children, eight and one-half miles northeast of Hanford. As yet no white man had turned up the sod to the sun, or set his mind to speculating as to its value as a productive agency. For the balance of his life his work went hand in hand with that of his brother, and they entered upon large stock-raising enterprises, and farmed extensively in grain. Time brought the need of

additional land, and they purchased tracts in Tulare county, overseeing its disposition with a regard for its improvement. Mr. Clark was progressive and a man of great energy, and he took much pride in the comfortable things of life with which he was able to surround himself and family.

When starting out on his successful career Mr. Clark wisely concluded that a sympathetic and intelligent wife would materially advance his interests, and was united in marriage with Amanda Woodcock, a native of Arkansas, May 11, 1879, who arrived in what is now Kings county with her parents in 1875. Mrs. Clark has proved worthy of the name of pioneer, and has not only assisted her husband, within and outside of the house, but has reared a family of eight children, two others having died in infancy. With the exception of Arthur W., the oldest son, who is a farmer and fruit-raiser near Portersville, Tulare county, the children are all at home, and are active in their effort to improve the farm and add to the pleasure of those who gather around their fireside. The children are: Ida, Ada, Hannah, James, Augustus Rea, D. Mitchell and Rose. The older daughters are especially successful as managers of the property since the departure from home of the eldest son. Mr. Clark was never active in politics although he had well defined ideas of both parties, and experienced a change of heart from the Democratic to Republican party after the first administration of Grover Cleveland. He was a man whose word was as good as his bond, and who was conceded to be of a generous, kindly and home loving nature, and his death in the prime of usefulness in 1899, deprived his home of a good husband and father, and the community of a valued and respected citizen.

---

J. W. SCHMITZ. One of the foremost agriculturists of the San Joaquin valley, and a citizen of much prominence, J. W. Schmitz is worthy of more than passing mention in this volume. Associated with Miller & Lux, he is manager of the Poso district, which includes the Helen, Poso, Central, Temple and River Camp, Corm Camp and Colony ranches, and of the east side division, in which are New Ranch, and the New and Old Columbia ranches. He is also manager of large grain ranches in the Madera Berendo country. A man of unbounded energy, great enterprise, and strong force of character, he has been influential in the development of the resources of this section of Fresno, Madera and Merced counties and the prime factor in making irrigation successful, having been the first to make and utilize permanent head gates. Possessing a thorough knowledge of the occupation

to which he is giving his best efforts, and the sound judgment and wisdom that renders his decisions quick and accurate, he has attained a place of eminence among the keen, progressive and business-like farmers of the community in which he resides. A native of Germany, he was born April 14, 1846, a son of F. P. Schmitz.

A man of great mechanical ability and talent, F. P. Schmitz learned the trade of a gunsmith in Germany, and for a number of years was a commissioned officer in the German army, serving as gunsmith to Emperor Frederick William. Immigrating with his family to America in 1854, he resided in Detroit, Mich., until his death, which occurred in 1857. His wife, whose maiden name was Isabella Birk, was born in Germany, and died in Detroit, Mich. Of the seven children born of their union, J. W. is the only survivor.

Completing his early education in the city schools of Detroit, J. W. Schmitz left Michigan in 1862, his venturesome spirit deciding him to try the hazard of new fortunes. Going to Atchison, Kans., he joined a freighting outfit as train clerk, but later drove six yoke of oxen across the plains to Salt Lake City, being three months en route, and afterwards resuming his former position as train clerk. Desirous of extending his travels, he next became train clerk for Forbes Brothers, and with them went to the East Bannock mines, now Montana, driving an ox-team on the way, and arriving in the fall of 1862. Following close in the footsteps of the on-rushers, Mr. Schmitz continued his journey to Virginia City, Mont., where he was employed in mining for four years and ten months, prospecting and opening up different claims. Starting for California in 1867, he journeyed on horseback to Walla Walla, thence by steamer down the Columbia river to Portland, Ore., and from there to San Francisco by water. Going at once to Calaveras county, Mr. Schmitz was for ten months engaged in quartz mining near West Point. Not particularly successful, he proceeded to Santa Clara county, where he made an entire change of occupation, becoming bridge builder for the old San Francisco and San Jose Railroad Company, on the line now known as the Coast Line. When the road was completed as far as Gilroy, he continued with the same company as a carpenter in the bridge department, remaining thus employed until the old company sold out to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, when he settled as a carpenter in San Jose.

In April, 1871, Mr. Schmitz entered the employ of Miller & Lux, coming to the west side of the San Joaquin valley as fence builder on the Santa Rita ranch. Proving himself capable and faithful, he was given the entire charge of fence building on that ranch, and held the position







*A. Mattei*

from July, 1871, until the summer of 1873, when he was made superintendent of Santa Rita ranch. He at once began needed improvements on the place, and during that year the canal was built through that estate, and the S. J. & K. R. C. & I. Co.'s canal was begun. Giving up the management of the ranch in 1874, he worked as a fence maker for his former employers a few years, building fences on the east and west sides of the valley, and in Santa Clara and Monterey counties, and also superintended the building of the Chowchilla canal. In 1877 Mr. Schmitz built a head gate that proved successful, answering all requirements, and marking a revolution in farming. During the ensuing two years he was very active in developing irrigation on both sides of the valley, and at Los Banos began raising alfalfa as an experiment. From year to year he made improvements of a marked character, developing the country included between Los Banos and Firebaugh, in which previously there had been no water, by his efforts making it one of the most fertile productive regions of central California. He has had charge of the Chowchilla canal since its completion, and superintended also the improvement of the east side, and a part of Dos Palos ranch, of which he had charge in 1879. In 1884 Mr. Schmitz began working in a systematic and scientific manner at the Poso ranch, and as mentioned above is manager of the entire Poso district, and of the east side division. He raises large quantities of alfalfa on each of the ranches, and likewise breeds and raises stock of all kinds. He is also advisory manager of the Santa Rita ranch, and has the supervision of the grain farms in Madera county.

Mr. Schmitz is personally interested in farming and stock raising in Madera county, being owner of the old Chapman ranch, and of the Howard and Wilson ranches, the three farms containing five thousand acres of land. This vast estate he devotes to the raising of grain, alfalfa and fruit. He has there a fine orchard of thirty-five acres; a vineyard of twenty-five acres; four hundred acres of alfalfa; four and one-half sections of grain; and two sections of grass land. His property is finely improved, and yields bountiful harvests each year, bringing him in a princely income.

February 11, 1886, in Detroit, Mich., Mr. Schmitz married Mary Van Leyen, who was born in that city, a daughter of John Van Leyen, who was born in Dusseldorf, Germany, and now makes his home in Detroit. By his marriage with Hendrina Look there were five children born, of whom Mrs. Schmitz is the only one in California. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Schmitz, John Look, served as a commissioned officer in Napoleon's army at Mos-

cow. He subsequently came to America, locating at Detroit, Mich., where he engaged in farming, living there until his death, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Schmitz, J. Walter Schmitz, is attending Santa Clara College. Politically Mr. Schmitz is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Merced, and now belongs to Madera Lodge, F. & A. M., of which he is a charter member.

ANDREW MATTEI. From obscurity and comparative poverty on a small Swiss farm, to the ownership of one of the largest vineyards and wine manufactories in Fresno county, are the extremes which have met in the life of Andrew Mattei, than whom no more successful man is representing his picturesque country in this part of the state. Perseverance and good judgment are noticeable characteristics of Mr. Mattei, and are, mainly accountable for the fact that a man less than fifty years old governs so large a responsibility with apparent ease. His identification with the county began in 1887, when he purchased the William Wilkinson ranch of half a section, the same being part of his present home, and in 1890 he took possession of what was then a waving wheat field. He commenced setting out grape vines from the first, and soon after purchased an additional one hundred and ten acres, which also was placed under vines. In 1900 he bought another section of land, and at present his ranch, consisting of ten hundred and seventy acres, is all under vines. He grows about two thousand tons of grapes a year, although many of the vines are not yet bearing, and has his own winery and distillery, employing from thirty to sixty men, according to the season. He also purchases large quantities of grapes. In 1902 he manufactured three hundred thousand gallons of wine and one hundred thousand gallons of proof brandy, all of which is sold in carload lots. One section of his immense vineyard is watered by a thirty-two horse-power gasoline engine, which pumps water twenty feet, and the rest is irrigated by the Fresno Canal Company. This is one of the finest and largest vineyards in this splendidly productive section, and Mr. Mattei has the satisfaction of knowing that every vine, every building, fence, and appliance, is the result of his ability to direct his energy into channels for which he is eminently fitted, and toward which he has had the courage to labor unceasingly and wisely. His home of two stories is located on slightly elevated ground, is well furnished, and noted for its genuine hospitality and good cheer. His family consists of his wife, whom he married in Los Angeles in 1886, and

who was formerly Eleanor J. Joughin, a native of Rockford, Ill., but who came to California with her parents in 1860, locating in Los Angeles in 1866; and three children, Andrew, Jr., Anne Joughin, and Eleanor Theadolinda.

Mr. Mattei's early life was spent on a farm in Switzerland, where he was born August 9, 1855, and from where he came to the United States in 1874. He was a strong and rugged youth, used to hard work and simple living, and his work in the timberlands of Nevada proved less arduous than it would to many. After two years in Nevada he went to San Francisco, and thence to Modesto, where he worked in a dairy for about six months. For the following year and a half he was employed in a dairy in San Jose, after which he returned to San Francisco for eight months. Returning to San Jose he engaged in dairying for three years, and January 1, 1882, removed to Los Angeles and manufactured cream of tartar for six months. Dairying occupied his attention for the next two years on a rented farm in Los Angeles county, at the end of which time he purchased the farm outright and continued its management until 1890, when he came to his present home. Mr. Mattei's success and character have made an impression on his fellow residents of the Malaga district, and he is honored for his enterprise, thoroughness, and substantiality, no less than for his development of a California resource destined to assume enormous proportions, and gain world-wide fame.

**JOHN H. OGLE.** To John H. Ogle belongs the distinction of having bought the second lot sold in the town of Le Grand, Merced county, Cal., and he has been successfully engaged in business here ever since the town was started. A good mechanic and an expert blacksmith and wagon-maker, he has had broad experience in this line of work and is now the owner and proprietor of a fully equipped blacksmith and wagon-shop where he does general repair work of all kinds. He was born in Cumberland county, Pa., July 26, 1862, a son of J. H. and Minnie (Buckingham) Ogle, the former a brick mason by occupation. Soon after the birth of John H., the father enlisted in the Union army and served three years and six months as a private in the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. In 1863 his wife died when John H. was but six months old.

Some time after the close of the war, the Ogle family moved to Missouri. John H., of this review, left home in 1880, at which time he traveled over various parts of Mexico, Colorado, Arizona and Texas, and on May 21, 1881, he touched California soil. Spending six weeks in Los Angeles, he went from place to place, and

the following year found him in Merced county, engaged as a journeyman blacksmith at Plainsberg. He was subsequently located in Selma for one year, and at one time owned a blacksmith shop in Raymond, Madera county, where he carried on a good business for four years, prior to locating at Le Grand in business for himself. He married Mrs. Lou A. (Kelley) Footman, and they have two children, J. Kirk and Lillie A. Politically Mr. Ogle is a staunch Republican, and fraternally is allied with the Woodmen of the World and Modern Woodmen of America. As a business man he is methodical, thorough, successful, and as a citizen he is a highly esteemed factor in the history of Le Grand.

**PETER JORGENSEN.** The Oakdale soda works is an enterprise which commends itself to the purchasing public by the excellence of its products and the high character of the man controlling and directing its operations. As a feature of the business activity which is contributing to the prestige of the town it is without a rival, in equipment, if not in size, equalling any concern of the kind in Stanislaus county. All kinds of carbonated beverages are manufactured in their greatest purity, such as lemon soda, sarsaparilla, ginger ale, champagne and orange cider, cream soda, birch beer, etc., and find a ready market not only throughout this, but the surrounding counties. Mr. Jorgensen has given his business a great deal of study, and, added to several years of practical experience in catering to the exclusive demands of his customers, has perfected himself as nearly as possible in his line of business, which is assuming larger and more important proportions each year.

Mr. Jorgensen owed early allegiance to Prussian rule, for though born on the island of Alsen, off the coast of Schleswig-Holstein, his ancestors were Danes, who had fought and lost to Germany their independence shortly before his birth, October 24, 1868. His parents, Jacob P. and Anna D. (Schmidt) Jorgensen, were born while the Danish kings still ruled what is now Schleswig-Holstein, and owned a farm of some size on Alsen, an island of great fertility, about twenty miles long and about eight miles wide. He was reared on this farm until coming to the United States in 1885, at the time being a strong, ambitious boy of sixteen, looking hopefully out upon life and its manifold responsibilities. His inclination naturally turned to the occupation of his forefathers, and in time he was employed on the farm of Eben Wood in the San Joaquin valley, on which farm he worked for eight years. This experience not only introduced him to western farming methods, but enabled him to

exchange his Danish for the American language, an accomplishment which he acquired with comparative ease. True to the national characteristic, he was both thrifty and saving, and in 1893 bought a half interest in the Modesto soda works, operating the same under the firm name of Jacobsen & Jorgensen. In the fall of 1896 he came to Oakdale and established a branch of the Modesto manufactory, operated the same until 1901, and then started in business for himself by purchasing his partner's interest. He is agent also for Shasta and Cooks mineral waters.

On the corner of Second avenue and I streets Mr. Jorgensen has erected a fine residence, furnished it throughout in modern style, and supplied for his family the comforts and luxuries of life to the best of his ability. He was married April 14, 1903, to Miss Emma C. Vaccaro, born at Snelling, Merced county, Cal., and a representative of an early pioneer family of this state. Mr. Jorgensen is independent in politics, and is fraternally connected with the Artisans and the Knights of Pythias, of which he is a past chancellor. He is also a member of the Dania Society of Modesto. He is honored for his unswerving integrity, his progressiveness and adaptability to western conditions, and for his generosity in contributing to worthy community causes.

---

**ROBERT BOOT.** Few if any organizations have proved more beneficial to fruit specialists of California than the Raisin Growers Association, which since its inception afforded valuable assistance in the development of one of the most important industries in the state, and has also been the means of bringing into fraternal relations the men and women who are devoting themselves to this occupation. On the occasion of the first meeting of this body Mr. Boot, who had been an enthusiastic promoter of the movement, was chosen a director and was re-elected to the office each succeeding year. During the first three years of the association's history he filled the office of secretary, after which he served as general inspector for a year and then, in the spring of 1902, was elected its president, which responsible position he filled till 1904.

By birth and ancestry Mr. Boot is an Englishman. His parents, Isaac and Rebecca (Sutton) Boot, spent their entire lives in Nottinghamshire, where the former engaged in the manufacture and sale of merchandise, his specialty being laces. In their family were two daughters and a son, the latter, the subject of this narrative, having been the second in order of birth. He was born in Nottingham January 10, 1839, and received his education principally in the Ackworth high school. After leaving school he en-

tered a counting-house in his native city, where he was employed for two years. During the ensuing four years he served an apprenticeship to the dry-goods business in Hempstead. During 1859 he came to America for the first time and for a year acted as manager of the Manchester department of a wholesale dry-goods house in Toronto. Coming from Canada to the United States, he engaged in farming in Baltimore county, Md. In 1863 he returned to England and sailed from London on the *Tibernia*, which rounded the Cape of Good Hope and after a voyage of ninety-four days anchored at Auckland, New Zealand. Settling in that growing city, he turned his attention to the manufacture and export of Kauri pine lumber and spar timber.

Coming from New Zealand to California in 1880, Mr. Boot settled in Fresno county, where he has since made his home. He was among the first to purchase property in the Oleander district, where he bought a tract of new land, leveled and prepared it for irrigation, then set it to a vineyard and orchard. The original tract he still owns, but has also purchased other land, having acquired eighty acres altogether, of which he improved forty acres himself. While giving close attention to his fruit interests, at the same time he did much to promote and secure the organization of the Oleander Packing Company, of which he acted as secretary and manager until he resigned to associate himself with the organization of which he is now the chief executive. In 1899 he came to Fresno, where he now has his residence. He is a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, the Congregational Church of this city, and the California State Horticultural Society. Since becoming a citizen of the United States he has affiliated with the Republican party. His marriage was solemnized while he was in New Zealand and united him with Gertrude Hurndall, a native of Somerset, England. By this union he has nine children, all of whom are residents of Fresno county. Personally Mr. Boot is a man of many admirable qualities. His travels in many lands have made him a cosmopolitan in his views and given him an education not possible to be acquired in any other way. Though he has seen many lands and become familiar with many climates, he believes California to be the peer of all in offering to settlers those attractions which enhance the joys of existence.

---

**TULLIUS MARCUS MALESANI** has acquired for himself a prominent position in the business interests of Madera county, Cal., and since 1900 has been closely identified with the commercial life of the city and its vicinity, as the superintendent of the Madera Winery, which,

it is claimed, has one of the largest fermenting plants in the world and whose products are well known. The plant is owned by the Italian-Swiss colony, and comprises five thousand acres. The railroad spur was built one year before Mr. Malesani's management began. The plant itself is of mammoth size, its various buildings covering twenty acres. Here is to be found the best and most improved machinery for crushing grapes, and the various branches of wines and brandies put upon the market by this company are among the finest-flavored in the world. A number of port, sherry and other sweet wines are also manufactured. The total cooperage of this winery is three million gallons and five hundred tons of grapes are handled in one day, almost twenty thousand in one season.

The water system is perfect, the tower holding fifteen thousand gallons, and the machinery is operated by powerful engines, which aggregate three hundred and fifty horse power, and all the repair work is done in the blacksmith shops, wagon shops, etc., in proximity to the plant and the property of the company. The season commences early and twenty-six plows are usually running by March 15, and from one hundred to two hundred men are employed constantly. Each department is under competent foremen, who in turn report regularly to the superintendent. The two distilleries have a capacity of forty thousand gallons a day, and the plant is in the 1st district of California, No. 183. For storage purposes, the plant has fifty twenty-five thousand gallon tanks for one kind, ten twenty-five thousand gallon tanks for another kind, twelve forty thousand gallon tanks for another, and in addition they have eight sherry tanks of fifteen thousand gallons each, and twelve other tanks with a capacity of five hundred thousand gallons for still another quality. The magnitude of this industry can hardly be over-estimated, and the same may be said of its importance in the community.

Mr. Malesani descended from a prominent family and is himself a native of Verona, Italy, October 1, 1873, marking the date of his birth. His common-school education was supplemented by a university course in his native land, and as a result he possesses superior intellectual attainments. In 1896 he came to the United States and for the two years following he was identified with the Sunnyside Company, at Sunnyside, Ark. He subsequently returned for a time to Italy in the interest of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad company, and in 1900 came to California and assumed the duties of his present position, succeeding at that time A. C. Palladini as superintendent of the Madera Winery.

Mr. Malesani was united in marriage with Miss Mary Lunghi, who was born in St. Louis, Mo., and they have two children, Yolanda and Santina. The father of Mr. Malesani, G. B. Malesani, is still living in Italy, being now more than seventy years old. Although for a number of years past he has been living retired, he was for many years a prominent member of his community, a civil engineer by profession and a writer of some note. For years he served as school inspector and he is highly esteemed in his community. He is also decorated with the title of Chevalier of the Italian Royal Crown, as a reward for his great interest and ability in popularizing the scientific progress of modern agriculture.

---

CLARENCE A. DUNN. The Madera County Hospital, located one and one-half miles from the city of Madera, is most ably and carefully managed by Clarence A. Dunn, who has served as superintendent of this institution for the past four years. A man of fine physical and mental development, energetic and public-spirited, ever mindful of the public weal, he is performing the arduous duties connected with his position with commendable zeal and fidelity, and is well worthy of the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow-men. A son of Samuel Dunn, he was born August 10, 1858, in Atchison county, Kans.

The lineal descendant of an old and prominent Virginia family, Samuel Dunn was born in Virginia, but was brought up and educated in Ohio. He there learned the trade of carpenter, and also became familiar with the various branches of agriculture. From Ohio he moved with his family to Iowa, living there for four years, from 1851 until 1855. Removing then to Kansas, he carried on general farming and carpentering until his death. In Washington county, Ohio, he married Lucy Ellis, who was born in Ohio, and died on the home farm, in Kansas, in 1876.

At the age of twenty-one years, in 1879, Clarence A. Dunn left his native state, going first to Iowa, and then to Omaha, Neb., where he remained two years. Returning to Kansas, he continued work in that state for about ten years. Wishing, however, to improve his financial prospects, and to enjoy the beautiful climate of California, he came to this state in 1891, locating in Madera, where he secured a position in a sash and door factory, and also worked at the carpenter's trade. In 1900 he was made superintendent of the Madera County Hospital, and has since served in this capacity in a manner worthy of notice. The main building of the Hospital, erected in 1895, is a two-story frame building, fitted out with five wards, in which there are accommodations for fifty or more patients.



Connected with this institution is a small farm, which is likewise under the management of Mr. Dunn, who raises all the poultry, eggs and vegetables needed for use on the place. This is a great help to the county, as on January 1, 1904, there were forty-nine men and one woman being cared for on the farm.

While living in Iowa Mr. Dunn married Carrie Lloyd. Politically Mr. Dunn is an ardent supporter of the principles promulgated by the Republican party, and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and to the Woodmen of the World.

J. N. ABBAY. The Southern Pacific Railway Company has always been especially fortunate in the selection of its employes, upon each of whom great responsibility is placed, be he section hand, roadmaster, fireman, engineer or general superintendent of the road. Prominent among the oldest in point of service, and the most trustworthy of these employes, is J. N. Abbey, of Merced, well known to the patrons of the Oakdale branch of the road as engineer of a passenger train running between Merced and Stockton, the round trip covering a distance of one hundred and forty-four miles. An experienced railroad man, with a thorough knowledge of the mechanical construction and management of a locomotive, he is especially fitted for his position, and well deserving of the high estimation and regard in which he is held by his employers, and by the traveling public. A son of the late William Abbey, he was born December 13, 1847, in Maquoketa, Jackson county, Iowa.

A native of Missouri, William Abbey learned the trade of blacksmith when young, and subsequently settled in Maquoketa, Iowa, where he built up a good business. Crossing the plains to California in 1852, he was first employed in agricultural pursuits in Bodega, Sonoma county. Subsequently buying land near Geyersville, he improved a ranch, and there spent his remaining days. He was interested to some extent in fraternal societies, and belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In Anamosa, Iowa, he married Martha Lamson, who was born in New York state, and is now a resident of Fresno. Of their six children, one daughter has passed to the life beyond, and one daughter and four sons are living, namely: J. N., the subject of this sketch; Mary, residing in Idaho; George, an engineer on the Southern Pacific Railway, residing in Nevada; John, a merchant in Missouri; and William, of Oakland, this state.

Living in Iowa until about nine years old, J. N. Abbey came with friends to California in 1856, coming via the Isthmus of Panama. Join-

ing his father in Sonoma county, he attended the short sessions of the district school for a few years, in the meantime working for his father, or for neighboring ranchmen. Beginning life for himself when a boy of fifteen years, he entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad company, working in the Sacramento shops before the road had been completed to the Summit. In 1866 he was made fireman, a position in which he continued two years. In 1868 he was promoted to the position of engineer, as such running an engine in Nevada before the driving of the golden spike. Continuing in Nevada for fourteen years, he ran from different cities, including Carlin, Winnemucca and Wadsworth. Returning to California in 1882, Mr. Abbey was first located in Oakland, becoming an engineer on the western division of the above railroad, with which he has been actively identified as an engineer for the past twenty-two years, having charge of a passenger engine for seventeen years, but for the past five years holding his present position of responsibility. During this time, Mr. Abbey has had one serious accident. In June, 1891, near Port Costa, in a head-end collision, his train was telescoped, and he was badly burned and scalded, his escape from death being almost miraculous, and his complete recovery from his injuries a surprise.

In Truckee, this state, Mr. Abbey married Mary Henry, who was born in Tuolumne county, where her father, John Henry, was an early pioneer. Mr. and Mrs. Abbey have one child, William H., who was graduated from the San Francisco Dental College with the degree of D. D. S., and is a successful dentist in Oakland. Mr. Abbey is identified with the Republican party in politics, and belongs to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, of Oakland.

JAMES T. EASTIN. One of the most prosperous and respected members of the farming population of Madera county is James T. Eastin, whose well-kept homestead lies about six and one-half miles south of the city of Madera. For many years he has been actively identified with the agricultural interests of this section of the state as a grain raiser and stock grower, and in the pursuit of his chosen vocation still finds his greatest pleasure. Coming from substantial Kentucky stock, he was born in 1830, in Kentucky, which was likewise the birthplace of his parents, James and Docie (South) Eastin, who moved to Pike county, Mo., in 1834, purchasing a farm, on which they spent their remaining days.

But four years old when he went with his parents to Missouri, James T. Eastin was reared on the home farm, and educated in the pioneer

district school. In 1850, following in the footsteps of his brother, the late Brutus Eastin, who had come to California with the gold-seekers of 1849, he crossed the plains to the Pacific coast with an ox-team train. Proceeding directly to Weaver Creek, Mr. Eastin was there engaged in mining for ten years. He met with excellent success, accumulating considerable money, which, like many other miners, he lost by investing in mines. Locating in Tuolumne county in 1860, he embarked in grain raising in the San Joaquin valley, where he lived ten years. Moving thence to Fresno county, he was there engaged in the stock business for several years, making a specialty of raising sheep. Disposing of that property, he went east, married, and soon after returned to California, where he resumed his agricultural labors. About 1894 Mr. Eastin bought his present ranch, which contained eleven hundred acres, and by dint of persevering industry and superior management has improved a valuable farm, which in its appointments and equipments compares favorably with any in the county. He carries on general farming with marked success, raising large quantities of grain and stock.

Mr. Eastin married, in 1872, Susan L. Fortune, who was born in Missouri and died October 30, 1904. They had one child, Pulaski C. This son married Katie C. Skaggs, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Mary and Arthusa. Politically Mr. Eastin is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, which he thinks is sure to advance the best interests of the country, if given the controlling power. He is a man of deep religious convictions, and is a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church.

---

JAMES T. McCANN. As a vineyardist and fruit grower of Fresno county, James T. McCann is securing the best results from the cultivation of forty acres of land in the Malaga district, eighteen acres being devoted to grapes, ten to orchard and the remainder to alfalfa. Born in Marion county, Mo., July 26, 1853, he is the son of Thomas J. McCann, whose birth occurred in Hardin county, Ky., in 1818. He was a farmer all his life and after his marriage with Sarah Jane Haycraft, born in Bourbon county, Ky., in 1819, he removed to the state of Illinois, and afterward to Missouri, where his death occurred in 1884.

Reared to manhood in Lewis county, Mo., James T. McCann there engaged in farming for himself on attaining years of maturity. In 1882 he married Margaret Haycraft, a daughter of S. M. Haycraft, after which he removed to Kansas and remained until his father's death.

He then returned to Missouri and assumed charge of the home farm until 1888, when he came to California and located in Madera county, where with his brother Robert he engaged in farming on a ranch of one hundred and twenty acres. After a residence of ten years in that location he removed to Fresno county, following farming in the vicinity of Selma for three years. In 1902 he purchased forty acres of land in the Malaga district and here he has since made his home.

To Mr. and Mrs. McCann have been born two daughters, Bernice, deceased, and Marjorie. In his religious convictions Mr. McCann subscribes to the doctrines of the Baptist Church. Politically he casts his ballot with the Democratic party, and through the influence of those of like convictions he has been chosen to act as school trustee in the Malaga district. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World.

---

GEORGE W. YOAKUM. Living retired in Merced, Cal., George W. Yoakum is enjoying a well-earned rest from an active business career of forty years. He was born in Ray county, Mo., May 17, 1842. In 1852 the family came to California, where the father sought to better his condition. For one year he conducted a hotel in Gold Hill, Placer county. In 1853 the family moved to Alameda county and there George W. grew to manhood on his father's ranch. In 1862 he left home and went to Contra Costa county, where he attended school for a time, and then returned home and assisted his father for one year. Returning to Contra Costa county in 1863 he was married, October 26, to Rebecca A. Johnston. Immediately after his marriage he returned to his father's ranch in Alameda county and worked it on shares for a year, and for the same length of time farmed in Pacheco valley, Contra Costa county. From there he went to Green valley, Solano county, and carried on farm pursuits for one year. Returning once more to Contra Costa county he made his first purchase of land and remained there two years, after which he moved to East Oakland, purchasing a home there, and for four years carried on a butcher business. In 1871 he removed to his ranch and conducted a butcher business in Walnut Creek. In the fall of 1883 he removed his family to Mariposa county, where he had been interested in the stock business since 1880. While still continuing his business in the latter county, he had, in 1884, started a meat market in Merced, to which city his family came in 1885, he himself coming in 1887. The year following he sold his market. Having been elected to the office of city marshal, he served in this capacity for two years and as constable for four years, but since retiring from office has lived practically retired.

Mrs. Yoakum was born in Green county, Mo., February 6, 1845, a daughter of Thomas M. Johnston, who was a native of Kentucky and an early settler of Missouri. Mr. Johnston brought his family to California in 1859, living first in Sonoma, and later in Contra Costa county, in time settling in Stockton, but a few months later he moved to Napa, where his death occurred July 22, 1877. His wife, Eleanor (Steele) Johnston, was born in Tennessee and died in Napa. To Mr. and Mrs. Yoakum six children have been born, of whom Emma E. is the wife of E. C. Cribb, of Los Angeles; Ann Jeanette is the wife of Thomas Mack, of Merced; Mary C. is the wife of Charles M. French; and the others are: George Franklin; Alvis Thomas; and Nellie C., the wife of F. V. Roult, of San Jose. Fraternally Mr. Yoakum is a Mason, and in politics is a Democrat.

---

CORNELIUS CURTIN. At the time he came to Madera in 1880 Mr. Curtin found a small hamlet, with meager business facilities and little promise for the future. However, with keen discernment he detected favorable indications and resolved to identify himself with the town, a decision which he has had no occasion to regret. On the other hand, the competency which he now enjoys has been accumulated entirely since he came to his present location and represents the results of his investments and business enterprises here. While his interests have been varied, his name is especially associated with the livery business which he conducts and with the raising of stock on his stock farm.

Of eastern birth and Irish parentage, Cornelius Curtin was born in Franklin county, N. Y., December 22, 1860, and was third among seven children, all but one of whom are still living. Two of his brothers, Matthew and Daniel, own and operate farms in Tulare county, the former, who was an early settler of California, having been for some time a resident of Yolo county. The father, John Curtin, came to the United States from Ireland and settled upon a farm in New York, where he remained until his death. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Spillings, was born in Ireland and died in February, 1904, on the home farm in New York at eighty-four years of age. The boyhood years of Cornelius Curtin were uneventfully passed in assisting on the home farm and attending the public schools of the district. He was sixteen when he started out to earn his own way in the world. Ambitious to settle in the west, he came to California. Almost all of his money had been spent in railroad fare and he had but \$5 left when he reached Sacramento. Starting out to seek work, he was met by the tax collector, who made him

pay a poll tax of \$2. This beginning did not seem auspicious, but to a young man of energy and good health the lack of money is not a discouraging fact.

On his second day in California Mr. Curtin secured work on a hay press and continued at the same place for two months. He then went to Merced county, where he worked as a farm hand by the month for two and one-half years. Next he secured employment on a farm in Tulare county and from there in the spring of 1880 came to Madera. For two years he drove a stage from Madera to Yosemite. In 1882 he started a livery business on the block where he still remains, buying the corner where he has since conducted business. His first building, a frame stable, was destroyed by fire in 1886, but he rebuilt the same year and now has a two-story stable, 100x150 feet in dimensions, and with sheds besides, the total capacity being over two hundred head of horses. The livery is the largest in the county. A full assortment of vehicles is kept, suitable for any purpose desired. In addition to the barn Mr. Curtin owns three hundred acres of irrigable land adjoining the city on the south and under cultivation to alfalfa and grain, besides which he owns a stock ranch in the foothills.

The family residence, erected by Mr. Curtin, stands on Yosemite street. After coming to Madera he married Etta Martin, who was born in Kansas and died in this city, leaving a son, William, a graduate in the June class of 1904, Santa Clara College. In religion Mr. Curtin is a Roman Catholic and a contributor to the various charities of his church. He co-operates in all movements for the benefit of Madera, including the Board of Trade, which has been a helpful agent in the growth of the town. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, in which he has been a prominent local worker, having been for some time a member of the county central committee and its chairman for one term.

---

ROBERT D. HAYCROFT. More than the allotted number of years have passed over the head of Robert D. Haycroft, and yet he is interested in the busy activities which have marked his entire life. He is located upon his ranch of twelve acres in the vicinity of Malaga, Fresno county, and is devoting his time to the culture of vines and fruit. In addition to this property he also owns twenty acres between Malaga and Fowler, and thirty acres in Madera county. Born in Morgan county, Ill., February 11, 1831, he is the descendant of an English family, the first American emigrant being his great-grandfather, a sailor lad who escaped from his ship and settled in the Old Dominion. Later he removed to Maryland, and in that state Samuel Haycroft

was born. In manhood he served in the Revolutionary war. His home eventually was located in Hardin county, Ky., where Presley N. Haycroft was born. He became a Baptist minister and married Elizabeth Kennedy, a native of Virginia, whose father, Samuel Kennedy, was also a native of that state. Mr. and Mrs. Haycroft removed from their home in Kentucky to Illinois and later to Lewis county, Mo., where his last days were spent as a preacher and farmer, his death occurring at the age of ninety-two years.

Reared to manhood in the state of Missouri, Robert D. Haycroft was trained in the practical duties of farm life. At the age of twenty-two years he engaged in the cattle business in company with a brother, carrying on the work in the states of Missouri, Texas and Arkansas, for twenty years. He decided then to try life among the pleasant scenes of California, and accordingly came west in 1885, purchasing in the fall of the following year his present place of twelve acres, upon which he has since made his home. In Malaga he built a grain warehouse which he operated for several years, but the building has since been converted into a packing house. In Kentucky he married Elizabeth Miller, now deceased, and by whom he had one child, Lee Wallace. He afterward married Hattie Prentiss. In his political convictions, although a staunch Democrat, he cast his first vote for Zachary Taylor, the hero of the Mexican war. Mr. Haycroft is widely known and respected for the many admirable qualities which distinguish his character.

---

WALTER H. BRISCOE. A prominent and successful vineyardist of Fresno county, Walter H. Briscoe is located upon his ranch of forty acres in the neighborhood of Malaga, and seven miles from the city of Fresno. His land is devoted to the cultivation of various fruits and alfalfa, twenty-six acres given over to the raisin grape, five acres to general orchard, and a part of the remainder to alfalfa. A native of Lewis county, Mo., Mr. Briscoe was born in 1837, a son of Walter Briscoe, of Kentucky, and the grandson of a Virginian whose ancestors came from Germany to the United States in an early day. Walter Briscoe was married in Kentucky to Eliza Wagner, and soon afterward removed to Missouri and located in Lewis county, where he farmed until his death at the age of fifty-two years, while his wife passed away at the age of sixty.

Reared on his father's farm, Mr. Briscoe was early trained in the practical duties which insure the success of an agriculturist. In manhood he purchased a farm for himself in Missouri, but in 1888 decided to change his location, coming

to California, where he located in Fresno county and purchased the forty acres which has since remained his home, and where he is now devoting his energies toward the upbuilding of the agricultural interests of the community. In Missouri, in 1861, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Wallace, a native of Kentucky, born in 1841, and they are the parents of four children, namely: James, who is engaged in the oil business at Bakersfield, Kern county; Robert A., who is a vineyardist of Fresno county; Eliza; and Gertrude. Though not at present a Mason Mr. Briscoe was connected with this order for forty years, and politically he is a Democrat. He is a member of the Malaga Baptist Church, in which he officiates as deacon.

---

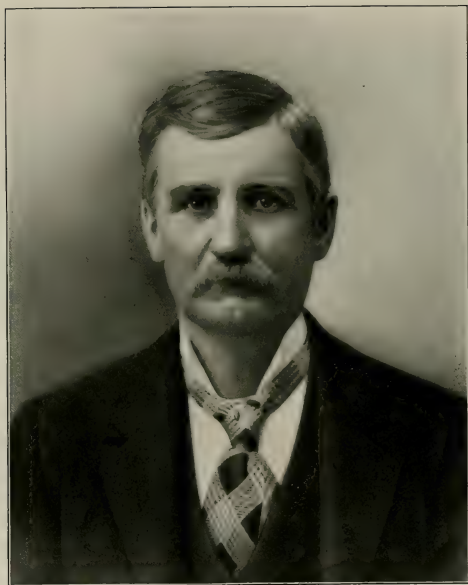
HUBERT U. CARVER. A very successful ranchman and much-esteemed and respected citizen, Hubert U. Carver is numbered among the prominent vineyardists of the Malaga district, Fresno county, where he has made his home since 1885. A native of Canada, he was born in Ontario May 9, 1854, a son of Samuel J. Carver, whose birthplace was England, being reared and educated in London, where he studied law. In 1828, when twenty-six years old he came to America and located in Ontario, there marrying Jane Montgomery, a native of Ireland. Besides engaging as a farmer throughout the greater part of his life in Canada Mr. Carver acted as postmaster at Petersborough where his death occurred at the advanced age of ninety years.

Reared upon the paternal farm Hubert U. Carver remained at home until 1881, when he went to Winnipeg, Manitoba, and following his early training engaged in farming for four years. He then came to California and located in Fresno county, purchasing the farm of forty acres upon which he has since made his home. Later he also bought forty acres in the Lone Star district, devoting the entire number of acres there to the cultivation of peaches, while thirty acres of his home ranch are given over to the raisin grape. He has met with every success in his work and has acquired a competence in his western home. Fraternally Mr. Carver is a member of Fowler Lodge No. 71, K. P.

---

FRANK HENRY BRITTAN. A citizen of much worth and character, Mr. Brittan is widely esteemed by all who know him. Although comparatively a recent acquisition to the business and social life of Visalia he has yet made his influence felt in the upbuilding of the best interests of the place and the progress and development of resources, and has already won a position of prominence among the representa-





*John Lemasters*





*Mrs John Lemasters*



tive citizens of the community. Born in New York City February 11, 1834, he is the son of Francis Brittan, a native of London, England, who came to the United States in 1828 and located in New York City as a merchant. In 1844 he removed to Lafayette, Ind., and followed the same business for five years; then located near Mineral Point, Wis., there engaging as a farmer. After nine years he returned to his former employment, locating in Burlington, Kans., removing thence to Missouri in 1860, where, in Liberty, he followed a mercantile pursuit. For a time he was located in Monmouth, Ill., later in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and finally in Adams county, Iowa, where he was accidentally drowned at the age of eighty-five years. His wife, formerly Louisa Gates, was a native of Bath, England, and she died in Riverton, Iowa, at the age of sixty-five years. She left a family of thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters, of whom Frank Henry Brittan was the second in order of birth.

Frank Henry Brittan obtained his education in the common schools of Wisconsin and Indiana and also attended a seminary in Platteville. He engaged in surveying and civil engineering in Wisconsin and Kansas for some years, and in 1858 went to Pike's Peak, being among the first to arrive on the scene of excitement. He followed the precarious fortunes of a miner for a time, when he went to New Mexico, shortly afterward returning to Pike's Peak, where he did some prospecting. Returning to the middle west he located in Kansas City and worked at the carpenter's trade until failing health impelled him to locate in Mineral Point, Wis., where he again followed surveying and civil engineering. After following the carpenter's trade in Burlington, Iowa, for a time he went to Perry, Kans., following wagonmaking and surveying until 1872, when he removed to a farm in Adams county, Iowa, making his home there for seven years. Removing then to Denver, Colo., he engaged in contracting and building until 1887, when he came to California and located in Visalia, which city has since remained his home. He has here followed contracting and building and has built a large number of fine residences here. In 1899 he bought a ranch of seventeen acres located two miles southwest of Visalia and in 1904 located upon it, having erected a modern and comfortable cottage. He is now practically retired from active duties and is enjoying the competence which his years of industry have brought him.

The marriage of Mr. Brittan, solemnized in Monmouth, Ill., on February 6, 1863, united him with Margaret Jennie McBride, who was born in Monmouth, Ill., in 1842. She is the daughter of Stephen Thomas McBride, a native of Ohio, who came to Illinois in 1832 and located

in Monmouth, where he engaged as a contractor and builder. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company H, Eighty-third Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, and died of pneumonia in 1863, at Fort Donelson. His wife, formerly Minerva Tracy, was born in New York. She married a second time, her husband being Rev. Josiah Terrell, who was a minister in the United Brethren Church. He located in Kansas about 1854 and took an active part in the border warfare as an anti-slavery man. He became a prominent man in Kansas and was active in the establishment of Lane University at LeCompton, Kans. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Terrell made their home in Perry, Kans., where he engaged in the drug business and where his death occurred. Mrs. Terrell died in California in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Brittan. To Mr. and Mrs. Brittan were born five children, namely: Arthur J., of Fresno; Guy Clifford, deceased; Sadie Grace, at home; Ralph W., at home; and Francis, of Stockton, Cal. Fraternally Mr. Brittan is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in his religious convictions is an active member of the Christian Church. Politically he is a Democrat.

---

**JOHN LEMASTERS.** The postmaster of Kern, Kern county, Cal., was born in Shelby county, Ind., February 14, 1846, and lived in the Hoosier state until coming to California in 1890. His father, Henry Lemasters, was born in Ohio, and during his busy career illustrated the typical ambitious and successful middle west farmer. Left an orphan at an early age, he was taken to Indiana when six years old, and there was reared on a farm and educated in the early subscription schools. Embarking on an independent career, he gained in lands and influence, finally owning five hundred and forty acres of land, valued at \$200 an acre. He lived to be seventy-two years old.

The breaking out of the Civil war found John Lemasters busily engaged on his father's farm, but he did not enlist until 1864, when he became a soldier in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-second Indiana Infantry. He saw little of actual warfare, however, for he was mustered out at the end of four months, and returned to the occupation for which he had a natural liking. At the age of twenty-one, in 1867, he married Belle Endecott, who was born in Kentucky and removed to Indiana with her parents when five years old. Settling on a farm of his own in Shelby county, he continued to farm and raise stock successfully, and upon arriving in California in the fall of 1890, purchased two acres of land in Rosedale, Kern county, and soon afterward became identified with the Kern County

Land Company as a fence-building contractor. After four years with the company he moved to Bakersfield and lived there for two years, coming then to Kern, where he speculated in mines until his appointment to the postmastership in March, 1898. Since then he has conscientiously and satisfactorily discharged the affairs of the office at this point, and has taken his place as a progressive and liberal-minded citizen. He has voted the Republican ticket since attaining his majority, and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Lemaster's son, Roy, is a clerk in the postoffice, and his daughter, Mary, is the wife of John F. Parish, of Ogden, Utah. Mr. Lemasters is popular and genial, a well-informed and generous man.

---

**WILLIAM H. HOLLIWAY.** To recuperate from a discouraging business reverse in his native state of Missouri, William H. Holliday came to Oakdale in 1886, and has since been an integral and increasingly useful adjunct to the trade life of the city. Possessing marked mechanical ingenuity, and a complete mastery of the blacksmith and machinist trades, he has not only conducted a shop here for fifteen years, but has brought honor upon the community by inventing, and patenting in this country and Canada, the Holliday adjusting axle nut, already of proved practicability, and now being extensively placed on the market. Furthermore, he is known as the owner and manager of a large livery enterprise, connected with a feed and sales stable, and which has for years netted him a substantial income. Mr. Holliday bought his blacksmith shop soon after arriving here, but later rented it and put up the shop which he conducted until 1901, and then rented that to the man to whom he sold his business.

To the hundreds who have profited by his skill in Oakdale Mr. Holliday is recognized as a remarkably painstaking and competent business man. He laid the foundation for his industry in Osage county, Mo., where he was born May 28, 1845, and where he acquired muscle and sane views of life on the farm of his parents, William Harrison and Elizabeth (Goodman) Holliday, natives of Tennessee and Virginia respectively, and the latter of whom was a daughter of Robert Goodman, son of a veteran of the Revolutionary war, and an early settler in Osage county, Mo. William Harrison Holliday, Sr., removed to Osage county as a young man with few prospects and little money, purchasing a farm on time, and gradually working his way to prominence in the agricultural community. Twelve children were born into his family, eight of whom attained maturity, and only one of whom came to California. William Harrison

Holliday, Jr., was not particularly impressed with farm work as a youth, and, the property yielding slight chances for so many children, he took his departure at the age of sixteen and carried mail on horseback from Linn to Vienna, Mo., until the close of the war. His experiences during that troublesome time were numerous and sometimes thrilling, but in spite of the slight regard for human life, and the tendency to rob and molest, he pursued his mail carrying with singular freedom, abandoning it at the age of nineteen but little the worse for his adventures. Long before this, he had evidenced mechanical tendencies, and he applied himself to learning the blacksmith trade in Osage county, thereafter running a small shop in Linn, the same county, later still removing to Vichy, Maries county, Mo., where he built a shop and operated it for six years. He was firmly established and confident of a bright future in 1886, when a cyclone carried away his shop, and practically destroyed his prospects for a livelihood without the expenditure of more money than he felt inclined to make. What remained of his possessions netted sufficient to bring him to California, where opportunity awaited the capable and industrious, to which class of workers he assuredly belonged.

While in Linn, Osage county, Mo., Mr. Holliday married Lucy Jane Glover, a native of that section, and to whom has been born six children, four of whom are living. Of these, William Chester is a business man of San Francisco; Mary is now Mrs. Smith, of Modesto; Kate is Mrs. Rodda, of Sacramento; and Grace is living with her parents. Mr. Holliday is a Democrat in politics, and fraternally is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In religion he finds a home in the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which, as to other institutions for the uplifting of the race, he contributes with a generosity befitting his broad sympathies and substantial means. He has not only won the esteem of the business element in the town, but is sincerely liked by a large circle of friends and associates for his fine and strong traits of character, and for the dignity with which he has invested his useful and always dependable calling.

---

**ALTON D. SIVLEY.** Beginning in the humble capacity of clerk, Alton D. Sivley has mastered every department of the grocery business, and at present enjoys enviable business prominence and financial stability as a member of the firm of Sivley Brothers. He is one of the most industrious and promising of the younger generation of merchants in Oakdale, and has profited by a liberal common school education, and such experience of a general nature as comes into the life of the average native son of Cali-

fornia. Born in Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, Cal., March 12, 1878, he comes of a family otherwise represented in the business life of the community, and which is further referred to in the sketch of his brother, W. J. Sivley, a prominent meat merchant. The second oldest of four children, he was reared in Oakdale, where his father was engaged in building and contracting, and in 1898 graduated from the high school, which had accounted him one of its brightest and most intelligent scholars. Soon after he entered upon his self-supporting career as a clerk in a store in Oakdale, and in 1902 entered into his present business with his brother, Charles H., dealing in groceries of all kinds, queensware, and paints. His business is conducted on broad and progressive lines, and with due regard for the times, tastes and inclinations of his many patrons. The store is neat and orderly in appearance, and indicates in its arrangement and disposition the methodical and time-saving nature of its chiefs. While there may be stores as complete and well managed in the county, none are larger or better appreciated, nor do any give promise of a brighter future.

Mr. Sivley has other claims upon the consideration of his fellow citizens than that presented by his excellent business record. He is a talented musician, understanding both the theory and execution of music, and contributing to the success of the Oakdale band by his performance on the trombone. He is past chancellor of the Oakdale Lodge No. 120, K. of P., and an ex-member of the Oakdale Native Sons of the Golden West. In politics he is a Democrat, but in local affairs votes for the best man for the office. He is liberal-minded, generous, and public-spirited, and to an unusual extent is valued for his fine social and business qualities.

**JAY SCOTT.** Through his identification with public affairs of Fresno county Jay Scott is widely known, the two terms which he served as sheriff, from 1892 to 1898, and the effective service he gave while in office making him a popular citizen. Born in Will county, Ill., January 13, 1850, he was the son of J. H. Scott, a native of New York state. When still young J. H. Scott accompanied his parents to Illinois, being reared to manhood on the farm which his father took up in the vicinity of Chicago. On attaining years of maturity he married Anna Chamberlain, a native of Canada, and at once engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account. He remained a resident of Illinois until 1852, when he brought his family to California, crossing the plains with ox-teams. He located in the Sacramento valley and farmed there until

a few years before his death, which occurred in Fresno in 1894, when seventy-six years of age.

But two years old when he came to the state, Mr. Scott is practically a Californian. He was reared in the Sacramento valley and received his education in the schools of the community in which he made his home. In 1880 he located in Fresno, where he engaged in business until 1900, when he located upon his present ranch in the Lone Star district, eight miles southeast of Fresno on North avenue. His home ranch consists of one hundred and twenty acres, devoted to raisin grapes, various fruits and general farming, while he has another ranch of forty acres located one mile north of this, devoted to fruit and vines.

In Tulare county Mr. Scott was married to Ida Burch, and to them were born the following children: Oliver C., Myrtle and Philip. In his political convictions Mr. Scott is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and through this influence was elected to the office of sheriff. Fraternally he is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Elks.

**FRANK S. BAGLEY.** A thoroughly successful man and one who occupies a prominent place in his community is Frank S. Bagley, for many years a merchant in Malaga, where he opened the first store, and where he served as postmaster for fourteen years. In the neighborhood of Malaga he is located upon a ranch of eighty acres devoted entirely to the cultivation of grapes, the average annual yield being about sixty tons. He also owns property in Los Angeles. Born in New York City, November 18, 1855, he is the son of James Bagley, also a native of that state. The family is of Irish extraction, the grandfather having come to the United States when a young man. He engaged in the prosecution of his trade of stone mason, and among other well-known buildings upon which he worked was that of the old city hall of New York City. James Bagley rose to prominence in a comparatively brief life of forty-five years, as a Republican of considerable influence receiving appointment to the position of deputy United States marshal of Eastern District of the state of New York. He was also identified with important movements in Williamsburg, conducting the first street car in that city. He married Sarah A. Silkwith, a native of England.

But two years old when his mother died, and eleven at the time of his father's death, Frank S. Bagley has been more or less thrown upon his own resources from his earliest remembrance. When only a lad in years he went to Illinois, where he engaged in farm work, remaining in

that state for seventeen years, and through the exercise of his native qualities—industry, energy, and perseverance—acquired thirty acres of land which he farmed until 1888. Coming to California that year he established the first store in the town of Malaga, Fresno county, and conducted a successful business for fourteen years, while, as previously mentioned, he also acted as postmaster. Disposing of his mercantile interests in 1902 to R. R. Porter, he purchased his present valuable property, upon which he has since made his home.

In Illinois Mr. Bagley was united in marriage with Jennie S. Witt, who is now deceased. They became the parents of three children: Anna, Clifford and John. Following the early precepts of his father, Mr. Bagley adheres to the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World and the Masonic order.

ADAM ADELSBACH. The success which numbers Adam Adelsbach among the prosperous ranchmen and vineyardists of Fresno county has been entirely the result of his own efforts, for he came empty-handed from Germany, where he was born August 1, 1848, and with the energy and perseverance characteristic of the natives of Germany has gained a competence in the face of many difficulties. He is the son of Peter and Catherine (Tusnich) Adelsbach, his father being a cooper by occupation. The latter died at the age of sixty-eight years, when his son Adam was in his youth.

In young manhood Adam Adelsbach learned the trade of locksmith, and when twenty-four years old, realizing the superior opportunities which existed in America, he came to the United States and located in Chicago, Ill., where he worked at the trade of carpenter, made so profitable by the great fire of 1871. In the same year he went to Wisconsin and engaged in the lumber business with his brother Peter, and while there married Anna Leonard, a native of that state. From Wisconsin he removed to Michigan, and was there employed as fireman on the railroad and also worked in the mines. He remained in that state until 1876, when he came to Merced county, Cal., and found employment with the firm of Miller & Lux, of Los Banos, with whom he continued for five years. In 1883 the fruits of his industry and economy were invested in his present farm of twenty acres in Fresno county, this being located on Fresno avenue between Walnut and Elm avenues, two and a half miles from the city of Fresno. The land is devoted principally to the cultivation of grapes and alfalfa.

To Mr. and Mrs. Adelsbach have been born

the following children: Percy F., of Hanford; Frank, deceased; George L., of Fresno county; Mamie, wife of John Griggs; Adolph, deceased; Anna, Harry, Myrtle and Clarence, at home.

WILLIAM J. SIVLEY. In William J. Sivley Oakdale has an honorable and progressive business man, one who thoroughly understands the conducting of the meat business, and dignifies his association with the public with fairness, consideration and a never failing desire to please. He is a native son of California, and was born in Lodi, September 27, 1875, his parents being Garland and Catherine (Bardo) Sivley, both of whom are living. Garland Sivley resides in Groveland, Tuolumne county, and is engaged in mining. The establishment of the family on the coast is due to the ambitious tendencies of Garland Sivley, who was born near Havana, Ill., and whose father was an early settler of that state. Garland left the farm with little reluctance and crossed the plains with ox teams in 1851 or 1852, and after indifferent success in the mines in the northern part of the state, followed the millwright's trade in Woodbridge and Oakdale. In the latter city he met and married Catherine Bardo, a native of Michigan, and daughter of William Bardo, born in Pennsylvania and an early settler of Michigan. Mr. Bardo was a builder and contractor by occupation, and in order to increase his prospects of success came to California during the '60s, settling in Oakdale and working at his trade for the balance of his life. Mr. Sivley moved to Groveland some years ago, and has since contracted and built as well as mined. He has the satisfaction of knowing that his four children are well established in homes of their own, his second oldest son, A. D., being a merchant of Oakdale; his daughter, Ivy M., being the wife of A. N. Burch, of Oakdale, and his youngest son, Charles H., being also a merchant of Oakdale.

The genial meat merchant of Oakdale received his education in the public schools, attending the high school until the senior year. It then became necessary for him to embark in business on his own account, and he entered the shop of Mr. Meyer with whom he remained and learned the trade from 1894 until 1901. He then bought the Bald Eagle market, enlarged it to twice its former capacity, and has since made many additions to its equipment and capacity. His cold storage plant is run by electricity, and his refrigerators and machinery are of the latest and most approved designs. He has ample facilities for catering to a large and exacting trade, and runs two wagons the year round, supplying customers living in outlying districts as well as in







*E. Chamber.*

town. His stock consists of fresh and manufactured meats of all kinds and he aims to supply the best possible in his line at the most reasonable prices. The standing of Mr. Sivley in the community is emphasized by his prominence in fraternal circles, he being a member of Lodge No. 120, Knights of Pythias, of Oakdale, and of the Woodmen of the World. He is also a member of the Oakdale Parlor No. 142, N. S. G. W. In political affiliation he is a Republican. Mr. Sivley is public-spirited and generous, responding to just appeals to his heart and purse, and taking a keen interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community.

**EBEN SANBORN.** When Eben Sanborn came to his present ranch four miles northwest of Hanford, Kings county, in 1876, he found it a veritable desert, with little to encourage him to locate here. The introduction of irrigation, however, about that time, brought new life and inspiration to the settlers, and with zest they went to work to convert into a garden spot that which a short time before had been a vast expanse of waste land. Mr. Sanborn paid \$1,200 for a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land on the line of the Blowers ditch, which proved a remarkably good investment, owing to the opening of the ditch soon afterward, and he at once began to reap good crops. To Mr. Sanborn is due the credit for setting out the first orchard and vineyard in his immediate section. This venture proved a success. He enlarged the scope of his horticultural operations from time to time until he now has, on the home place, eighty-three acres in peaches and apricots, thirty-eight acres in vineyard, and is now setting out nine acres more to peaches. The balance of his land is devoted to the raising of alfalfa and to dairy purposes. The raising of peaches may be said to be a specialty with Mr. Sanborn. To prepare his fruit for the market he has supplied his ranch with a modern and well-equipped dryer. He also owns three hundred and twenty acres of land six miles southwest of Hanford, near the Lone Oak slough, eighty acres two and a half miles south of Armona, which is set out to the various fruits and to the vine, besides eighty acres southwest of Armona, which is in wild feed and alfalfa.

Mr. Sanborn's grandfather, Capt. Eben Sanborn, was descended from English ancestors. Throughout his life he was a tanner and farmer. He probably lived in New Hampshire, as it was there that his son, Caleb M. Sanborn, was born and spent his life, following farming and shoemaking. The latter died at the age of eighty-two years. He married Ann Quimby, a

native of New Hampshire, who was descended from Scotch ancestors. She attained the age of nearly eighty-three years, and reared a family of ten children, six dying in infancy.

Born in New Hampton, N. H., February 17, 1837, Eben Sanborn was the fifth child in the family. Until the fall of 1857 he made his home with his parents, attending the common and high schools, and also assisting his father in the management of the farm. In the fall of 1857 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and for one year was employed upon a ranch in Napa county. From the fall of 1859 until 1875 he rented a farm in Napa county. In the latter year he removed to Fresno county, renting a farm there for one year, and in the fall of 1876 came to Kings county, which has since been the field of his operations.

October 11, 1877, Mr. Sanborn was united in marriage with Missouri Morris, who was born in Jackson county, Mo., August 2, 1848. Her father, John Morris, who was born in Kentucky, at the age of nineteen years, removed to Missouri, then a new and untried country, and engaged in stock raising, also working at his trade of cabinet-making to some extent. In 1852 he made the overland trip to California, coming hither in search of health rather than for the betterment of his financial condition. The following year he returned to his old home by way of the Panama route, but in 1857 again came to California, this time for the purpose of making it his residence. He brought a band of cattle across the country, maintained them for three years upon the range, and then conducted a ranch in the Suisun valley, in Solano county, Cal. He died there at the age of seventy-three years, having been successful in all his undertakings. He was a member of an old southern family who were of Scotch descent. His wife, who was formerly Martha Draper, was born in Tennessee, and in later life lived in Missouri. The British military commander, Lord Cornwallis, was her grandmother's uncle, and performed the ceremony which united her in marriage with her husband. Her maiden name was Hill, and her husband was named Lane. Both were prominent old families of the east, and were represented in America in the Colonial period.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn became the parents of five children, of whom the eldest died in infancy. The next in order of birth, Mary, died at the age of twenty years. Lois was united in marriage May 4, 1904, with Ernest Pickerill, bookkeeper in the First National Bank of Hanford. John Eben is a student in a business college in San Francisco. Ethel Draper is a student in Irving Institute, where she is taking private instruction in music and drawing.

In politics Mr. Sanborn is an earnest advo-

cate of the principles of the Republican party. He has become widely known throughout Kings and surrounding counties as an honorable, progressive and public-spirited citizen. During the years of his residence in Kings county he has been recognized as one of the most influential leaders in the promotion of those movements which have been calculated to advance the best interests of the entire community, and especially of those affairs which will prove of lasting benefit to the agricultural and horticultural interest of the county. No history of California would be complete were mention of his career omitted, for he is entitled to a prominent place in the annals of the county and state.

---

**JABEZ H. LA RUE.** The name which heads this review is a familiar one to the citizens of Fresno county, for it is borne by one who, though he has been a resident of California but a comparatively brief period, has still made his influence felt in both the agricultural and social life of the community. In the neighborhood are located also three sons, all of whom are prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits, adding by virtue of their successes to the prestige of the county as well as by their quiet yet effective citizenship.

The La Rue family came originally from France, where they were Huguenots in religious faith. Three brothers, William, Isaac and Jacob, came to America at an early day, the direct ancestor of Mr. La Rue being Jacob. The family became residents of Kentucky, and it is said that Abraham Lincoln was born near a mill that belonged to William La Rue, the grandfather of our subject. Jacob H., his son, was born in Hodgenville, La Rue county, in 1799, and in manhood married Mrs. Sarah McElroy Park, who was born and died near Springfield, Ky. Mr. La Rue moved his family to Lewis county, Mo., in 1838, and there engaged in farming until 1884, when he came to California, and died in Sacramento at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Like his father he had also followed the trade of blacksmith.

Born in Elizabeth, Ky., February 16, 1833, Jabez H. La Rue was but a little more than five years old when his home was changed from the southern scenes of his native state to those of Missouri. He was reared upon his father's farm and received his education among the primitive conditions of the middle west. At the age of twenty-one years he began farming for himself, and while a resident of Missouri he married Margaret Haycraft, a native of Kentucky. He came to California in 1886 and the year following he was deprived by death of the companionship of his wife. Upon his arrival in California

Mr. La Rue located upon his present property, purchasing forty acres which he devotes entirely to the cultivation of grapes. He has since added to his landed interests until he now owns one hundred and twenty acres, thirty-two acres being devoted to the cultivation of raisin grapes and the remainder to general farming. The second marriage of Mr. La Rue occurred in 1891 in Missouri and united him with Helen H. Christie, a native of Winchester, Va. In his political convictions Mr. La Rue is a staunch Democrat, and fraternally is prominent in the Masonic order, being a member of the Blue Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter. He is a member of the Baptist Church, while his wife belongs to the Christian Church.

The children born to Mr. La Rue by his first marriage are as follows: Hugh William, Edwin H. and Samuel R. Hugh W. La Rue was born in Lewis county, Mo., December 1, 1851, and came to California in 1873, locating first in Yolo county, where he remained until 1885. He then came to Fresno county and purchased his present farm of one hundred and ten acres in the Malaga district. Edwin H. has a sixty-acre vineyard near that of his father. Samuel R., born in Lewis county, Mo., July 25, 1857, married Belle Bradshaw and came to California in 1885, and the following year located on his ranch of one hundred and ten acres near Malaga.

---

**WILLIAM HARRISON MARDEN.** The title of general given to William Harrison Marden, a successful and highly esteemed farmer of Yolo county, recalls to many of the old pioneers of the state the early days in the history of the west, for it was as the commander of an emigrating party that crossed the plains in 1850 that he was first known as such. In the inevitable march of progress the years have carried on many of the reminders of the past, have changed the unimproved, uncultivated land into fields rich with harvest yields and orchards laden with fruit, and have changed the thriving hamlets into cities teeming with the busy activities of a prosperous life. As a pioneer of that early day General Marden has witnessed the gradual growth and change and has himself been a constant contributor toward the development of the natural resources of California.

Born in Coos county, N. H., March 4, 1824, General Marden is a son of William Marden, also a native of that state. The elder man, a farmer by occupation, removed to New York state when this son was but seven years of age, locating in Chenango county. His wife, who before her marriage was known as Polly Stokes, was a native of New Hampshire, and died in New York about the year 1855. When about

twenty-four years of age General Marden left his New England home, and coming as far west as Wisconsin, located in Waukesha county, March 24, 1848. Induced to undertake the trip across the plains for the sake of the advantages and opportunities which awaited there the man of pluck as well as ability, he assumed command of a company in 1850, and on the 6th of March of that year they set out for the west. May 8 they crossed the Missouri river at St. Joseph, and after a journey filled with the adventures and hardships incident to life on the plains they arrived at Placerville, September 8, 1850. For the first year General Marden was occupied in mining pursuits, but in the fall of 1851 he came to Yolo county and engaged in the less hazardous if less exciting life of a farmer. He purchased the farm of five hundred and twenty-eight acres upon which he now lives, located four miles southeast of Davisville. In 1869 he moved to Davisville and established a butcher business, the first of the kind in that town, and later branched into the hardware and hotel business, making a success of each. About 1880, however, he sold his interests in Davisville and returning to his farm has made it his home ever since.

In Yolo county General Marden was united in marriage with Marian Leigh, who was born in New York state and died April 16, 1899, at the age of sixty-eight years, one month and sixteen days. She had also been numbered among the pioneers of the state, for she had come from her home in Illinois in 1854 to join her father who was then in Sacramento.

**WILLIAM E. MARDEN.** The one-hundred-and-sixty-acre fruit ranch of William E. Marden justifies his reputation as one of the painstaking and practical horticulturists of the Fowler district. He was born on a ranch near Davisville, Yolo county, July 5, 1857, and represents one of the pioneer and energetic families of Yolo county. His father, William H. Marden, is still one of the most substantial ranchers of Yolo county. William E. Marden started out in life with a better education than many of the horticulturists of the west, receiving not only a grammar and high school training at Sacramento, but profiting by a course in a business college, from which he was graduated in 1876. Returning to Yolo county, he worked in a warehouse for a short time, and was then manager of his father's ranch until 1885, the elder man attending to the hotel and butcher business in Davisville. October 26, 1885, he came to Fresno county, settling on nine hundred and sixty acres of land previously purchased, and of which he still retains one hundred and sixty acres. It was then a wheat field, but it has since been trans-

formed into a vineyard, and set out with two thousand fruit trees. Mr. Marden has given much study to scientific horticulture, and understands both its possibilities and limitations. He is public spirited and liberal minded, a staunch Republican, and a member of the Woodmen of the World. His wife, to whom he was married in January, 1895, was formerly Kathryn Smith, daughter of C. C. Smith, of Alameda county.

**WILLIAM S. HALL.** A keen, wideawake representative of the thriving agriculturists of San Joaquin county, William S. Hall resides about three and one-half miles east of Escalon, where he owns and occupies a choice, well improved ranch, which is furnished with a good house, barn and outbuildings and everything pertaining to a first-class estate. Industrious, far-sighted and thrifty, he has met with marked success in his agricultural labors, long years ago establishing himself in the confidence of his neighbors and friends, and has won for himself an honored record as an honest man and a valuable member of the community. He is a native and to the manner born, his birth having occurred, June 8, 1867, in San Joaquin county, near Burneyville. His father, John Hall, whose sketch may be found elsewhere in this volume, was born in Missouri, came to California in 1863, and is now successfully engaged in farming in San Joaquin county.

Brought up in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties, William S. Hall acquired a practical education in the district schools, and in his boyhood became familiar with the different branches of farming. At the age of eleven years, he began driving a four-horse team, and the next year was given eight-horse and ten-horse teams to drive. Remaining with his parents, he assisted in the management of the home ranch until 1893, when he rented six hundred and forty acres of land in this county, and carried it on for two years. Renting a larger ranch, one of thirteen hundred acres, in 1895, Mr. Hall was engaged in raising grain, the staple crop of this region, for five years. Purchasing land, then in Stanislaus county, near Riverbank, he embarked in stock growing and grain raising on his three hundred and twenty acres of land, from which he harvested two large crops. Selling out that property in 1903, Mr. Hall bought his present farm of two hundred and forty acres, lying on the Burneyville road, about eight miles from Oakdale, and has here continued his operations as a grain-raiser, meeting with most satisfactory pecuniary results, his success in this line of industry being due to his energetic activity, good judgment and wise management.

In Stockton, Mr. Hall married Annie E. Myer, a daughter of Jacob Myer, who was born in

Seneca county, Ohio, and into their pleasant household four children have been born, namely: Bessie M., William Granville, Charles Otto, and Elmer Roy. In his political affiliations, Mr. Hall is a Republican, straight and strong, and while in Stanislaus county served as school trustee. Fraternally he belongs to Oakdale Lodge No. 275, F. & A. M. Although not connected by membership with any religious denomination he contributes generously toward the support of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which his family attends.

---

**JOHN W. JACKSON.** The Jackson family, represented in Fresno county by John W. Jackson, a vineyardist and orchardist, came to the United States from England during the eighteenth century, a part of the company who followed John Wesley into the western wilderness. The first of the name on American soil are supposed to have settled in the southern states, as it is there that the first ancestral records are traced. John W. Jackson was born in Calhoun county, Ala., June 12, 1847, a son of John W., a native of Georgia, who was likewise the son of another John W. John W. Jackson of Georgia married Lydia Clements of South Carolina and engaged in farming until his death at the age of seventy-seven years.

When seven years old Mr. Jackson accompanied his parents to a new home in the state of Arkansas, where the family remained for seven years. They then located in Texas, where he grew to manhood, and following his early training, engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1893. In that year he came to California and located in Fresno county on a ranch of twenty acres seven and a half miles southeast of the city of Fresno and two and a half northwest of Fowler. This property he has since devoted to the cultivation of various fruits, much of his attention being given to a vineyard. While a resident of Texas, in January, 1870, he married Nancy H. Millemon, a native of that state, and to them were born the following children: Ida M., now the wife of W. W. Varnell, located on a ranch about a mile from Mr. Jackson's home; Nolan S., who married Cassie Rice, a native of Canada; and Eunice, the wife of Dr. Frank Wolf, of Fresno. Mr. Jackson is a Democrat politically, and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

---

**C. E. BARNETT.** Located seven and a half miles southeast of Fresno, and two and a half miles from Fowler, is the farm which belongs to the Barnett family. It consists of seventy acres, fifty of which are devoted to the cultiva-

tion of grapes and fifteen to orchard. For almost a score of years this property has belonged to William Barnett, having passed into his ownership in 1887, when he came to California with his family and located in Fresno county, and since that time many improvements have been made, among them a comfortable two-story house. The interests of the ranch are looked after and conducted by C. E. Barnett, the subject of this review, whose birth occurred in Mississippi, April 23, 1866.

William Barnett is a native of Alabama, born February 19, 1838, a son of M. P. and Jane (Wallace) Barnett, both natives of Virginia. They had removed to Alabama in an early day, afterward located in Mississippi, and still later moved to Texas, where the death of the grandfather occurred at the age of eighty-six years. William Barnett accompanied his parents to Mississippi, where he was reared to manhood on the paternal farm, marrying Nancy Benson, also of Alabama. They became the parents of eight children, namely: C. E., of this review; Eva A., deceased; Carrie; Alonzo; Emma; Mattie, deceased; Lillian; and George. In 1869 William Barnett left Mississippi and went to Texas, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1887, in which year he came to California and has since made this state his home. During the years in which he conducted the interests of the ranch he became well known as a successful and progressive farmer, and his son has followed his early training and has built up for himself a position of prominence among the farmers of this section. The elder man is a Mason, while the younger is an Odd Fellow, and also identified with the Encampment. In politics he is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and is a member of the Christian Church.

---

\***CHRIS OTT.** If an honored name, a large and growing blacksmithing and manufacturing business, and the esteem of a host of friends and general associates may be taken as an indication of success, Chris Ott has cause for congratulation, and is entitled to rank among the substantial and leading German-American citizens of Oakdale and Stanislaus county. A young man as yet, having been born near Berlin, Germany, January 24, 1873, he has worked his way up without money or influence, and has richly profited by his opportunities since coming to California with his parents in 1880. His father, William, and his mother, Carrie (Keyser) Ott, were both born in Germany, and possessed the typical traits which have made the Teuton a welcome and reliable addition to American affairs. He is the fourth oldest in a family of







*D. H. Zumbach*

seven, and this county is also profiting by the energy and resource of his brothers, who are large grain and stock ranchers. The elder Ott settled on a farm near Knights Ferry, owning a hundred and sixty acres of land, which he cultivated until his death in 1898, and which is still occupied by his widow.

While on the home farm near Knights Ferry Mr. Ott attended the district schools, and in 1890 apprenticed to Nightingale & Stearns for three years, afterward finding employment with Stearns & Harray for several years, or until buying out Holliday's old blacksmith shop in 1901. The little shop proved altogether inadequate for the business which he intended conducting, so he greatly enlarged it, put in new machinery including a ten-horse-power engine, planes, saws, hammers, and all kinds of fine tools, and started in to manufacture wagons, plows, harrows, and other farm machinery, and to do all manner of repairing. While making a specialty of horse-shoeing, he has worked up a large general repair and manufacturing trade and has won the entire confidence of a public, which appreciates and demands high-grade work. His shop is now 50x75 feet in dimensions, and is one of the most complete in Stanislaus county. Mr. Ott is a natural mechanic, and his success rests chiefly upon the foundation of a genuine liking for his work, and upon indefatigable industry in pursuing the best in his line. Since coming to Oakdale he married Alice Burns, and has a pleasant home for his wife, who is a native of Tulare county, this state. Mr. Ott subscribes to the principles of the Democratic party, and as a fraternalist is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is well known for his uprightness, sincerity and obligingness, and for an optimistic nature which sees the best side of nature, the world and his friends.

**DANIEL KINDLE ZUMWALT.** The life and early work of Daniel K. Zumwalt are indissolubly woven with the pioneer history of California, belonging especially to that of Tulare county, where he made his home for many years. Born near Joliet, Will county, Ill., January 24, 1845, he was the descendant of an old Virginia family, whose first ancestor, George or Adam Zumwalt, was an emigrant from Germany in the eighteenth century. George or Adam Zumwalt later located in Ohio, then on the border of civilization, becoming a pioneer and rearing a family amid the deprivations and hardships that marked life in the middle west. His son, Jacob, a native of that state, in which he spent the greater part of his life, removed in January, 1830, from Adams county, Ohio, to Hancock county, Ind., where his death occurred in Decem-

ber, 1833. His son, also called Jacob, was born in Adams county, Ohio, September 15, 1807, and there grew to manhood. June 24, 1830, he was united in marriage with Susanna Kindel Smith, who was born in Adams county, Ohio, June 12, 1811. In company with his father and father's family, besides himself consisting of three sons and five daughters, he removed to Hancock county, Ind., in 1830, as a farmer making his home in that locality for four years. He then removed to Will county, Ill., in 1834, locating ten miles from Joliet. Twenty years later, in March, 1854, he crossed the plains with ox teams, and until 1872 followed farming in Sacramento county. In that year he located in Tulare county and engaged in farming in the vicinity of Visalia until his death, which occurred May 31, 1878. He is buried in Sacramento, in which city his wife died November 20, 1896. In religion he was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a supporter of all movements calculated to advance the general welfare. To Mr. and Mrs. Zumwalt were born the following children: Nancy Ann, who became the wife of Rockwell Hunt and died in Sacramento in 1904; Sarah M., the wife of James Shoemaker, of Santa Clara; Joseph, born April 30, 1836, and who died in Kern county, Cal., April 1, 1878; John H., located in College Park, Cal.; Elizabeth, Mrs. Hawk, of Sacramento; and Daniel Kindel, the subject of this review.

Daniel K. Zumwalt was nine years old when the memorable trip across the plains was made, his duty being to ride horseback and drive the cattle. With the exception of standing guard at night every duty that fell to the lot of the grown members of the party likewise fell to him. Upon his father's location in Sacramento he attended the public schools and later the high school, graduating from the latter in 1865. Intent upon securing a good education, he afterward entered the University of the Pacific, from which he graduated with the degree of A. B. and later received the degree of A. M. Securing a first grade state teacher's certificate he taught school for one year in Yolo, Cal., after which, in 1869, he came to Tulare county, which was his home up to the time of his death. He improved and developed lands of his own, the estate now owning a large farm between Visalia and Tulare, which is devoted to dairying and to the raising of Short-horn cattle. For twenty-three years Mr. Zumwalt acted as land agent and attorney for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, his territory extending over Tulare, Kern, Fresno and what is now Kings county, and during this time he sold more land than any other man in the section. His ability and management were made manifest at the time of the Mussel slough difficulties. Shrewd and far-sighted, Mr.

Zumwalt perceived that the proper development and upbuilding of the county must come through irrigation, and bent every effort to bring about a satisfactory system. He was one of the organizers and promoters of the 76 Land and Water Company, the principal capital being obtained through his efforts, as well as the men best qualified to carry the plan to successful issue. Of the original incorporators only one is now living, I. H. Jacobs, of the firm of Simon, Jacobs & Co. Mr. Zumwalt secured the co-operation of Dr. H. P. Merritt, Francis E. Bullard, Charles Traver and Thomas Fowler, who was one of the suggesters of the scheme, and P. Y. Baker, who was Mr. Zumwalt's partner, securing the co-operation of C. F. J. Kitchener. As a first step in the formation of the 76 Land and Water Company Mr. Zumwalt purchased the water rights from Risley & Cameron and others, and secured options on large tracts of land for the benefit of the company, and as secretary of the company gave to the project his co-operation and support up to the time of the removal of the principal place of business from Visalia to Traver. He was also associated with the building of numerous other canals, being a prime mover in the Kaweah Canal & Irrigation Company, in which he was a heavy stockholder, and was deeply interested in legislation to bring about some means whereby the water could not be diverted from the use of the settlers. In the improvement and equipment of his own property he established a creamery on his ranch and assisted materially in the building of one in Visalia.

Perhaps one of the most far-reaching and memorable achievements of Mr. Zumwalt was securing the preservation of a greater part of the redwoods. He with others was indefatigable in presenting proofs to the Interior department of the value and nature of many of the lands in the Sierra Nevada mountains, and the necessity of preserving the forests for future generations. In the fall of 1890, while in Washington, D. C., he enlisted the co-operation of General Vandever, congressman from California, and within two or three days of the adjournment of congress secured the passage of a measure to set aside General Grant Park, which insures the preservation of those monsters of the forest, which here stand more compact than in any other part of the Sierras. Progressive, liberal and enterprising, the results of his efforts have, not yet been measured, but shall go down the years which shall bring continued prosperity to Tulare county and shall continue to add honor to the name which he made lustrous with good and great deeds. His death occurred November 2, 1904, his last resting place being in the city of Visalia, the scene of his labors for so many years.

In Tulare May 20, 1890, Mr. Zumwalt was united in marriage with Emma F. Blackwedel, who was born in Taycheedah, near Fond du Lac, Wis. Her father, J. Henry Blackwedel, was a native of Hemsling, Hanover, Germany, from which country her grandfather, John Blackwedel, came to America with his family in November, 1847. The month following he settled on a farm in Wisconsin, later moving to Jo Daviess county, Ill. J. H. Blackwedel was first a farmer in Wisconsin, and later engaged in mercantile pursuits in Sauk City, Wis., Galena, Ill., and Dubuque, Iowa, in which latter place his death occurred November 29, 1863. A man of considerable ability and superior education, the Blackwedel home, both in Wisconsin and Illinois, was the rendezvous of lecturers and those of literary tastes whenever they came to his home town. Mr. Blackwedel was well and favorably known throughout the state of Wisconsin, where he was one of the sponsors of the Republican party. His wife, formerly Anna Meta Holterman, was also a native of Germany, and the daughter of H. C. Holterman, who died in Germany. Mrs. Blackwedel died in Dubuque in 1872. There were four children in the Blackwedel household who grew to maturity, of whom two sons, Henry Herman and John Frederick, died while serving in Company I, Seventeenth Missouri Volunteer Infantry. A daughter, Minnie I., became the wife of Francis I. Pillsbury, and came to California, her death occurring in Riverside, January 30, 1887. Next to the youngest, Mrs. Zumwalt was reared in Dubuque, where she attended both public and private schools. In 1886 she came to Riverside with her sister, Mrs. Pillsbury, and the following year came to Tulare county. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is identified with Visalia Lodge No. 48, I. O. G. T., of which Mr. Zumwalt was also a member and which he organized November 18, 1870. He was foremost in incorporating the Good Templar's Hall Association, and in building Good Templar's Hall in Visalia, and put such safeguards around it that it has never been perverted from its original use or passed out of the hands of the society. He was past grand counsellor of the order and up to the time of his death was its most staunch supporter. He was also a member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Visalia, and for many years was superintendent of the Sunday-school which he organized in 1869-70. Politically he was a Republican in early life, but for many years was a strong party Prohibitionist, and his ideas upon the liquor question are also held by Mrs. Zumwalt, who is not only a pronounced Prohibitionist, but is a strong woman suffragist. In addition to the many interests already mentioned Mr. Zumwalt carried on an abstract and land busi-

ness, patented a process for photographing and preserving records, and was also engaged in stock-raising and dairying. While in Sacramento, from 1861 to 1865, Mr. Zumwalt joined Company H, Fourth Regiment, Fourth Brigade California State Militia, serving as first lieutenant of the company and first lieutenant and quartermaster of his regiment.

In recording the events in the life of Mr. Zumwalt it is but just to state that Mrs. Zumwalt has been a most potent factor in his success, standing beside him in all trials and encouraging him with her love and devotion. Their union was an unusually happy and congenial one, and whether at home, in church or in lodge work, their interests were mutual.

---

**PHILIP THOMAS DORLAND.** Numbered among the extensive and successful grain-raisers and stock-growers of San Joaquin county is Philip Thomas Dorland, a man of decided energy, great enterprise and excellent ability. Conducting his agricultural labors with skill and good judgment, he has been amply rewarded for his years of toil, winning the esteem and respect of his fellow-men and acquiring considerable wealth. On the paternal side, he is of German extraction, the Dorland family, whose name was formerly spelled Dorlandt having originated in Germany. This family was first represented on American soil by two brothers of that name, who immigrated to Massachusetts in early colonial times, becoming settlers of Plymouth colony. Mr. Dorland was born July 19, 1865, in Adolphustown, Lennox county, Ontario, which was also the birthplace of his father, Philip Dorland, and of his grandfather, John Dorland. His great-grandfather, Captain Dorland, an officer in the British army, refused to settle in the United States after the Revolutionary war, and, with his battalion, migrated to Canada, locating permanently in Adolphustown, Ontario.

Succeeding to the free and independent occupation in which he was reared, Philip Dorland became a tiller of the soil, and spent his fifty-one years of earthly life as a farmer in his native town. He married Charlotte Trumppour, a native of Adolphustown, and a daughter of Samuel Trumppour, a life-long farmer of that place. Her great-grandfather, Col. John Trumppour, immigrated to the United States from Germany, and after serving as an officer in the English army during the Revolution settled in Ontario. She survived her husband, and is now living, a bright and well-preserved woman of eighty-three years. Of their twelve children, eleven grew to years of maturity, and ten survive, Philip Thomas, the special subject of this sketch, being the youngest son.

Acquiring a thorough knowledge of the common branches of study in the public schools, Philip Thomas Dorland remained at home until fifteen years old, when he went to Chatham, Ontario, where he served an apprenticeship of three years at the upholsterer's trade. From there Mr. Dorland went to Brantford, Ontario, and in 1884 made his first trip to California, remaining here seven months. Returning to Brantford, he worked as a journeyman two years, and then started in business for himself as an upholsterer and furniture dealer, being first located in Galt, and afterward in Toronto. In 1890 Mr. Dorland came again to the Pacific coast, and for four years worked for his brothers at farming. Renting land, in 1894 he began grain raising on his own account and met with good success in his efforts. Removing to his present place of residence, in San Joaquin county, about seven miles from Oakdale, he has since been profitably employed in agricultural pursuits. He rents the old Boland ranch of one thousand and eighty acres, and also a farm of two hundred and forty acres near Lonetree, and is extensively engaged in raising grain and stock. He has all of the necessary machinery and implements for carrying on his work, and with his combined harvester cuts not only his own grain, but much of that raised by his neighbors. Fraternally Mr. Dorland belongs to Oakdale Lodge No. 275, F. & A. M., and politically he is identified with the Republican party.

---

**LANGSTON ANDREW JOHNSON.** An esteemed pioneer citizen of Visalia is Langston Andrew Johnson, since 1879 the proprietor of the Visalia hotel, which he is still conducting. A native of St. Louis county, Mo., where he was born June 16, 1837, he was a son of John Johnson. The latter was born in Tennessee, reared in Kentucky, and in an early day removed to St. Louis county, Mo., where he married and engaged as a farmer. During the Civil war he was shot by the Home Guards. His wife was in maidenhood Mary Bacon, a native of Missouri, who died when her son, Langston A., was born. He was the youngest of five children, the others being as follows: William, located in Missouri; Nathaniel, located in Napa county, this state; Bettie and James, deceased.

The education of Langston A. Johnson was received in the common schools of his native state, after which he followed his father's occupation of farmer. He became a large slave owner in Missouri, where he made his home until 1864, in that year crossing the plains to California by mule teams. He located in Los Angeles and engaged as foreman for Mr. Nadeau, collecting and paying off on the freighting business, which

was conducted by mule teams. He followed this occupation for two years, when he went to Arizona and engaged in mining at Cerbat, Mohave county. A year and a half of this work resulted in financial reverses, after which he returned to Los Angeles, sold out his interests and, locating in Kern county, engaged in the sheep business. He met with fair success for the ensuing two years. In 1876 he located in Visalia and began at the foot of the ladder again as a hod-carrier, later opening a boarding house, which was successfully conducted for some time. For three or four years he engaged in the general merchandise business with marked success, after which he purchased the Visalia hotel. The years have brought to him added success, and as his financial ability has increased he has bought both town and country property until he owns considerable of the former and one hundred and sixty acres of the latter. He is justly accounted one of the successful men of the community, and as an enterprising citizen is held in high regard by all who know him.

In Missouri Mr. Johnson married Mary A. Howell, a native of that state. They are the parents of the following children: Mrs. Eviza V. Baker, Mrs. Mattie Wilber, and John S., the last named being represented elsewhere in this work. Fraternally Mr. Johnson is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In his political affiliations he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, in the interests of which he has served for one term as a member of the city council.

**GEORGE W. WIGLEY.** A typical representative of the self-made men of our times, George W. Wigley has paddled his own canoe to some purpose, and now in the prime of a vigorous manhood is enjoying the reward of his earlier years of toil, having by his own efforts risen to a place of influence and affluence. Energetic, ambitious and far-seeing, he has met with excellent success as an agriculturist, being now one of the leading dairymen and farmers of San Joaquin county, his farm, with its valuable improvements, being finely located on the Stanislaus river, three-fourths of a mile from Huntley, and but four miles from Escalon. A native of Georgia, he was born April 4, 1854, in Resaca, Gordon county, where his father, Richard Wigley, was a planter. His grandfather, Joseph Wigley, also a planter by occupation, was a native of England, and settled in Virginia.

Brought up on his father's plantation, Richard Wigley chose the independent vocation of a farmer, and began his active career in his native state. Subsequently removing to Gordon county,

Georgia, he farmed there till he removed to Franklin county, Ark., where he bought land on the Arkansas river, and was there employed in raising cotton until his death, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, in 1901. His wife, whose maiden name was Minerva McKay, was born in North Carolina, and died in Arkansas at the age of seventy-five years. She bore him a large family of children, of whom nine grew to years of maturity, and six survive. Two sons served in the Civil war, and one son, Richard J. Wigley, resides in Tulare county, Cal., owning a wheat ranch near Portersville.

Living in Georgia until 1868, George W. Wigley obtained the rudiments of his education in his native county, but completed his studies in the district schools of Franklin county, Ark. His ambition on attaining his majority was to seek his fortune in some newer country, and he thought strongly of going to Texas, but was dissuaded by his brother Hiram and induced to come with said brother to California instead. Arriving in San Joaquin county in March, 1874, Mr. Wigley soon found that he knew but little of agricultural methods as pursued on the coast. Determined, however, to become familiar with them, he worked out as a farm hand for two years. In 1876, with a partner, he rented a ranch of two hundred and fifty acres, and, notwithstanding that it was a dry season, he raised a good crop of wheat, which he disposed of at the rate of \$2.45 per hundred, clearing \$2,850 in the operation. Encouraged by his success, Mr. Wigley then purchased a farm of three hundred and five acres, and for several years carried on general farming and grain-raising with good results, and still owns a portion of his original purchase. He has since bought adjoining land, and now owns five hundred acres on the Stanislaus river, on which he has made improvements of exceptional value and worth. In 1898 Mr. Wigley embarked in the dairy business, and has now the largest and best-equipped private creamery in the San Joaquin valley, having a two-horse-power steam engine, and all the modern appliances for manufacturing butter, the output of his creamery averaging four hundred pounds per week. His farm contains one hundred and fifty acres of bottom-land, on which he raises large crops of alfalfa, and in his dairy he keeps about one hundred head of milking cows.

Fraternally Mr. Wigley is a member of Oakdale Lodge No. 275, F. & A. M.

**CHARLES ROHLOFF.** The Arroyo Vineyard, of which Charles Rohloff is the owner and proprietor, is one of the deservedly popular mediums of procuring pure California wines and vinegar in Tulare county. Located inside the



city limits, at 812 Watson avenue, the vineyard covers sixteen acres, its equipment including a wine cellar of two thousand gallons capacity and a distillery where grape brandy is manufactured. The trade of the vineyard is confined almost exclusively to Visalia and vicinity, and the excellent quality of the commodities insures a steady and increasing patronage. The genial and successful owner has had many years of experience, and his winery is conducted along modern and progressive lines, with due regard for his personal and business reputation.

Mr. Rohloff was born in Prussia, Germany, July 27, 1853; his parents were natives of the same country. His mother dying when he was a child, himself and brother attended the public schools, and when their strength permitted, assisted their father in the work around the farm. Mr. Rohloff early appreciated the limitations by which he was surrounded, and in 1880 came to the United States, traveling over Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Montana, reaching California in the spring of 1884. Settling in Visalia, he found employment under George Mauer in the Arroyo Vineyard, in time learning every department of the business and becoming manager of the vineyard and winery. Going to Livermore, he worked in a winery there for two years, and then worked on a ranch in Fresno county until 1899. In September of that year he purchased the Arroyo Vineyard and Winery and has since conducted it on a paying basis. Mr. Rohloff is a quiet, unassuming man, with no inclination for political office, although he has been a stanch Republican ever since landing on American shores. He is public-spirited and generous, was quick to adopt the language and ways of his adopted country, and is now an earnest enthusiast of the state in which his lot is permanently cast. In San Francisco he married Marie Hoelsing, a native of Hamburg, Germany, and they have one son, Dewey. Respected by his fellow townsmen, and having a business which reflects credit upon his growing community, Mr. Rohloff may well regard the future as promising and the past as full of work well done.

**JOHN S. HARP**, of the firm of Harp Brothers, proprietors of the Kaweah stables, is named among the most enterprising and ambitious young men of Visalia, and a future of success is predicted for him by all his friends who best appreciate his many sterling traits of character. He was born in Georgia, near Milledgeville, August 2, 1876, the youngest in a family of nine children, seven of whom attained maturity and five of whom are now living. His father, George Harp, removed to Arkansas, where he is located as a farmer. The mother of the family died

when John S. was but two years old, the greater part of the care and training which fell to his lot being given by his brother, William, who is now his partner in his present business. He was reared on a farm in Arkansas occupied by his brother, who was extensively interested in agricultural pursuits. He attended the public schools in pursuit of an education. In 1892 he came to California with William Harp and located in Tulare county, his brother returning to Arkansas after six years' residence, while he remained here. He found employment on various ranches until February, 1904, when, having accumulated sufficient capital, he purchased the livery stable of J. B. McKinley, known as the Kaweah stables. He has successfully conducted the business since, having the best equipped as well as the most extensive livery and feed stable in the city, his building having a fifty-foot front which extends from Main to Center street, located on East Main street.

In Visalia Mr. Harp married Bertha Roberts, a native of this city, and daughter of Newton Roberts, a pioneer settler of this section. Fraternaly Mr. Harp is identified with the Woodmen of the World and Fraternal Brotherhood. Politically he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

**EDWARD T. COX.** Among the farmers and land owners who have gained a wide experience in other lines of business in California, mention is due Edward T. Cox, owner of five hundred and sixty acres of land in Tulare county, and one of the popular, progressive and public-spirited men of his neighborhood. Born in St. Clair county, Ill., May 1, 1852, he is a son of Elijah and Elizabeth (Nimerick) Cox, also natives of Illinois, and farmers by occupation. The family moved from St. Clair to Hancock county, the same state, at an early day, and here Elijah Cox passed the balance of his life, being survived by his wife, who still makes her home in Illinois. Eight sturdy sons were reared to manhood in this humble home, were educated in the public schools, and started upon their respective self-supporting careers with assets consisting chiefly of common sense and a willingness to embrace whatever opportunity might come their way.

During his eighteenth year Edward T. Cox attended school for the last time, and, leaving the home place behind him, started out to see the world and earn his own living. From Illinois he went to Minneapolis, Minn., engaged in business there during 1879-80, realizing a considerable profit in both groceries and real estate, and in various kinds of speculation. Coming to California in 1883 on a visit, he was delighted with the country and engaged in a real estate

business in Monterey, in conjunction with the San Francisco Bureau of Immigration. In this capacity he helped to settle Monterey county, a difficult task at best, as at every step progress was balked by the efforts of the stockmen, who resented the dividing up of the lands. In 1886 he removed to Los Angeles, profiting by the boom of that time, and remained there for about three years. During the winter of 1888 he shouldered a gun and hunted all through San Luis Obispo county, in the spring coming to the San Joaquin valley, the richness of which appealed to his judgment and hopes for the future. Visalia seemed to him a promising center, and near this town he found employment on the farm of a Mr. Evans, whose widow he later married. This was the beginning of his substantial success, and he began to buy land, in time accumulating his present farm, and having the oversight of the ranch owned by his wife, which is one hundred and forty acres in extent. The Cox property is highly improved and yields a substantial yearly income.

In 1894 Mr. Cox married Mrs. Ellen Evans, a native of New York state, who came across the plains with ox teams at an early day. One child, Edward, has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cox. Mr. Cox has found recreation with the Odd Fellows and Masons for many years, and in the latter organization is a member of Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, and of the Scottish Rite. In politics he is a Republican, and is esteemed for his many strong and reliable traits of character, his support of charitable and social institutions and his moderate and temperate life.

**JOHN MERWICK HARRAY.** Of the workers along practical and time-honored lines in Oakdale none have better command of their occupation, or dignify it with greater thoroughness and reliability than John Merwick Harray, junior member of the firm of Stearns & Harray, blacksmiths, carriage manufacturers, and machinists. A parallel is found in the work of Mr. Harray and his rugged Scottish ancestry. He has the perseverance, determination and steadiness of his race, traits doubly appreciated in the place to which nature and his good genius have assigned him. His family were well known for centuries in the Orkney Islands, where he was born September 20, 1864, and which also was the birthplace of his parents, John and Jane (Merwick) Harray. He was reared near Kirkwall, on the mainland, and as a boy realized some of the disadvantages of being one in a large family, dependent upon the income derived from an average farm. Moderation and industry were encouraged and required in the modest home, and that they were important factors is realized

in the life of his father, who, at the age of eighty-four years, is still hale and hearty, and able to enjoy the leisure denied him in earlier years. His mother, long since deceased, came of one of the very old families on the islands. She is recalled as a good disciplinarian, a friend and comrade of her children, and an earnest worker in the Presbyterian Church. All of her nine children are living, and five are in America, John Merwick being the fourth oldest.

Mr. Harray is not indebted for his success in life to early educational advantages, for the necessity of beginning to work early cut short his school days, and threw him upon the resources of later years. When thirteen he served an apprenticeship to a blacksmith, and upon the completion of his trade at the end of three years, came to America in 1881, and lived a short time in Philadelphia. From July, 1881, until March, 1882, he worked at his trade in Bay City, Mich., and then transferred his field of activity to Chicago, Ill., where he remained three and a half years. The farther west he got the better he liked it, and the larger seemed the opportunities for a young and ambitious man. Becoming interested in California, he came to Stockton in the fall of 1886, remaining there and working at his trade until the spring of 1887. In April, 1887, he located at Point Arena, Mendocino county, securing a position with the Central California Lumber Company as master blacksmith for two years. Returning to Stockton, he lived there a few months, and in October, 1889, entered the employ of Nightingale & Stearns as master horseshoer. In the meantime he had lived always within his income, had saved considerable money, and in March, 1894, bought out Mr. Nightingale, and the firm name was changed to Stearns & Harray. Since then Mr. Harray has had charge principally of the blacksmithing and carriage manufacturing, the partners working together amicably and with excellent financial results. The firm have an enviable reputation among people appreciating fine workmanship and reliability, and their standing is not excelled by any similarly employed in the county.

Mr. Harray is a staunch Republican, but not an office seeker. Fraternally he is identified with the Oakdale Lodge, No. 228, I. O. O. F., of which he was noble grand two terms, and the Woodmen of the World. His religious convictions are strong and humane, and for years he has been a member of the Presbyterian Church, acting in the capacities of ruling elder and trustee. He is a man who thinks for himself, and has well defined opinions on the leading questions of the day. The high ideals which have accompanied him on his life journey thus far are never allowed to sink into the background, and all who know him feel that he is guided in all his walks by

a high and noble mind. He is devoted to his friends, his family and the interests which represent his life work, and especially does he observe the golden rule in his business and social undertakings. Mr. Harray married in Modesto, Cora Boyd, a native of Nevada. Of this union three children have been born, Earl Merwick, Irvin William and Stanley John.

**JOHN C. HOXIE.** Although not a native Californian the earliest recollections of John C. Hoxie are associated with the scenes of his adopted state, in which all but the first ten years of his life have been spent. The family is of English ancestry and for many generations residents of Massachusetts where the first emigrant is supposed to have settled. The paternal grandfather died in Massachusetts, leaving a family, among whom was a son called Clark Hoxie. He was born in Sandwich, Barnstable county, and in young manhood became a contractor and builder. In 1852, following the westward trend of civilization, he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama and located in Tuttletown, Tuolumne county, erecting the first quartz mill ever built in that vicinity. He also engaged in mining for some time. In 1856 he located on the Indian Reservation where he was employed to teach carpenter work, but before 1858 he located in Millerton, and conducted a blacksmith and wagon shop. He became an influential man in that community and took a prominent part in local affairs, serving as a member of the first board of supervisors and also acted as justice of the peace. Returning to Massachusetts in 1866 by way of the Isthmus, he died in Sandwich which had been the home of the family for so many years. His wife, formerly Susan Fessenden, was born in Sandwich, a daughter of Capt. Sewall Fessenden, who was a sea captain and hotel man there. During the Revolutionary war he gave valiant service as captain of the state militia.

Born March 15, 1848, in Sandwich, Mass., John C. Hoxie was but ten years old when he came to California. The journey was made by way of the Isthmus of Panama, on the Golden Age to San Francisco, by boat to Stockton, thence by stage to Millerton. There were no schools in that locality at that time and Mr. Hoxie received all his instructions from his mother, a woman of many accomplishments and rare intellect. The first school in Millerton was a private affair and was opened and conducted in 1859 by Mrs. Hoxie, at the same time in which she served as postmistress. With the courage and self-reliance characteristic of the pioneer lad of the early days, he engaged in the stock business at the age of fifteen years and has continued

successfully in that work up to the present time. In time he located on a ranch which he purchased at Millerton, engaging in sheep and cattle raising and farming there for many years, and in time becoming the owner of several thousand acres. In 1874 he removed to Fresno and bought a block and built the residence now occupied by F. H. Short, and later bought one block from his original purchase and built a residence at the corner of L and Stanislaus streets. He engaged as a grain merchant for many years, and also became interested in mining properties about twenty years ago. In conjunction with W. H. McKenzie and T. G. Hart, he purchased the Mud Springs mine and operated and developed the same, which is conceded to be one of the finest mining properties in this part of the country. He has since acted as superintendent of the property and by his skill and management has done much to further the best interests of the company. He is also largely interested in mines in Fresno, Madera, Inyo and Mono counties, and is numbered among the men who have met with success in this line of work.

In Fort Miller, December 18, 1873, Mr. Hoxie married Mary J. McKenzie, who was born in that location. For more complete details concerning her family refer to the sketch of William H. McKenzie, which appears elsewhere in this volume. In his political convictions Mr. Hoxie is a Democrat.

**FRANK REMBRANDT KELLENBERG.** Twelve years as a retail shoe dealer have resulted in a steady increase of the business of Frank Rembrandt Kellenberg, one of the substantial and painstaking merchants of Visalia. Mr. Kellenberg was born at Alton, Madison county, Ill., June 11, 1854. His father, Francis Jerome Kellenberg, was born in Georgetown, D. C., and at an early age displayed marked talent for drawing, an inclination which was fostered and developed, resulting in a life devotion to art. He became both a landscape and portrait painter, having a studio in Georgetown and one in Alton, Ill., where he settled about 1846. In 1860 he became interested in the far west, moved his family to California by way of Panama, and established his home in Visalia, where his death occurred in 1876, at about seventy-six years of age. Latterly he devoted himself to artistic sign painting, but left a large collection of pictures, among them copies and original productions, many of them of great value. His most prized effort was a copy of the Court of Death, upon which he worked at odd times for twelve years; a copy of the portrait of the Duke of Athens; of Ebenezer rising from the tomb; and an original picture called the Dance of the Four Sea-

sons. Mr. Kellenberg had no thought of worldly fame as he mixed his colors on his palette and applied them with steady hand; painting to him was a congenial occupation, and the study of color had a fascinating charm. His wife, formerly Mary Hillery, died ere he allied his fortunes with the west, leaving two sons and five daughters, of whom Frank Rembrandt, named for the great Dutch artist of that name, is the second youngest.

Educated in the public schools of California, Mr. Keilenberg gained his first business experience in the mercantile store of Richard E. Hyde, one of the early pioneers of Tulare county, and president of the Bank of Visalia for thirty years. A year and a half later he became a clerk for Douglas & Co., continuing with the firm after they sold out to Stevens & Co., and eleven and a half years from the time of entering their employ he purchased a quarter interest in the business. However, in 1881 he disposed of his interest, and in 1882 started his present shoe store, which is now one of the best in this line in the city. Mr. Kellenberg is a broad-minded and public-spirited gentleman, a staunch Republican, and a valued member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In Visalia, in 1885, he married Minnie Rebecca Kelsey, who was born in Iowa and came with her parents to California. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kellenberg, Frank Guido and Louise.

---

**ZACHARY T. BLANKENSHIP.** A native son of California and born in San Joaquin county December 11, 1854, Zachary T. Blankenship has spent his entire life on the frontier, and has been an interested and intelligent spectator of the rise from obscurity of the west. On both sides of his family he is of southern ancestry, his father, William Moore Blankenship, having been born in Virginia, and his mother, Rebecca Williams, in South Carolina. William M. Blankenship removed to Iowa from Virginia in early life, married there and made Iowa his home until making his first trip across the plains during the summer of 1850. He brought a band of stock with him, sold the same in the mining camps and engaged in mining at Mokelumne Hill until 1852. Returning to Iowa by way of the Isthmus, he again brought a herd of cattle across the plains during the summer of 1853. In 1855 he made another journey to Iowa by water, and crossed the plains for the third time with cattle in 1858. On these expeditions for securing stock for the ranch which he had purchased near Stockton, Mr. Blankenship took his family with him on his three trips to the east, and had his own crew of men for his prairie schooners and stock, and at times encountered the

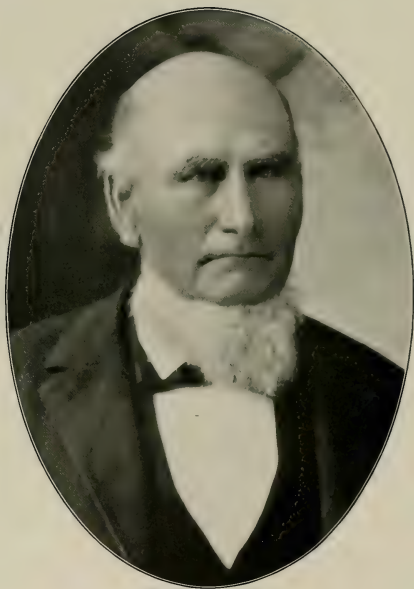
Indians under terribly dangerous circumstances. In the fall of 1859 he came to Tulare county and bought a half-section of land, of which his son, Zachary T., still owns one hundred and fifty-six acres, added to it as occasion required, and at the time of his death, in the fall of 1883, owned, besides his farm of five hundred and sixty acres, a large amount of other property. Notwithstanding his large land ownership, Mr. Blankenship died comparatively poor, for his enterprises were conducted on a large scale, and with more or less loss on account of changes in climate. He died aged eighty-four years, and his wife died aged seventy-four. Of his children, one son and one daughter are deceased, leaving four sons to perpetuate his name and excellent qualities of mind and heart.

Although his educational opportunities were extremely limited, Zachary T. Blankenship had no cause to complain of his agricultural or stock training, for at a very early age he was taught to appreciate a good horse, cow or sheep, and in 1878 took a band of horses to eastern Oregon, engaging in the stock business there until 1884. Returning to his father's farm, he continued to raise stock, and at the present time devotes his energies to dairying, sheep, hogs and cattle raising. The Blankenship ranch presents an aspect of thrift and neatness, evidencing pronounced regard on the part of the owner for the niceties and comforts as well as profits of country life. Mr. Blankenship long voted the Democratic ticket, but owing to the attitude of his party toward the silver question, changed to the other side. He married into one of the pioneer families of the state, his wife being Hattie, daughter of John Bond, the latter a native of Louisiana and a miner of 1849. Mr. Bond was living in Nevada when his daughter was born there, and after years spent in mining he became a farmer near Modesto, this state, where his death occurred at an advanced age. In the household of Mr. and Mrs. Blankenship are two children, Helen and Bond, both attending the Visalia school. Mr. Blankenship is a remarkably well informed man, being a constant reader and having an exceptional memory. He is highly respected by both his old and new friends, and is a man whom it is pleasant and profitable to meet.

---

**RICHARD M. BURCHELL.** The name of Burchell is well known to the citizens of Merced county and is synonymous with prosperity, thrift, honesty and integrity. As a worthy scion of this distinguished family, Richard M. Burchell is filling out a life of usefulness on his fine farm of six hundred and forty acres, about two miles from Le Grand, which is a part of the old homestead. He was born October 22, 1853, in

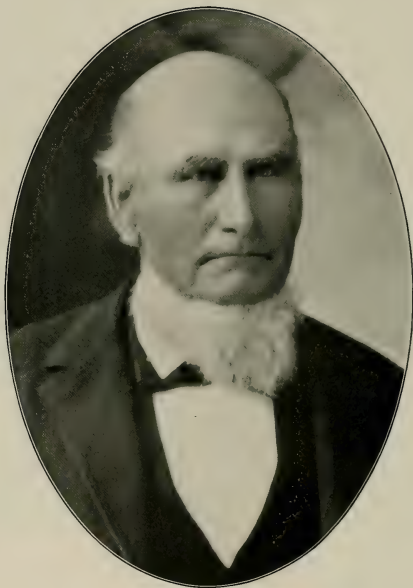




*L. J. Gilliam*







*L. J. Gilliam*



*Elizabeth L. Gilliam*



Buchanan county, Mo., the fifth child born to Richard M., Sr., and Martha M. (Hill) Burchell, the latter a native of Kentucky.

His father, for many years a prominent rancher of Merced county, Cal., was born in County Cork, Ireland, and came to the United States when a young man. A tailor by trade, he followed that occupation for a livelihood in Maryland, and subsequently in Kentucky, where his marriage took place. In 1864 he came to California with a party of fifty persons, the trip across the plains being made with mule teams, and consuming five months' time. Upon his arrival in California, he located near Healdsburg, Sonoma county, and for three years he there gave his attention to farming. The four years following he was engaged in similar work in Napa and Monterey counties.

In 1872 Mr. Burchell purchased a large tract of land in Merced county, now known as the Burchell estate, where the remainder of his life was passed; he lived to the advanced age of seventy-two years. His ranch contained twenty-eight hundred acres, devoted to the raising of grain and stock, and is now owned and operated by his children, namely: William G., of Gilroy; James W.; Milton C.; Robert C.; Richard M., and Mary E., the wife of J. T. Rucker, of Mountview, each of whom received a fine farm as his portion of the home place. The four sons are farming the old home place. Upon this ranch Richard M., Jr., spent his youth and early manhood and has since made his home. He was joined in matrimony with Grace Richards, who was born in Illinois, and they have two children, Leroy and Leola. Politically a Democrat, Mr. Burchell is not an active politician. He affiliates with the Fraternal Aid Society.

REV. SAMUEL T. GILLIAM. A pioneer minister of California, the Rev. S. T. Gilliam has given his best efforts toward the moral and spiritual welfare of the various communities in which his labors have lain. He was born in Clay county, Mo., February 21, 1828, the only one now surviving of a family of twelve children, all of whom attained maturity. He and a brother, Robert, came to California, while various members of the family located in Oregon. The family is of southern origin, the name flourishing in North Carolina for generations. There, in 1790, Epaphroditus Gilliam was born, becoming a farmer in manhood. Following the example of one of his ancestors he became a pioneer of Missouri, locating in the state at a time when it was necessary for the settlers to build forts for protection from the Indians. His death occurred in Platte county, Mo., after a life of usefulness and practical citizenship. One of his sons, Cornelius,

became famous as General Gilliam, the hero of the Cayuse Indian war, who was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in a wagon, after a battle won after thirty-six hours of steady fighting. Another son, Jesse, a native of North Carolina, became a farmer in Clay county, Mo., where he participated in the Mormon warfare, which resulted in the expulsion of the Mormons from that territory and their settlement at Nauvoo, Ill. In young manhood he married Jeanette McDowell, a native of South Carolina, whose father served in the Revolutionary war, dying soon afterward. Mrs. Gilliam died in Andrew county, Mo., where the death of Mr. Gilliam also occurred, at the age of seventy-six years. He made the trip across the plains in '49 with his son, teamed for several years, then returned to his farm and the peaceful pursuits of an agricultural life. In young manhood he had become a minister in the Methodist Church and was active in his efforts to advance the spiritual welfare of those about him.

Samuel T. Gilliam was reared in Clay, Platte and Andrew counties, in his native state, receiving his education in the subscription schools of that day. When scarcely large enough to reach the plow handles he was set to work to assist in the cultivation of the home farm. With ox-teams, in 1849, he crossed the plains with his father, leaving Missouri June 1, over the trail on the South Pass, Green river, Ft. Hall, then the Carson and Humboldt rivers to California. They had a pleasant and safe trip, which lasted one hundred and four days, reaching their destination ahead of the mule teams which started out with them. In Hangtown (now Placerville) S. T. Gilliam followed mining, and struck a ledge rich in quartz, but as nothing was known about that kind of mining and there were no quartz mills it meant practically nothing to him. Later he was located on the north fork of the American river, after which he went to Oregon and located on the Luckiamute, Polk county, where he took up a donation claim of three hundred and twenty acres. He there engaged in farming until 1858, and while there began the ministry as a licentiate in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Returning to California in 1858, he located in San Ramon valley, Contra Costa county, and was there ordained as a minister. Subsequently he was located in Stockton and vicinity following the ministry. In 1860 he located in Tulare county and since that time has preached throughout Tulare, Fresno, Kings and Kern counties, organizing congregations and building churches. For thirty-four years he preached from three to five sermons a week, and at the same time did a man's work on the farm, making his living by the raising of produce rather than accept the money taken often from the poor-

est men of a community, giving his services gratis practically for the entire time. It is said that during his ministry he married and buried more people than any other two ministers in central California. About 1884 he retired from active work in the ministry and has since devoted his efforts to the cultivation and improvement of his property. The ranch he now owns was bought in 1867, and consists of one hundred and sixty acres, ninety acres of which he devotes to the cultivation of alfalfa. This land is under irrigation from the Gilliam & Cummings ditch, an ample supply of water being furnished. He now rents the farm, having retired from practical duties.

Near Dallas, Ore., December 27, 1852, Mr. Gilliam was united in marriage with Elizabeth Lewis, a native of Overton county, Tenn. Her father, Rev. William P. Lewis, was a native of Virginia, who, after his settlement in Tennessee, became a pioneer of Platte county, Mo. In 1852 he crossed the plains to Oregon, locating near Dallas, Polk county, where he engaged as a farmer and merchant until his death, at the age of sixty-four years. He was one of the pioneer ministers in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His wife, formerly Jane Saddler, of Tennessee, also died in that state. Four children blessed this union, of whom Mrs. Gilliam is the only one surviving. Mr. Lewis married a second time, by his second wife having four children, all of whom are living in Oregon. Mrs. Gilliam also crossed the plains in 1852, and in Oregon met again her childhood's friend, with whom she had attended school in Platte county, Mo. Born to Mr. Gilliam and his wife are the following children: Samuel Miles, a farmer near Visalia; Alexander Sweeney, also a farmer near Visalia; Ewell Ashby, of Visalia; Emma J., the wife of Arthur Crowley, of Visalia; Adelia J., the wife of Charles Morgan, of Los Angeles; and Alice, with her brother Samuel M., located near Visalia. Mr. Gilliam was made a Mason in Dallas, Ore., in 1851, and is a charter member of Portersville Lodge 303, F. & A. M., of which he has served as chaplain since its organization. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and though offered public office he has uniformly refused. As long as he was active in the ministry of the church Mr. Gilliam served either as moderator or clerk of the Presbytery.

---

ARTHUR WILLIAM MATHEWSON. The Mathewson family, which had a representative in California in the person of Arthur William Mathewson, a pioneer of 1856, is of English ancestry, the first emigrant from his native shores settling in Rhode Island. There the family flourished

for many generations, the first to remove from the state being Charles Mathewson, who located in Wheelock, Caledonia county, Vt. His wife was in maidenhood Sarah Williams, a native of Rhode Island and a direct descendant of Roger Williams, and a relative of Governor Sprague, of that state, where members of her family are cotton manufacturers. Charles Mathewson came to California about 1849 and for some time engaged as a miner, after which he located near Visalia, Tulare county, and made this community his home until his death.

The birth of Arthur William Mathewson occurred in Wheelock, Caledonia county, Vt., November 14, 1834, he being the sixth in order of birth in a family of ten children. Reared on his father's farm he was trained to the practical duties which fell to his lot. His early education in the public school near his home was followed by attendance at the academy at Lyndon, Vt. At sixteen years of age he started out for himself, but after working in a tannery for two years he returned to the home farm, and three years later, in 1856, came to California as a pioneer. Like the majority who thronged to the west at that time he began as a miner, and for two years was engaged in Placer county. Locating in San Jose in 1859 he bought a farm and followed general agricultural pursuits for five years, or until he lost his land, as it was found that it belonged to a Spanish grant. Coming to Tulare county he engaged in the sheep business, gradually increasing his herds until he had over four thousand head. He continued to purchase land from time to time, disposing of it as he could make a profit, but retained his home on the Farmersville road, five miles southeast of Visalia. He spent one year in Nebraska, located at Omaha, engaging in buying and selling sheep. He engaged in general farming until his death, which occurred August 17, 1896, and which removed from the community a man respected for his honorable record of years, and a citizen whose best efforts had ever been given to promote the general welfare of the community. He was especially prominent in connection with the irrigating movement in Tulare county, for seven years prior to his death being president of the People's Ditch Company.

The marriage of Mr. Mathewson united him with Lucinda Tinkham in 1861. She was a native of Ohio and the daughter of Nathaniel Tinkham, the greater part of whose life was spent in Ohio and Iowa, his death occurring in the latter state. Mrs. Mathewson came to California with her mother, Clarissa Lampeer, whose death occurred in this state. Mrs. Mathewson survives her husband and is the manager of the home place of two hundred and sixty acres. Of her children, Charles is deceased; Pearl is the wife of Robert K. Ogden, who is located near



the home place; Levi is also in the vicinity; Edith is the wife of William Mosher, of Visalia; Earl and James A. are at home; and Maud is deceased. One child died in infancy. Mrs. Mathewson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Mathewson was a staunch Republican in his political convictions and was an active participant in the affairs of his party. He served on the state central committee on the People's party ticket at one time, was a frequent attendant of state conventions, and was candidate for supervisor from the second district. Fraternally he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Foresters of America, and also belonged to the Tulare Grange and Patrons of Husbandry. He was an active and enterprising citizen and took a most helpful interest in all movements calculated to advance the general welfare.

---

**WILLIAM JACOB MARTIN.** The present clerk of Stanislaus county, elected to the office November 4, 1902, is a man of many sterling qualities which have won for him the material appreciation of those with whom he has come in business or social contact. A native son of the state, William Jacob Martin was born near Waterford, Stanislaus county, March 23, 1868. His father, William Harvey Martin, a native of Michigan, crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1850, upon his arrival in California engaging first in freighting to the Mariposa mines, after which he located on Dry creek, this county, and for many years conducted an inn or hotel, which was well known in the early days. Later in life he engaged in stock-raising and continued so occupied until his death June 1, 1874, on the ranch, when in his sixty-third year. His wife, formerly Adeline Gardenhire, a native of Arkansas, died October 14, 1897, also aged sixty-two years.

Of the seven children born to his parents, five sons and two daughters, three attained maturity, of whom William Jacob Martin was the oldest son and the second child. He was reared to the practical duties incident to the life of a farmer, during his boyhood years acquiring a common-school education in the school in the vicinity of their home. He was but six years old at the time of his father's death, and upon attaining manhood he engaged with his brother in farming pursuits upon the old homestead. This work remained his principal employment until his election to the office of county clerk, the duties of which office he is discharging to the satisfaction of all concerned.

In Stockton Mr. Martin was married to Laura Jane Welch, a native of Stanislaus county, and

they are the parents of two children, William Erwin and Lilah Bernice. In his political convictions Mr. Martin is a Democrat, and has always been interested in the promotion of the principles which he indorses, having served at various times on the county central committee. Fraternally he is a member of Oakdale Lodge, I. O. O. F., and is also identified with the Woodmen of the World.

---

**JOHN A. MARTIN, JR.** Enterprising and successful, John A. Martin, Jr., is named among the representative men of Fresno county, where he has been located since the year 1888. His ranch, comprising one hundred and ten acres, forty-eight acres of which are given over to vines, twelve to orchard, and the balance in pasture, is located three miles north of Selma, and while these affairs occupy considerable of his time he is also interested in oil stock, being a director of the Echo Oil Company, incorporated with a capital of \$200,000. Born in Preston county, W. Va., August 22, 1849, Mr. Martin is the son of John A. Martin, Sr., a native of Bavaria, Germany.

The elder Mr. Martin was brought to the United States in the care of an uncle when only two years old, and was reared to manhood in the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, in the last named making his home until 1854. In that year he became a pioneer of the state of Missouri, locating in Audrain county, where he farmed and worked at his trade of carpenter until his death. He married Margaret E. Wootring, who was a native of Preston county, W. Va. Of the four sons and three daughters born to his parents John A. Martin, Jr., was the fourth in order of birth, and was but five years old when he removed with his parents to Missouri. In the primitive schools of that state he received a limited education, after the completion of which he followed his early training and became a farmer, remaining so employed in Missouri until the spring of 1882. Coming then to California, he spent a year in the west, when he returned and again took up life in Missouri. In 1888 he located permanently in this state, purchasing in that year the first forty acres of his present ranch. Success has accompanied his efforts, and he is now the owner of the one hundred and ten acres before mentioned in the home ranch, as well as one hundred and sixty acres of pine timber located on Pine Ridge. In 1894 he built a pleasant and comfortable home.

In Missouri Mr. Martin was united in marriage with Margaret Emma Leach, a native of Ohio, and to them were born the following children: Lena F., wife of S. L. Heisinger, located near Selma; Nellie Lee, wife of M. G. Gallagher,

of Woodsfield, Ohio; Luther C., a student in the schools of Berkeley; John A. and Mary Myrtle, attending the high school. Mr. Martin is a Good Templar and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he officiates as an elder. Politically he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and has always been active in his support of its measures. In the educational interests of the community he served at one time as school director.

---

LEWIS HENRY. Occupying a substantial position among the active and successful agriculturists of Tulare county is Lewis Henry, whose highly-improved and well-kept ranch lies three miles west of Visalia. Pleasant, liberal and progressive, he is an important member of the community in which he resides, and is contributing his full share toward the maintenance of good order, high principles and all of those things that insure the welfare and prosperity of town and country. A native of Killycurragh, County Tyrone, Ireland, he was born March 19, 1860, in Wayne county, a son of John Henry. His father, a farmer by occupation, came from New York to California in 1886, and now resides here, making his home with a daughter. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Ferguson, died in this state. Of the children born of their union, eight grew to years of maturity, and six are now living, Lewis being the fourth child.

Remaining beneath the parental roof until twenty-one years of age, Lewis Henry acquired his early education in the district school, and while assisting his father became familiar with the various branches of agriculture as carried on in the east. Choosing the independent occupation to which he was reared, he was there engaged in farming on his own account for a number of years. Coming to the Pacific coast in 1889, Mr. Henry located in Visalia, and was here employed as a farmer and orchardist for some time. In 1903 he bought his present home ranch, which is pleasantly situated about three miles west of Visalia. It contains eighty acres of land, all under the ditch, being irrigated by the Modoc Ditch Company's ditch, in which Mr. Henry is financially interested, being a part owner. He devotes about one-half of his land to alfalfa, raising grain on the remainder, and in his operations is meeting with well-merited success. He has made improvements of an excellent character, in 1904 having erected a fine residence, which greatly enhances the attractiveness and the value of the estate.

January 14, 1885, in Savannah, Wayne county, N. Y., Mr. Henry married Miss Addie

Agnes Snyder, who was born in Conquest, Cayuga county, N. Y., which was also the birthplace of her father, Samuel Snyder. Her grandfather, William Snyder, was a lifelong farmer of Cayuga county. She comes of old Holland-Dutch stock, her paternal great-grandfather, a pioneer of Cayuga county, N. Y., having cleared from the wilderness a farm which is still in the family, being now owned and occupied by one of his descendants of the fourth generation. In 1885 Samuel Snyder removed from the ancestral home to Austinburg, Ohio, and in May, 1901, came with his family to California, and now owns and manages a farm near Visalia. He married Martha Benning, who was born in Wayne county, N. Y., a daughter of William Benning, who was of English birth and breeding, and they became the parents of three children, of whom Mrs. Henry is the second child. Mr. and Mrs. Henry have five children, namely: Bertha Marion, Myrtie May, Walter Lewis, Howard Leon and Elmer Homer. In his political views Mr. Henry affiliates with the Democratic party. A piece of good fortune fell to Mrs. Henry in the shape of the first prize offered by the *San Francisco Weekly Examiner*, she having subscribed to that paper April 6, 1903. The drawing took place June 3, and the check was received the next day, a telegram of congratulation announcing its arrival. This event furnished the main topic of conversation in Visalia and vicinity for many weeks afterward. Good use was made of the money, as the valuable investment proves.

---

GEORGE BROWN. Among the active and thriving farmers of Madera county who are aiding in every possible way its agricultural growth and development is George Brown, who, with his brother and partner, William A. Brown, is prosperously engaged in farming and stock raising near Borden. Both of these brothers are well known as men of sterling character and ability throughout the community in which they reside, and both are highly esteemed for their integrity and general worth. They are natives of the province of Quebec, Canada, William A. having been born in June, 1854, and George in August, 1858. Their father, James Brown, was born in the north of Ireland about 1819. In 1832 he immigrated to America, locating in Canada as a farmer, and is still living there, being now eighty-five years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Annie E. Armstrong, has spent her entire life in Canada.

Leaving Canada in 1875 George Brown went to New Hampshire, and in 1878 came to California with a view of making this state his permanent home, and until 1881 lived in Stockton.





John S. Swan

The ensuing three years he worked in Amador and Calaveras counties, going from the latter place to Stanislaus county in the spring of 1884, and remaining there three years. During all of these years he had worked as a wage-earner, and by prudent thrift had accumulated a goodly sum of money. In 1887 he came to Madera county, and the following year, forming a partnership with his brother, William A. Brown, was engaged in wheat raising until 1900, when the brothers bought a ranch near Borden, and have since been profitably engaged in farming pursuits. The ranch contains three hundred and twenty acres of good land, which these brothers have devoted to the raising of alfalfa, cattle and hogs, and dairying, keeping forty cows of a fine grade. Energetic and willing to labor, they also rent sixteen hundred acres, which they sow to wheat, raising excellent crops of this staple grain. The Brown brothers are typical representatives of the self-made men of Madera county, and by their own efforts have climbed the ladder of success, acquiring prominence and wealth. Both are Republicans in politics, and both are members of the Masonic fraternity and past masters of the lodge to which they belong.

George Brown, the particular subject of this sketch, married Maud H. Cunningham, a native of California, and they have three children: Marie, Gertrude and William.

**JOHN SANDERSON SWAN.** When the family represented by the sheriff of Merced county crossed the ocean from Wales to America they became established in New England, and several successive generations lived and labored in Oxford county, Me. There were born Capt. Thomas Swan and his father, Dudley, the latter of whom was killed by a falling tree when he was clearing a tract of timber land. The former, in addition to following the occupation of a farmer, engaged at the stone-mason's trade and made a specialty of contracting for bridge work. The title by which he was familiarly known came to him as the result of his service at the head of a company of state militia. Maine continued to be his home throughout all of his life, and he died there about 1896. In that state his wife, Eliza Sanderson, also spent her entire life; she was a daughter of John Sanderson, who was born in Maine, of Scotch descent, and engaged in farming and lumbering. The children of Capt. Thomas Swan are as follows: Mrs. Mary Caswell, of Maine; Charles, a practicing physician in Des Moines, Iowa; Thomas B., an attorney at Atlantic, Iowa, and John Sanderson, the only member of the family on the Pacific coast. The last-named was born at Waterford, Oxford county, Me., September 30, 1849, and passed the years

of childhood in the town which was the home of Artemus Ward. After completing the studies of common schools he entered North Bridgton Academy in Cumberland county, where he continued for a time as a student.

Starting out to earn his livelihood at eighteen years of age Mr. Swan traveled for a year in Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois and Minnesota, and on his return to the east engaged in the sale of fruit trees in Maine, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Two years were spent in that occupation and he then became foreman for J. B. Dacy & Co., railroad contractors, with whom he continued for seven years. For the greater part of that period his work kept him in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Next he became road master for the town of Concord, Mass. He dates his residence in California and in Merced county from the year 1882, when he came to the coast region and took up farm pursuits. During the years that have since elapsed he has made a specialty of raising wheat and rye. At first he had twenty-three hundred acres in wheat. Year by year this amount increased until he was cultivating fifty-five hundred acres at the time of his election to the sheriff's office. In the care of the land the most modern machinery was utilized. To prepare the land he had six ten-inch or eight-inch plows, while the work of harvesting was done with a machine cutting a swath of thirty-two feet, the first of its size to be brought to the county. The ranch is situated four and one-half miles from Atwater, midway between the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railroads, with a shipping point at each side, thus facilitating the prompt transportation of the crops. Upon being elected sheriff he disposed of his harvesting outfit.

The Democratic party, of which he has been a staunch supporter, elected Mr. Swan to the office of sheriff in 1902, and it is worthy of note that he received a majority of two hundred and ten votes over C. H. Warfield, who had held the office for fourteen years. He entered upon his duties in January, 1903, for a term of four years, and has since made his home in Merced, devoting his entire time to the proper management of his office. The jail under his charge is one of the most substantial and modern structures of its kind in the valley. In its building due regard was paid to sanitary conditions as well as to solidity of construction. The records of the office are kept neatly and systematically in modern books, adapted to their various purposes, and the entire work shows the oversight of a man of careful business methods. Being a man of remarkable memory, the sheriff finds few occasions personally to refer to the records, but keeps them properly filed for the convenience of his co-workers and also for his successors in office. He

is a member of the California Association of Sheriffs and at one time took an active part in the work of the Democratic county central committee. While in Maine he served as selectman of Waterford for five years. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His marriage was solemnized in his native county November 20, 1870, and united him with Miss Saran Swan, who was born in Denmark, Me., being the daughter of Joseph Greeley Swan, a farmer of Oxford county.

**JAMES F. PECK.** In less than a decade James F. Peck has acquired a professional practice of financial and legal significance, embracing association with many of the most important civic and corporate complications in Merced and San Francisco. The fact that his business has increased in greater degree in the larger city is perhaps proof of his capacity for managing large affairs. In Merced Mr. Peck is appreciated as a man who has added to the prestige of the town, and as one to whose family the community owes a pioneer debt of gratitude. His father, Charles S. Peck, watched the city rise from the desert, was its most prominent builder and contractor for many years, and materially assisted in its general development.

Reared at Snelling, Merced county, James F. Peck came with his parents to Merced in 1874, and after finishing his education in the public schools entered the University of California, from which he was graduated from the law department in 1885, with the degree of LL.B. His preliminary practice was inaugurated in Merced in partnership with J. W. Breckenridge, and continued until 1892, two years before the death of the eminent lawyer. Since then Mr. Peck has conducted an independent practice, and in 1896 became attorney for the Crocker-Huffman Land & Water Company. For years he was the attorney for the Commercial Bank, and also was attorney for the Mitchell and Turner estates, and the Potter estate of San Francisco. His work in the latter city assuming such large proportions, he established an office there in the Mills Building in 1902.

In San Francisco, in 1883, Mr. Peck married Emma Spring, a daughter of one of the pioneer families of Nevada county, Cal. Three children have been born of this union, Charles Melnotte, Jesse Lydell and James Forester. Mr. Peck is independent in politics. He is a member of the State Bar Association, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Knights of Pythias. His wife is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Peck has a profound understanding of the theory and practice of law, and

his splendid health and physical endurance give promise of a career of exceptional prominence and usefulness.

**JAMES MONROE ROSE.** To James M. Rose belongs the distinction of having been one of the early settlers in Fresno county, Cal., for in 1878, when the county was new and undeveloped, he took up a half-section of government land about five miles southeast of the present site of Sanger, and upon this land he followed farming for sixteen consecutive years. Selling out he resided in Fresno for a few years, but for some time past he has been living retired at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. W. A. Poole, who resides on a fruit ranch one and one-half miles east of Fowler. An Ohioan by birth, Mr. Rose was born July 1, 1823, and is a son of John and Sarah (Baker) Rose, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Virginia.

The history of his ancestors chronicles the fact that both the Rose and Baker families were active participants in America's war for freedom. The paternal grandfather of James M. Rose was of German nationality, and upon coming to America took up his residence in Pennsylvania. The father of James M. Rose went to Illinois in 1825, locating in Green county, and for a number of years he followed farming and contracting in that section. He died in that state at the age of sixty-five years. James M. Rose remained at home assisting his parents until his marriage in 1848, at which time he was united with Eliza Jane Lakin, who was born in Illinois in May, 1827. After many years of happy wedded life she died in March, 1898, leaving eight children.

In 1852 Mr. Rose removed with his family to Texas, where he resided for about nine years, during which time he was engaged in farm pursuits, and in addition, devoted some attention to contracting and building. Crossing the plains to California in 1861 he spent the following winter in San Bernardino county, and the next spring (1862), he went to Sonoma county and located on a farm. He followed farming uninterruptedly for fourteen years and in the fall of 1876 was induced to go to Tulare county. It was a couple of years later that Mr. Rose took up land in Fresno county, since which time he has been identified with its progress and development. His eldest son, John S., born 1851, resides in the vicinity of Sanger, owning a forty-acre tract adjoining that of James A. Another son, Matthew S., who was for a time supervisor of Fresno county, died January 28, 1903. The third son, Lewis A., is a resident of Modesto. A daughter, Martha, became the wife of Samuel Johnson, and resides in San Mateo county. For



many years Mr. Rose has been an active member of the Methodist Church. In national affairs he votes the Republican ticket.

**JAMES A. ROSE** was born February 14, 1864, in Sonoma county, Cal., and in the same vicinity his early boyhood days were spent. He accompanied his father to Tulare county and later to Fresno county and to Fresno. In the latter place he was profitably engaged as a paper hanger, and for a period of five years he was horticultural commissioner of Fresno county, a position which placed him for the time prominently before the public. He was united in marriage with Maggie Blunt and their home is brightened by the presence of four children, Albert, Elsie, Letis, and an infant not named. Purchasing, in 1901, the forty-acre fruit farm upon which he resides, he now devotes his time and attention to the cultivation of grapes and other fruits. He is a staunch Republican in his political convictions, and fraternally affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**JOHN STEPHEN HAMMOND.** An extensive and well-to-do agriculturist of San Joaquin county John Stephen Hammond is prosperously engaged in his free and independent occupation on one of the pleasantest and most desirable homesteads to be found in this part of the valley. It has a fine location on the Stanislaus river, and contains three hundred and eighty-eight acres of land, one hundred acres being on the bottom, and is especially rich and fertile. With its comfortable and convenient set of buildings, and their neat and tasteful surroundings, his estate invariably attracts the attention of the passer-by, eliciting words of praise and commendation. A son of William C. Hammond, he was born October 27, 1850, in Pulaski county, Ky., which was also the birthplace of his father. His grandfather Hammond, an early settler of Kentucky, served in the war of 1812.

Bred and educated in Kentucky, William C. Hammond became a farmer from choice. Removing with his family to Missouri in 1863, he located near Savannah, where he lived two years. Intending then to go to Central America, he sold his property there, but, changing his plans, came by the Nicaragua route to California, settling in Napa county, where he was engaged in farming four years. Coming then to Stanislaus county, he took up government land on the west side, near Grayson, and there improved a ranch, on which he resided until his death, in 1894. He married Nancy Hale, who was born on a farm in Kentucky, the daughter of Stephen Hale, and she still occupies the old homestead

near Grayson. Of the five boys and five girls born of their union, four boys and four girls survive, all of whom, with the exception of John Stephen, the subject of this sketch, are residents of Stanislaus county.

Obtaining the rudiments of his education in the district schools of Kentucky, John Stephen Hammond subsequently attended school in Missouri for two years, completing his studies in the public schools of Napa county, Cal. He was subsequently employed at various kinds of work, among other things working in a butcher shop in Napa, and in the quicksilver mines at Oakville. Embarking in farming on his own account, Mr. Hammond assumed charge of a ranch of one thousand acres on the west side of Stanislaus county, and in his agricultural operations met with satisfactory results, accumulating considerable money. Locating in San Joaquin county in 1897, he purchased the old Copeland ranch of three hundred and eighty-eight acres, lying on the Stanislaus river, on the Berneville road, and is here carrying on general farming and dairying with success, raising hay, alfalfa and grain, and keeping a great deal of stock, his special breed being Durhams.

In Stockton Mr. Hammond married Mary Hettie Kingsley, who was born in Placer county, the daughter of a pioneer settler, and the niece of Joseph Hanchett, a well-known resident of San Francisco. Mr. and Mrs. Hammond are the parents of five children, namely: Frank, Clarence, Jesse, Elmer and Amy. In his political views Mr. Hammond sustains the principles of the Democratic party, but he is not at all radical in his opinions or judgments.

**WILLIAM W. HOUSTON.** A comparative-ly recent addition to professional circles of Tulare county is William W. Houston, who was admitted to the bar in 1898, and since 1900 has conducted a growing practice in the city of Visalia. Mr. Houston is of southern ancestry, and was born in Randolph county, Ark., May 26, 1854. His father, James, was born near Shelbyville, Tenn., and as a young man settled near Pocahontas, Randolph county, Ark., where he participated in the early Indian and other troubles incident to border life. During the Sabine disturbances of 1837 he enlisted in the United States army, becoming a lieutenant of the mounted gun militia of Arkansas. Before his discharge in the latter part of 1837 he had been brevetted major, emerging from the troublesome times with an enviable reputation for bravery and efficient service. He married Frances Black, a native of Virginia and an early arrival in Arkansas, and in 1859 brought his family across the plains with ox teams, spending his

first winter in the west in the mining community of Hangtown, now Placerville. In the spring of 1860 he located in Visalia, purchased land near the town and lived there until his death in 1902, at the age of ninety-three years. He was permitted to enjoy the companionship of his devoted wife until the end of his life journey, she surviving him two years, her death occurring in April, 1904, at the age of eighty-four. Mr. Houston remained loyal to the spirit of the south, never regretted or saw aught reprehensible in his upholding of slavery, and stood out strongly for the Democracy as the ideal condition of government.

William W. Houston is the second oldest son and seventh oldest child in a family of eleven children, eight of whom are living. His early educational opportunities were limited, and his youth knew more of hard work on the farm than of diversion or chance for personal improvement. Through his own ability to labor and save he was enabled to begin the study of law with E. O. Larkins of Visalia, and in 1879 he journeyed to Arizona and New Mexico, where he engaged in the stock business until 1881. He then located in Visalia and continued the study of law, and after being admitted to the bar in 1898 went to Sonora, Mexico, and engaged in mining for a couple of years. Mr. Houston is a bachelor and lives with his sister Thalia in the old Houston home on Houston avenue, at the edge of the town. Like his father he also is an active Democrat, and has attended many state and county conventions, being at present a member of the county central committee. Fraternally he is identified with the Blue Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., and Perfection Lodge of Scottish Rites.

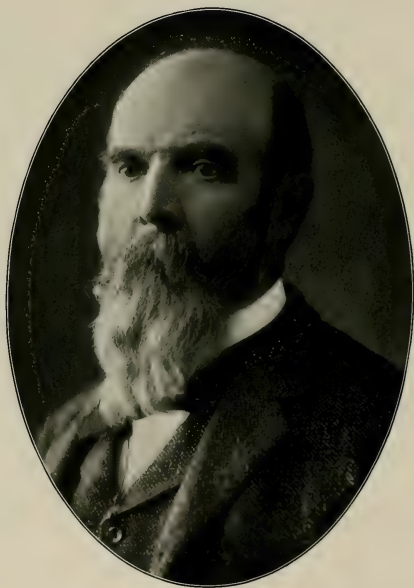
ERNEST D. KAHL. Occupying a position of prominence among the ranchers of Merced county, Ernest D. Kahl is engaged in the cultivation of his three hundred and twenty acres, which ranch is located one mile northwest of Plainsberg, and devoted to grain and stock raising. In addition to these interests he is also farming the old Kahl ranch in conjunction with his brother, and is meeting with success in the agricultural line. A native of California, he was born in Monterey county, March 27, 1860, a son of Adam Kahl, a pioneer of the state, and an early settler of Merced county. For more complete details concerning the life of the elder man refer to his biographical sketch which appears on another page of this work. Ernest D. Kahl was brought to this county in December, 1860, and has never known any other home. Reared to young manhood upon the paternal farm, he alternated an attendance of the com-

mon schools with the practical duties to which he was early trained, and in maturity engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married Margaret Baxter, who was born in Nova Scotia, a daughter of J. C. Baxter, a prominent rancher of Merced county, where she was reared. Of this union were born two children, namely: Leslie A., and James A. In his political convictions Mr. Kahl is a Prohibitionist, and fraternally he is associated with Yosemite Parlor, N. S. G. W., Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to the Encampment, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

JOHN GILBERT EDWARDS. The people of Madera are justly proud of the character and enterprise of their business men and claim that no city of the same size in the entire state can boast of a larger number of progressive, capable and resourceful men of affairs. Whether as merchants, mechanics or tradesmen, whether as professional men or men of commerce, they have been, with few exceptions, men of the highest principles of honor and unwavering integrity of character. As an example of this class of citizens mention should be made of John Gilbert Edwards, who, with his brothers, David Franklin and James H. Edwards, has long been a factor in the business progress of the city. Mention of his ancestry and the record of his parents will be found elsewhere in this volume, in the sketch of his brother, David F., and from it the reader will see that the family is numbered among the pioneer settlers of California, having come west during the period of the great gold excitement. From that time to this the various members have contributed to the progress of the communities where they have resided.

While the family were living in Tuolumne county, this state, John Gilbert Edwards was born August 31, 1852. Primarily educated in grammar schools, he has added to the information thus acquired by subsequent habits of reading and observation, so that he is now a well-informed man. Upon starting out to earn his own way in the world he went to Borden and took up the trade of wagon-maker. After a year as an apprentice, in 1875 he started a shop of his own in that place, engaging in work especially as a repairer of wagons and carriages, but also manufacturing certain parts of the vehicles. During 1882 he operated not only this shop but a blacksmith's shop as well. Since he came to Madera in 1889 he has been engaged in the management of his wagon and carriage shop. Through his skilled workmanship he has gained a large share of the trade of Madera and the surrounding country. Among his patrons he is known as a reliable workman and an honest and honor-





*Henry Henshaw*

able man. Many of them have retained his services ever since he came to the city, having been so well pleased with his work that they have never desired to look elsewhere for such labor. While he has never been prominent in political affairs nor has it been his wish to become an office holder, yet he is a pronounced upholder of the Republican party and at every election, whether local or general, votes for the men and measures of the party. In addition to his property in town, he is the owner of a grain farm in Madera county, situated near Borden, and comprising one hundred and sixty acres.

**HENRY HUNSAKER.** One of the oldest of the settlers in Tulare county, Henry Hunsaker is held in the highest esteem for the many qualities which have distinguished his long residence in this part of the state. A native of Adams county, Ill., he was born seven miles from Quincy November 13, 1835. His father, Isaac Hunsaker, was a native of Kentucky, and the descendant of an old Kentucky family whose first American ancestors came originally from Germany. Isaac Hunsaker engaged in farming in Adams county until 1837, in which year he removed to Platte county, Mo. That location remained his home until 1846, when he became a resident of Fremont county, Iowa. Daniel Hunsaker, a brother, was a participant in the Black Hawk war and became a pioneer of California in 1848, crossing the plains and locating in Contra Costa county, first at Benicia, Solano county, and afterward at Martinez. He died at Woodville, Tulare county, in June, 1897. Isaac Hunsaker crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1850, locating first in Taylor valley, near Martinez, Contra Costa county, where he engaged in farming for about eight years. In 1858 he came to Tulare county and bought lands on the Tule river and Elk bayou, making his home five miles north of Woodville until his death in 1885, at the age of seventy-eight years. In early life he had been a member of the Baptist Church, but was later associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, formerly Sarah King, a native of Kentucky, died in Fremont county, Iowa, leaving a family of four sons and one daughter, of whom three sons are now living, as follows: Henry, of this review; George, a dentist in San Luis Obispo; and William, located on the Tule river. Of his second marriage, to Mary Walker, three children are living: Clara E., Elizabeth, wife of James Daley, of Contra Costa county, living on the old homestead, and Dr. H. W. Hunsaker, of San Francisco.

Henry Hunsaker was eleven years old when he was left motherless. He was reared in Missouri and Iowa, attending the public schools of

each state in the vicinity of his home. With his father he crossed the plains in 1850, driving loose stock. The journey was made by way of Sublett's Cut-off, and Humboldt and Carson route, and the party arrived in Hangtown September 1, and September 29 of the same year, arrived in Martinez. For a time Henry remained on his father's farm in Contra Costa county, attending the public schools, and shortly afterward became a student in McMinnville Baptist College, in McMinnville, Ore., where he remained two years. Returning to California, he began stock-raising. In 1862 he located in Tulare county and engaged in stock-raising on the Tule river until 1873, when the railroad was put through the county and the town of Tulare was established. He then entered into agricultural pursuits, farming from one thousand to five thousand acres of land on the Tule river and the Terra Bella country, using in his work thirteen eight-horse teams. He continued in this extensive farming until 1902, when he sold his homestead of about ten hundred and fifty-eight acres five miles north of Woodville, retaining three hundred and twenty acres twelve miles south of Portersville. At present his family is located in Tulare and he is engaged in farming about eight hundred acres.

Mr. Hunsaker has been twice married, the first ceremony being performed in San Rafael and uniting him with Mary F. Shuey, a native of Illinois, and daughter of Samuel D. Shuey, who came to California in 1852. Her death occurred September 7, 1880. She left a family of six children, namely: Carrie, the wife of Henry Roth, of Visalia; Charles H., on the home ranch; Harry, the manager of Travelers' Insurance Company of San Francisco; Kittie, the wife of W. H. Williams, of Los Angeles county; Mattie Jewell, who died in infancy; and Walter S., representing the Travelers' Insurance Company in Tulare. Mrs. Mary F. Hunsaker and her daughter Mattie Jewell lie buried in the Tulare Cemetery, where a monument to their memory towers above their graves. By his second marriage Mr. Hunsaker was united with Mrs. Frances C. (Hunsaker) Hastings, a native of Marion county, Mo., and the daughter of Enoch Hunsaker, of Kentucky. Enoch Hunsaker crossed the plains in 1850 and located first in Sacramento county, and later in Contra Costa county. Subsequently he removed to Tulare county and in 1864 engaged as a stockman, his death occurring in this locality in 1878. His wife, Emily Hunsaker, died in Sacramento in 1852. Mrs. Hunsaker was first married in Martinez to Lyman H. Hastings, a native of Ohio, who in 1849 came across the plains to California. He first conducted a meat market in Martinez, in 1870 removing to Tulare county, where he engaged in stock-raising until his death in 1874.

Mr. and Mrs. Hastings were the parents of six children, namely: Warren W., a farmer at Terra Bella; Leslie L., who died February 7, 1880, at nineteen years of age; Lyman F., of Modesto, a civil engineer and superintendent of the Turlock Irrigation District; Ulysses G., in Fairbanks, Alaska, engaged in mining; Ada, the wife of R. F. Roth, of Visalia; and Herbert J., representing the Remington Typewriter Company in San Francisco. To Mr. and Mrs. Hunsaker was born one child, Gyneth.

In his political affiliations Mr. Hunsaker is a staunch Democrat and is now a member of the county central committee, and is on the executive board. He has served one term as supervisor of the Fifth district. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Martinez and in 1864 was demitted to the Visalia Lodge, where he is still a member. He is a member of the Tulare County Pioneer Society, of which he served for three years as commander, holding office until September, 1904, when he refused longer service. He is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Woodville, which he helped materially to build. He serves as trustee and steward of the same, and for many years acted as superintendent of the Sunday-school.

---

**HENRY BREM.** Many of the most thrifty and successful agriculturists of Stanislaus county were born and bred on the European continent, and to the little republic of Switzerland, especially, is California indebted for some of her most enterprising and prosperous citizens. Prominent among this number is Henry Brem, who has resided on his home farm, not far from Oakdale, for a quarter of a century, during which time he has established for himself an excellent reputation as a thoroughly honest and worthy man. A native of Switzerland, he was born, in December, 1841, in Schlieren, canton of Zurich, which was also the birthplace of his father, Jacob Brem, Jr. and his grandfather Jacob Brem, Sr.

The son of a farmer, Jacob Brem, Jr., was bred to agricultural pursuits, which he followed in his earlier life. He subsequently became railroad agent in his native town, and was there employed as a ticket seller until his death, at the age of sixty-three years. He married Susanna Poshart, who was born in Ambrach, canton of Zurich, where her father, Conrad Poshart, spent his entire life, being a prosperous farmer and wine manufacturer. She died at the age of seventy-one years. Of the five children born of their union, one daughter, Caroline, died when young, and four are living, Henry, the firstborn, and the subject of this sketch being the only one in America. The other three are still residents of Schlier-

en, namely: John, in the employ of a railway company; Hans H., a farmer and forester; and Mrs. Louisa Humble.

Until twelve years old, Henry Brem lived on a farm in Schlieren, and attended the grammar school. Beginning life then as a wage-earner, he worked as a farm laborer until 1869, when he immigrated to this country, hoping in this land of plenty to soon acquire riches. Locating in Seneca county, Ohio, he remained there a year, and then, in the spring of 1870, came westward to the Pacific coast, and for six months thereafter was employed on a dairy farm in San Joaquin county. Accepting a position on the ranch of J. K. Meyer in the fall of 1870, he remained with him, near Stockton, until 1877, in the meantime acquiring a practical knowledge of the modern methods of farming, and accumulating considerable money. Removing to Stanislaus county in 1878, Mr. Brem purchased his present ranch of one hundred and eighty-six acres, lying five miles from Oakdale, on the river road, and has since been busily and profitably engaged in general farming, including grain and stock raising. He also devotes a part of his time to the culture of fruit, having a fine orchard, and raises much poultry. In his labors, Mr. Brem has met with signal success, his finely-appointed and well-cultivated farm, with its substantial residence and outbuildings, bearing evidence of his thrift, skill, ability and excellent management.

In Elkhart, Ind., Mr. Brem married Barbara E. Hoenstein, a native of Indiana, and they have one child, namely: William T., living at home. Politically Mr. Brem is identified with the Republican party, and religiously he is a valued member of the Evangelist Reformed Church.

---

**HARRIS W. PATTERSON.** Conspicuous among the energetic and enterprising agriculturists of Madera county is Harris W. Patterson, whose ability, industry and business tact have won for him a position of note among the prominent husbandmen of this section of the state, and have made him a fine representative of its industrial interests. Located about six miles south of the city of Madera, he has a well-improved ranch, which he is managing with characteristic success, devoting it largely to general farming and dairying. A son of the late Hiram S. Patterson, he was born August 12, 1861, in Tennessee, where the earlier years of his life were spent.

A native of Tennessee, H. S. Patterson owned a good farm in that state, and was also engaged in business in Smith county, as a merchant for a number of years, and identified with the lumber interests of his native place as the owner and



manager of a sawmill. In 1870 he emigrated with his family to California, and in 1873 settled in Fresno (now Madera) county, near Borden. Taking up government land, he cleared and improved a ranch, on which he resided until his death, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Aminett, was born and bred in Tennessee.

Coming with his parents to the Pacific coast in 1870, Harris W. Patterson has spent the larger part of his life in Madera county, where he assisted his father in the improvement of the old home ranch. He now owns a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, ninety-five acres of which he sows to alfalfa, devoting the remainder of it largely to grain raising. He is also interested to some extent in dairying, keeping about twenty-five cows. Progressive in his views, and a man of great activity and enterprise, Mr. Patterson carries on a very extensive business during harvest time, as proprietor of a threshing-machine, being owner of one of the two steam threshing-machines in Madera county. He has been employed in this business for twenty-eight years, and in operating his steam thresher employs twenty-one men, paying them \$55 per day wages, during the season. With his machine, for which he paid \$6,000, he threshes out about sixty-five thousand bags, or one hundred and thirty-five thousand bushels, of grain a season.

Mr. Patterson married Minnie Lillian Lester, who was born in Iowa, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Ward A., Frederick L., James B. and Merriitt P.

**ADAM KAHL.** The late Adam Kahl will be gratefully remembered by many of the old residents of Merced county as one of the foremost men of his day in that section of the country, having located in 1860 on the place known as the Kahl ranch, which is in the vicinity of Plainsberg, along Mariposa creek. From the date of purchasing this land Mr. Kahl was active in all organizations for the benefit of the farmers, and took a fitting interest in every movement calculated to benefit his fellow-citizens and to advance the interests of his county and state. His ranch contained two thousand acres, upon which he spent both time and money in bringing it to a high state of cultivation and building thereon many substantial buildings. Among the improvements were a splendid brick residence, which alone represented a big outlay of capital, large barns and granaries, good fences, wells, windmills, etc. In addition, his farm was well stocked with none but the best breed of cattle, horses, hogs and poultry. During his many years of labor he thoroughly tested the

capabilities of the soil, and his success, confidence and expenditures, not only inspired the doubting ones with confidence, but induced many others to settle in Merced county.

In tracing the ancestry of Mr. Kahl, we find him to be a son of Jacob and Catherine Kahl. He was born September 6, 1825, in Franklin county, Pa., and in that vicinity spent his boyhood days on his father's farm. He afterward went to Richland county, Ohio, and later to Carroll county, Ind., and while in the latter place conceived the idea of coming to California. He did not hesitate long, but making hasty preparations, left home and proceeded to the vicinity of Delphi, in that county, from which point he followed the course of the Wabash river and soon afterward was enabled to take passage down the Mississippi river to New Orleans. At the latter place he embarked on a sailing vessel, landing at Chagres on the Isthmus of Panama. Crossing the latter, the journey to San Francisco was completed on the barque Alyoma, and he arrived in that city June 20, 1850, having made the journey from Panama in eighty-one days.

Upon his arrival in California, he engaged in mining with fair success for four years, in Butte Flat and in the Mokelumne Hill and River districts. He returned home for a visit in 1855 and spent the winter with his father in the east. He subsequently went to Iowa, and a season or two later found him located in Pettis county, Mo. There on the fourth day of July, 1858, he wedded Lydia A. Spangenberg, a native of Luzerne county, Pa., and a year later proceeded to California. This time the trip was made across the continent behind ox teams by the northern route through Utah and Carson City, over the summit of the mountains to Calaveras county as far as Bigtrees. Mr. Kahl arrived in Snelling, Merced county, October, 1859, but afterward moved to Pajaro valley in Monterey county, where he lived until December, 1860, purchasing at that time the ranch near Plainsberg, now owned by his widow and sons. The former resides on the old homestead, being seventy-six years old, and the latter are among the most prosperous and influential ranchers in Merced county. The Kahl ranch of two thousand acres was purchased by Mr. Kahl for from \$1.25 to \$35 per acre. At the time of his death, January 11, 1889, Merced county lost one of her most progressive and active citizens. His fine estate was divided between his widow and children, each child receiving three hundred and twenty acres; the ranch as owned by the members of the family now contains sixteen hundred and eighty acres. His children, five in number, are as follows: Ernest D.; Alice M., wife of John Dickinson, of Mariposa county; George A.;

Charles W., a successful physician in San Francisco, and Arthur S., of San Luis Obispo county. To such men as Mr. Kahl Merced county owes much of her prosperity.

HON. WILLIAM M. CONLEY. Ever since the organization of Madera county, with which he was intimately identified, Judge Conley has been a Democratic leader in the county and one of the most influential citizens of the city of Madera. His entire life has been passed in central California. Born in Mariposa county July 17, 1866, he is a son of Matthew and Margaret (Ryan) Conley, natives respectively of Ireland and Maine. When a very small child Matthew Conley was left an orphan and at the age of seven crossed the ocean to New York with older members of the family. Few advantages came to his boyhood years, for he was obliged to earn his livelihood at an age when most boys are in school; yet, by thoughtful reading and self-culture, he gained a breadth of knowledge not always possessed by college graduates. From New York he went to Chicago and later purchased from Colonel Beaubien the old Fort Dearborn hotel which he sold in 1862. During that year he came to California and took up mining in Mariposa county, but in 1870 removed to Snelling, Merced county, where he continued to reside until his death in 1871. His wife, who now makes her home with Judge Conley, is a daughter of John Ryan, who moved from Maine to Chicago and in 1849 crossed the plains to California with ox-teams, settling in Coulterville, Mariposa county, where he engaged in mining from the time of his arrival until his death in 1890. In the family of Matthew Conley there were only three children, William M., C. C. and J. T. The latter since 1894 has served as the official reporter of the superior court of Madera and Mariposa counties.

After having completed the course of study in the Merced public schools and graduated from the Stockton Business College, William M. Conley taught school for four years in Merced and Butte counties. In 1889 he became chief deputy assessor of Merced county and continued in that capacity until the expiration of the term of the incumbent, M. D. Wood, whereupon, in October, 1890, he took up the study of law. On successfully passing the required examination, January 13, 1891, he was admitted to the supreme court. His initial experience as a practitioner was gained at Bakersfield, but ill health led him to return to Merced. In 1892, as the Democratic nominee for district attorney, he was defeated by F. G. Ostrander by ninety majority. December 4, 1892, he came to Madera, his object in so doing being to assist the county in the coun-

ty division struggle then being fiercely waged. To promote the cause, he spent a considerable part of the winter of 1892-93 in the state legislature, endeavoring to interest assemblymen. In a large measure it was due to his efforts that victory was won. At the first county election, May 16, 1893, he was candidate for superior judge, and received fifty-one plurality over the three independent candidates. May 20, 1893, he was elevated to the bench and took the oath of office, being the youngest superior judge that had up to that time been elected in the state. At the general election of 1894, as the Democratic nominee, he was elected for a term of six years, receiving a plurality of four hundred over the Republican and Populist candidates.

During the session of the Democratic state convention at Sacramento in 1898 Judge Conley was nominated for associate justice of the supreme court, over Judge James V. Coffey, Judge J. W. Hughes, Joe Hamilton (ex-attorney-general), L. D. McKisseck, ex-Chief Justice of Tennessee, and five others. The contest was one of the most exciting in the history of the Democratic party of California. By the aid of the Santa Clara delegation he was nominated on the fourth ballot. In addition, he was the nominee of the People's party and the silver wing of the Republican party. However, in the general election the entire Democratic ticket suffered defeat. It was a source of gratification to his ardent supporters that he ran sixteen thousand votes ahead of his ticket, being defeated by some three thousand votes, while the candidate for governor lost by nearly twenty thousand. At the biennial session of the state legislature in 1899 he received the unanimous vote of the Democratic senators and assemblymen for the United States senate. In 1900 the Democratic county convention placed him in nomination for superior judge over two competitors. His election was bitterly opposed and the campaign was one that called for arduous labor. When election day came the county went Republican for the first time in its history, President McKinley receiving a majority of twenty-seven. Notwithstanding this, he was elected judge by a majority of one hundred and forty-eight, a fact which furnishes added proof of his popularity. In January, 1901, he entered upon the administration of his duties for a term of six years.

One of the most remarkable facts in connection with Judge Conley's experience on the bench is summed up in the statement that he has tried over thirteen hundred cases in the various counties of the state and in the appealed cases only four have been reversed, two of these four having been tried by jurors. Such a record is unsurpassed in the state. While he is a staunch Democrat, politics does not enter into his service

upon the bench, nor are personal reasons ever allowed to influence his decisions. Calmness and impartiality characterize his mental deliberations. With a comprehensive sweep of mind, he reviews the disputed points in a case, weighs up the evidence logically and reaches a decision promptly. Indeed, his attributes of mind are such as qualify him admirably for judicial labors.

The marriage of Judge Conley was solemnized in Merced and united him with Emma Bedesen, who was born in Gallatin, Mo., and in 1875 accompanied her father, Philip Bedesen, to California, settling in Merced. Judge Conley has two sons, Philip and Matthew. In fraternal connections he is associated with Fresno Lodge, B. P. O. E.; Madera Lodge No. 130, K. of P., in which he is past chancellor; Yosemite Parlor No. 24, N. S. G. W., of which he is past president; Madera Parlor No. 134, N. S. G. W., in which he has likewise held the highest office, being further honored by election as grand president of the order, Native Sons of the Golden West, in 1898-99. Few men in California are as well known throughout the state as he and none has accomplished more in promoting the welfare of his city and county through the distinguished character of his public services.

---

**WILLIAM W. COLLINS.** The sheriff of Tulare county is a member of an eastern family and a son of Albert O. Collins, a veteran of the Civil war, who for more than thirty years has been identified with the citizenship of California. Born in Ohio, he was a young man when the war began between north and south, and, fired with enthusiasm in behalf of the Union, he offered his services to his country. During April of 1862 he became a soldier in the Eighty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and for three years remained in the service, holding rank as captain of Company C. On the expiration of the war he returned to Coshocton, Ohio, where he had previously established his family and where for a time he taught school. In the spring of 1866 he removed to Missouri and settled on a farm in Putnam county, where also he engaged in teaching school. Coming to California in May of 1873, he first settled at Bakersfield, Kern county, where he followed the butcher's trade and later conducted a large ranch. From there in 1887 he went to Inyo county, where he still follows the stock business, occupying a large ranch near Bishop. In young manhood he married Sarah J. Cochran, a native of Ohio. They are the parents of three sons and two daughters, namely, Charles A., sheriff of Inyo county, to which office he was elected on the Democratic ticket; William W., who was elected sheriff of Tulare county on the Republican ticket; John L.,

who has stock interests with his father on the ranch in Inyo county; Minnie, wife of W. L. Blythe, of Chico, Butte county; and Leora, who married Bertrand Rhine and lives at Bishop, this state.

On the home farm near Coshocton, Ohio, William W. Collins was born June 23, 1865. On completing the studies of the common schools he became a pupil of the Visalia normal school, where he remained during the terms of 1882-83, and then entered the California state normal school at Los Angeles. His education completed, he turned his attention to the active duties of life. For a time he assisted his father in the cattle business. Leaving home in 1889 he came to Tulare county and embarked in wheat raising, in addition to which he conducted a livery business. During 1895 he engaged in buying wheat in Tulare and Kern counties for the Farmers' Union Milling Company of Stockton, and in 1896 accepted a position with J. Goldman & Co., of Tulare, as foreman of their lands, orchards and stock.

Ever since attaining the age of twenty-one years Mr. Collins has been an active factor in local politics, and has been a frequent participant in the workings of the county central committees of the Republican party. In view of his activity in the party, as well as by reason of the possession of characteristics qualifying him, for the office, he was selected by his party in the county convention of 1902 as their candidate for the position of sheriff, and was duly elected for a term of four years. Not only has his service thus far been satisfactory to the party electing him, but also the general public has recognized in him an official determined to preserve law and order; impartial, fearless and just, one whom the law-abiding element could look to with the fullest faith in the painstaking discharge of his duties. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World, Fraternal Aid, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Lodge and Encampment of Odd Fellows, in which he has been an officeholder. Sharing with him in the esteem of the people of Visalia is his wife, formerly Louise Clarke, who was born and reared in Inyo county, and by whom he has three daughters, Hazel, Vera and Blanche.

---

**WILLIAM J. HARDWICK.** Although San Francisco has profited by the citizenship of William J. Hardwick since 1883, Merced county gains by the possession of his business interests, centered in a grain ranch of two thousand acres, upon which he has expended the best years of his active life. Mr. Hardwick is a southerner by birth, Alabama being his native state, and his natal day May 23, 1834. His father, Thomas

Hardwick, was born in Georgia, and his mother, Anna (McFarland) Hardwick, was born in Tennessee in 1812. This devoted mother, who reared her children with so much care, is still living in Merced county, and is ninety-two years of age, being perhaps the oldest living resident of this county. Longevity is not noticed to so great an extent in the paternal family, for Thomas Hardwick died at a comparatively early age in 1873, on the ranch in Merced county upon which he settled in 1859. About 1846 he removed from Georgia to Missouri with his family, and there became interested in farming, in which he achieved a fair measure of success. He was a Democrat in politics, but too much of a home-loving man to desire or be willing to accept positions of official trust.

William J. Hardwick was fourteen when his family settled in Missouri, and twenty years old when he came to Merced county. At once he became interested in the cattle business, at which he continued until 1864, when he turned his attention to sheep raising. He added to his original purchase until he owned two thousand acres, fifteen hundred of which are now under barley and wheat. Since 1883 Mr. Hardwick has made his headquarters at 1719 Oak street, San Francisco, but the disagreeable weather during the summer drives him to the country, and his ranch continues from year to year to be a source of pleasure, recreation and profit to him. Mr. Hardwick married Anna Miller, a native of New York, now deceased. He is a Democrat in politics, and fraternally is identified with the Lodge and Royal Arch in Masonry, having been made a Mason in 1861. It may be said of Mr. Hardwick that he thoroughly understood and appreciated the advantages by which he was surrounded in the west, and turned them to the best possible account. In consequence he is one of the prominent and financially substantial men of Merced county. His neighboring ranchers speak of him in highest terms, praising his character and great good sense, and regret that he is not permanently located in the county which has profited by his example of industry, thrift and progressive spirit.

---

JOHN HALL. For twenty-five years John Hall has owned and occupied his present ranch of three hundred and thirty-seven acres on the Stanislaus river, twenty-five miles southeast of Stockton, twelve miles northwest of Oakdale, and three miles from Escalon. He is one of the early settlers of California, having lived in the state since his seventeenth year, arriving in 1857 with his father, William, and the rest of the family. Mr. Hall was born in Alton, Ill., April 20, 1840. William Hall was born in the state of

Georgia, coming from an old southern family of Scotch-Irish extraction.

In early manhood William Hall married Nancy Eubank, and for some years combined his trade of carpentering with the management of his farm in Georgia. He became a very early settler of Alton, Ill., and when his son John was three years old removed to what was then Greene county, Mo., where he took up government land and farmed until coming to California in 1857. Crossing the plains with ox-teams and prairie schooner, he completed the distance from Missouri to Farmington, Cal., in five months, remaining in Farmington until 1864. For the following two years he lived in Oregon, but not liking the northern state so well as California, returned in 1866, living near Escalon until his death at the age of eighty-four years. His wife, who survived him two years, was over eighty at the time of her death, and but three of her children are living, namely: John, the special subject of this sketch; George W., a rancher in Stanislaus county; and Richard G., residing in Arizona.

John Hall was an industrious lad, and became a painstaking, conscientious farmer. While yet on the home place he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, and shortly after his marriage in 1866, at the age of twenty-six to Stella J. Huntley, daughter of L. L. and Matilda (Brown) Huntley and a native of Illinois and California pioneer of 1852, he settled on his farm and lived there five years. He then removed to Stanislaus county and rented three hundred and twenty acres for four years, and about twenty-five years ago came to his present farm, which is under barley and oats, and which has besides a home orchard, and a dairy of fifteen cows. Mr. Hall is essentially a self-made man, never having depended on any assistance from his family, as he desired to be the architect of his own fortune. He has sometimes felt the pinch of hard times, but has always profited by his experiences, and has laid a solid foundation of industry and integrity under his steady, well directed life. With the assistance of his frugal wife he has gained steadily each year, and now has a competence which places those near and dear to him beyond the possibility of want. His children have been trained to look out for themselves, and long since his two oldest sons, William S. and Harlow have left the family roof and are ranching on their own responsibility, the former in San Joaquin, and the latter in Stanislaus county. His eldest daughter, Ida, is married and has a home of her own, as has also his second oldest daughter, Desisie. Frank, Reuben Roy and Erma Matilda, the three youngest children, are still on the home place. All of the children save Ida were born in



San Joaquin county, she being born in Stanislaus county. Mr. Hall takes a lively interest in political and other undertakings of his county, but is essentially a home man, finding his greatest consolation at his own fireside, so that offices or public honors of any kind have never appealed to him. He is a rugged and honest son of the soil; a plain, unpretentious man, having a just scorn for falsehood and pretense, and a wholesome admiration for what is upright and noble.

---

JOHN H. OWEN. Although purchasing his present ranch as recently as November, 1902, John H. Owen needs no introduction to the people of a county whose best interests he has served as farmer and stock raiser for his entire business life. He is one of the wealthy and substantial men of the vicinity of Escalon, San Joaquin county, owning not only his home farm of four hundred and eleven acres, but having besides a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Cometa Station. Probably no farmer in the county is more comfortably situated than Mr. Owen, his place having every improvement known to modern agricultural science. Ninety acres of his land are under alfalfa, a number of acres under barley, and he has a home vineyard of forty acres under the ditch. The place is located on the French Camp road, twenty miles southeast of Stockton, and eight and a half miles northwest of Oakdale. His other farm is under grain entirely, netting him a handsome yearly income.

Mr. Owen was born in Meigs county, Tenn., October 15, 1862, a son of James R. and Catherine (Hunt) Owen, both natives of Meigs county. The paternal grandfather, George P. Owen, was a native of Kentucky, where he owned a large plantation previous to removing to Tennessee. The maternal family of Hunt came originally from Virginia, and were early settlers of Meigs county. James R. Owen brought his family to California in 1869, settling in San Joaquin county, this side of Stockton, on the French Camp road, upon what was known as the Turner ranch. A year later he removed to near Waterloo, and rented a farm for a year, then farmed near Farmington for thirty years. He gained an enviable reputation as a business man and agriculturist, having a capacity for large interests, and much managerial ability. Near Farmington he rented four sections of grain land, paying for the same \$110,000 during the time he rented it, but notwithstanding this enormous rental made money rapidly. At the present time he is living retired at Linden, this county. He is a Democrat in politics, and for many years has been a Mason.

Until 1885 John H. Owen remained at home with his father, then left the farm to engage in the mercantile business in Farmington under the firm name of Long & Owen. During the five years in which he prospered as a merchant he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, eventually locating thereon, and engaging in farming and stock-raising. Later he rented four hundred acres more, and in 1892 rented fourteen hundred and forty acres of grain land, in 1896-97 having as many as twenty-seven hundred and twenty acres under grain, the greater part of it comprising the old Leach ranch. He next came to his present farm, which has proved of great fertility and adaptability, rendering possible a variety of products.

Mr. Owen married Sarah E. Griffin, of Stanislaus county, and daughter of Mitchell Griffin, a deceased pioneer of 1849. The children in the Owen household are Alva, Lizzie, Arthur and Hazel. Mr. Owen is an enthusiastic fraternalist, being a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and Woodmen of the World. He is highly respected for his industry, good judgment, success and integrity, and for his interest in all that pertains to the upbuilding of San Joaquin county.

---

DAVID FREELAND. An important factor in the development of the industrial resources of Madera county, David Freeland occupies an honored position among the progressive and skillful farmers of this section of California. His ranch, pleasantly located near the town of Madera, is a well-appointed and well-kept estate, his stock and machinery being of first-class description, his buildings ample and commodious, everything about the premises indicating to the passer-by the thrift, industry and keen judgment of the owners. Like many others of our most prosperous and valued citizens, he is of foreign birth and breeding, being a native of Scotland, where he was born March 20, 1862. His father, William Freeland, a native of Scotland, was a farmer by occupation, and married Jean Sillars, also of Scotch birth and parentage.

Reared to agricultural pursuits, David Freeland remained with his parents until twenty years of age, working on the home farm as a boy, and afterward learning the trade of stone-cutter, which he followed four years. Immigrating to Nova Scotia, he spent a year and a half in Halifax, and then migrated to the States, coming to California in search of a favorable location. Settling first near Selma, Fresno county, he began life in this state as a farmer, purchasing a ranch five miles south of Selma. Coming to Madera in 1900, Mr. Freeland, with I. L. Borden, purchased the present ranch of six hundred acres,

and has since been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits as manager of the business. He raises grain and stock, and is also interested in the culture of fruit, having an orchard of thirty acres and a vineyard equally as large. In addition to this he devotes two hundred and fifty acres of this ranch to alfalfa, on the remainder raising grain. As a stock grower and dairyman, he has acquired a good reputation, his dairy of one hundred cows being one of the best in this part of the county. He uses a separator in his dairy, and on the ranch are four wells, one hundred and twenty feet deep, from which the water is drawn by a twenty-five-horse power engine.

March 19, 1889, Mr. Freeland was married to Jean Rice, who was born in California, and into their household three children have been born, namely: Margaret W., Jean S. and David, Jr. During his residence in California, Mr. Freeland has always enjoyed the respect and confidence of his neighbors and friends, and has well performed his part as a faithful citizen. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, and fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

---

FIELDING A. COMBS, M. D., of Visalia, has proved himself worthy of his heritage, and in following his chosen profession has added luster to the name which had for several generations been prominent in the medical calendars of the southern and central states. During his many years of practice in Tulare county he has won the confidence and esteem of the people to a noteworthy extent, his skill and ability being widely known and highly appreciated. Although now practically retired, he does a little office work for some of his old friends. A son of Dr. Ennis Combs, he was born in Mount Sterling, Montgomery county, Ky., August 10, 1825, coming from substantial Scotch-Irish ancestry. His grandfather, Cuthbert Combs, removed from his native state, Virginia, to Kentucky, locating there in pioneer days, and by industry and good management improving a large farm.

Born in Virginia, Ennis Combs received good educational advantages, and in 1815 was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with the degree of M. D. Going to Kentucky, he commenced his medical career at Mount Sterling, where he was for many years the leading physician. Settling in Independence, Mo., in 1842, he continued in practice there until his death, in 1849. He married Mary Hinde, who was born in Winchester, Clark county, Ky., a daughter of Dr. John W. Hinde, a native of Virginia, who was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with the degree of M. D. in 1795, and

was afterward successfully engaged in the practice of his profession in Virginia and Kentucky. His father, Dr. John W. Hinde, Sr., served as a surgeon in the English navy during the French and Indian war. During the Revolutionary war he was a surgeon in Washington's army, and after the close of the war, settled in Winchester, Ky., where he practiced medicine until his death, at the advanced age of ninety-six years. Of the union of Dr. Ennis and Mary (Hinde) Combs, twelve children were born, of whom six sons and four daughters grew to years of maturity, Dr. F. A., of this review, being the oldest child now living. The mother died in 1836.

Having laid a substantial foundation for his future education in his youthful days, F. A. Combs completed the literary course at Transylvania University, in Lexington, Ky., when but eighteen years old. Entering then the medical department of the same institution, he was graduated from there with the degree of M. D. in 1847. Thus prepared to follow in the footsteps of his father, his maternal grandfather and great-grandfather, Dr. Combs began the practice of his profession in Missouri, being first located at Independence. He subsequently took a full course in the medical department of the University of Missouri, after which, in 1849, he located in Marshall, then a mere hamlet, containing but fifteen inhabitants. As the town grew his practice increased, becoming very large and remunerative, his professional knowledge and skill being recognized throughout that part of the state. During the Mexican war, Dr. Combs served under General Kearney, in Doniphan's Regiment of Mounted Infantry. After the close of the war he returned to Marshall, where he remained as a physician and surgeon until 1877.

Coming from Missouri to the Pacific coast in 1877, Dr. Combs resided in Lake county two years. In 1879 he located in Visalia as a physician and surgeon, and for a quarter of a century was the foremost practitioner in Tulare county. He won an extensive patronage among the best people of this vicinity, and is now practically retired from active professional duties, a respected and honored citizen, held in high regard by old and young. He is still county and city health officer, ably filling the position which he has held the past ten years. In Saline county, Mo., Dr. Combs married Elizabeth Carthrae, who was born in Missouri, of Scotch parents. She died in Missouri in 1877, leaving six children, namely: Howard Matthew, a graduate of the St. Louis Dental College, now practicing his profession in Visalia; Mary, of Los Angeles; Sydnor, at home; Nannie Letcher, a resident of Visalia; Sarah, an educator in Visalia; and James, who was graduated from the Nashville







*Mrs. John McBriar*



*John M. Briar*



Seminary with the degree of D. D. S., now practicing dentistry in Visalia. The doctor is a valued member of the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society. He takes great interest in the welfare of city and county, and in his political affiliations is a strong Democrat, and an ex-member of the county central committee. He has the distinction of being the oldest Mason in the valley, having united with the Masonic Order at Independence, Mo., in 1846. He is now a member of Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., and Marshall Chapter, R. A. M., of Marshall, Mo. In 1849 the doctor joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but is not now affiliated with the order.

**JOHN MCBRIAR.** Noteworthy among the leading citizens and business men of Tulare county is John McBriar, a man of more than average intelligence and ability, whose large and well-improved ranch lies midway between Reedley and Dinuba, being three and one-half miles from either place. Energetic and enterprising, in the prime of a vigorous manhood, he is respected and esteemed by a large circle of friends, neighbors and acquaintances, and is enjoying, as he well deserves, a generous portion of this world's goods. Like many other of our most prosperous and worthy residents, he was born and bred in a foreign country, his birth having occurred November 12, 1861, near Belfast, Ireland. His father, John McBriar, Sr., was born there also, and with the exception of a brief visit to Nova Scotia spent his life in that vicinity, being employed as a stockman. He was of Scotch descent, as was his wife, Mary Jamison, who was born in County Down, Ireland, and spent her entire life in her native isle. They became the parents of six children, five of whom are living, only two of them being in America, namely: John, the subject of this sketch; and James, a member of the firm, and the manager of the Morton Baking Company, Detroit, Mich.

The oldest child of the parental household, John McBriar was brought up on the home farm, receiving his early education in the national school. Leaving his native land when sixteen years old, he immigrated to Ontario, locating in Ottawa in 1878, and there being employed for a time in the Ironside mines. Going thence to the upper part of Michigan, he worked in the Calumet and Hecla copper mines for a while, and was afterwards similarly engaged in the phosphate mines on the Lievre river, Lower Canada. Successful in his operations, Mr. McBriar went to Arizona in 1885, prospected in the silver regions of Tombstone for a few months, from there going to Guaymas, Mexico, and thence to La Paz, Lower California. Finding the peninsula

rich in mineral resources, he remained there five years, three years of the time being foreman in the Trimbo mines. While thus employed, in 1886, Mr. McBriar spent one of his vacations in San Francisco. In 1889 he took an extended vacation, visiting San Francisco and Detroit, Mich., going from there back to his old home in Belfast, Ireland. After spending a week with his boyhood friends and companions he was ready to return to America, but continued his visit for four weeks, when he sailed for Quebec on one of the line steamers. From that city he journeyed by the Central Pacific Railroad to Vancouver, thence by boat to San Francisco, returning the same year to Lower California. Resuming his former position with his employers, Mr. McBriar continued as foreman in the mines until January, 1891, when he resigned on account of ill health, being afflicted with miner's consumption.

Coming directly to Lake county, Cal., Mr. McBriar spent four months at Bartlett Springs, where he recovered his former vigor. While there he formed the acquaintance of D. T. Curtis, of Reedley, who had large interests in the San Joaquin valley, and with him came here on a prospecting trip. Pleased with the looks of the country, Mr. McBriar purchased sixty acres of his present home ranch, and immediately began the work of converting the raw stubblefield into a productive estate. He set out twenty acres of Sultanias, planted a twelve-acre orchard, sowing the remainder to alfalfa. He erected a small dwelling, and this he has since enlarged, having now a substantial residence. Succeeding beyond his expectations as an agriculturist and horticulturist, Mr. McBriar bought forty acres more in 1897, and two years later purchased eighty acres of adjoining land, and all of this he has checked and irrigated and sowed to alfalfa. In 1902 he invested in more land, buying one hundred and twenty acres, which he devotes to alfalfa, and also purchased eighty acres of improved land in section 15, but this he afterwards sold. He also has an unexpired contract of two years with D. T. Curtis for improving a ninety-acre vineyard, lying on the same section as his home ranch.

Mr. McBriar married, near Dinuba, Mary A. Johnson, who was born in Ontario, a daughter of Thomas Johnson, of Dinuba, and they have two children, Agnes and Raymond. Mr. McBriar is one of the directors of the Alta Irrigation District, and is a trustee of the Windsor School District. Politically he is a straightforward Republican. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Reedley, and is a member and past grand of Reedley Lodge, I. O. O. F. He is also a member and past grand of the Reedley Lodge of Re-

bekahs, to which his wife likewise belongs. Mrs. McBriar is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is much esteemed for her many fine qualities of heart and mind.

**WILLIAM H. MCKENZIE.** A liberal and enterprising citizen, and an upbuilder of the best interests of county and state, William H. McKenzie is one of the most widely known and honored men of Fresno county. The son of a pioneer and himself born among the primitive conditions of an early civilization, his efforts have lain along the lines of the beginning of a statehood, the development of natural resources, the promotion of enterprises calculated to advance the growth of the community's interests. A business man of unusual executive ability, unerring judgment, conservative yet progressive ideas, he has made a personal success, and in addition to the position accorded him as a factor in pioneer enterprises he also holds the esteem of his fellow-citizens for these qualities which distinguish his character.

The McKenzie family is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, County Sligo, Ireland, being their home for several generations. Alexander McKenzie, the grandfather of William H., was a large land owner in that locality, a gentleman of means and education, who gave to his family every possible advantage. A son, James McKenzie, who was born in County Sligo, came to New York about 1848, in young manhood, and in 1853 he joined the United States army. The regiment was ordered to the Pacific coast to subdue the Indians in 1854, traveling by steamer to Aspinwall, thence across the Isthmus on mule back, thence by steamer to San Francisco, then to Benicia, and by land to Fort Miller. Mr. McKenzie became sergeant in the company which was commanded by Captain Lozier, remaining at Fort Miller until they were ordered north to Oregon to serve in the Indian wars. At the end of his enlistment, in 1858, he was honorably discharged, when as a citizen of California he began the sheep and cattle business on a ranch located just above Fort Miller. He remained in that location and occupation until his death, which occurred January 1, 1864, at the early age of thirty-three years. He was married in New York City, in 1854, to Ann Brennan, who was born in County Sligo, Ireland, November 7, 1826. She came to the United States in 1848 to visit a sister. Her wedding journey was a trip to the far west, like her husband, riding astride a mule across the Isthmus and passing through many experiences incident to pioneer life. She made her home at the fort up to the time of her husband's discharge, owning their quarters there until 1861, when they sold out and located upon the ranch. She afterward be-

came the wife of Judge Charles A. Hart, a pioneer of California and the first judge of Fresno county. (For more complete details concerning Judge Hart refer to the sketch of his life, which appears on another page of this work.)

Of the three children born to his parents, William H. McKenzie and Mary, now the wife of John C. Hoxie, of Fresno, are the only survivors; E. P. was a merchant and died at Pollasky, Fresno county, in 1888, at the age of twenty-five years, leaving one daughter. The birth of William H. McKenzie occurred at Fort Miller, in what was then known as Mariposa county but now constitutes a part of Fresno, March 10, 1857. He was reared to manhood upon the old farm just above the fort and which is still in the possession of the family. This ranch comprises three thousand acres on the San Joaquin river and on the place is located the old fort and town of Millerton, and the old courthouse of Fresno county. A part of the old fort is standing and is in a fairly good state of preservation. It is an adobe building covered with redwood shingles put on over fifty years ago, the broad veranda which surrounds the house being built of hewed timber. For many years this formed the residence of the McKenzie family. The old court house was built of brick and granite in 1866, the granite being obtained on the ranch a quarter of a mile from the location, while the brick was burned upon the ranch, as was the adobe. At the time of the erection of the old fort everything in the way of provisions, etc., had to be hauled from Stockton.

Mr. McKenzie received his education in the public schools at Fort Miller, after which he attended and graduated from Heald's Business College at San Francisco in 1873. The following year he returned to Fort Miller and in the same year was appointed deputy sheriff of the county under J. S. Ashman, serving in that capacity for some time, after which he acted as deputy clerk, deputy assessor, and deputy tax collector. In 1879 he was nominated and elected to the position of county assessor and the adoption of the constitution extended the term nearly three years. In 1882 he became interested in the abstract business which was finally incorporated as the Fresno County Abstract Company, with himself as a director, which position he has continued to hold up to the present time, being the largest stockholder of the company. At the same time that he has engaged in farming the old home place on the San Joaquin river he has been extensively interested in mining and oil wells, meeting with a success in both lines. With Mr. Griffith he was prominent in the building of the electric railway. After the building of the railway the company bought, in August, of the same year, the old road and formed the Fresno Electric Railway Com-



pany, of which Mr. McKenzie was director and manager. Following this the company built many more miles of railway and equipped it for business, putting in new electric machinery for power, and in every way adding to the facilities for transportation. They had twelve miles completed and in operation when they sold out in May, 1903. In his mining interests Mr. McKenzie has been very active, developing several mines, among them being the Mudspring mine in Madera county, and also gold mines in Fresno, Tulare and other counties. He was one of the early men to develop the resources of Kern county, in the Kern River Oil Company being manager and vice-president, in both Bakersfield and McKittrick sinking wells, which were the first drilled in this most productive field. He was also largely interested in the Four Oil Company adjoining the Kern river property, and two others of equal note, disposing of his interests in the various concerns when affairs were in the most satisfactory shape. He was also interested in the meantime in the Coalingo oil fields, their location on section 28 being the most celebrated oil-producing land in this country.

In Healdsburg, Cal., Mr. McKenzie was united in marriage with Carrie E. Hoxie, who was born in Millerton, a daughter of Clark Hoxie, a pioneer farmer of that place and a citizen prominent in early local affairs, being one of the first supervisors of the county. (For more complete details concerning his life refer to the sketch of his son, John C. Hoxie, which appears elsewhere in this work.) To Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie were born five children, namely: Alfred H., of San Francisco, and William T., Richard, Donald and Truman. Mr. McKenzie has served as city treasurer for about twelve years in the interests of the Democratic party, of whose principles he is a staunch adherent and in whose councils he has always been a potent factor. He is ex-chairman of the county and city Democratic committees. He is a member of the board of fire and police commissioners and of the chamber of commerce. Fraternally he is a member and past officer of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Fresno.

**WILLIAM HELM.** Noteworthy among the pioneer settlers of Fresno county is William Helm, a respected and valued citizen of Fresno. A keen, progressive business man, he is gifted with quick perceptions and a resolute spirit, and is well endowed with that peculiar vein of grit and determination that invariably leads onward to success. A perusal of the principal events of his career will prove what a man can do for himself by persistent application, if he have faith in the future of his community, and will also show what a prominent part he has taken in the de-

velopment and improvement of the San Joaquin valley. A son of George Helm, he was born March 9, 1837, in Ontario, Canada, about forty miles above Montreal, on the St. Lawrence river.

George Helm was born and bred in Scotland, living there until early manhood. Immigrating then to America, he settled in Galt, Ontario, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, at a ripe old age. He married Mary Oliver, who was born in Scotland, but was of English parentage on the paternal side. After the death of her husband she removed from Galt, Ontario, to California, and died in San Francisco, aged eighty-two years. Of the nine children which she bore her husband, three are living, namely: William, the subject of this sketch; George, of Phoenix, Ariz.; and Ellen B., of Alameda, this state.

Brought up on the home farm, William Helm acquired a practical education in the district schools, and a thorough knowledge of the various branches of agriculture under his father's instruction. Leaving home in 1856, he went to Wisconsin, and for three years thereafter was engaged in lumbering on the Chippewa river, also in operating a sawmill. Sailing from New York City in 1859, he came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco, Cal. Going to Placer county, he began searching for gold, but did not find it in such quantities as he had anticipated. Learning the butcher's business, he followed it for three years, first in Foresthill, and then in Todds Valley. Going from the latter place to Bear river, Placer county, Mr. Helm embarked in the sheep business, having a good range there. In 1865 he brought his sheep to Fresno county, which was then a vast space of open land, with no improvements, and not a mile of railway. At Dry Creek, on section four, six miles northeast of what is now the city of Fresno, Mr. Helm bought two thousand six hundred and forty acres of land of Mr. Chapman, paying a dollar an acre. Continuing business as a sheep raiser and dealer, he subsequently bought adjoining land, and established a winter camp for his sheep on the present site of the Fresno court house. His herd increased rapidly, at one time containing twenty-two thousand head of sheep, which browsed on the mountains during the summer seasons.

Mr. Helm was the largest individual sheep grower in that section of the state, and in carrying his wool to market at Stockton he used three wagons, each drawn by ten mules, and spent twelve days in making the trip. He subsequently bought additional land, having sixteen thousand acres in one body. Establishing his residence in Fresno, he continued his business from here, and in addition to stock raising began the improvement of his land, as soon as practicable,

building a ditch from Kings river for the purpose of irrigating. He was afterward one of a stock company that built the Gould ditch, from which he had branch ditches running through his own land. When, in course of time, there came a demand for land in this section of the country, Mr. Helm began selling his at an advantageous price, and has now but three thousand acres left, this being entirely valley land, and all well improved. He raises large crops of wheat, barley and alfalfa, and in his large vineyard of four hundred acres, one of the most extensive in the county, he makes a specialty of raising wine grapes. His sheep ranch is located two miles west of Fresno, where he keeps about three thousand Merinos. This ranch is in what is called a swamp country, but he has improved the land, converting a part of it into a large alfalfa field. Mr. Helm also owns valuable city property, having erected Helm block, at the corner of Mariposa and Fresno streets, a block at the corner of J and Fresno streets, and built up other property here. He is likewise interested in the Farmers' National Bank of Central California.

In Placer county, Mr. Helm married Fannie S. Newman, who was born in England, but was brought up and educated in New York state. Of their union seven children have been born, namely: Mrs. Jessie Cox, of San Francisco; George, a vineyardist, in Fresno county; Frank, a resident of Fresno, also a vineyardist; Mrs. Fannie Walrond, of Fresno; Mary, wife of Dr. J. L. Maupin, of Fresno; Agnes, wife of Dr. Montgomery Thomas, of Fresno; and Maude, living at home. In politics Mr. Helm invariably supports the Republican ticket. He is a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, which is composed of the most able business men of the place. Mrs. Helm is a member of the Episcopal Church.

It is impossible to overestimate the beneficent effect upon the growth and prosperity of the San Joaquin Valley which the work of William Helm has had. Not only has he been an eye witness to practically every step in the great scheme of development of the agricultural and horticultural resources of the valley, but he has borne a most conspicuous and valued part in the vast undertaking which has made that region one of the finest in the world. Throughout his entire career in the state he has not been unmindful of the rights and privileges of others, but has earnestly co-operated with his fellow-citizens in all well-considered efforts to advance the material welfare of the community, viewing the future with an unselfish eye. The remarkable success which has rewarded his labors is due to his indefatigable industry, his energy and his progressive spirit, as much as to his sagacity and discernment in studying the opportunities which California has

offered in the past, and still extends with a lavish hand. Personally Mr. Helm belongs to that strong type of pioneer citizen who survive despite the obstacles which constantly presented themselves in the earlier days of the state. His life has been closely interwoven with the history of the San Joaquin valley, and this brief record of it will prove of increasing interest to the younger generation and students of history as the years pass.

---

DANIEL BRENNAN will be remembered as a man of high literary attainments and one deeply interested in educational affairs, having been instrumental in establishing a number of schools in California after taking up his abode in this section. He was an able instructor, but upon first locating in the far west he followed book-keeping in San Francisco for a few years, prior to going into the ranching business in connection with educational work. Born in County Galway, Ireland, he left his native land for a home in America, and upon immigrating to this country went first to New York City, but afterward pursued his way to the Pacific slope, going by way of the Isthmus of Panama. In addition to his other qualifications Mr. Brennan was a surveyor and did a great deal of surveying and locating of claims. In the early days of his life in California he was frequently called upon to write up deeds, conveyances, etc.

Some time after going to San Francisco, in partnership with a friend, Mr. Brennan bought a farm in San Joaquin county, near Escalon, containing three hundred and twenty acres, and together they followed ranching pursuits for awhile. At length, by mutual consent, a division of the land was made, each receiving one hundred and sixty acres, and Mr. Brennan then engaged in conducting his part alone, renting land adjoining, until he farmed six hundred acres in all. He was successful in his ranching pursuits, which he followed in that vicinity until his death, May 23, 1881. He was forty-nine years old at the time of his death. By his marriage in Stockton October 7, 1868, he was united with Hannah Collins, a native of County Cork, Ireland, and a daughter of John and Mary (McCarthy) Collins, the latter having passed away in Stockton at the advanced age of seventy years. She and her husband reared a family of five children, among them Cornelius, who resides with his sister near Escalon. Mrs. Brennan accompanied this brother from the old home in Ireland to New York, and for years lived in that city. About 1863 they left New York for Aspinwall, thence pursuing their way to San Francisco.

After the death of Mr. Brennan, Mrs. Bren-





*J. D. Lovjoy*

nan rented the ranch till her sons were old enough to take charge of affairs, from which time they have conducted the farm. Seven children were born to them and they are as follows: Margaret, Mary, Anne, John, Catherine, Thomas and Eldora. The sons are farmers and the daughters, with the exception of Margaret and Catherine, are school teachers and are doing their part toward raising and maintaining the standard of education in California. The family occupy a high standing socially, and they worship at St. Patrick's Church, of which parish they are devout members.

---

**JOSIAH OTIS LOVEJOY.** The sturdy traits characteristic of the Scotch race, when transplanted to New England soil made of the Lovejoy family leaders in religious affairs and patriots of the highest type. Prior to the first war with Great Britain, Ebenezer Lovejoy left his native Scotland and accompanied by his wife, a lady of English birth, settled in Massachusetts, where for forty-seven years he was a deacon in the Congregational Church at West Andover. At the outbreak of the Revolution he left his plow and entered the army, where he served as a non-commissioned officer through the entire period of the struggle. As an inheritance to his son, Josiah Ballard Lovejoy, he left the endowment of an honorable name, an unspotted character and a loyal devotion to his country and his God; and the son, following in his footsteps, officiated as a deacon in the Congregational Church until his death in 1847 and manifested, throughout his career as a shoe and leather merchant in Boston, the upright and manly traits which had been his heritage. By the marriage of Josiah Ballard Lovejoy and Martha Stickney, who was born at Duxbury, Mass., and died at West Andover, seven children were born, of whom three sons and three daughters lived to maturity. Of the daughters Phoebe M. is a resident of Philadelphia, Pa., Annie is deceased, and Addie makes her home at West Newton, Mass. Of the sons, Josiah Otis, the eldest, is a pioneer and influential citizen of Tulare, Cal. George Walter, who served in a Massachusetts regiment during the Civil war, is a machinist by trade and lives in Tehachapi, Kern county, Cal.; while in the army, where he served from the first battle of Bull Run until the close of the war, he lost two fingers by a wound received in the engagement in front of Richmond. The youngest son, Wisner, served as an engineer in the United States navy throughout all of the Civil war; after receiving an honorable discharge he took a position as engineer on a vessel bound for China, but when off Cape Hatteras the vessel was wrecked and all on board perished.

At the family home in Duxbury, only a short distance from the famous Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts, Josiah Otis Lovejoy was born March 29, 1833. As a boy he lived in Boston and attended the schools of that city. When still a mere child, in 1845, his uncle took him to sea on a trading vessel, bound for Honolulu. In 1847 he rounded the Horn to the Sandwich Islands, the trip there and back consuming one year. On his return he shipped on the *Minstrel* to East India via the Cape of Good Hope, Calcutta, Singapore and Shanghai, and remained with his uncle in the Indies until December, 1851, when he returned to Boston. Two months later he started for California on his uncle's ship, *Roe-buck*, which cast anchor at San Francisco on the 4th of July, 1852, after a voyage of one hundred and fifty days from Boston. On disembarking from the ship he proceeded to San Jose and Mission San Jose, thence to Santa Clara, where he worked with a saw-milling firm for two years, and in October, 1854, began to mine at Mariposa. The following year he bought a sawmill on Snow creek and took the contract to build the county jail at Mariposa, which work he successfully carried out. For twelve years he ran the mill, and meanwhile was elected justice of the peace, which office he held for many years. From 1867 until 1871 he served as county judge of Mariposa county.

During May, 1871, Mr. Lovejoy removed to Tulare county, and in July established his home at Tulare, where his family joined him in December. The town was just started; the roof was being put on the depot when he reached the town, and other buildings were conspicuous only by their absence. For two years he conducted the hotel, but after the great fire he discontinued the business. For sixteen years he acted as justice of the peace, also as notary public, and meanwhile engaged in the real estate and insurance business, also bought land and conducted dairy and fruit farms for several years. By the erection of a residence at a cost of \$10,000 he furnished a valuable improvement to the town and encouraged other citizens in the building of substantial homes. He still owns his country residence. From the organization of the Kaweah Canal Company he served as its secretary until the stock was sold to the Tulare irrigation district. Besides other valuable interests he has been a pioneer in the oil fields. During 1864 he located the Buena Vista claims in township 30, range 21, and township 30, range 22. The importance of drilling and the use of drilling machinery were not understood then as now, and it was his plan to utilize the surface flow in the manufacture of illuminating oil by the aid of a small refinery. During 1887 he was one of the locators of the Sunset claims, township 11, range 23, and town-

ship 11, range 24, and since then he has served as secretary of the Sunset Oil Company, with office at Tulare.

While living at Mariposa, on Christmas day of 1857, Mr. Lovejoy married Miss Emma Green, who was born in Washington, D. C., and in 1855 came to California by way of Panama, accompanying her father, Gardner Green, who for some years followed mercantile pursuits in Mariposa county, but later engaged in the manufacture of lumber. Thirteen children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lovejoy, and the following are now living: Otis Hart, a stockman in Glenn county; Guard, an engineer on the Southern Pacific Railroad, with headquarters at Portland; Wisner, who formerly held the office of district attorney at Weiser, Idaho; Mrs. Emma Erwin, of Santa Rosa; Mrs. Mary J. Warren, a resident of Belvedere, Marin county, Cal.; Mrs. Grace Canelo, of San Francisco; and Mrs. Jessie Garrison, of Tulare. Mrs. Lovejoy is identified with the Congregational Church and reared her sons and daughters in that faith. In politics Mr. Lovejoy is a staunch Democrat and at one time served as chairman of the county central committee. Local movements of a progressive character receive his co-operation and support. From the first inception of the public schools in Tulare, he has been an ardent supporter of education, and by constant application with others succeeded in bringing the schools to their present high standing. As a member of the Tulare Board of Trade Mr. Lovejoy's efforts have been especially noteworthy, and as president of the board of trustees of the free public library he has rendered valuable assistance. From the first he was a friend of the movement to start a library and when the movement was launched he was chosen one of the trustees, serving as a member of the board for years, and later being honored with the office of president. In fraternal affairs he is connected with the Knights of Pythias, is a past officer in the lodge and encampment of Odd Fellows, and a past officer, also for sixteen years a trustee of the grand lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**ROBERT DAVIS.** Occupying a prominent position among the well-to-do agriculturists of Stanislaus county is Robert Davis, whose well-improved and productive ranch is finely located on Orestimba creek, about seven and one-half miles west of Newman. A man of unquestioned ability and integrity, he is held in high respect throughout the community in which he lives, his sterling qualities of heart and mind being recognized. A son of Andrew Jackson Davis, he was born January 9, 1848, in Pike county, Mo.

Born and bred in Wythe county, Va., Andrew

J. Davis removed to Missouri in 1835, becoming a pioneer of Pike county, where he improved a good farm from a tract of timbered land, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Grazella Staley, was born in Tennessee, and died in Pike county, Mo. Nine sons and three daughters were born of their marriage, Robert, the special subject of this sketch, being the sixth child in succession of birth.

Receiving but meager educational advantages in the pioneer schools of his native county, Robert Davis began the battle of life on his own account when seventeen years of age. Starting for the Pacific coast in 1865, he crossed the plains with mule teams, coming by way of the Platte river route, and being four months in making the journey. Locating near Stockton, Cal., he was employed as a farm laborer for three years. Removing to the San Joaquin valley in 1868, he lived near Hills Ferry for four years, and then, in 1872, took possession of his present ranch, which he rented for a year. In 1873 Mr. Davis homesteaded a claim of one hundred and sixty acres on Orestimba creek, and engaged in general farming, including grain and stock-raising, in which he has been eminently successful. He has bought adjacent land, having now one thousand and fifty acres in his home farm, and one hundred and sixty acres on the opposite side of the creek, just across the stream from his main ranch. From 1888 until 1900, Mr. Davis resided on the east side of the San Joaquin river, at Hickman, where he was in the hotel business.

Mr. Davis married, near Hickman, Nellie Sophia McAlpine, who was born in New Hampshire, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Harvey V., manager of the home ranch, Arthur, Ethel and Stella. Politically Mr. Davis is a Socialist.

**GEORGE W. JONES.** Among the younger generation of men who are rapidly coming to the front in Madera county mention is made of George W. Jones, who, as manager of the Borden farm, has shown rare business ability. This ranch, which contains two thousand two hundred and forty acres, is well located about four and three-quarters miles west of Madera and upon it is to be found the well-known Richland vineyard which alone contains two hundred acres, devoted solely to the culture of the raisin grape. Two sections of this farm are devoted to grain-raising, and dairy farming is also carried on to some extent, about one hundred fine milch cows being kept constantly upon the place. From ten to thirty men are employed upon the farm, as occasion demands; the largest



barn in Madera county is located there, the dimensions being 250x100 feet.

George W. Jones, a descendant of a prominent Kentucky family, was born in Santa Clara county in 1877. His father, Hugh S. Jones, was a native of Kentucky, and crossed the plains to California in the early days of the gold excitement. Entering the mines in 1849, he was one of the few who were successful in their mining operations and became one of the wealthy men in California during the early pioneer days. He was among the most active politicians of his section, a Democrat by his political preference, at one time he was state comptroller of the currency. He was a thirty-second degree Mason. At the time of his death, in 1893, California lost one of her most public-spirited citizens. By his marriage, he was united with Henrietta Bye.

G. W. Jones grew to manhood in Santa Clara county and had the advantage of a liberal education. His common school education was supplemented by a complete scientific course in the Garden City College, and he was graduated from that institution in the class of 1897. He subsequently took a business course in Santa Clara College, and after leaving school, took up the occupation of bookkeeping, which occupied his attention for four years, in San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose, where he was chosen manager of the Borden farm in Madera county, a position he still holds and for which he has shown much aptitude. He was united in marriage with Jeanet La Montagne, who was born in Santa Clara county and is a graduate of San Jose high school, class of 1897, and to them have been born three children, Gillon Hugh, Marjorie J. and Margaret S. Mr. Jones and family occupy a high place in social circles. He is a member of Madera Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M., and of the Woodmen of the World.

---

**JOHN HENRY OBERT.** Among the prosperous, substantial and progressive horticulturists of Fresno county there is no one that stands higher in the estimation of the people than John Henry Obert, a well-known vineyardist and orchardist of Selma. Enterprising and farsighted, he has made wise investments, paid strict attention to the details of his business, and in his career has been successful. Of German parentage, he was born February 20, 1832, in Cumberland county, Pa. His father, Peter Obert, a native of Baden, Germany, came with his bride to this country in 1830, being then twenty-one years of age. The following four years he lived in Cumberland county, Pa. Going to Missouri as a pioneer in 1834, he opened a shoemaker's shop in St. Louis, and a few years

later bought forty acres of land in Florissant valley, about twenty miles north-northwest of St. Louis. Continuing his work as a shoemaker, he also worked his land, being a farmer and gardener, and was successful in his occupations until his death, which was caused by smallpox, when he was sixty-three years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Glazier, was born in Germany, and died, in 1834, in Pennsylvania. Of their three children, two boys and one girl, John Henry was the youngest.

After completing his education in a subscription school, the sessions being held in a small log cabin, John Henry Obert remained home with his father until after attaining his majority, assisting in the care of the shop and the farm. Enlisting in Company E, Eighty-fifth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, in 1864, he served for three months under Col. E. M. M. Smith, guarding St. Louis against an expected attack by Price and his followers. Going to Illinois in 1865, Mr. Obert purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Madison county, and was there prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years. Disposing of his farm in 1899, he came to California, selecting Fresno county as a place of location, and soon after bought the twenty-acre ranch which he now occupies. Sparing neither time nor money in its improvement, Mr. Obert has here a finely bearing orchard and vineyard, and an alfalfa field, all yielding him a good income. He likewise owns a vineyard of twenty acres in the Patterson colony, and supervises the work on both estates. He has also other financial interests, having money loaned in the east.

Mr. Obert has been twice married, and by his first wife had four children, namely: Jacob John, living near Selma; Frank S., of Selma; Mrs. Emma Wentz, of Selma; and Rebecca, at home. In St. Louis, Mo., in 1875, Mr. Obert married for his second wife Mrs. Mary (Heisener) Turner, and they have one child, namely: John M., a telegraph operator and train dispatcher for the Virginia & Truckee Railway Company. Politically Mr. Obert is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and while living in Illinois took an active part in local affairs, serving as school director for twenty years, as highway commissioner and township trustee, and filling many other public offices.

---

**MANNING F. LUNDY.** One of the successful and thriving agriculturists of Stanislaus county is Manning F. Lundy, who lives about two miles north of Newman, where he owns and occupies a well-kept homestead. A man of good ability and judgment, possessing

to a marked degree those sterling qualities that everywhere constitute an honest and good citizen, he is well deserving of especial mention in this biographical work. A son of Isaac Lundy, he was born May 29, 1842, in Sussex county, N. J. His father, who was a blacksmith and ax manufacturer by trade, died in 1847, while yet in the prime of life, in New Jersey. His widow, whose maiden name was Rebecca Schoonover, settled on a farm in Bradford county, Pa., in 1852, and there spent her remaining years.

The eighth child in a family consisting of six boys and four girls, Manning F. Lundy was left fatherless when but five years of age, and from his early boyhood had to be in a measure self-supporting. After receiving a limited education in the common schools of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, he worked out as a farm laborer for several years. Thinking to find better opportunities for increasing his finances in the Prairie state, he migrated to Lee county, Ill., when a young man, and there continued in his chosen employment for a while. Coming across the continent to California in 1875, Mr. Lundy entered the employ of the San Joaquin Canal Company, and helped build the long canal in the valley, for three years of the time that he was thus engaged being foreman of a gang of men, and being located in one place. During the seven years that he was with the company he accumulated considerable money, and made judicious investments. In 1879 he purchased his present ranch, and in 1882 moved on to it, and has since devoted his attention to its care and improvement. He has seventy acres of good land, and is successfully engaged in raising alfalfa, and in dairying, keeping twenty-one cows. He has also other interests, being a director in the Rochdale store at Newman.

In Merced county, Mr. Lundy married Annie Bibby, a native of Napa county, and into their household thus established three children have been born, namely: Mary, Ida May and Hetie. Mr. Lundy is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and is a faithful member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

---

**WILLIAM E. KEWIN.** In the business which he conducts, that of liveryman and dealer in feed, Mr. Kewin has made himself a commercial factor of Modesto, to which city he came in 1892. During the comparatively brief period which has since elapsed he has established a large trade, now owning twenty-five vehicles and twenty-five head of horses, and also handling grain and hay in large quantities. An

interest which has netted him considerable money has been the buying and selling of horses, this having proved of much profit during the Boer war. Mr. Kewin also owns forty acres of alfalfa in the Modesto irrigation district. A native of Illinois, he was born at Gardner, Grundy county, December 24, 1865, the son of William Kewin.

William Kewin was born on the Isle of Man, and upon attaining manhood he came to the United States, locating first in Wisconsin, from which state he later removed to Grundy county, Ill., locating in the latter state in 1861, where he remained as a farmer until his death. He married Elizabeth James, of Wisconsin, in which state her death occurred in 1884. Of the four sons and two daughters born to them three sons attained maturity.

William E. Kewin received his education in the common schools of Illinois, where he made his home until he was twenty years old. Deciding then to seek a home in the west, he came to California, and located in Salida, Stanislaus county, where he worked for a period of five years. In 1890 he rented land and engaged as a farmer on his own resources, acquiring sufficient means to enable him to enter in 1892 upon his present lucrative business. Energy, perseverance and undoubted ability have been the foundation upon which Mr. Kewin has reared his financial success, and the esteem of all who know him is given him for the evidence of the many qualities which distinguish his character. In this city he was united in marriage with Annie M. Cocking, a native of Michigan, and they have now a pleasant home. Fraternally Mr. Kewin is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and the Masons, being a member of the Blue Lodge. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and is active in his support of the principles which he indorses. Recognized as a citizen of ability he has been called upon to serve as a member of the city council for one year.

---

**OSCAR H. EASTIN.** The family with which Oscar H. Eastin is connected is one prominent in the agricultural life of California, his father, Octavius C. Eastin, having been for many years an extensive grain raiser. At one time owning in Madera county eighteen hundred acres of wheat land, at the present time he has in his possession seven hundred and fifty acres which he has rented. A native of Madison county, Ky., he is the son of James Eastin, who was in turn the son of Reuben, all of whom were farmers. Octavius C. Eastin married Lucy J. Hope, also a native of Kentucky, and in 1833 removed to Missouri, making their home in that





JOHN P. MURRY

state until 1854, when he, with his family, crossed the plains for California. Locating first in Calaveras county he engaged in mining, and later met with considerable success in the dairy and sheep business. In 1879 he removed to Madera county and farmed south of Madera, cultivating his property of eighteen hundred acres. Now in his seventy-third year he has retired from the active cares of life and is making his home with his son, Oscar H., of this review. An influential man in the community where he has made his home for so many years, he enjoys the esteem and confidence of all who have known him in the past. An honor paid him was the naming of the Eastin school district for him.

A native son of the state, Oscar H. Eastin was born in Calaveras county, February 26, 1865, but was reared to manhood upon the paternal ranch in Madera county. In September, 1903, he located on his present property, which consists of eleven and a half acres of land just west of Merced, while he also cultivates thirty acres which he rents, this entire amount being devoted to alfalfa, fruits, especially berries, and a dairy. In addition to this property he also owns other land in Madera county. He married Rissa Moffett, a native of Sonoma county, and the daughter of Henry Moffett, of Tennessee, who came to this state among the early pioneers. Mr. and Mrs. Eastin are the parents of three children, namely: Ralph, Ethel and Naomi. In his political preferment Mr. Eastin is like his father, a Democrat, and is prominent in local affairs. He was one of the five commissioners appointed by Governor Markham to act as officers of Madera county when it was separated from Fresno county. A man of intelligence and great personal worth, Mr. Eastin is recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the community.

**JOHN P. MURRY.** The name of John P. Murry bears with it remembrance of a citizen who held a high place in the affairs of Portersville and Tulare county, having been one of the earliest settlers upon the Tule river. He was born in Louisiana and passed the first eighteen years of his life upon the paternal farm, where he was trained to the practical duties which made his success in later life. Becoming dependent upon his own resources in his nineteenth year, he decided to cast in his lot with the California pioneers, and accordingly he crossed the plains in 1852, being employed by John Montgomery, of Independence, Mo., to assist in driving a band of six hundred cattle to the coast. They brought the cattle successfully through and turned them out on the range in Merced county. Mr. Murry soon afterward returned to Missouri by water, with Mr. Montgomery,

and the following year (1853) brought out seven hundred head of cattle. Mr. Murry remained with Mr. Montgomery until 1855, when he became associated with a Mr. Johnson, who was later called "Tule River" Johnson. Together they purchased stock in Los Angeles and wintered them on the Tule river, and the following spring they were driven to the mines and sold. The successful issue of this venture induced Mr. Murry to continue in the business, and following this he became one of the most prominent stockmen of the San Joaquin valley, in 1874, in partnership with Henry Mentz, owning twelve thousand head. The dry year of 1877 proved disastrous to many of the stockmen, among whom was Mr. Murry, who lost about five thousand from starvation, and on account of poor range sold the balance for \$10 a head. For several years following this misfortune Mr. Murry was out of the business, being employed in 1883 to go to New Mexico to purchase cattle and stock ranches for Haggin & Hearst, in the four years that he was so occupied purchasing over eight thousand head of cattle. Returning to Portersville in 1887, Mr. Murry engaged in stock speculations until his death, owning a range of about fourteen hundred acres lying near the Tule river. In 1888 he laid out Murry's addition to the town of Portersville, and subdivided eighteen acres for building purposes. For a time, from 1865 to 1868, Mr. Murry was located in Visalia, where he was engaged with J. E. Denny, of that city, in the livery business, and has also speculated somewhat in mines, although his principal business has remained throughout his entire residence in the west in the buying, selling and raising of live stock. His death occurred August 25, 1899, removing from the community a man who enjoyed to an unusual degree the esteem and confidence of all who knew him, holding a high place by reason of his personal worth as well as business ability.

In Visalia, in 1858, Mr. Murry was united in marriage with Martha Keeney, a native of Ohio, and they became the parents of five children, of whom Theodore R. and George G. were the only ones who reached maturity. In his fraternal relations Mr. Murry was a member of Portersville Lodge No. 199, A. O. U. W.

**JOHN H. SHEDD.** One of the leading citizens of Borden, John H. Shedd has been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Madera county for the past thirty years, and in the prosecution of his calling has gained an excellent reputation as a man of ability and worth. Beginning life for himself in boyhood in a small New England village, he has been in truth the architect of his own fortunes, and has

worked himself up from a condition of comparative poverty to a place of affluence and influence. He comes of old colonial stock, the emigrant ancestor of the Shedd family having settled in New England. A son of Alvin Shedd, he was born April 11, 1836, in Orleans county, Vt. His father was a farmer and tanner, and was born and reared in New Hampshire, living there until after his marriage with Laurinda Smith, also a native of that state, then moving to Vermont.

Born and bred on a Green Mountain farm, John H. Shedd began the battle of life for himself at the age of sixteen years, learning the shoemaker's trade, at which he served an apprenticeship of four years. In 1857, needing a change of climate on account of ill health, he came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to California, and for three years thereafter was engaged in mining in Tuolumne county. Recovering his former physical vigor, he settled as a farmer in San Joaquin county, near Stockton, where he remained two years. Removing to Owens river valley in Tulare county in 1863, he took up land, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until after the memorable earthquake of 1872. From August, 1872, until April, 1873, Mr. Shedd was a resident of Stanislaus county. Removing from there to Fresno (now Madera) county that spring, he bought his present ranch, which now contains sixteen hundred acres of land, and has since carried on a very extensive and profitable business as a grain and stock raiser.

In 1869, in San Joaquin county, Mr. Shedd married Elizabeth M. Salmon, a native of Wisconsin, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Albert E., George M., Lelia A., John F. and Dee Truman (now dead). Taking a keen interest in local affairs, Mr. Shedd has been identified with the public welfare of town, county and state since coming to the coast. He has served as supervisor of Inyo county, and for four years filled the same office in Madera county.

MRS. VIRGINIA SHERMAN. An accomplished and enterprising business woman, Mrs. Virginia Sherman is devoting her time and energies to the management of her well-improved ranch, which is pleasantly located near Newman, being about a mile east of the town. Of thrifty and substantial German stock, she was born and brought up in Clark county, Mo., a daughter of Daniel Byers.

A native of Germany, Daniel Byers came with his parents to the United States when a child, and lived for a short time in Pennsylvania. At the age of nine years he was taken to Virginia, where he attended the common schools for a

few years, and afterwards learned the potter's trade. Migrating to Missouri in 1852, he settled as a pioneer in Clark county, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. Mr. Byers married Emma Little, a native of Fairfax county, Va., and they became the parents of eleven children, of whom four sons and three daughters grew to years of maturity. In 1879 Mrs. Byers came to California, and from that time until her death lived in Colusa county, making her home with one of her sons.

The youngest child of the parental household, Virginia Byers received a good common school education in her native town. In 1876, in Clark county, Mo., she married Hiram F. Sherman. Mrs. Sherman is a clear-headed, active woman, possessing excellent judgment and great executive ability, and since assuming her position as manager of the home estate has met with marked success and but few discouragements. She has quite a dairy, keeping many cows, and has eighty acres of her land devoted to the raising of alfalfa, which is her principal crop. Mrs. Sherman has had four children, namely: Milton R.; Cecil B., deceased; Leo D.; and William Rey. Throughout the community in which she resides, Mrs. Sherman has the respect and esteem of her friends and neighbors, who have ever found her a kind, helpful and genial companion.

THOMAS DRAKE EASTIN. Conspicuous among the many enterprising and progressive agriculturists who bring to their calling good business methods and excellent judgment is Thomas Drake Eastin, a thriving and prosperous farmer, living about six and one-half miles west of Newman, in Stanislaus county. A son of the late Brutus Eastin, he was born July 27, 1870, in Pike county, Mo.

A native of Kentucky, Brutus Eastin was born in Madison county. In early boyhood he removed with his parents, James and Theodocia (South) Eastin, natives of Virginia, of Scotch-English descent, to Missouri. When the wonderful stories of the rich discovery of gold in California reached his ears, Brutus Eastin crossed the plains with an ox team train, and for nine years cast his luck with the miners, in his labors meeting with average success. Returning to Missouri in 1858, he married, and lived there for twenty years, when, in 1878, he came with his family to Stanislaus county. He located first at Crow's Landing, and then on the farm now occupied by his son, Thomas Drake Eastin, at Orestimba, which he purchased in the spring of 1887, and where he resided until his death, in 1899, aged seventy-three years. He married Emeline South, who was born in Missouri, and died in Stockton, Cal.



She bore him four sons and four daughters, Thomas Drake, the special subject of this sketch, being the second child. Two of the sons are now deceased.

Coming with his parents to Stanislaus county, in 1878, Thomas Drake Eastin was educated in the public schools at Crow's Landing. In 1887 he came with the family to the farm on which he now lives, at Orestimba, and since the death of his father has had its management, renting the place from the remaining heirs. The ranch comprises three hundred and sixty-eight acres of land, one-sixth of which is his by inheritance. As a general farmer he is meeting with success, and in addition to raising the staple crops of this section of the state, Mr. Eastin pays some attention to stock raising, and also has a chicken ranch, from which he receives a good income.

In San Luis Obispo, Cal., Mr. Eastin married Miss Louisa Vernon, a native of Monterey county, and they have two children, namely: Thomas Drake, Jr., and Inez Dorothy. Politically Mr. Eastin is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and religiously he is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

---

**THOMAS FRANK KERR.** A wide-awake energetic and progressive man, Thomas F. Kerr has been actively associated with the development and promotion of the industrial growth and prosperity of the San Joaquin valley, and is recognized as one of its leading dairymen. His ranch, lying about seven miles south of Newman, is well irrigated, and is especially adapted for dairy purposes. He has a good residence and convenient farm buildings, everything about the premises indicating the care and supervision of an excellent manager and a thorough-going farmer. A son of John James Kerr, he was born March 27, 1849, in Jasper county, Mo.

Born and reared on a farm in Pike county, Mo., John James Kerr was there employed as a tiller of the soil during his earlier life. In 1864, in search of wealth, he came with his family to the Golden State, crossing the plains with ox and mule teams, the journey taking four months to accomplish. Settling in Contra Costa county, he was engaged in farming and stock raising near Danville. Removing then to Oregon, he bought land near Eugene, and there continued his agricultural operations from 1877 until 1882. Subsequently returning to California, he has since resided in Fresno county, and now, at the age of seventy-seven years, is living retired, making his home with one of his sons. He married Margaret A. Braley, who

was born in Missouri, and now lives in Fresno county. Of their union ten children were born, five boys and five girls, Thomas F., the subject of this sketch, being the first-born.

Having obtained a practical education in the public schools of his native state, Thomas F. Kerr came with his parents to California in 1864, settling in Contra Costa county. Selecting farming as the means of getting a livelihood, he has since devoted his time and attention to this branch of industry, and has been favored in every respect. He began his career as a farmer and stock raiser in the vicinity in which he first located, going from there to Kern county, where he engaged in raising sheep and farming, and afterward removed to Merced county, in 1877, where he continued to farm. Removing to Santa Clara county in 1890, Mr. Kerr was engaged in fruit raising near Campbell until the fall of 1903, when he removed to San Jose, having previously secured his present ranch, which contains six hundred and forty acres of land, and is irrigated by water from the ditch. Here Mr. Kerr is successfully pursuing his pleasant occupation, raising a small amount of grain, and having three hundred and fifty acres of alfalfa. He pays especial attention to his dairy, keeping one hundred and eighty cows, and selling and shipping his dairy products daily to the San Francisco market.

While living in Contra Costa county, Mr. Kerr married Susie C. Chrisman, a native of California, and they are the parents of seven children. In politics Mr. Kerr is identified with the Prohibition party. He takes keen interest in local and national affairs, and for one term was supervisor of Kern county. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kerr are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

---

**WILLIAM STODDARD SCOTT,** who has been identified with the business interests of Fresno since the age of nineteen years, has spent his entire life in California. He is a native of Woodland, Yolo county, where he received a public-school education. He learned the bricklayer's trade under his father, the late C. C. Scott, whose sketch appears on another page in this work. When sixteen years old he began to do journeyman work, being thus engaged in Selma and later in San Francisco. On coming to Fresno he took charge of C. J. Craycroft's brick buildings as foreman and continued in the same position for five years. Since 1895 he has engaged in contracting for himself and in the interval has erected, among other structures, the Santa Fe round house and depot, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Baptist Church, Sanitarium, Kinspiel building, O'Neill, Carnegie,

Wenner, Rosser, Cooper and Porteous buildings, Episcopal Church, Risley building (now the Union hotel), Forsythe building, and numerous residences in Fresno, besides being foreman in the construction of both wings of the court house. Out of the city his contracts have taken him to Sanger, Reedley, Madera, Clovis, Selma, Merced and other towns where building enterprises are being pushed with energy and success.

An active worker in the Republican party, Mr. Scott was its candidate for county clerk in 1902, but was defeated by one hundred and eighty-four votes. The Fresno Chamber of Commerce numbers him among its members. His fraternal relations include membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of the Macca-bees, Knights of Pythias (in which he has officiated as captain of the Uniform Rank), Foresters of America, Modern Woodmen of America, Fraternal Brotherhood, Rebekahs, Degree of Honor, Ancient Order of United Workmen and Native Sons of the Golden West. Since 1890 he has been connected with the California National Guard and at one time was drum major of the Sixth Regiment. During the Spanish-American war he enlisted as a private in Company C, Sixth California Infantry, and rose to be sergeant, in which capacity he was serving at the time of his honorable discharge from the volunteer organization. Afterward he renewed his membership in Company C, Sixth National Guard, and held a commission as first lieutenant of his company. He is connected with the Spanish-American War Veterans. During the progress of the war he acted as a correspondent for the *Fresno Republican*, to which, as to other local papers, he has also been a contributor on other topics. On the organization of the Bricklayers & Masons International Union No. 1, at Fresno, he became a charter member, was elected its first secretary, and has continued to fill that office up to the present time. He also holds office as vice-president of the state union of the same organization and is further connected with the Building and Trades Council of Fresno as its secretary.

**ADOLPH H. SALAU.** Four and a half miles southwest of Los Banos is located the dairy farm of Adolph H. Salau, one of the representatives of a family established in the state in 1858, a son of H. F. F. Salau, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Soon after the birth of his son, Adolph H., on his farm in Santa Clara county, August 24, 1869, he settled on the west side of Merced county and engaged in the sheep business on Badger Flats for a year, afterward engaging in the same business in the foothills along the Los Banos creek. Five years later he moved to his present place, a farm of

two hundred and eighty acres, of which two hundred acres are under alfalfa. Besides Adolph H., he had four other children, of whom Mrs. Mathias Becker lives in the vicinity of Los Banos; and Mary A., Louis H., and Doretta C., live on the old place.

Adolph H. has always been industrious and appreciative of the many advantages of country existence. He received a practical education in the public schools and continued to live on the home place until his twenty-first year, when he located on the farm which has since been his home. He has turned his attention principally to raising grain, and at times has farmed six hundred and forty acres. He now has thirty acres under alfalfa and raises about two hundred tons a year. He is a progressive farmer, appreciating the comforts and luxuries of life, and bringing many of the advantages of the city within the borders of his property.

Mr. Salau has served his township well as a staunch Republican, and has taken a prominent part in the local deliberations of his party, representing his district in state and county conventions. Fraternally he is a member of Los Banos Lodge No. 312, F. & A. M.; the Woodmen of the World, and the Order Eastern Star. Mr. Salau married in Marshfield, Ore., Lulu C. Miller, a native of San Francisco. He is a prominent rancher, and respected for his many sterling traits of character.

**HENRY G. BOLLMAN** is a successful ranchman of Contra Costa county, located in the Mount Diablo valley on a ranch of six hundred acres, which is now devoted to the cultivation of hay and raising of stock. Previous to the last ten years he raised grain principally, in which cultivation, by wise and judicious management, he met with success and accumulated a competency which enabled him to become the owner of his present prosperous ranch. Mr. Bollman is a strictly self-made man, having been thrown upon his own resources at an early age, and with nothing but his own energy and courage to buoy him up, has steadily advanced to his present position of influence and affluence.

Born in Santa Clara county, Cal., August 3, 1855, Mr. Bollman was a son of Dedrick and Henrietta (Ringstruff) Bollman. The elder man brought his family to California in 1853 or '54, locating at San Jose, Santa Clara county, where he followed farming until his death in 1858, at the early age of forty-five years. His widow married a second time, becoming the wife of Andrew Gehringer, who afterward settled in Contra Costa county, where her death occurred in May, 1903, in her eighty-second year. Henry G. Bollman grew to manhood and sought to

earn his living by hiring out to neighboring farmers. By industry and economy he managed to accumulate sufficient money to admit of the purchase of one hundred and fifteen acres of his step-father's ranch, and began general farming and stock raising. With the passing years his accumulated wealth was invested in adjoining land until today he owns six hundred acres. He has continued to add improvements in the way of buildings, fences, etc., and has set out a small fruit orchard, which is only intended to supply his family with needed fruits. In addition to his farming interests he conducts a dairy of thirty-five cows, having his own creamery upon the ranch.

The marriage of Mr. Bollman in 1887 united him with Mattie Smith, a daughter of George Smith, who spent his last years in Contra Costa county. Mrs. Bollman was born in Iowa, but was reared and educated in California. Born of this union were six children, namely: Harold, Henrietta, Ralph, Winnie, Catherine and Marion.

---

GEORGE C. HENDERSON. In the struggle of life which results in the survival of the fittest, George C. Henderson had only those qualities with which nature had endowed him to depend upon, and the story of his life is the story of what a man can do if his energies are directed along the channel where his interest lies. For when a man pursues a calling for which nature has peculiarly fitted him and which possesses a never-ceasing interest for him, success will crown his individual efforts in almost every instance. It is so in the case of Mr. Henderson, one of the early pioneers of California, which has been his home for more than half a century, and for more than thirty years he has followed ranching pursuits in Merced county, of which he is now a retired and honored citizen. In observing this well-known, keen-looking gentleman, it will be seen at a glance that his seventy-five years sit lightly upon him and his activity would shame many a younger man.

Of Scotch-English ancestry, born March 10, 1829, in the town of Chester, Warren county, N. Y., Mr. Henderson is a son of Carlton and Lovina (Smith) Henderson, both of whom were also natives of the Empire state, the father being of Scotch extraction and the mother of English. When but eight years old George C. was deprived of his father by death. He continued to live in New York and during his boyhood and early manhood, receiving his education in the local schools. In 1852, in his twenty-third year, he sailed for California, coming by way of the Nicaragua route, and shortly after landing at San Francisco went to the mines of Yuba

county, near Marysville, but paid very little attention to mining. He ditched one hundred and sixty acres in that county, working for wages, and subsequently assisted in threshing wheat the same fall in the vicinity of San Jose, and the following four months were spent by him in the Redwood district, in San Mateo county. He was located next in the Santa Clara valley, where he worked for a year and a half, then went to Stockton and for ten years he followed teaming from that city to Sonora and Columbia.

In 1864 Mr. Henderson went back to Warren county and September 10 was married to Emma Brusie, and, accompanied by his wife, he returned to California. Purchasing land in the vicinity of Modesto, Stanislaus county, he followed farming until 1874. During that year he came to Merced county and four years later he purchased the place where he now resides and which has since been his home. His original purchase contained one hundred and eighty-five acres and is located four miles west of Merced. He has raised principally grain and hay, paying some attention, however, to fruit and alfalfa. Being very productive, the place has yielded him an income above the ordinary and has placed him in comfortable circumstances, in addition to having enabled him to rear and educate his family of five children: Cora became the wife of A. E. Burnside of Merced county and has one child; Ruby, who married S. T. Baker, lives in Oregon and has two children, Lora Belle and an infant unnamed; Charles is an engineer living in Everett, Wash.; Henri Herbert, a surveyor, lives in Merced; and Fred, an electrician, lives in Redlands, Cal.

Politically Mr. Henderson was a Whig in the early days, but afterwards, upon the organization of the Republican party, joined its ranks. He is a prominent character in the history of Merced county, of which he is one of the early settlers and one who is held in highest esteem by all who know him for his generosity and public spirit.

---

H. C. CROWDER, M. D. During that period of American history when Kentucky was still a frontier settlement in the midst of hostile savages, John Crowder left his native South Carolina and established a home in the blue-grass country. The next generation was represented by Reuben Crowder, a native of Kentucky, who as early as 1824 removed to Sangamon county, Ill., and settled on raw land in Gardner township. The present capital city of Springfield was at that time a hamlet containing only six houses, and those of the crudest construction. At the time of removing to Illinois, the son, Thomas M., who was born in Kentucky in 1818, was a child of

six years, and from that time forward he was identified with farm pursuits in Illinois, where he remained until his death. In early manhood he married Mary J. Dally, who was born in Pennsylvania and removed to Illinois at an early age with her father, Milton Dally, likewise of Pennsylvania birth.

The family of Thomas M. and Mary J. Crowder consisted of ten children, all but three of whom attained mature years. Of these, H. C. Crowder was second in order of birth, and was born near Springfield, Ill., June 19, 1844. As a boy, he attended the Springfield schools. Early in life he formed an aspiration to become a physician, but the outbreak of the war delayed him in taking up the necessary studies. He enlisted in Company G, Tenth Illinois Cavalry, mustered into service at Springfield in 1862 and assigned to the army of the Mississippi under Generals Steele and Canby. In that department he served until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged in New Orleans June 8, 1865, pursuant upon the general order for the disbandment of the army. On his return to Illinois he assisted his father on the home farm for four years and during his leisure hours studied medicine under Dr. J. M. West, then of Springfield, and now of Red Bluff, Cal. In order to avail himself of the advantages offered by one of the most thorough institutions in the country he matriculated in Rush Medical College in Chicago in 1870, and received the degree of M. D. from that college in 1874 on the completion of the regular course.

Upon establishing an office for practice, Dr. Crowder located first at San Jose, Mason county, Ill. In 1876 he came to California, locating at Santa Rosa, but in 1879 transferring his office to Williams, Colusa county, where he built up an important patronage in the ten ensuing years. During the period of his residence at Williams he served as coroner and public administrator for one term, and under appointment by Governor Stoneman was for four years a member of the state board of health. In 1889 he returned to his former home in Santa Rosa, where in addition to his private practice he held the position of surgeon to the Southern Pacific Railroad. For two terms he was a member of the board of trustees of the public library. In 1896 he became a practicing physician of Sutter Creek, Amador county, and from there, in March, 1903, came to Tracy, San Joaquin county, where he now carries on a general practice and also acts as district surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad. The Pacific Coast Association of Railroad Surgeons numbers him among its members, and he is also actively interested in the San Joaquin County, California State and American Medical Associations, besides being a thoughtful reader of current medical literature. It is his ambition

to keep abreast with every development made in the science of medicine. With this object in view he has ever been a student of therapeutics, and no discovery is made of possible value to the fraternity of physicians that fails to receive his thorough investigation and study.

The marriage of Dr. Crowder was solemnized in Santa Rosa, February 15, 1878, and united him with Bertha Letold, who was born in Grass Lake, Mich., and came to California in company with her parents in 1875. The doctor and his wife are associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Tracy, in which he serves as chairman of the board of trustees. Though not a radical partisan, he is nevertheless a staunch Democrat and in local and national elections gives his support to the party of his choice. In Masonry he became connected with the Blue Lodge at Bloomfield, where he was initiated in Vitruvius Lodge No. 76, and later was chosen master of the Williams Lodge, also rose to the chapter degree at Colusa. While residing at Santa Rosa he was honored with the office of commander of Ellsworth Post No. 20, and also officiated as medical director of the department of California, with the rank of colonel.

---

FRANKLIN P. BAKER is a citizen whose interests have always been identified with those of Brentwood, Contra Costa county, Cal., and who has given no little of a busy life to its progress and upbuilding. He was born in Contra Costa county, December 23, 1856, a son of John Baker, a well-known and highly honored pioneer resident of this section.

John Baker was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., July 4, 1819, a son of Richard Baker, who settled in Stark county, Ohio, in 1822. He was there reared to manhood and learned the trade of carpenter, engaging in its prosecution as well as having farming interests in both that state and Michigan, locating in Cass county of the latter state in 1845. In 1853 he joined the tide of emigration setting toward the west and crossed the plains to California. On his arrival he located in Contra Costa county, where he purchased a Spanish land grant near Walnut creek. This property, consisting of one hundred and eighty acres, he devoted principally to the cultivation of grain, raising some stock and also putting out a family orchard of apples, pears and grapes, fruits which he found best adapted to the soil and climate. He was a successful man and attained a prominent place among the ranchmen of the county. Fraternally he affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and belonged to the Grange. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died December 9, 1901, at the age of eighty-two



years, leaving a widow, formerly Martha Ann Glass, who was born in Harrison, Ohio, a daughter of William and Priscilla (Wiley) Glass, and to whom he was married June 4, 1848. They were the parents of four children, namely: Almira J., deceased; Franklin P.; John C.; and Mary P. With the exception of Franklin P. Baker, all are at home.

Franklin P. Baker was reared and educated in the county, and after completing the course of the common schools he entered the University of the Pacific at San Jose, and later McClure's Military School, of Oakland. Well equipped to conduct a commercial or agricultural enterprise, he then returned to the country and engaged in the work to which he had early been trained. His first purchase of land was made of Mr. Bannister, and consisted of one hundred and sixty acres located in Contra Costa county in the southeastern part of section 3, 1 south, 2 east, and this he proceeded to cultivate to grain. He then bought two hundred and forty acres on the northwest, section 12, 1 north, 2 east, and north quarter-section, southwest section 12. This property he devotes entirely to stock raising. He makes his home in Brentwood. A Republican in politics he has always been a staunch supporter of his party's principles. For the past ten years he has acted as deputy assessor and now holds the office of deputy registrar for supervisors, district No. 5. Fraternally he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also belongs to the Rebekahs.

**EDWIN GOWER.** As the first commercial manufacturer of olive oil in the San Joaquin valley, Mr. Gower is associated with the establishment and building up of an enterprise of no small importance to the people of this part of California. It was during 1899 that he started a small olive oil plant on his ranch in Fresno county, where, with George C. Roeding as partner, he manufactured olive oil upon a small scale. When the need of a city environment and more adequate accommodations became imperative the plant was moved to Fresno, where a factory was built on the Southern Pacific Railroad, and in 1903 a new company was organized under the title of Roeding Olive Company. The building of the plant was superintended by Mr. Gower. With a capacity of twenty-five thousand gallons per year, pure olive oil is manufactured in large quantities, for sale both in this country and abroad. The high reputation acquired by the product is abundant evidence of its purity, and more and more it is coming into popularity for medicinal and other purposes where a pure oil is absolutely imperative.

The west has been the lifelong home of Mr.

Gower, who was born at Gold Hill, Nev., September 14, 1860, being a son of Sewall and Cornelia (DeVoe) Gower, natives respectively of Maine and New York. His grandfather, Robert Gower, a native of Maine, became a pioneer farmer in Cedar county, Iowa, and for years ran a ferry across the Cedar river at a point that came to be known as Gower's Ferry. His death occurred in Iowa. At an early age Sewall Gower crossed the plains with mule teams and engaged in mining at Gold Hill, Nev., but later removed to San Joaquin county, Cal., and engaged in raising grain on a farm near Stockton. He and his wife now make their home in Santa Cruz. Of their seven children four are living, Edwin being the only son. As a boy he aided in the cultivation of the San Joaquin farm and attended local schools, but during youth he was sent to Iowa, where he attended an old Quaker academy at Springdale, Cedar county. While there he met and married Miss Cora C. Perkins, a native of that county and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Accompanied by his wife Mr. Gower returned to California and for a year resided in San Joaquin county. In 1887 he came to Fresno county and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of raw land near Fowler, where he set out one-half of the acreage in orchard of various fruits and put the balance largely under alfalfa. This property lies three and one-half miles northeast of Fowler and under his capable supervision has greatly increased in value. In the organization of the Armstrong Fruit Company at Fowler he took an active part and has since held the office of secretary and treasurer of the concern, although, as before stated, since 1899 much of his time has been devoted to the manufacture of commercial olive oil. He is a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Possessing a progressive spirit, he is always to be relied upon to assist in developing enterprises for the benefit of this community. When once convinced of the merits of a new movement, his co-operation is always generously given to its progress. His own interests, though important and extensive, are never allowed to exclude participation in plans for the public welfare. In every respect he has proved himself a public-spirited citizen of his adopted town.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Gower comprises nine children, all of whom are at home except the eldest, Cornelia, who is married and lives in Fresno county. The others are Emma, Viola, Rosamond, Mellicent, Sewall, Edwin, Gertrude and Cora. At no time has Mr. Gower desired to occupy positions of official importance, for his tastes are commercial, rather than political; however, his interest in educational affairs led him to accept the position of member of the board

of high school trustees during his residence in Fowler, and this position he filled with a fidelity characteristic of him in every relation of life. In politics he gives his support to Democratic candidates. Through his membership in the California Raisin Growers' Association he is connected with an organization of the greatest aid in the development of an important industry. Fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Fowler, where he is past noble grand; and the Order of Foresters, in which he has held important official positions.

C. J. GIDDINGS. Representative of the best type of American citizenship, C. J. Giddings occupies a prominent place among the business men of Visalia. Since October, 1880, he has held the position of cashier in the Bank of Visalia, of which he is also a director, and for eighteen years has acted as president of the Building and Loan Association, which he helped to organize. In addition to these absorbing interests he has as well been variously connected with many movements important in the development and up-building of the city and county, and has thus come to be recognized as a citizen upon whom public honor and responsibility may safely rest.

Mr. Giddings is the descendant of an old New England family located in Ipswich, Mass., in 1635, by George Giddings, a native of Herefordshire, England. The line of descent is from his son, John, whose son, Thomas, had a son, Joshua, whose son of the same name was the great-grandfather of C. J. Giddings. He was born in Lyme, Conn., whence he came west to Athens, Pa., then located in Canandaigua, N. Y., and in 1806 settled in Ashtabula county, Ohio. He was numbered among the patriotic citizens who gave their services at the time of the Revolutionary war, being in service with Arnold on Lake Champlain. He married Submit Jones and both himself and wife died in the state which they had helped to develop into statehood. His son, Elisha, a native of Connecticut, became a farmer in Ashtabula county, Ohio, marrying Philotheta Fish, daughter of Colonel Fish, of Vermont, who was also a pioneer of the Western Reserve, hewing a farm from the wilderness. His death occurred in Ohio. Sidney Giddings, a son of Elisha, was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, where he died at the age of thirty-five years, having spent his life in agricultural pursuits. His wife was in maidenhood Polly Sackett, who was born in Geauga county, Ohio, a daughter of Ephraim Sackett, who emigrated from his native state, Massachusetts, and became a pioneer of Geauga county. Mrs. Giddings also died at the age of thirty-five years, leaving a family of two chil-

dren, C. J., of this review, and Mrs. Welsh, of Rivera, Los Angeles county.

Born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, December 29, 1843, C. J. Giddings was but eight years old when his father died and only fifteen when he also lost his mother. Shortly after this last sad event he went to Geauga county and spent a year or more, when (being then seventeen years old), he went to Cleveland and engaged in clerical work in the employ of the Cleveland & Pittsburgh Railroad. This position he retained until 1862, when he enlisted in the Eighty-fourth Ohio Regiment, as a member of Company C, for service in the Civil war. He was mustered in for three months, after which he went to Cumberland, serving four months, when he received an honorable discharge. Going then to Iowa Falls, Iowa, he engaged in farming and stock raising for a time, after which he returned to Ohio and entered the employ of the Atlantic & Great Western Railway, in the clerical department. With the exception of a short time spent at Oberlin College, he remained in that capacity for two years, when he went to Cleveland and engaged as bookkeeper with a hardware firm. Deciding to follow the example of his early ancestors, he came to California in 1869, spending his first four years in Woodland. His first position in that locality was as deputy county clerk, after which he became a searcher of records, when he made a full set of abstract books, the first of the kind in that city. In the fall of 1873 he came to Tulare county and located on government land near Grangeville, improving and cultivating a farm, upon which he made his home for three years. At the end of that period he removed to Visalia, entering the employ of D. K. Zumwalt in an abstract office, with whom he remained six months, when he established a new set of abstract books and engaged in the business independently until the fall of 1880. In October of that year he was elected to his present position of cashier of the Bank of Visalia, maintaining with increasing credit the responsibilities for nearly twenty-five years.

In Kent, Portage county, Ohio, November 10, 1869, Mr. Giddings was united in marriage with Minnie R. Holcomb. She was born in Ravenna, Ohio, a daughter of Samuel Holcomb. He was a native of Westfield, Mass., and son of Roswell Holcomb, who died in that state. The family was established in America by Thomas Holcomb, who came to this country in the ship *Mary* and John in 1630. He located in Massachusetts and became the founder of Dorchester, the meaning of which name is woody valley. Samuel Holcomb removed to Ohio in an early day and settled near Ravenna, where he engaged as a stonemason, in the building of bridges principally. He located in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, for four years,







*J. N. Wright*

when he returned to Ravenna, and took charge of the building of bridges for the Atlantic & Great Western Railway until 1872. In the last named year he came to California and the following year located in Tulare, where he was one of the first merchants, carrying on the first grocery business of the place. He was burned out twice and finally quit the business and retired. His death occurred in Tulare county in 1894 at the age of eighty-one years. In his political preference he was a staunch Republican, and fraternally was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife, formerly Lucina Stough, was a native of Ravenna, Ohio, and the daughter of Simon Stough, born in Connecticut of Dutch descent and a pioneer of Portage county, Ohio. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and an earnest and upright citizen. Mrs. Holcomb died in 1892, leaving two children, namely: Mattie, who became the wife of A. W. Wheeler of Tulare; and Minnie R., the wife of C. J. Giddings. To Mr. and Mrs. Giddings was born one daughter, Blanche. She was educated at Mills College and Fields Seminary, Oakland, this state, and married J. O. Hickman, cashier of the First National Bank of Hanford.

Mr. Giddings is a staunch Republican politically and for several years served as city treasurer. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a member and past grand of Four Creeks Lodge; a member of Knights of Pythias, being past chancellor for several terms; and also associated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of Fresno.

ISAAC N. WRIGHT. Prominent among the venerable and highly respected citizens of Tulare county is I. N. Wright, who has the distinction of being one of the oldest settlers in the county in point of years. During his long residence here he has taken an active interest in everything tending toward advancement and has been an important factor in helping forward its industrial and agricultural prosperity. A man of industry, thrift and sound judgment, he has been successful as an agriculturist, improving a good farm, and acquiring a fair share of this world's goods. A native of Ohio, he was born, October 13, 1823, in Knox county, about five miles from Mount Vernon, of English ancestry.

William Wright, his father, was born in England, and was there brought up and educated. Immigrating to America, he located in Ohio, becoming one of the earliest pioneers of Knox county. Taking up land that was in its original wildness, he erected a log cabin in an opening, and having reclaimed a farm was engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years. Removing to Iowa in the later years of his life, he resided

in that state until his death. He married Elizabeth Newton, who was born in England, and died in Omaha, Neb. She bore him eleven children, four of whom are still living. One son, George, came to California in 1850, and died in Tuolumne county. Another son, James, came to the coast with his brother, Isaac N., in 1851, and died in San Diego.

Reared on the home farm, I. N. Wright received his elementary instruction from his mother, a woman of refinement and education. At the age of sixteen years he assisted in building a log school house in his district, and being very clever with an axe was allowed to cut the saddles and notches for one corner. In this building he completed his school life, attending five years. After attaining his majority he served an apprenticeship at the miller's trade, after which he leased a flour and saw mill at Mount Vernon, Ohio, on Owl creek, and managed it for two years. Deciding to come to California in search of fortune, Mr. Wright sailed from New York on the Georgia in November, 1851, for Aspinwall, from there going by rail to Gorgona, thence by small steamer to the head of navigation, completing the remaining distance, about twenty-five miles, across the Isthmus on foot. Taking passage on the steamer Northerner at Panama, he landed in San Francisco in December, 1851. Going directly to Jamestown, Tuolumne county, he, with his brothers, was engaged in placer mining for two years, meeting with reasonable success. In 1854, with his brother George, Mr. Wright leased a sawmill, which he operated for four years. Returning then by way of Panama to New York, he went to Ohio for his family, arriving there in February, 1856. The following April he again started for California by the Isthmus route, having with him his wife and child, and was in Panama on April 15, when the memorable riots took place. Fortunately he had his family safely ensconced in the American hotel, near the Plaza, but he himself took part in the outbreak, being armed with an old United States flint-lock musket. When order was restored Mr. Wright came with his family to San Francisco on the steamer John L. Stevens, having a good passage. Settling in Sonora, he engaged in quartz mining and milling, carrying on a prosperous business for a number of years. In 1869 he located his family in San Jose and made a prospecting tour through the coast counties and into the San Joaquin valley, his intention being to embark in the stock business, but found the season too dry for that.

Very soon afterward, in 1870, Mr. Wright preempted one hundred and sixty acres of the land now included within the limits of the city of Tulare, and in 1872 he traded this tract to the railroad company for his present homestead and at

once located on it. He subsequently improved the land, placing it under irrigation, and gradually drifted into the stock business, at the same time becoming one of the successful farmers of his locality. Of the four hundred and nine acres of land which Mr. Wright owns he has one hundred acres in alfalfa, and is putting in more each season. He has a large dairy, and pays much attention to the raising of cattle and hogs, keeping a good grade of each. In the upbuilding of Tulare Mr. Wright has taken a keen interest, gladly lending his aid and influence to the establishment of all beneficial enterprises. He was one of the promoters of the Kaweah Canal and Irrigating Company, of which he was a director from the first, and which he subsequently served as president. For ten years he was school trustee, and superintended the building of the brick school house in Tulare. In national politics Mr. Wright is a straight Republican, but in local affairs he votes with the courage of his convictions, regardless of party restrictions.

January 14, 1851, in Mount Vernon, Ohio, Mr. Wright married Charlotte A. Phillips, and they are the parents of four children. Victoria is the wife of A. D. Neff, of Oakland, Cal.; George W., residing in Tuolumne, was born in Tuolumne county; he is a railway engineer, and in that capacity brought the first passenger train into Sonora; Alice L. is at home; and Hattie M. is the wife of W. J. Higdon, of Tulare. Mrs. Wright was born November 20, 1830, near Mount Vernon, Knox county, Ohio, a daughter of Charles and Addie (Foster) Phillips, the latter of whom was born and reared in England. She is the fourth child in order of birth in a family of six children, two of whom are living, she being the only one on the Pacific coast.

MRS. AGNES E. McDONALD. Among the institutions which are maintaining the reputation of Fresno county as a humane and generous community is the Orphanage, located on the old Judge Nourse place, two miles east of Fresno, on Ventura avenue. This institution was founded in Fresno in January, 1895, with eighteen children to profit by its practical home atmosphere, and in June, 1897, it was removed from Fresno to its present home, purchased by the county and consisting of ten acres, improved in trees and lawns and affording ample opportunity for the out-of-doors development of its fortunate little charges. A committee of twenty-five ladies of Fresno direct the affairs of the institution and appropriations for its maintenance are made by the board of county supervisors. Children without home connections are maintained at the Orphanage until their fourteenth year, and when they depart take with

them a common school education up to and including the ninth grade. The greatest number of children accommodated at one time has been sixty-three, and during the past five years four hundred and ten homeless ones have passed through the hospitable doors, remaining for various lengths of time in its Christian and helpful atmosphere.

Inseparably connected with the Orphanage is the name of its much-loved matron, Mrs. Agnes E. McDonald, who has been elected to her present position for nine consecutive years. She became identified with the Orphanage at its organization in 1895, and has since proved herself a good genius to the waifs unfortunately thrown upon a none too charitable world. She is a woman of education and progressive views, loyal to trusts imposed and remarkable in her appreciation of child character and aspirations.

W. W. RAMSEY, D. D. S. Although but in the beginning of his professional career, Dr. Ramsey has already established a reputation for broad and accurate knowledge of the science of dentistry and has an assured position among the professional men of Madera county. When he came to the city of Madera in the summer of 1901 he succeeded to the practice of Dr. A. T. Lockwood. Since then, through his skillful handling of the work given him, he has gained the confidence of the people and enjoys an increasing practice together with a growing reputation for professional skill. In his office are all the equipments necessary to modern dentistry, and such inventions as he believes to be helpful he utilizes in his work.

In his lineage Dr. Ramsey is of old Virginian stock. His parents, Joseph and Jennie (Sharp) Ramsey, were natives of the Old Dominion, but settled in Texas after their marriage, the father embarking in the cattle business near Dallas. Dr. Ramsey, who was an only child, was born in Dallas, May 8, 1875, and was but one year old when his father died. Afterward the widowed mother returned to Virginia and settled among relatives in Abingdon, Washington county, where he was sent to the public schools. The education there acquired was supplemented by attendance at Liberty Hall Academy and Glade Spring Military Academy. When in his junior year he left the latter institution and removed to Kewanee, Ill., after which he traveled for a Chicago house for about four years, his territory covering the middle west.

Coming to California in 1895 Dr. Ramsey has since made this state his home, and his mother also lives here, having her home in Redlands. After he had spent two years in Southern California he took up dental work with a

cousin, Dr. Sharp, in Lodi, and soon decided to make the profession his life-work. With that object in view he matriculated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in San Francisco, department of dental surgery, from which he was graduated June 23, 1901, receiving the degree of D. D. S. After his graduation he came to Madera, where he has since given his attention to professional duties. Along the line of his profession he is identified with the State Dental Association, also with the Alumni Association of his alma mater. With his wife, formerly Cora Tooker, a native of Iowa, he holds a high position socially and is welcomed in the best circles of Madera. Although born in the south and reared in the east, he is loyal to the state of his adoption, has been a careful and thoughtful student of California's early history, and believes in her ultimate destiny as one of the greatest commonwealths in our nation, offering to her citizens beauties of climate and commercial opportunities unsurpassed by any state. To a gentleman of his genial temperament, association with fraternal organizations provides a desirable form of recreation, and since coming to Madera he has affiliated with Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M., in which he was made a Mason, also the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World and Modern Woodmen of America.

**JOHN PEACE CLARK.** In the material development of California perhaps no subject has been of more vital importance than that of irrigation, for it has brought into the greatest productivity vast areas which otherwise could not be profitably cultivated. Nowhere in the state is the value of an excellent water supply more appreciated than in the San Joaquin valley, and therefore the men who have given their time and thought to the question are necessarily leaders in the community. Of the organizations established to secure waterways for the land, none is better known than the Consolidated Canal Company, which embraces the Centerville & Kingsburg, Fowler Switch and Emigrant canals, together with their several branches. Through his long and intimate connection with a canal which was merged into the present association, Mr. Clark was admirably qualified to fill the responsible post of president and manager of the consolidated concern, to which he was elected, in addition to being chosen one of the board of directors.

When Mr. Clark came to California in 1887 he engaged as a clerk at Kingsburg, Fresno county, but a year later he became secretary of the Centerville & Kingsburg Canal Company, and has since given his attention wholly to matters pertaining to irrigation. In the discharge of his duties as secretary he spent considerable time at Kings-

burg and Selma, and after 1898 acted as manager of the canal. In 1901 this was merged into the Consolidated Canal Company, of which he is the chief executive and which has its offices in Fresno. It is a matter of no small pride with him that he has witnessed the growth of the plant from a small ditch to one of the largest canal systems in California, and much of its growth is attributed to his wise management by those in a position to estimate forces bringing about certain results.

The management of this company, important as it is and varied as are its duties, does not represent the limit of Mr. Clark's activities. Upon the organization of the Central Canal & Irrigation Company he was chosen its first president and still holds the position. The company has its offices in San Francisco and obtains from the Sacramento river the supply of water necessary to operate its canal system in Glenn and Colusa counties. The work of building has not been completed, and it is the sanguine expectation of its projectors that the system will eventually become the largest in the entire state. Another enterprise of similar nature which receives the benefit of Mr. Clark's wide experience is the Butte County Canal Company, of which he is a director, and the building and completion of which will be consummated under his management. In addition he holds the position of assistant manager of the Fresno Canal Company.

Mr. Clark is a member of an old Kentucky family and was born near Manchester, that state, January 26, 1860, being a son of Capt. D. W. and Mary (Peace) Clark, who lived upon a farm near Manchester for many years. The paternal grandfather, Anderson Clark, was a farmer in Kentucky, and the same occupation was followed by the maternal grandfather, John Peace, who was a native of Scotland and an earnest worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Captain Clark was an officer in the Union army during the Civil war, his company being attached to the Forty-seventh Kentucky Infantry, in which he served until the close of the struggle. At the time of his death, in 1903, he was sixty-six years of age. His wife was born near Williamsburg, Ky., and died near Manchester about 1876. Of their seven children, two sons and two daughters are living. Three are in California, namely: John Peace, of Fresno; T. J., a farmer at Selma; and Mrs. Bishop, of Kingsburg. The eldest of these, John Peace Clark, passed the first eighteen years of his life on the home farm, whence in 1878 he went to Missouri, clerking in a drug store at Marionville and attending the academy of that town, also engaging for a time in teaching school. In 1882 he went to Berryville, Ark., where he attended the academy and also taught school. From there he came to California, which

state has since been his home and the scene of his activities. Before leaving Arkansas he married Miss Donie Gibson, a native of that state, and by her he has one daughter, Mina. Fraternally he is connected with the Foresters, in politics advocates Republican principles, and socially holds membership in the Sequoia Club of Fresno. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and a thorough believer in and supporter of all movements for the advancement of Fresno, among whose citizens none is more loyal than he. Through his identification with water systems he has done much to promote the prosperity of the San Joaquin valley. His interest in the water question led him to accept the position of delegate to the National Irrigation Congress at Ogden, Utah, in 1903, where he was an interested participant in a convention having the one purpose only, viz.: the securing to the western portion of our continent such irrigation facilities as will protect this region from the effects of drought. This problem to a large degree has been solved in California by the enterprise of such citizens as Mr. Clark, but there still remain vast tracts on the western plains from which Nature has withheld the needed moisture and which will remain unproductive until the wise judgment and enterprise of man has introduced a satisfactory system of irrigation.

---

DR. WILLIAM JETER PRATHER. This pioneer of 1849 is a descendant of southern ancestors that came to this country from England. His paternal great-grandfather, John Smith Prather, of Maryland, lived to be ninety-four years of age. The grandfather, Rev. Leonard Deacons Prather, a native of Maryland, entered the ministry of the Presbyterian denomination, and filled a number of pastorates in North Carolina, where he married Miss Frances Williamson. A number of members of the Williamson family participated in the war of the Revolution and one of that name served as a delegate to the continental congress and was a signer of the constitution.

In the family of Rev. Leonard D. Prather was a son, Robert R., who was born in Caswell county, N. C., February 26, 1800, and became a minister in the Christian Church. His wife, Frances, was born in Guilford county, N. C., and was a daughter of Josiah Lambeth, a native of North Carolina and by occupation a farmer. The founder of the Lambeth family in America was the great-grandfather, an Englishman, and owner of large estates in his native land, which, however, he lost through immigrating to the United States and failing to claim his property. Several of his sons were participants in the war with England. Fourteen children comprised the

family of Rev. Robert R. Prather, and all but one of these attained mature years. One of the sons, Robert, is a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination in Arkansas. Another son, L. L., who served in the Civil war and was wounded at Sharpsburg, engaged in the practice of medicine until his death, which occurred in Arkansas. The father died March 4, 1881.

The oldest member of this large family was William J. Prather, who was born in Guilford county, N. C., May 11, 1827, and grew to manhood on a farm in that state. In early boyhood he attended subscription schools. One of his most distinct recollections is concerning the establishment of the first free schools in North Carolina. His father was a member of the first board of teachers' examiners in their county. In 1847 he went to Florida, where he was employed as overseer of a plantation. In 1848 he went to Tennessee and operated a sawmill near Memphis. On learning of the discovery of gold in California he at once determined to seek the remote west. March 19, 1849, he started upon the eventful journey through an unknown wilderness. Going to Fort Smith, Ark., he joined a large train of mule teams bound for Santa Fe. There the wagons were traded for pack mules, with which the party traveled via Taos, N. M., toward Pueblo, crossing the Platte at old Fort St. Vrain and Green river above the gorge. At Salt Lake City they bought wheat and had it ground, secured other necessary supplies, and started onward, fording Bear river, traveling through Thousand Spring valley, then along the Lawson cut-off, and across the mountains, finally crossing Pitt and Feather rivers, and reaching the Sacramento river September 22, 1849.

Gaining some experience as a miner in the mines, on Yuba river, Mr. Prather remained there until December, and then went to Nye's ranch, now Marysville, with an uncle, A. T. Farish, with whom he crossed the plains. He was also engaged in the general mercantile business with his uncle. In the spring of 1850 he returned to the mines on Feather river, from there went to Downieville, later to Cañon creek and Sears' Diggings, and was one of the discoverers of the Harris Gulch, where he remained until July and then returned to Marysville with \$1,000 in gold dust. Soon he returned to the Yuba and bought a claim for which he paid \$1,100, but after a month left discouraged, with only fifty cents in gold. With his uncle he started for Park's Bar and there met with encouraging success. His next venture was as proprietor of a general store at Wyandotte Diggings, but after several unsuccessful months he took the goods to Bidwell's Bar and sold them at auction. After another brief experience in the Yuba mines he started a hotel at Owsley's Bar. In July of 1852 he went







*C. C. Nelson*

into the mountains to saw lumber, returning the next year to Sacramento, where he married Miss Margaret Lawson, who was born in Missouri and died in 1879 in California. After his marriage he settled on a farm in Yolo county, four miles from Woodland, where he brought under cultivation a tract of wild land. At first he met with success, but the dry years of 1858 and 1859 forced him to sell out at a loss. Afterward he studied dentistry in Sacramento and for twenty years followed that profession in Woodland.

During February of 1877 Dr. Prather came to Fresno county. Two years before he had located a tract of raw land at Wildflower, where he had one hundred and sixty acres under timber, and engaged in farming and stock-raising. This property he sold in 1886, but three years before had moved from the farm into Fresno, where he has since practiced dentistry. On East avenue, in the Fresno colony, he bought forty acres about 1886 and set out the land in raisin grapes and fruit trees, building the residence where he has since made his home. He is a member of the Raisin Growers' Association, and is also identified with the California State Dental Association, which he assisted in organizing. Politically a Democrat, he was elected justice of the peace on that ticket while making his home in Yolo county. The California Pioneers of San Francisco number him among their active members. In religion he is a believer in the doctrines of the Christian Church and was formerly connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Of his first marriage nine children were born, of whom the following survive: Mrs. Mary McGuire, of Fresno; Mrs. Sonora A. Heilbron, also of Fresno; Mrs. Belle Clute, who resides in San Francisco; William Robert, owner of Adams Springs in Lake county, Cal.; Mfs. Emma Marshall, of Fresno; and Frank M., who is connected with the electric railway in Lake county, this state. The second marriage of Dr. Prather occurred in Fresno and united him with Miss Mary Healey, who was born in Wisconsin and grew to womanhood in Minnesota. The two children of this union, Alma and George Virgil Jeter, are with their parents in the Fresno home, on East avenue, two and one-half miles south of the city.

In closing this brief memoir of this venerable pioneer of California, it is but due him to emphasize the fact that throughout the fifty-five years of his residence in this state he has been recognized as one of its most useful, high-minded and public-spirited citizens. It has lain within his power to accomplish much good, and he has not failed to embrace every opportunity to promote the well-being of his fellow-men. No project for the advancement of the welfare of the people has failed to receive his support, and he has been actuated by motives of a high and un-

selfish nature in all his transactions. The careers of such men as Dr. Prather always leave an indelible impress upon the community in which they are spent. Now, in the twilight of his long and well-spent life, he is able to take a retrospective view of his career without regret over its most conspicuous features; and the record here preserved should prove a source of inspiration to the young men of the present generation, as well as of gratification and pride to his descendants, all of whom are residents of California and who, as the years pass, will exhibit a keener interest in the history of the state.

---

CHARLES CROSS NELSON is a worthy representative of that class of enterprising citizens who has made the prosperity of California a possibility. He has been closely identified with the interests of Merced county, in the vicinity of Plainsberg, since 1856, and is now living retired in this place, enjoying the fruits of his well-directed life.

Mr. Nelson was born in Tompkins county, N. Y., November 7, 1832, the youngest son of Robert and Margaret (Cross) Nelson, both of whom were natives of Orange county, that state. Robert Nelson was a farmer and it was upon the home farm that Charles C. spent his boyhood days and attended the district school. Leaving school at the age of fourteen years, he assisted his father with the work upon the home farm until he had reached manhood's estate, at which time he embarked upon an independent career. In December, 1853, he took passage on the vessel Star of the West, from New York for California, by way of the Isthmus of Panama. From Greytown to Virgin Bay he traveled in a small boat, and on horseback from the latter place to San Juan, where he secured passage on a Pacific vessel for San Francisco, arriving there twenty-eight days after leaving New York. He went to the mines after he had spent two months on a ranch, believing he could better his financial condition more rapidly. After spending two years in the mines of Mariposa county with varied success, he again turned his attention to the calling he had followed from boyhood, having great faith in the future of California as an agricultural state.

In partnership with E. T. Givens he engaged in farming in the vicinity of Plainsberg for a few years, meeting with gratifying success. He then sold his interests in the co-partnership and embarked in a general farming enterprise independently. So successful was he that he made purchases of land from time to time until he had acquired fourteen hundred and forty acres, which he improved, giving his undivided attention to its cultivation until about 1890, when he dis-

posed of his holdings and has since lived a retired life, free from the cares of business which had engrossed his attention since 1854, the year of his arrival in this state.

A Democrat in politics, Mr. Nelson has taken an intelligent interest in the workings of that party and acceptably served as supervisor of Merced county from his district from 1888 to 1896, during which time he was instrumental in doing much good for his section of the county. He also served as postmaster of Plainsberg for several years. A man of high moral principles, of broad mind and public spirit, he has ever been a champion of all worthy causes that had for their object the advancement of the educational and moral status of the county or state, and he is highly esteemed by all who know him.

**CARROLL CARROLLTON SCOTT.** The life which this narrative sketches began at Holliday's Cove, Brooke county, W. Va., November 28, 1836, and closed at Fresno, Cal., May 25, 1903. Peter Scott, a native of Pennsylvania, lived for some years upon a farm in Brooke county, then a part of Virginia. From there in 1844 he removed to the vicinity of Sandusky, Ohio, where he and his wife, Susanna Spielman, a native of Maryland, passed the closing years of their lives. One of their sons, D. S. Scott, is a resident of Woodland, Cal.; another, O. L., is a lumber manufacturer at Pinos Altos, N. M., and a daughter, Mrs. P. S. Ginn, makes her home in Los Angeles. Among their other children was a son, Carroll Carrollton, who was twelve when the family settled in Ohio. After graduating from Antioch College in 1856 he engaged in teaching school for three years and then crossed the plains to California, arriving at Grass Valley in the fall of 1859. In early days he participated in two Indian campaigns in Inyo and Mono counties, and was also a participant in the stormy scenes incident to the Civil war. In Mono county he served as superintendent of schools and as county supervisor. From there he moved to Woodland, Yolo county, where he followed the brickmason's trade and built up a large contracting business. In 1887 he moved to Selma, where he had the contract for most of the masonry work in the town. From 1895 until his death he made Fresno his home, and here was a charter member of the first international bricklayers' union organized in the state. While living in Woodland he was an active worker in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. While residing in Grass Valley he joined the first company of state militia. In religion he was connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The marriage of C. C. Scott was solemnized at Woodland, January 5, 1868, and united him with

Mrs. Myra A. (Stoddard) Burton, who was born at Millersburg, Holmes county, Ohio, being a daughter of Thomas Adams and Jane (Cochran) Stoddard, natives respectively of Connecticut and Rockland, N. Y. Among fourteen children, nine of whom came to California, six daughters and one son are still living, Mrs. Scott being the eldest surviving daughter. Her father, who was a cousin of John Q. Adams, was reared principally in Boston until thirteen years of age and was orphaned when only nine. After his marriage in New York he removed to Pennsylvania, where two sons and two daughters were born. His next home was at Millersburg, Ohio, where he followed farm pursuits in addition to stone cutting. Later he became a pioneer at Lafayette Grove, Ogle county, Ill., and next settled in Oregon, Ill. During July of 1853 he drove to Iowa with ox-teams and spent the winter at Newton, Jasper county, where his two daughters were married. In April of 1854 he started across the plains for Oregon, but while en route changed his plans and came to California, arriving in Yuba county September 10, 1854. For some years he followed the business of stone-cutter and contractor, and finally retired from active pursuits to Woodland, Yolo county, remaining there until his death, at the age of seventy-seven years. During much of his active life he was an exhorter in the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he was a Republican and fraternally held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife, who was a daughter of Rev. William Cochran, a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, died in Shasta county, Cal., January 4, 1870, after having been an invalid for thirty-three years.

Born in April, 1836, Mrs. Scott was only a few months old when her parents removed to Illinois in January of 1837. Her first marriage was solemnized in Newton, Iowa, March 23, 1854, and united her with Andrew H. Springer, a native of Indiana and a cousin of Hon. John G. Springer, of Illinois. While the family were traveling to the west Mr. Springer died on the 4th of July, 1854, of mountain fever, and was buried at Ham's Fork, of Bear river. In December, 1855, Mrs. Springer became the wife of Rev. J. W. Burton, who was born in Broome county, N. Y., February 26, 1823, and at ten years of age removed to Pennsylvania. At sixteen he was converted, at twenty licensed to preach and a year later admitted to the Wisconsin conference. In 1847 he was transferred to the Rock river conference in Illinois. After coming to California in 1850 he worked at mining for a time, but in September, 1856, was admitted to the California conference and afterward labored in the conference of northern California, his last pastorate being at Woodland, where he died March 17, 1864.

He was a consecrated man, a devoted pastor and loyal to the cause of Christianity. Of his marriage to Mrs. Springer four children were born, namely: Thomas H. Burton, a brick contractor, and vice-president of the Bricklayers' Union at Fresno; Frank A., also a brick contractor; Retta J., who died at Woodland; and Lida E., Mrs. Weeks, a resident of Fresno. By her first marriage Mrs. Scott has a daughter, Mary Alice, who is the widow of George Banks, of San Francisco. Her union with Mr. Scott resulted in the birth of seven children, namely: Edwin Carrollton, who died at nineteen months; William Stoddard, of Fresno; Eddith Parthenia, wife of G. M. Crawford, of Fresno; Fred Carroll, an attorney of Fresno; Chancellor Hollis, a brick contractor with his brother, William S.; Elmer Leslie, who died at five months; and Della Gertrude, who resides with her mother.

MISS ESTELLA BAGNELLE. In no field of activity has the influence of woman been more uplifting and permanent than in educational affairs. Legion are the names of those women who, in large cities or remote hamlets, have contributed to the development of the public school system and the advancement of our standard of education. To a large extent they have labored directly in the schoolroom, but a few have been chosen to the even greater responsibility of acting as county superintendent of schools, and have thus carried the burden of the success or failure of each individual worker. In every position to which Miss Bagnelle has been chosen, whether that of teacher, principal of schools, member of the board of education or county superintendent of schools, she has impressed her individuality upon her associates, and by originality of ideas, breadth of knowledge and success in discipline she has won the esteem of the members of her profession and the patrons of the public schools.

Many of the qualities that have contributed to Miss Bagnelle's success in educational work come to her from a worthy ancestry. Her father, J. D. Bagnelle, was born in Mississippi, of an old southern family descended from French progenitors and identified with the early history of Virginia. During his early manhood he moved to Illinois and engaged in the mercantile business at Litchfield, Montgomery county, until his early death. He married Amanda Slaughter, who was born in Tennessee and survived him many years, passing away December 28, 1901. The lineage of the Slaughter family is traced back to 1608 in Scotland, and three brothers coming from that country founded the family in America. Mrs. Bagnelle's father, Capt. L. R. Slaughter, a native of Tennessee and a pioneer

cabinet-maker, builder and lumberman of Hillsboro, Ill., served during the Civil war as captain of Company D, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry. After the war he engaged in merchandising in Litchfield, Ill. From there he came to California in 1881 and settled in San Jose, where he planted an orchard and became interested in horticulture. In 1887 he removed to a ranch near Madera. His death occurred in Madera, January, 1903, when he had attained eighty-four years of age. On the twenty-first anniversary of his birth he was made a Mason and for more than sixty years continued a disciple of the high principles of the order. Politically he voted the Democratic ticket at local and general elections. His wife, who was Mary Stultz, a native of Tennessee, died in 1892. Both were identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church and liberal in their contributions to religious movements.

Miss Bagnelle was one of three children, the others being Ray L., of Madera, and George, who resides in San Francisco. Her education, begun in Litchfield, Ill., her native town, was completed in the state normal school of San Jose, from which she was graduated in 1885. After teaching for a year in San Jose, in 1887 she began to teach in the district schools of Madera county, and afterward was for eight years connected with the Madera schools. During the first six years of this time she held the position of vice-principal and then for two years served as principal. In 1898 she was nominated for county superintendent of schools on the Democratic ticket and received a majority of one hundred and forty, taking the oath of office in January, 1899, for a term of four years. At the expiration of that time, in 1902, she was re-elected without opposition, a fact which furnishes abundant testimony as to the efficiency of her services. Her successful experience as an educator especially qualifies her for the office she now fills. Having been a teacher, she understands thoroughly the many difficulties that teachers have to contend with and the many impediments that interfere with their fullest success. There are four improvements for which she has labored indefatigably, namely: uniformity of text books; higher standard of teachers; better salaries; more interest among trustees. To the securing of these results she has given time, thought and attention, and whatever improvements in these directions future years may bring they may be attributed in large degree to her efforts during the years of her connection with the schools. Aside from her duties as superintendent she acts as secretary of the San Joaquin Teachers' Association, is warmly interested in the National Educational Association, and has the deepest sympathy with all movements for the benefit of the

profession. May, 1893, she was chosen a member of the county board of education, at the time of the organization of Madera county, and since 1899 she has officiated as secretary of the board.

GEORGE McCANN. From the pioneer days of hardships and privations to the present prosperity of California, George McCann has given his best efforts toward the development of resources and the upbuilding and growth of the community in which he has made his home. The experiences which have made up his life for the past half century have been such as to bring out the strongest characteristics of manhood, under which a weaker nature would have sunk to insignificance, while his rose superior to the trials and adversities which surrounded him. To-day he is justly entitled to the honored position which he holds among the representative citizens of Tulare county, which has been the scene of his labors since September 15, 1850, when he located on Cross creek, Tulare (now Kings) county, and entered upon his work of stock raising.

Born in County Dublin, Ireland, August 15, 1826, he is the only son living in a family of eight sons and two daughters, of whom all but one daughter attained maturity. He was the youngest child of his parents, George and Mary (McKeon) McCann, the latter a native of the same locality. The father was a farmer in Ireland, who died when his youngest son was only six years old. The mother came to America and joined her children in Illinois, where her death occurred near Redbud. George McCann was reared on the home farm in Ireland until he was twenty years old, and on his birthday, in August, 1846, starting for America on the sailer Letitia Haynes. Five weeks and three days were spent in the passage from Liverpool to New York City. He remained in New York state until the fall of that year, when he went to New Orleans and spent the winter. In the spring of 1847 he came north to Redbud, Ill., thence to the lead mines at Benton, Wis. He engaged in that occupation until 1850, when, in company with three others, he crossed the plains with ox teams. The party outfitted at St. Joseph, Mo., which city they left May 12, 1850, and after a journey of three months and three days arrived in Hangtown (Placerville), Cal., the day of his arrival there being signalized by the fact that it was also his birthday. From Hangtown he went to Calaveras county and for seven years following made Murphys Camp his headquarters, engaged for the greater part of the time in placer mining. He discovered some very rich quartz, but was unable to make a success in mining it, although he was very successful in his other

mining ventures. In 1857 he went to southern California and bought cattle, bringing them to Monterey county, where he engaged in this work for two years. September 15, 1859, he located on Cross creek, in what was then Tulare county, but is now in Kings county, and continued his stock business. He had fine headquarters, running water, and his stock ranged over thousands of acres of land. He finally became the owner of nine thousand acres up and down Cross creek for a distance of seven miles, and this is all fenced, and a large part irrigated. Of this vast property four hundred and sixty acres is in Tulare county and the balance in Kings county. He was one of the first farmers of his vicinity to put in alfalfa, after which he engaged in both the stock business and the raising of grain, while for a time he also conducted a dairy with much profit.

In Visalia, in 1870, Mr. McCann married Mary L. Corcoran, also a native of Ireland, and they became the parents of six children, namely: Letitia, Mary, Thomas, George, Clara and Katie. The saddest reverse in the lives of these worthy pioneers was the death of all of these children in 1886. Four, Letitia, George, Clara and Katie, died from diphtheria, which the eldest daughter contracted at school; Mary died in Santa Cruz while at school, and Thomas died in infancy. Mr. McCann and his wife traveled considerable after these sad bereavements, and finally, in 1889, located in Visalia, where they have a comfortable and pleasant residence, rounding out the years of a well-spent life in quiet enjoyment of the prosperity which the years have brought to them and to the country at large. Politically Mr. McCann is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. Incidents which remain strong in the memory of Mr. McCann are often recounted by him, one of which is the many times that he has found his way home at night when there were no roads nor landmarks of any kind, aided only by the light of a star.

MARSHALL ALEXANDER GILREATH, M. D. As one who has attained a fair degree of success during the eight years of his residence in Selma, Fresno county, we mention Dr. Marshall Alexander Gilreath, who has been a resident of California since 1892. Dr. Gilreath is a worthy representative of a distinguished southern family, and in tracing his ancestral history it is found that his paternal grandfather, George H. Gilreath, was born in South Carolina, and not only was he prosperous as a farmer and planter, but he was also successful as a minister of the Gospel, in the interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. While laboring in the latter capacity, he took his family to







Burton Swanson

Georgia in 1830, locating in Bartow county. It was in this county that his death took place, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. His son, Jabez, the father of Dr. Gilreath, was also a South Carolinian, and during his life followed the double occupation of farmer and tanner. He was united in marriage with Elza E. Weakfield, who was born in Greenville, S. C., and eleven children were born to them, four sons and seven daughters. The mother of these children spent her last years at Atlanta, Ga., where she died in 1903, her husband having passed away in 1896.

The recipient of but a limited education in the common schools of Georgia, Dr. Gilreath, after leaving school and having made a choice of his life-work, set about securing the necessary training. Entering Emory College at Oxford, Ga., in 1887, he also attended lectures in Atlanta, and subsequently finished his medical education in the Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tenn., graduating from that institution in 1891, with the degree of M. D. It remained now to make the proper application of the knowledge gained during his years of study, and during his first year's practice at Cartersville, Ga., he learned many valuable lessons in the school of experience. The following year Dr. Gilreath came to California, locating in Bakersfield in January of that year, but after a two months' stay there, a more desirable location was found in Kingsburg, and during his four years' residence in that place he was successful in building up a good practice. In 1896 he removed to a broader field of labor at Selma, where he has since remained. He is well posted and keeps abreast of the times, and takes a fitting interest in the moral, religious and social development of his section. A Democrat in his political views, Dr. Gilreath is not an active partisan. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His marriage took place in Kingsburg, this state, when he was united with Emily B. Garret, formerly of Philadelphia. They have two children, Elza E. and Walker G. The religious inclinations of the family are for the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and they occupy a high position socially in Selma.

---

**BURTON SWANSON.** Owning and occupying the old homestead on which he was born, Burton Swanson holds an assured position among the successful farmers of Tulare county. Actively engaged in the cultivation of the soil, he has spent a busy and useful life, his farm, lying about six miles east of Visalia, bearing evidence to the observer of his skill and ability as an agriculturist. The son of John Swanson, an honored pioneer of this section of California, his birth

occurred March 25, 1858, in the old log house that was built during the Indian war, and which is still standing on the farm.

Born in Indiana in 1812, John Swanson lived in his native state until after attaining his majority. Migrating westward, he spent a few years in Illinois, but on hearing the exciting reports of the discovery of gold in California he came by boat to this state in 1849. Meeting with fair success as a miner, he went back to Illinois in 1850 for his family, with whom he returned, crossing the plains in 1851 with an emigrant train drawn by ox-teams. Locating at Mud Springs, Eldorado county, he engaged in mining, and also established a trading post, which he conducted for a year. Coming to Tulare county in 1852, he took up land six miles east of Visalia, and partly improved it. Subsequently removing to Lemon Cove, he bought land, and there engaged in farming and stock raising until 1862, when his house was washed away by the floods, and his crops destroyed. He then returned to his original homestead, the possession of which he had retained, and here resided until his death, August 12, 1863. He married Hannah Sherman, who was born in Ohio, near Zanesville, and died, May 5, 1877, on the home farm, in Tulare county. She came of distinguished stock, her father, William Sherman, having been an uncle of William Tecumseh Sherman, one of the generals of the Civil war. Of their union twelve children were born, seven sons and five daughters. In his political affiliations, John Swanson was a true blue Republican. During the Indian troubles that occurred soon after his settling in Tulare county, he took an active part, and as captain of the Home Guards was buried with military honors.

The eleventh child in order of birth of the parental household, Burton Swanson received a limited education in the pioneer district school, and from the age of twelve years assisted in the care of the home farm, on which he now lives. He has forty acres of land, which he devotes to alfalfa, hay, grain and stock and also rents forty acres lying near. Here he successfully pursues his pleasant and independent occupation, and his ranch, with its many substantial improvements, is one of the most desirable pieces of property for its size of any in the neighborhood.

Mr. Swanson has been twice married. He married first, in Tulare county, Elizabeth Ewing, who was born in Illinois, and died on the home farm, leaving two children, namely: Elmer, at home; and Stella, wife of R. H. Arnett, Jr., of Visalia. Mr. Swanson's second marriage took place in this county, and united him with Christiana R. Anderson, a native of Denmark, and they are the parents of three children, namely: Clara I., Hannah C., and John Henry. Politically Mr.

Swanson is a staunch Republican, and belongs to the Fraternal Brotherhood, of Exeter, Tulare county. Mr. Swanson is a man of striking personality, being well proportioned, standing six feet six inches in his stocking feet, and weighing two hundred pounds. He is strong and healthy, with a clear, dark complexion, neither drinking liquors nor using tobacco in any form.

**HENRY F. BLISS.** An influential position among the pioneer residents of Visalia was held by the Bliss family, nor has their prestige been diminished by the passing of the years. The first of the name to settle in this part of California was H. F. Bliss, Sr., a native of New York state and the son of a Presbyterian minister, whom he accompanied to Michigan and grew to manhood amid frontier conditions in Allegan county. During 1850 he crossed the plains with ox-teams and followed the calling of a miner after his arrival in California, soon, however, returning east by way of Panama. It was not his intention to remain permanently in Michigan and as soon as arrangements could be brought about he crossed the plains a second time, settling in Tulare county and buying a tract of land six miles south of Visalia. Later he sold that property and bought a farm one mile or more to the south of town, where he conducted large stock-raising interests. His death occurred in Visalia when he was fifty-seven years of age. After coming to the west he married Roxey Jordan, who was born in Texas and accompanied her father, Frank, to the coast region. One of her brothers, John F. Jordan, is an influential citizen of Visalia. From girlhood her home was in this locality, and her death occurred in the home of her son, Henry F., when she was fifty-three years of age. Of her children William died in Visalia; Henry F. was second in order of birth and is now a prominent stock-dealer of Visalia; Charles E. resides in Fresno and engages in mining in this state; George is a real estate agent at Hanford; Irving conducts a dairy business at Bakersfield, where J. H., the sixth son, carries on an abstract business; Mary, the eldest daughter, died in Visalia; Cora is engaged in the abstract business in this city; Rose is a school teacher at Hanford; and Maggie and Earl are twins; Maggie is now attending the State Normal School at San Jose, and Earl follows the abstract business in Hanford.

In Visalia, where he was born December 7, 1861, Henry F. Bliss acquired a fair education in the public schools. From boyhood his tastes have led him into agriculture, both in the departments of general farming and stock-raising. At one time he operated twelve hundred acres near Exeter, but in 1901 he disposed of these inter-

ests and settled on the old Bliss homestead in the suburbs of Visalia. Here he has since engaged in the live-stock business, buying and selling horses, cattle and hogs, and dealing in poultry of all kinds. Under his supervision are seventy acres, of which the larger part is under alfalfa. In his work he has the co-operation and counsel of his wife, whom he married in San Francisco, and who was formerly Mrs. Florence M. Raisch, a native of Logan county, Ark. In religious belief Mrs. Bliss is identified with the Congregational Church and Mr. Bliss is interested in the work of the same, though not a member. Included in his fraternal relations may be mentioned membership in the Knights of Pythias, Uniform Rank, and the Fraternal Brotherhood, both of which organizations have the benefit of his active interest and constant support. Tulare county has been his lifelong home and its interests he has made his own. No citizen is more interested in its material development than he and none has been more solicitous to aid in its progress. Movements for the benefit of his home city or county receive his staunch support and he is always relied upon to champion public-spirited projects. Politically he is a Democrat.

**JULIUS LONEY.** Among the native-born citizens of California conspicuous for their ability and worth is Julius Loney, one of the most thrifty and prosperous of the successful agriculturists of Stanislaus county. His well-cultivated and well-improved ranch, lying three miles east of Oakdale, is one of the best in its appointments of any in this section of the state, reflecting credit on his sound judgment and wise management. A son of the late James Loney, he was born May 27, 1864, in Tuolumne county. His father was of Scotch ancestry and his mother of Swedish.

A native of Scotland, James Loney was born December 24, 1818. Shipping as a cabin-boy when eleven years old, he was engaged in seafaring pursuits for nearly a score of years, all of the latter part of the time serving as first mate of his vessel. After visiting many of the more important ports of the globe, he located in California in Tuolumne county, in 1848, and was there successfully employed in mining for twelve years. Purchasing a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres in 1862, he carried on general farming and stock raising with great success, in course of time becoming an extensive landholder, at one time owning several thousand acres of land in that county. Inheriting the physical strength and vigor of his hardy Scotch progenitors, he lived to a good old age, passing away June 1, 1904. His wife, whose maiden name was Kate Jones, is now living on the home

ranch, being a bright and active woman of seventy-six years. He was a consistent Democrat in his political affiliations, and fraternally was an Odd Fellow. Of the children born to him, six grew to years of maturity, namely: John H.; Mrs. Jane A. Clavey; James W.; Joseph V.; Julius, the subject of this sketch; and Jefferson; one son, Jerome, is dead.

Brought up on the home farm, and obtaining a limited education in the district schools, Julius Loney early acquired a good knowledge of the various branches of agriculture, and at the age of thirteen years began working for wages. Prudent, thrifty and economical, he accumulated considerable money, and in 1885 located on his present farm, three miles east of Oakdale, on what is known as the Clavey ranch. He has seventeen hundred acres of valuable land, the larger part of which he devotes to the raising of grain, harvesting large crops each season, therefrom realizing a handsome annual income.

Mr. Loney married Nancy E. Box, who was born in Calaveras county, a daughter of Stephen and Melissa (Abbott) Box, who came across the plains to this state in 1852. They had three children, namely: Jessie A., Elmer S. and Eliza B. Mrs. Loney died October 21, 1899. Politically Mr. Loney cordially indorses the principles of the Republican party, of which he is a devoted adherent, but, his time being fully taken up with agricultural pursuits, he has never sought any public office.

---

HON. ELBRIDGE NELSON RECTOR.  
Upon being transplanted from Germany to Scotland the Richter family became known by their present appellation of Rector. At an early period in the settlement of America they established themselves in Virginia, and several generations were identified with the growth of that commonwealth. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary war Charles Rector, a large and prosperous planter, was engaged in the cultivation of his land, which occupied a portion of the present site of Lexington, Va. In his family there were eleven sons, most of whom accompanied him when he entered the service of the colonies to fight for independence. When the war ended he resumed the peaceful pursuits of a planter in the Old Dominion. During his latter years he traveled by horseback across the mountains to Kentucky and thence to Tennessee, where he remained until his death. Among the sons who served with him in the war with England was Benjamin, a native of Virginia, for some years a resident of Kentucky, later a planter in Sevier county, Tenn., and from 1840 until his death a resident of Texas.

Next in line of descent was Kenner Avery

Rector, a native of Virginia, who enlisted in the war of 1812, took part in the battle of New Orleans, and gained a reputation of being the best shot in General Jackson's army. His marriage to Elizabeth Randall, a native of Tennessee, allied him with an influential old Virginia family, who were connected with the Spencers, Clacks, and other prominent families of the Old Dominion. Among the five children of Kenner Avery Rector the eldest, Elbridge Gerry, was born in Sevier county, Tenn., February 19, 1816, and during 1835 went to Texas, where the following year he joined the Texan army. In the battle of San Jacinto he was twice severely wounded, from the effects of which he never entirely recovered. Later he was on the frontier in the Indian war as a Texas ranger under Col. Jack Hayes and Captain Bird. In 1847 he took part in the Mexican war, remaining at the front until peace was declared. During 1849, with pack mules, he made the long journey via El Paso, Tucson and Yuma to Los Angeles and thence up the coast and across to San Joaquin county, and from there to Mariposa county, where he landed on the September memorable in state history as the date of the election of the members of the California constitutional convention. For a time he engaged in mining and then carried on a hotel at the Green Valley ranch. In 1853 he removed to what is now Merced county and engaged in farming and stock-raising on the Merced river. One of his first public efforts was the circulation of a petition for the setting off of Merced from Mariposa county, which was successfully accomplished in 1855, and he was elected the first county clerk. After he had filled that position for seven years he was elected county sheriff, and served from 1864 to 1866.

Removing from Merced to Stanislaus county in 1868, Elbridge G. Rector engaged in farming and stock-raising opposite the present site of Modesto. In 1870 he transferred his residence to Mariposa county, where he was engaged in farming and stock-raising near Coulterville. His next removal, in 1877, took him to Texas, where he embarked in the stock business in San Saba county, remaining there until November, 1882, and then returning to Merced county, Cal. From January, 1889, to January, 1891, he filled the office of county treasurer. For years he was the leader of the Democratic party in Merced county. Possessing to a remarkable degree the faculty of winning and retaining friends, few men have been more popular or prominent than he, and it furnishes an evidence of his noble character to state that, though he led one party, he was respected by members of the opposition. Indeed, on every hand there came tributes of regard and respect. Without doubt he worked more to secure the interests of his town

and county than his own financial affairs, for he was one of the most unselfish of men. Governor Latham always gave him the credit for his election to the gubernatorial chair and assured him any favors requested would be granted, yet Mr. Rector asked for nothing. His work was done from a sense of duty and patriotic pride, not with the expectation of pecuniary reward or official holdings. He was a charter member of La Grange Lodge, F. & A. M., in which he was past master, and in addition he held membership with the Royal Arch Masons. From 1883 until his death, October 19, 1903, he continued to make Merced his home.

The marriage of Elbridge G. Rector occurred in Merced county in 1860 and united him with Amanda M. McFarlane, who was born in Jackson county, Ala., and now resides in Merced. Her parents, Robert and Elizabeth (Hobbs) McFarlane, were natives of Virginia and settled in Tennessee at an early day, thence removing to a farm in Alabama. The McFarlane family came from Scotland and established themselves on a plantation in Virginia during the colonial period. The Hobbs family originated in England and also had representatives in the Revolutionary war from Virginia. In the family of Elbridge G. Rector there were five children. The eldest son, William Fielding, was born at Snelling, Merced county, Cal., April 8, 1861, and is a journalist and literary writer residing at Merced. The second son, Thomas Blackston, is a farmer and stock-raiser of Mariposa county. The daughters, Mary E. and Laura A., are the youngest of the family; the former resides with her mother and the latter is engaged in teaching school at Santa Ana.

The birth of Elbridge Nelson Rector occurred at Snelling, Merced county, Cal., January 6, 1865. After completing the district school studies he entered the Pacific Methodist College, at Santa Rosa, from which he was graduated in 1889 with the degree of A. B. The next year was spent in Hastings College of Law, after which he taught school for two years at Atwater. With the means thus secured he was enabled to complete his law course. In 1895 he was graduated from Hastings with the degree of LL. B., after which he engaged in the practice of the law in San Francisco for a year, and in 1896 returned to Merced to begin professional work in this city. For the next two years he served as secretary of the county central committee of the Democratic party. At a special election in 1900, to fill the vacancy in the unexpired term of Judge J. K. Law, he was nominated by the Democrats for the office of superior judge of Merced county and received a fair majority over Judge Ostrander, entering upon his judicial duties in December of that

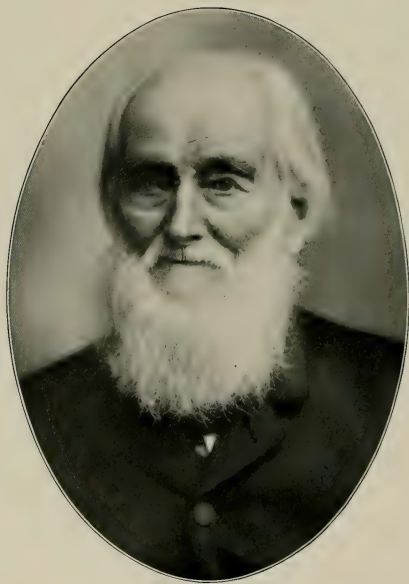
year. In 1902 he was nominated by a large majority, against opposition in the Democratic party. In the Republican convention no nomination was made for the office and he was therefore elected without opposition to serve until January, 1909. The qualities of mind which he possesses pre-eminently qualify him for successful service in the office of judge. Of an impartial, cool and calm temperament, he avoids the impetuosity of hastily formed decisions, but gives to each case the dignified and unbiased deliberation which it merits. In his well rounded character religion mingles harmoniously with other lofty attributes of mind. For years he has been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in which he officiates as a trustee. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Woodmen of the World. The State Bar Association has his name enrolled among its members and other movements for the benefit of professional men receive his co-operation. While he is a leader in politics and one of the most influential Democrats of the San Joaquin valley, in official relations politics are made subservient to public duty. Neither personal nor political matters are allowed to bias his judgment in the decisions of the courtroom, hence he gives to the bench the dignity and elevation that should be its foremost attributes.

---

JESSE E. FRAME. During the early history of Wisconsin and while that state was still considered a frontier region, Jeremiah Frame left his eastern home and settled among the pioneers of Lafayette county. After a considerable experience in lead mining he turned his attention to farming. Eventually he removed to Nebraska, where he died in Brown county. In his family was a son, Elias, who was born near Argyle, Lafayette county, Wis., and from there went to the front during the Civil war as a member of a regiment of infantry. After his marriage he left Wisconsin and settled in Seward county, Neb., where he improved a tract of wild land and also engaged in missionary work for the Methodist Episcopal denomination. After his removal to Brown county, Neb., in 1880, he homesteaded a claim and built him a house of logs, where his family lived for about twelve years. During 1892 he came to California and began to raise oranges at Portersville. Afterward he returned to Wisconsin to renew the associations of boyhood and died while visiting at Martintown, Green county. His widow, who was born at Monroe, Wis., now resides near Portersville. Of her marriage there are seven children, all living, as follows: H. A., who is engaged in the commission business at Portersville; Rozella, wife of William A. Henry,







W L Cartmill

of Tulare; Mrs. Clara Doty, who lives near Portersville; Jesse E., of Tulare; Mrs. Ida Withrow, William E., and Mrs. Mabel Weisenberger, all residing at Portersville.

During the residence of the family on their homestead near Seward, Neb., J. E. Frame was born February 29, 1876. In the country schools of Nebraska he received a fair education, which has been supplemented by habits of close observation. At sixteen years of age he accompanied the family to California and soon acquired a knowledge of the care of trees and raising of fruit. In 1897 he set out a grove of oranges covering ten acres and there carried on a citrus nursery business for three years. Since 1900 he has been a business man of Tulare, where, as a partner of J. N. Larson, he started the soda works and later bought the ice business. The firm makes a specialty of soda and mineral waters and carbonated drinks, also has the agency for Weiland and Fredericksburg beers in Visalia, and represents the Union, National and San Joaquin ice companies in Tulare. Besides the business at Tulare the partners own a one-half interest in the Visalia soda and bottling works. Through energy and industry they have built up a growing trade in the line of their specialties and have gained a position among the rising young business men of the city.

In Portersville Mr. Frame married Miss Madge Harris, who was born in San Francisco, and of their union two children were born, Howard and Carl. In his fraternal relations he holds membership in a number of local organizations, including the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Woodmen of the World, Independent Order of Foresters and Knights of the Royal Arch.

---

**DR. W. F. CARTMILL.** When an investigation of conditions led Dr. Cartmill to purchase property in Tulare county in 1861, the city of Tulare, where he now resides, had not been founded and few attempts had been made to improve any portion of the country. The possibilities of the soil were unknown and the healthful climate unappreciated. With keen discernment he decided that success awaited the man of perseverance and energy and industry. Looking about him for a location, he soon bought a quarter section ten miles southwest of Visalia, and to this original homestead he added from year to year until his landed possessions aggregated twelve hundred acres, all under ditch. During the early years of his residence in the county he made a specialty of the cattle business, but with the advent of many settlers and the dividing up of farm lands cattle could no longer be raised with profit. For this reason he changed his ef-

forts to the raising of sheep, of which he had as many as six thousand head at one time, but about 1894 he sold his flock and retired from the business. For about fifteen years he conducted an apiary, but in 1904 disposed of all of his bees and discontinued the work. At this writing he owns two hundred and forty acres situated six miles northwest of Tulare, a large part of which is under alfalfa, the remainder in orchard and vineyard, while the balance of his extensive property he has given over to his son. With the building of the railroad to Tulare, in 1872 Dr. Cartmill removed here and started a house in town, which was among the first residences to be built, and he still makes his home in this old homestead on West Tulare street.

W. F. Cartmill was born January 5, 1822, in Franklin county, Ohio, but was reared in Madison county, and was next to the youngest among seven children, and is the sole survivor of the family. His father, William, was born in Virginia and settled in Kentucky, where he married Isabelle Ferguson, a native of Old Virginia. After his marriage he removed to Franklin county and later to Madison county, Ohio, and cleared a farm on Darby creek. There he continued to make his home for many years and until his life came to an end just three years before rounding out a full century. When a boy W. F. Cartmill was a pupil in a subscription school held in a log building wholly destitute of comforts. After leaving school he studied medicine under Dr. Thomas, of London, Ohio, in which city he practiced from 1846 to 1848, and then started to California. However, after he had traveled as far as Missouri he was persuaded to stop near Columbia and there he engaged in practice two years.

During the spring of 1850 Dr. Cartmill crossed the plains with horses, following the overland trail up the Platte, on to Salt Lake (where he remained one week), thence down the Humboldt river and by the Carson route. One hundred days after crossing the Missouri state line he landed in California and at once began mining at Rancheria near Volcano, Amador county, where he also practiced his profession. During 1854 he returned via Panama to Ohio and from there went to Missouri, where, near Columbia, March 27, 1855, he married Miss Sophia Barnes, a native of that locality. Her parents, Rev. James and Elizabeth (Burkhart) Barnes, were born respectively in Kentucky and Missouri, and the father, after settling in Randolph county, Mo., became a pioneer farmer and Baptist preacher, also served in the Indian wars of early days. Both he and his wife died in Missouri. They were the parents of fifteen children, all but two of whom attained mature years, and four are now living, Mrs. Cartmill being tenth in order of

birth and the only member of the family to settle on the Pacific coast.

After their marriage Dr. and Mrs. Cartmill came to California by the Nicaragua route and settled in Amador county, where he resumed the work in which he had been interested previously. From there he came to Tulare county in 1861 and now resides in the city of Tulare, where he is an honored and influential citizen. The deepest bereavement that has befallen himself and wife in their otherwise happy married life was the loss, by diphtheria, within ten days, of their three daughters, Flora, Eva and Mary, leaving a son, Wooster Beach, who was born in 1857, in Amador county, as the sole survivor of their five children. The youngest child, Selmon, died at the age of two years. Besides this family of three daughters and two sons Dr. and Mrs. Cartmill have reared to womanhood a girl, Amelia Jessie, who is the wife of R. F. Guerin, a dairyman, living in the vicinity of Tulare. Politically Dr. Cartmill believes in Republican principles and votes the party ticket, but has never been active in partisan affairs. By virtue of his long identification with this part of the state he has been admitted as a member of the San Joaquin Valley Pioneers Society, in which he maintains a warm interest. During all the period of his residence in the county he has supported movements for the benefit of the people and has been unwearied in his efforts to promote the common good.

---

WILLIAM BROUGH. To the long list of men responsible for the agricultural upbuilding of Stanislaus county belongs the name of William Brough, the improver of several country properties, and for years as practical and influential a farmer as now lives in retirement in Newman. Not yet an old man as life is viewed today, Mr. Brough still has the fire of youth in his heart, and the enthusiasm of a vigorous constitution in his manner of thought. He has been one of the plain, matter-of-fact men around whom centers the strength and stability of communities, and his coming and going has always been according to method and rule, unmixed with speculative ventures, or desires which neither his training or abilities entitled him to realize. Born in Chenango county, N. Y., September 13, 1837, his ancestors resided peacefully in England until the ambitious tendencies of his father, George, caused his immigration to the United States from Devonshire, England, in the early part of the nineteenth century, after which he devoted his energies to farming in New York state until his removal to La Porte county, Ind., in 1840. William, the youngest of the four sons and four daughters in his

father's family, was three years old at the time of this overland journey, and today is the sole survivor of a home where prudence, industry, and humanity ruled supreme. Five years later, in 1845, the father laid aside his earthly cares and joined the silent majority, and later still, his wife died, whose girlhood name was Ann Young, and who accompanied him from England.

The youth of William Brough knew more of labor than leisure, and his education was at best irregularly gained, and consisted rather of observation and experience than application to book learning. As an unmarried man he came across the plains in 1853, driving a horse team, and locating in Eldorado county, in the vicinity of Placerville. At first he met with indifferent success in the mines, but finally had cause for encouragement, and continued to search the camps for gold for several years, seven of which were spent in Eldorado county. Coming to the San Joaquin valley in 1862, he settled eight miles east of Stockton, and in connection with farming engaged in freighting to the various mines in the vicinity. When the business fell off owing to greater increase of facilities and population he removed to Merced county, and near the town of that name purchased land which he cultivated until 1873. He then removed to the west side of the county, near Los Banos, and tilled a farm until settling three and a half miles south of Newman, Stanislaus county, in 1884. This latter purchase, consisting of forty acres of alfalfa land, he owns at the present time, and with it farmed large areas near by, at the time being considered one of the largest farmers in the neighborhood. Having earned a competence at farming, and feeling justified in handing over the reins of management to younger and stronger hands, he moved into Newman May 1, 1904, and is now living a retired life, surrounded by the comforts and diversions which his years of industry have taught him to appreciate at their true value.

Notwithstanding his exceedingly busy life, Mr. Brough has taken a keen interest in general county matters, has encouraged schools and charitable institutions, and has responded liberally whenever call was made upon his financial or other assistance. He has stock in the New Era Creamery, an enterprise which has done much for the welfare of the dairymen of the county, and he is popular fraternally as a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. For many years Mr. Brough has exerted an influence in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is steward at the present time, and he has assisted materially in the moral and financial upbuilding of the church. Politically he espouses the Republican cause, but aside from holding the

office of school trustee has never aspired to the uncertainties and worries of official life. In San Joaquin county, this state, he married Margaret Madora Soper, a native of Pennsylvania, and who has borne him eight children, four sons and four daughters, of whom three sons are deceased. In the order of their birth the children are: Mary Annetta, Mrs. Hiram Hoskins; Emily N., now Mrs. Albert Knebes; Charles, deceased; William, living near Newman; Mrs. Harriett Madora Hollister; Orvilla, deceased; Bertha Ray, residing at home, and her twin brother Orville, who died in infancy. The life of Mr. Brough has been such as to command the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact, and his efforts have reflected unchanging credit upon a county which is vastly indebted to the men who have created its past.

R. HUGH JOHNSON. A resident of California since a lad of three years, R. Hugh Johnson can well be ranked with the brave pioneers, his life history, in its principal facts, being a record of the lives of the earlier settlers of this great and glorious commonwealth. When he came to Tulare county large lakes and ponds stocked with fish of all kinds were much in evidence, occupying the land that has since been converted by the industry of the people into magnificent vineyards and orchards burdened with luscious fruits. Indians were troublesome in those days, and the wild antelope galloped over the plains, traveling so swiftly that it required an expert to lasso them. The pioneers were then obliged to avail themselves of every possible advantage in order to provide themselves with the necessities of life and proceed with the improvements on their homesteads. In common with his neighbors, Mr. Johnson's father toiled with diligence and energy, and in the course of time success smiled upon his energetic and persevering labors. A son of J. H. Johnson, the subject of this sketch was born October 27, 1846, in Yamhill county, Ore., on the Willamette river. His paternal grandfather moved with his family to Arkansas at an early period of its settlement, locating in the western part, where he became a citizen of so much prominence and influence that the county in which he resided was named Johnson county in his honor.

A native of Johnson county, Ark., J. H. Johnson succeeded to the occupation in which he was reared, living at home until after becoming of age. In 1845, with an ox team train, he crossed the plains to Oregon, and for three years lived in Yamhill county. Migrating to California in 1849, he built the first hotel in Napa City, but it burned to the ground on the opening day.

Going then to Sausalito, Marin county, he was employed as lumberman for a while. Not satisfied, however, he removed to Oakland, bought land on the San Pablo creek, where for three years he was a butcher and stock raiser. He then settled on a farm in French Camp, at the same time owning a ranch on the San Joaquin river in San Joaquin county. In 1858 he took up his residence in Tulare, on Cross creek, near Tulare lake, but shortly after removed to Visalia. Three years later he bought land nine miles east of Visalia, and as a general farmer met with distinguished success. He became one of the most extensive landholders of this section, having a stock ranch of four thousand seven hundred acres on the Kaweah river, and owning other farming property. Selling out to the Crocker estate in 1897 for \$115,000, he rented the land until 1902, but made his residence in Visalia. In 1902 he removed to San Francisco, where he is now living. He married Mary Ann Murray, who was born in Tennessee, the daughter of Parson Murray, a pioneer minister of the Christian Church, who removed from Pennsylvania, his native state, to Tennessee, and then to Arkansas. Of the ten children born of their union, four are living, namely: James L., a farmer in Orosi; R. Hugh; T. D.; and Mrs. Alice Crew of Fresno county.

Spending the larger part of his youthful days in Tulare county, R. Hugh Johnson obtained his early education principally in the public schools of Visalia. Beginning life for himself at the age of twenty-one years, he had charge of a part of the old homestead for a year, and was afterwards engaged in sheep raising for several seasons. Buying the old Drum valley farm of four hundred and forty acres in 1872, Mr. Johnson began its improvement, and for many years was successfully employed in stock growing and breeding, making a specialty of raising hogs, and of breeding, raising and breaking horses. He also carried on a good business as a freighter, teaming to Visalia and Cross Creek Switch. As he made money, he wisely invested it in adjoining land, and now owns nearly the whole of Drum valley, having title to nearly seventeen hundred acres, all of which is fenced. He has been for many years an extensive stock raiser, also raising grain and hay for winter feed. He erected a fine residence and substantial barns and outbuildings, rendering the place one of the best and most convenient in its appointments of any in the vicinity. In 1903 Mr. Johnson bought the forty-acre ranch on which he now resides, it being a part of the old Camp place. It is located two miles south of Sultana, and is sixteen miles from his home ranch in the Drum valley, where his son Charles is now manager, thirty-three miles from

Visalia, which was the nearest market when he began farming and the place to which he used to haul grain and lumber.

In Tulare county Mr. Johnson married Sarah E. Crowley, a native of Missouri and a daughter of G. B. Crowley, who brought his family across the plains with ox teams in pioneer days, and is now a resident of Los Angeles. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of ten children, namely: Mrs. Alice Rosaline Davis of Farmersville; Mrs. Mary Ann Stokes, living near Dinuba; Charles, on the Drum valley ranch; Mrs. Laura Leggett, living near Sultana; Frank, a farmer; Mrs. Emma Ogen of Drum Valley; and R. B., Walter, Ray and Letha, at home. Politically Mr. Johnson is a steadfast Democrat. He served as a member of the first board of trustees in the Drum Valley district, a position that he filled many terms, and assisted in building the first school house in that section. Socially he is a member of the San Francisco Association of California Pioneers. Mrs. Johnson is a valued member of the Christian Church.

**JOHN F. BURCH.** Classed among the progressive and enterprising farmers of Contra Costa county, John F. Burch occupies a position won by many years of industrious and painstaking effort. He is a self-made man in the best sense implied by the term, and has not only made a success financially but has gained the respect and esteem of all who have come to know him. Born in New York City, December 25, 1837, he was the son of Henry Burch, and in that location he was reared to young manhood. At the breaking out of the Civil war he was among the first to offer his services, becoming a member of Company F, Fifty-sixth New York Volunteer Infantry in 1861. Following his enlistment he served two years and ten months, at which time he was honorably discharged for disability. At the battle of Gettysburg he served as corporal. On his return to civic duties he took up surveying and civil engineering, and spent two winters in South Carolina and ten years in the state of Nebraska. In 1876 he came to California and located at Visalia, Tulare county, where he assisted in building the overland Southern Pacific Railroad, and acted for the company as land appraiser. He remained in that location until 1898 when he bought ninety-four and seventy-five one-hundredths acres of the Playter estate in Contra Costa county, and also thirty-three and one-third acres from Henry Ivey. In addition to these two pieces of land he purchased a small fruit orchard and a vineyard of six acres. The ranch is devoted to the cultivation of grain and hay, in which he has been very successful. He has made many improvements on his property and greatly

enhanced its value. The land of this ranch is peculiarly adapted to the production of corn, a farm product which is exceedingly rare throughout the state.

In 1870 in Sullivan county, N. Y., Mr. Burch married Harriet A. Pierson, also a native of that county, and of this union were born two children, namely: Alfred P. and Bertha G. The daughter married William DuBois, and they are the parents of one daughter, Grace M.

**MRS. ELLEN (GREENE) LEWIS.** One of the large landholders of Tulare county is Mrs. Ellen (Greene) Lewis, who owns and occupies a valuable ranch lying about three miles south of Dinuba. She is a woman of remarkably good business capacity, great intelligence and resolution, and in the management of her farm shows excellent judgment and commendable wisdom. A native of Texas, she was born in Dallas county, near Lancaster, a daughter of the late Robert L. Greene, and a sister of Samuel K. Greene. She comes of old Virginian stock, her grandfather Greene having been born and bred in Virginia.

A native of east Tennessee, Robert L. Greene became a farmer from choice, and in early manhood located in Menard county, Ill. Subsequently removing to Dallas county, Texas, he was for a time there in business as a stock grower and cotton raiser. Returning to Menard county, Ill., he resided there until 1868, when, with his wife and three children, he came across the plains to California, performing the journey with horse teams. Locating in Merced county, he was engaged in farming at Snelling for six years, when, at the time the mill and flume was extended to Madera, he went to Fresno Flats, where he continued as a stock-raiser and farmer for a few seasons. Coming from there to Tulare county, he located near Dinuba, buying a homestead claim of eighty acres, and subsequently purchasing eighty acres of adjoining land. On this ranch that he improved he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of sixty-six years. He was a strong Democrat in politics, and a faithful member of the Christian Church, in which he was for many years an elder. His wife, whose maiden name was Rebecca Senter, was born in Tennessee. She survived him, and married for her second husband Judge Louis Van Tassel, who came to California with the "forty-niners," settled in Tulare county, where he served as county judge for several terms prior to his death. Since the judge's death Mrs. Van Tassel resides with her daughter, Mrs. Lewis, being now seventy-six years old. She is a most estimable woman and a member of the Christian Church. By her union with her first







*G. B. Veighor*



*Mrs. M. H. Neighbor*



husband three children were born, namely: Mrs. Ellen Lewis; Clark C., a farmer near Dinuba; and Samuel K., whose sketch may be seen on another page of this work.

Spending the days of her girlhood in Texas, Illinois and California, Ellen Greene attended the public schools of each of these states, acquiring a good education, in the meantime being trained by a wise mother in domestic pursuits. She married first, in Plainsberg, Merced county, William Dudney, who was born and reared in Arkansas, and when a young man came across the plains to the California gold fields. Subsequently, as junior member of the firm of Simons & Dudney, he embarked in the sheep business on a large scale, keeping ten thousand head of sheep, his range extending from South Mountain to Grand View and Cross Creek Switch, or Traver, a distance of fourteen miles. Giving that up, Mr. Dudney bought a farm two miles south of the one now occupied by Mrs. Lewis, and was there pleasantly and profitably engaged in agricultural work until his death in 1889. He was a Democrat in politics, and a Mason. Mrs. Dudney subsequently married for her second husband Rev. Josiah A. Lewis, a native of Missouri, and a pioneer minister of the Christian Church, who crossed the plains with wagons and located first on a farm in Sonoma county. From there he went to Santa Clara county, settling near San Jose, and thence to Mussel Slough, where he bought land and carried on farming for a time, at the same time preaching in the Christian Church. He afterwards bought and improved a ranch in Tulare county, not far from Dinuba, and there resided until his death, in June, 1895. He was an active worker in his denomination, and assisted in building churches throughout the valley. He was highly respected and was an active Mason.

Since the death of Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Lewis bought her ranch of one hundred and sixty acres from her brother, and for a number of years she was engaged in grain raising, carrying on one thousand acres of land, but since 1899 she has devoted her land to raising alfalfa and stock. Mrs. Lewis has a large property, owning one thousand acres of land adjoining her home farm, and has an alfalfa ranch of three hundred acres lying three and one-half miles south of Dinuba, all of which is under irrigation. Mrs. Lewis has made substantial improvements on her property, and on the home ranch has built three houses, the first two having been burned down. She is an extensive stock raiser, keeping many cattle, horses and hogs, and she has one of the best pumping plants in this vicinity, furnished with a ten-horse-power engine, which she can use in case of extreme dry weather, irrigating six or seven acres a day.

By her first marriage Mrs. Lewis had three children, two of whom are living, namely: Pearl, wife of Edward Lewis of Dinuba; and Rembrandt C. Dudney, a horticulturist living near Dinuba. Mrs. Lewis is an ardent suffragist in politics and fraternally is a member of the Court of Honor and of the Rebekahs, of which she is past grand. She belongs to the Christian Church and is an active member of its Ladies' Aid Society, of which she has been president the past twelve years.

---

GILBERT B. NEIGHBOR. One of the oldest landmarks in Snelling is the general merchandise store of Gilbert B. Neighbor, where since his arrival in 1873 he has been engaged in the general merchandise business in the growing community, and is respected and honored by all with whom he has had business or social relations. Mr. Neighbor embodies the sterling traits and energy of the west, intensified by an inheritance of eastern grit and determination, honesty and high-mindedness. He was born at German Valley, Morris county, N. J., September 14, 1836, a son of Jacob Weise and Mary Ann (Trimmer) Neighbor, natives of New Jersey. His paternal great-grandfather, Leonard Neighbor, was born in New Jersey in 1730, and his paternal grandfather, also named Leonard, was born in the same state in 1764, both serving in the Revolutionary war. In later life the grandfather served as an able judge, and during his professional career settled twenty-two estates in New Jersey. He died at the advanced age of ninety-one years.

Jacob W. Neighbor was reared on a farm in New Jersey, and when grown to manhood stepped from the occupation of his forefathers to that of merchandising. In 1855 he sought to benefit his condition by removal to Princeton, Ill., where he engaged successfully in buying and selling grain. He lived to be fourscore and two years old, his wife having died in her fortieth year. One of his sons, Jesse H., is a business man of Pacific Grove, Cal. Gilbert B. received his preliminary education in the public schools of New Jersey, and was nineteen years old when the family removed to Illinois. He heard much of the wonders of California and had a longing to see the country, but it was not until 1859 that he was able to realize his wishes. Going to New York, he sailed for Aspinwall, and from Panama to San Francisco, arriving in the latter city December 14, 1859. Going at once to Tuolumne county, he engaged in farming for seven years, and then went to Jamestown, where he clerked in a store for a like period. With his experience to guide him he came to Snelling in 1873, and

has been engaged in merchandising since that date.

Until 1893 Mr. Neighbor was interested in sheep raising, at one time having a band of five thousand. He owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, as well as some town property. He is public-spirited, and his political activities have been of lasting benefit to the community. A staunch Republican, he has fought for the best tenets of his party, and served as justice of the peace for four years.

In this state Mr. Neighbor was united in marriage with Matilda H. Smith, a native of Augusta, Me., and daughter of P. B. Smith, who came around the Horn in 1850, and is still a resident of Jamestown, Tuolumne county. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Neighbor, of whom Charles G. is a rancher of Merced county; Marjorie A. is the wife of William C. Richards; May N. is the wife of Fred G. Robinson; Ada Grace married R. H. Allen; Pearl is deceased; and Josie, Melvin and Ethel are at home. Mr. Neighbor is one of the popular and successful merchants of Merced county and his record is one which may well furnish encouragement to the youth of the rising generation. One of his strongest characteristics is faithfulness to duty, a trait appreciated by the Wells Fargo Express Company, which he has represented as agent for the past twenty-nine years. In all movements that have tended to advance the welfare of the county and citizens, he has given of his means, time and influence.

**THOMAS E. EVERETT.** A man of ability and energy, Thomas E. Everett is intimately associated with the industrial prosperity of Tulare as one of its leading business men. An able architect, contractor and builder, his services are in constant demand, and as the owner and manager of the pioneer planing plant of this locality he is active in advancing its manufacturing interests. Born July 22, 1861, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, he was there reared and educated, being graduated from the high school. He subsequently learned the trades of a carpenter and cabinet maker, and followed these with success in his native city. Migrating to Massachusetts in 1899, he spent three years in Boston.

In 1902 Mr. Everett located in Tulare as a contractor and builder. He met with excellent success, and in March, 1904, enlarged his operations by starting a planing mill. Furnishing it with machinery of the most approved patterns, he manufactures building material of all kinds, and carries on an extensive and lucrative business in general mill work.

In Tulare Mr. Everett married Kate B. Beckwith, a woman of rare personal worth. She was

born in Illinois, a daughter of John B. Beckwith. Mr. Beckwith removed from Illinois to California about twenty years ago, and was engaged in the grocery and commission business in Tulare until his death, in May, 1903. He was a man of much force of character, ranking among the foremost men of the community, and was highly esteemed. His wife died several years before he did. Fraternally Mr. Everett is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and of the Improved Order of Red Men.

**ARCHIE B. WASGATT.** Ever since the Wasgatt family became established in America successive generations have been identified with the growth and history of Maine. In that state Elisha Wasgatt was born and reared and there he followed the blacksmith's trade through all of his active life. Following him in line of descent was Moses Wasgatt, a ship carpenter by trade, who for twenty years engaged in the West India coasting trade. It was he who founded the family in the far west. During 1876 he removed to California and settled in Los Angeles county near Florence, where he took up the building business. In 1881 he removed to Selma, this state, where for years he was the leading contractor and builder, following the occupation until his death, which occurred October 10, 1902. Before leaving Maine he had married Ann Adelia Higgins, a native of that state, and now a resident of Selma. Three sons and one daughter were born of their union, namely: Hiram T., a musician in San Francisco; Archie B., of Dinuba; Fred M., agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad at Reedley; and Annie M., a teacher in the Selma schools.

At Mount Desert, Hancock county, Me., Archie B. Wasgatt was born May 28, 1869. When the family removed from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast he was a child of six years, hence his education has been gained wholly in California. At the age of eleven he accompanied his parents to Selma and there attended the public schools. When sixteen years old he secured work in a general mercantile establishment at Selma. A few years later he left that store and became a clerk with Jacob Schwalby in the same town. Later he held a clerkship in Madera, and for two years acted as manager of a store owned by Radin & Kamp of Fresno. From Madera he went to Fresno, where he continued with his former employers for almost three years. On returning to Selma he engaged with the Brownstone Company for two years. During the summer of 1901 he engaged in prospecting at Nome, Alaska. On his return to California he settled in Dinuba, where he has since engaged in business, having in a short time built up the



largest business of the kind in town. His establishment contains shoes of all kinds and to suit all tastes, while he also has a large and complete stock of gent's furnishing goods. Possessing energy and resourcefulness, he has worked with persevering fidelity and has attained already a commendable degree of success. In national politics he votes with the Democratic party, while fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His marriage, solemnized in Reno, Nev., united him with Miss Cenie Lester, a native of Missouri, and the daughter of Mark Lester, who came to California at an early day and now resides on a farm near Centerville. Reared and educated in the west, Mrs. Wasgatt is in sympathy with all movements looking toward the upbuilding of this part of the country and as a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church is in deep sympathy with all work that tends toward the spiritual uplifting of the community.

---

**GIBBONS ANDREW BOTSFORD.** Not alone through the accumulation of large landed estates, but also through his long and intimate association with the history of Tulare county, Mr. Botsford holds a position among the most influential and prominent men of Visalia, where he has made his home and business headquarters since 1859. The family of which he is a member came from New England. His father, T. E. Botsford, was a native of Massachusetts, but removed to Ohio after he was married. For some years he conducted a mercantile store at Akron and from there in 1844 removed to Columbus, Ohio, where he became proprietor of a store and resided until death. Originally a Whig, with the disintegration of that party he became an adherent of the newly organized Republican party and afterward gave its principles his stanch allegiance. His wife, who was Nancy Merillo Gibbons, was born in Connecticut and died in Ohio after his demise. In their family were three sons and three daughters, of whom the subject of this narrative was third in order of birth. A native of Akron, born November 13, 1836, he was eight years of age when the family removed to Columbus, and afterward became a pupil in the schools of the latter city, completing his education by a business course in Cincinnati.

Upon starting out to make his way in the world Mr. Botsford settled in Iowa, where with a brother he conducted a mercantile business for about eighteen months. In 1856 he joined a party of emigrants and crossed the plains via the southern route. In common with the majority of early settlers he tried his luck in mining and prospected considerably both in this state and

Arizona. Meanwhile for a year he clerked in a hardware store in Los Angeles and from there came to Visalia in 1859, taking up the trade of tinner and also acting as deputy assessor by appointment. In 1863 he was appointed United States revenue collector for this district and served for one term. In 1865-66 he served as register of the United States land office at Visalia and in 1867 was again appointed for a second term. Since 1867 he has engaged in the real-estate business, but finds his attention required for the management of his own lands. At this writing he owns the Botsford building, a brick structure in Visalia; other town property, including a commodious residence set in the midst of three lots that are adorned with flowers and shrubbery; also various tracts in Tulare county, and a farm of six thousand acres in Kings county, where he has a large number of cattle. At different times he has platted additions to Visalia and sold off the property for residence lots. The loaning of money has been a special feature of his business and he has also engaged in the insurance business.

After coming to Visalia Mr. Botsford married Miss Harriet G. Edwards, who was born in New York and died in this town in 1896. A woman of great capability, she had been a constant help to her husband by her counsel and her death was a heavy bereavement to him. Throughout all of his life Mr. Botsford has been interested in politics. When he was a young man the organization of the Republican party, with its stirring policy and progressive platform, enlisted his support, and he has never wavered in allegiance to its principles. Frequently since coming to Visalia he has rendered able service along party lines, notably through his work as a member of the county and state central committees. Stirring in action, courteous to rich and poor, quick in decision, generous to the needy, he richly deserves the high measure of financial success that has been his portion.

---

**FREDERICK E. BUNKER.** In Stanislaus county there are many enterprising agriculturists who bring to their calling good business methods and excellent judgment, and whose labors are crowned with success. Conspicuous among this number is Frederick E. Bunker, who owns and occupies a finely improved ranch, lying about seven miles south of Newman, in a rich and fertile district. A man of undoubted ability and integrity, he is held in high regard throughout the community, both he and his wife being respected for their many virtues, and heartily liked for their frank, open-hearted hospitality and kindly manners. He is a native Californian, his birth having occurred Septem-

ber 28, 1875, in Cottonwood, Merced county, on the farm of his father, Nathaniel Bunker.

A native of New England, Nathaniel Bunker was born and reared in Maine. Becoming a civil engineer, he came with a surveying party to Michigan, when a young man, from there migrating to the Pacific coast, crossing the plains to California. As a miner he searched for gold in Nevada county, but not being especially successful in his quest, he embarked in the lumber business at Truckee. Desiring a change of occupation, he rented land at Cottonwood, Shasta county, in 1869, and was there engaged in farming for nine years. Buying six hundred and forty acres of land in that locality in 1878, he began the raising of grain on an extended scale, and was thus successfully employed until 1903, when he removed to Oakland, Cal., where he is living retired, his home being No. 480 Moss avenue. He married Elizabeth Dunning, also a native of Maine, and they reared a family consisting of four boys and two girls, of whom Frederick E., the subject of this sketch, is the third child, and the third son.

After leaving the district schools, Frederick E. Bunker attended the State Normal School at San Jose for awhile, completing his early education at a private school in Oakland. The ensuing year he was employed as a clerk in a drug store. Preferring a more independent life, he turned his attention to agriculture, and in his chosen pursuit has been exceedingly prosperous. Purchasing his present farm, the old Castner estate, of eighty acres, which is situated seven miles south of Newman, in the Cottonwood district, he has devoted himself more especially to raising alfalfa, and to dairying, keeping on an average from thirty to forty cows. In regard to its appointments, Mr. Bunker's ranch compares favorably with any in the neighborhood, its neat and orderly appearance bearing evidence of the thrift and care of its owner.

In Newman, Mr. Bunker married Lela Switzer, a native of this town. Politically Mr. Bunker affiliates with the Republican party, being one of its most loyal supporters, and fraternally he is a member of Hill's Ferry Lodge No. 236, F. & A. M.

---

**AVON M. COBURN.** The town of Springville, Tulare county, was laid out by Avon M. Coburn, an esteemed resident of the place and a potent factor in the material upbuilding of this section. A man of energy and ability, he gives his whole effort to promote the general welfare, making his personal efforts lie parallel with those for the community in which he makes his home. A native son of the state, he was born in Placer county July 26, 1857. His father,

Samuel S. Coburn, was a native of Maine, inheriting from his New England ancestors those qualities which make them desirable citizens in any part of the country. He came to California in 1852 via the Horn, locating in Placer county, where he first engaged in mining. He acted as superintendent in the erection of the wagon road over the Sierra Nevada mountains, while he also worked on the construction of the Central Pacific Railway. In 1868 he came to Tulare county and located in Visalia, where he remained for two years. He then went to Mountain View, on the Upper Tule, where he farmed and raised stock for a time, then sold and went to the Middle Fork of the Tule and followed the same business. Eventually disposing of this property, he located near Springville, where his death occurred in 1894. His widow, formerly Julia A. Crockett, a native of Maine, is now living, the wife of S. G. Harvey, of Springville. To Mr. and Mrs. Coburn were born one son and two daughters, of whom Avon C. Coburn is the second child.

The education of Avon C. Coburn was received in the common schools of his native state, more or less limited on account of the primitive conditions of that day. In young manhood he engaged in sawmilling in the pineries at the head of the Tule river, working from fifteen years of age until 1884, when he bought a small mill with his earnings and entered into the work for himself. Later he enlarged the mill and continued successfully until 1901, when he sold out with profit. In 1890 he purchased the quarter section of land on which Springville now stands and erected the planing and box mill which he conducted in conjunction with his sawmill until 1901, when he also disposed of this interest temporarily by leasing the property to what is now known as the Central California Redwood Company until May 1, 1905, when he will again take possession. Mr. Coburn is adding materially to the growth of Springville by putting up houses which he rents. This land he purchased in 1890 from Sweet & Co. of Visalia, and laid out the town of Springville, and has since given his best efforts towards its upbuilding and the promotion of all worthy movements.

In Springville Mr. Coburn was united in marriage with Fannie Daunt, a native of San Joaquin county, Cal., and they have one son, Leonard A. Mrs. Coburn is a daughter of William Giles Daunt and Henrietta C. Tlangy, the former a native of Montreal, Canada, and the latter of Germany. He came to California in June, 1867, and lived in Los Angeles and then in Pacheco. He traveled all over the United States and lived in New Orleans for years, besides many other places. He was a painter by trade, and a fine workman. He accumulated considerable prop-





*A. A. Rowell*

erty before the war, but lost his wealth in that gigantic struggle. He came to Springville many years ago and the postoffice was named in his honor, he being the first postmaster. Politically Mr. Coburn is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World, and is past chairman of the Springville Lodge, of which he was the first council commander. He also belongs to Mount Whitney Camp.

**ALBERT ABBOTT ROWELL.** Among the pioneers who have watched the development of Fresno county from a wild desert region to a land of happy homes and flourishing industries, is Albert Abbott Rowell, a carpenter and builder by trade, owner of a one hundred and sixty acre ranch two miles west of Selma, and since 1901 a retired resident of the town. Mr. Rowell started on his independent career at a very early age, with but slight knowledge of the diversions or pleasures which make youth a time to be recalled with unceasing joy. He was born in Essex county, Vt., May 3, 1846, and when four years old removed to McLean county, Ill., with his parents, where his father died the following year, and where he worked hard on the home farm, having but few opportunities of attending the district school. At the age of fourteen he began his independent career by working as a farm hand until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving until March, 1863. Leaving Illinois in 1871, he located in York county, Neb., and combined carpentering with the management of a one hundred and sixty acre farm.

In 1873 Mr. Rowell came to California and engaged in the sheep business with his brothers in Fresno county, and when it came time to send the herds to the mountains, he plied his trade in Fresno with Andy Law. He cut the first stick of timber used in the warehouses, in the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the water works building, and built the Fresno residence of his brother, Dr. Rowell, mentioned elsewhere in this work. In the spring of 1878 he located the claim still owned by him, and in February, 1879, became one of the first workers on the great Centerville and Kingsburg Irrigation Company's ditch, for which he contracted for the wood work. Not long afterward he went to the Washington colony and assisted with its laying out, dug the ditches and otherwise arranged for the comfort and convenience of the settlers. In December, 1879, he went to the central colony, and there married Nancy Ann Booth, born in Minnesota, and daughter of Stephen Booth, one

of the early settlers of that colony. The following year he located on his pre-empted claim two miles west of Selma, set it out to vineyard, orchard and alfalfa, and improved it until coming to Selma in 1901, when its management was given to other parties.

In numerous ways Mr. Rowell has filed a lien upon the gratitude and appreciation of the people of Fresno county. His skill as a builder has erected many monuments, including residences, public buildings, stores, and churches, and his thorough understanding of horticulture has assisted the establishment of the present high standard of excellence throughout the county. Until recently he has taken an active interest in the Christian Church, of which he has been a member for years, and he has been equally energetic in promoting the cause of temperance. Mr. Rowell is a man of high moral character, generous impulses, and practical common sense, and the fact that his present state of health interferes with his enjoyment of life is greatly regretted by his many friends.

**JOHN BURGAN.** Ever since starting out for himself at twenty-one years of age Mr. Burgan has made his home in California and at this writing is a resident of Tulare, where he engages in business as proprietor of the City livery. The family of which he is a member came from the east, his father, Samuel, having been a native of Ohio, but from the age of twenty-one years a resident of Kansas, where for some years he followed the freighting business on the plains between Leavenworth and Fort Scott. In the interests of the same occupation he made a trip to Pike's Peak and to the Black Hills, thus seeing much of frontier and mining life. Eventually he discontinued freighting and settled on a farm two miles north of Lawrence, where he devoted himself to the cultivation of eighty acres of valuable land. During 1901 he removed to California and has since engaged in the stock business upon a ranch that he owns near Tulare. However, owing to advancing years, he is no longer active in business and many of the activities of former years have been relinquished. By his marriage to Ellen Foltz, who was born in Ohio and is still living, he became the father of ten children, nine of whom survive. In this family John Burgan was second in order of birth. Born at Lawrence, Kans., June 16, 1867, he passed the years of boyhood somewhat uneventfully on the home farm, where from early boyhood he showed a liking for horses. While still quite young he became an expert judge of horseflesh and his counsel was often sought in the purchase of teams by neighbors. At the same time he became a student of the diseases

of horses, thus gaining the knowledge which gives him considerable veterinary skill.

On coming to Tulare county, in December, 1888, Mr. Burgan secured employment as a farm hand. After two years he bought forty acres of land two miles from Tulare, and this he checked and put into alfalfa. At the same time he engaged in trading and dealing in horses, an occupation for which his experience and inclination admirably qualified him. In 1896 he purchased the City livery from James Shannon and engaged in the livery, feed and sale business, also continued to buy and sell horses. In 1901 he sold the barn and removed to Los Angeles, where he bought the Nevada stables on Broadway, but a year later disposed of that property and purchased the Richmond stables on Main between Eighth and Ninth streets, continuing in that place until May of 1904, when he returned to Tulare. In October of the same year he purchased the site and barn previously owned by him, and here he conducts a first-class livery. In politics he votes the Democratic ticket, while fraternally he holds membership in the Woodmen of the World, Fraternal Brotherhood and Fraternal Aid. After coming to Tulare he was here united in marriage with Miss Verna Riley, a native of Kansas, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The three children born of their union are Walter Lloyd, Loran Donald and Harold Rex.

---

**WILLIAM G. HUNTER.** An industrious, thrifty and able agriculturist, William G. Hunter, living four miles southeast of Dinuba, is a fine representative of the prosperous horticulturists, stock raisers and dairymen of this section of California. Possessing good business tact and judgment, he has made wise and judicious investments, taking advantage of the facilities afforded in these days by the modern machinery and other appliances required in tilling the soil, and is carrying on his extensive operations after the most approved methods. A native of Stanislaus county, he was born January 28, 1864, near Modesto, of New England ancestry on the paternal side, his father, Charles Hunter, having been born and reared in Vermont.

Beginning life for himself as a lumberman, Charles Hunter located in Canada, and for a number of years was engaged in the manufacture of lumber near Montreal. Crossing the plains in the '50s, he settled as a farmer and stockman in Stanislaus county, where he improved a ranch. He was quite successful, and became owner of land near Fresno, and also had land near Hanford. He died while yet in the prime of life, in 1871. His wife, whose maiden

name was Elizabeth Ketzebach, was born near Montreal, Canada, and now resides in Stanislaus county, Cal. Of the seven children born of their union, two daughters and one son survive.

After the death of his father, William G. Hunter lived for a number of years in Canada, and there began his school life. Coming back to California in 1875, he lived a part of the time on the family ranch near Fresno, and a part of the time near Hanford, attending the district schools of both places. At the age of eighteen years he began the battle of life on his own account, buying, in 1882, from the railroad company, the one hundred and sixty acres of land included in his present ranch, which was then prairie and range land. Two years later Mr. Hunter began its improvement, fencing it and sowing it to grain. In the meantime he and his brother Charles formed a partnership, and for a year farmed a section of land. Mr. Hunter has since been actively engaged in agricultural operations alone, and has met with excellent success. When the ditch was put through his land, in 1892, he leveled and checked his ranch, put out a vineyard of twenty-four acres, an orchard of thirteen acres, and has now eighty acres of alfalfa. He raises considerable stock, and is carrying on a good dairy business, although he makes a specialty of fruit culture, which he finds both pleasant and profitable. He also has a grain farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Monson, from which he realizes a good annual income, besides a stock ranch of two hundred and forty acres one mile southeast of his home.

June 2, 1892, in Dinuba, Mr. Hunter married Harriet B. Rice, who was born in Tulare county, where her father, the late Isaac Rice, was a pioneer settler. Further parental and ancestral history may be found elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of her mother, Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Rice of Dinuba. Into the pleasant household of Mr. and Mrs. Hunter three children have been born, namely: Ada Elizabeth, Earl Charles William, and Evelyn Grace. Mr. Hunter takes an active interest in the welfare of the community in which he resides, and politically votes the Democratic ticket. Fraternally he belongs to the Court of Honor. Mrs. Hunter is a member of the Baptist Church.

---

**JAMES E. CAMPBELL.** Classed among the successful agriculturists of Tulare county is James E. Campbell, who is pleasantly located just south of Monson Station, where he is devoting his time and attention to the cultivation of the soil and the raising of stock. A man of remarkably good judgment, sound sense and ability, he is well entitled to the high rank he



holds among the most useful and enterprising residents of his community. A son of Nathaniel Campbell, he was born in Laclede county, Mo., November 19, 1860. His grandfather, Galloway Campbell, a native of Virginia, migrated to Tennessee, where he worked as a millwright and also followed the trade of a carpenter for many years.

Born June 4, 1828, in Greene county, Tenn., Nathaniel Campbell married in his native state, and in 1858 followed the well-trodden path of the emigrants to Laclede county, Mo., where he lived for three years. He was subsequently employed as a tiller of the soil in Scotland county until after the breaking out of the Civil war, when he joined the Union army. Enlisting in Company E, Twelfth Missouri Cavalry, he served bravely for three years, at the close of the conflict being honorably discharged. Returning to Scotland county, he continued there as a farmer until 1881, when he came with his family to the Pacific coast. The same fall he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land near Monson, just south of the present village, and was successfully employed in agricultural pursuits until his death, April 26, 1903. He was a man of great integrity, and a staunch Republican in his political beliefs. January 17, 1856, in Tennessee, he married Susanna Simpson, who was born in Greene county, Tenn., of Virginia stock, and is now living on the farm that her husband improved, owning forty acres of the original homestead, the remainder of which she divided among her children. Her father, James Simpson, a farmer, was born in Tennessee and died in Missouri, as did his wife, whose maiden name was Dorcas Depew. Of the union of Nathaniel and Susanna (Simpson) Campbell, seven children were born, namely: John L., marshal of Selma; James E., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Mary March of Taurusa; Mrs. Sarah A. Harris of Selma; J. W., and Luella, both living on the home ranch; and Lee A., engaged in farming near Monson. The mother is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics is an undoubted Republican.

Brought up in Scotland county, Mo., James E. Campbell acquired his early knowledge of books in the district schools. With the family he came to California in 1881, and during the following winter homesteaded the tract of land adjoining his father's near Monson. Subsequently, in partnership with W. G. Hunter, he engaged in grain raising on an extended scale, carrying on fourteen hundred acres of land. Since 1900 Mr. Campbell has devoted himself to raising alfalfa, to which the major portion of his ranch of two hundred and ninety acres is sown, the remainder being pasture land. His

farm is under irrigation, the ditch passing through it and watering it thoroughly. He is specially interested in stock raising, having over one hundred head of fine Holstein cattle, while in his dairy he keeps about thirty cows.

In Schuyler county, Mo., Mr. Campbell married Lulu Breckenridge, who was born in that county, and they have two children, Harley and Cleo. Politically Mr. Campbell is a true-blue Republican, and for nine years served as trustee and clerk of the Monson school district. Mrs. Campbell is highly esteemed among her neighbors and friends, and is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ROBERT E. BERING, M. D. The stability of character noticeable in the German race and the genial social qualities with which nature has endowed those of southern birth find expression in the temperament and talents of Dr. Bering, who is first vice-president of the San Joaquin Medical Society, and a member of the Fresno County, State and American Medical Associations. As a contributor to medical journals he has advanced ideas of interest to his professional brethren, while by the thoughtful reading of literature of a similar nature he has broadened his own professional equipment. Many physicians of the twentieth century have given themselves to specialties and he has proved no exception to the rule, having established in Tulare a sanatorium where he gives treatment for the cure of the morphine, whiskey and other drug habits.

When Louis H. Bering was a boy he came to America with his father from his native province of Hesse-Cassel, Germany, and settled in Houston, Tex., where he grew to manhood and entered upon a successful business career. From that time forward he had hardware interests in that city and Galveston, and his death occurred in Houston in 1891. While making Houston his home he there formed the acquaintance of Mary J. Michau, a native of Florida, and a daughter of Dr. M. M. Michau, who was a dentist and who also did considerable work as a home missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Louis H. Bering was united in marriage with Miss Michau, by whom he had three children. The eldest, Dr. Robert E. Bering, was born in Galveston, Tex., January 9, 1871, and had excellent advantages in the Houston high school, from which he was graduated in 1888. With a love for the medical profession formed in childhood, he early decided to enter upon its study and practice, and pursuant to that end he became a student under Dr. J. M. Boyles of Houston. In 1889 he matriculated in the Tulare University, New Orleans, where he took

the full course of four years, supplemented by two years of work in Charity Hospital in the same city.

After having received the degree of M. D., in 1895, Dr. Bering opened an office in his home town of Houston, but soon removed to Alice, Tex., and from there in 1901 came to California. Since then he has conducted a general practice of medicine and surgery, in addition to maintaining his private hospital, and in both capacities he has become well known throughout the San Joaquin valley. When attending college in New Orleans he met and later married Miss Noemie Bostick, a native of that city, but of English descent. They have three children, Robert Ellis, Virginia May and Louis Henry. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church of Tulare, in which Dr. Bering officiates as a steward. Politically he favors Democratic principles. Before leaving Texas he was initiated into Masonry at Corpus Christi, and in addition he holds fraternal relations with the Woodmen of the World, Modern Woodmen of America, Improved Order of Red Men, Independent Order of Foresters, Fraternal Aid and Fraternal Brotherhood in Tulare, all of which bodies retain him in the capacity of examining physician, and in addition he has held the presidency of the organization last named.

**JOSEPH D. PILLSBURY.** A man of great integrity, ability and resolution, Joseph D. Pillsbury occupies a place of prominence and influence among the leading citizens of Traver. He is actively identified with its business interests, and is widely known throughout this section of the county as collector for the Alta Irrigation District and as postmaster at Traver. He comes from substantial colonial stock, being a descendant in the ninth generation of one William Pillsbury, the emigrant ancestor, who was born in England in 1615, emigrated to New England in 1640, locating in Essex county, Mass., and became founder of one of the most loyal and patriotic families of the United States, one or more of his descendants having taken an active part in every war in which our country has since been involved. The line of descent from this honored ancestor is as follows: (1) William Pillsbury was one of the original settlers of Newbury, Mass., where his death occurred in 1686; (2) Moses, born in 1645; (3) Moses, born in 1672; (4) Ezra, born in 1703, moved from Newbury, Mass., to Weare, N. H.; (5) Ezra, born in Weare, N. H., in 1740, served in the Revolution under Gen. John Stark, taking part in the battle of Bennington; (6) Joseph, born in 1762; (7) Joseph, born in 1786, settled as a farmer near Springfield, N. H.; (8) Daniel

H., born in Springfield, N. H., in 1825; and (9) Joseph D., the subject of this sketch, born in San Andreas, Calaveras county, Cal., October 26, 1859.

Improving his natural talents when young, Daniel H. Pillsbury learned the machinist's trade, and for a few years followed it in his New England home. Leaving Boston in the fall of 1849, he embarked on the bark Oscar, which was owned by a stock company, which consisted of the crew, and was provisioned for two years. Sailing by way of Cape Horn, he arrived in California, where the company separated, some settling in Sacramento and others locating in Marysville, where they erected the hotel building that had been brought west on board the Oscar. Mr. Pillsbury, however, went into the mining regions of Calaveras county, where he put through several ditches without the aid of a civil engineer's outfit, using the triangle, the largest one, known as Pillsbury's ditch, being recognized as a splendid piece of civil engineering. The mines failing, he was afterwards employed in the cattle business in that county until his death, in 1889. He was a man of sterling worth and character, active in local affairs, being a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, when he became one of its staunchest adherents. He married Elizabeth Curley, who was born in West Meath, Ireland, immigrated to America, came with relatives to the Pacific coast in 1853, and died in Calaveras county, Cal., in 1872. She bore her husband six children, all of whom are living, Joseph D. being the second child in succession of birth.

Brought up in Calaveras county and vicinity, Joseph D. Pillsbury lived first in San Andreas, then in Eldorado, going from there to Railroad Flat, where the family still own property. Obtaining his education in the district schools, he remained at home until fifteen years old, when he came to the San Joaquin valley in search of remunerative employment. Inheriting in a marked degree the mechanical ability and ingenuity of his father, he became an engineer, and for eight or nine years went with a threshing outfit in that capacity. Locating in Tulare county, near Hanford, in 1884, Mr. Pillsbury worked as a farmer and engineer for two years, running a harvester. Entering then the employ of the Traver Warehouse and Business Association, he was clerk for a year, when the hardware business was burned out, and he was given charge of the warehouse, which has since been under his supervision. Mr. Pillsbury was likewise engaged in the hardware business for several seasons in Traver, and is now one of the leading pharmacists of the place, having a well-stocked drug store. For the past nine years he has been postmaster, and for ten years has





*Isaac Bird.*

served as collector for the Alta Irrigation District, a position to which he has been elected five times. He is also interested in agricultural pursuits, owning one hundred and sixty acres of good land located southwest of Traver.

In Tulare Mr. Pillsbury married Harriet E. Morton, who was born in Sacramento, Cal., the daughter of Darius Morton, who came to California as a pioneer in 1851. Two children have been born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Pillsbury, namely: Etta L., a pupil in the Hanford high school; and Daniel W. Politically Mr. Pillsbury, true to the principles in which he was reared, is a staunch Republican, and has been a member of the county central committee. He served several terms as school trustee, and in 1902 was candidate for the office of county tax collector, running ahead of his ticket. Fraternally he is prominent in Masonic circles as well as in other fraternal societies. He is a member of Traver Lodge No. 204, F. & A. M., which he has served as master for six terms; was grand Bible bearer of the Grand Lodge of California; is a member of Visalia Lodge of Perfection No. 9; was made an Odd Fellow in Mount Whitney Lodge, I. O. O. F., and now belongs to Dinuba Lodge, I. O. O. F., and to the Traver Lodge of Rebekahs; is a member of the Woodmen of the World; and belongs to the Fraternal Brotherhood. Mrs. Pillsbury is a most estimable woman, highly esteemed, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ISAAC BIRD. The agricultural interests of central California have no more worthy or able exponent than Isaac Bird, of Merced, who thoroughly understands the vocation which he is pursuing, and, as manager of the Chowchilla stock farm, is carrying on an extensive business as a stock and grain raiser. Possessing in an eminent degree the executive ability and the force of character requisite for the responsible position which he holds, he handles the large body of land entrusted to his care with great success, having by his energy, discretion and good judgment brought it up to its present state of excellence. He is also identified with the financial prosperity of city and county as one of the directorate of the Security Savings Bank of Merced. A son of the late Isaac Bird, Sr., he was born, March 17, 1855, in San Jose, Cal., of English ancestry. His grandfather, also named Isaac Bird, emigrated from England, the country of his nativity, to America, settling in Alabama, where he was engaged as a planter until his death.

Born in Whitehaven, Cumberland county, England, Isaac Bird, Sr., remained in his native land until after attaining his majority. Com-

ing with his parents to Alabama, he lived in the south many years, prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits. Coming in 1849, with the army of Col. Jack Hayes, to California, he located in Santa Clara county, buying two hundred and fifty acres of land that is now included within the limits of the city of San Jose, and soon returned to Alabama for his family. There he and D. C. Vestal, a California pioneer, were the first to engage in fruit culture in this part of the state, setting out orchards of apples, peaches and pears. Subsequently selling out his orchards, he purchased forty acres of land in the Pajaro valley, near Watsonville, and was there successfully employed as an orchardist until his death, in 1899, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. He was a man of upright moral character, and a valued member of the Presbyterian Church. He married Alabama Welch, a daughter of John Welch, who emigrated from Wales to Alabama, where he became owner of a large plantation, on which his daughter was born and reared. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, serving under General Jackson in New York. Mrs. Bird died, March 17, 1904, in San Jose, and her body was laid to rest in the cemetery at Watsonville. She bore her husband six children, namely: Calvert T., an attorney in San Jose; George W., engaged in the fruit business in Watsonville; Mrs. Mary Bowen, a widow, living in San Jose; Isaac, of this brief review; Mrs. Belle Wood, of Tulare county; and Mrs. Maggie Keesling, of San Jose.

Brought up on the San Jose ranch, Isaac Bird obtained his early education in that place, attending the public schools and the San Jose Institute. Beginning life for himself as an agriculturist, he established a ranch in Monterey county in 1874, and was there employed in sheep raising for five years. Selling out in 1879, he was employed in general farming in the San Joaquin valley for the next two years. In 1881 Mr. Bird entered the employ of the California Pastoral and Agricultural Company as superintendent of the Chowchilla Stock Farm, a position which he has since filled with great credit to himself, and to the perfect satisfaction of the company. This ranch contains one hundred and eight thousand acres of land, and is largely devoted to the raising of stock, a specialty being made of breeding and raising Short-horn cattle. Under the efficient management of Mr. Bird this branch of industry has well-nigh reached a state of perfection. He has also introduced a new system of irrigation throughout the farming lands of this vast estate, making them rich and productive, and now raises large crops of both alfalfa and barley, the grains best adapted, in his judgment, to this section of the country. The leading agriculturist of this section, Mr. Bird

is prominently identified with the leading agricultural organizations, being one of the organizers, and a director, of the State Short-Horn Breeders' Association, and of the Thirty-fifth District of the State Agricultural Association.

In San Jose, Cal., Mr. Bird married Josephine Blanchard, a native of Iowa, and they are the parents of three children, namely: Bernice, Isabella and Henrietta. Politically Mr. Bird is well known as a firm supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and is an ex-member of the county central committee. Fraternally he is a member of LaGrange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M. of Merced; of Merced Chapter No. 12, R. A. M.; and of the Knights of Pythias. He is a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, toward the support of which he contributes generously.

#### MATTHEW SIMPSON TARKINGTON.

At an early period in the history of our country Joshua Tarkington and a brother came from England and settled in the colony of North Carolina. Not long afterward, while they were still mere boys, the brother was stolen by the Indians while hunting some lost cows, and he was never heard of afterward. Joshua, Jr., a son of the English emigrant, married Zephia Alexander in North Carolina, and their son, Jesse, was born in Tyrrell county, that state, but early removed to Tennessee, and in the cane-brake region of Davidson county took up the difficult task of clearing a farm. During 1815 he left there in search of a more fertile soil, and two years later arrived in Monroe county, Ind., which was then very sparsely settled. The long journey from the south had been made by wagon, and during their first winter they built and occupied a log house on the banks of the White river at what is now Edwardsport. Immediately after settling in Monroe county they began to clear a tract of raw land in the midst of a wilderness, whose principal inhabitants were Indians. The task of clearing a farm was most difficult, but each member of the family bravely did his part.

In this pioneer family one of the sons was Joseph, born in Nashville, Tenn., October 30, 1800, and a youth of fifteen at the time of going to Indiana. Stalwart of frame and untiring in industry, he was qualified to aid in evolving a home from the trackless wilderness. Reared under religious influences, in a home where prayer was wont to be made, he early had implanted in his soul a deep and unwavering faith in Jehovah. August 27, 1820, he was converted in a camp-meeting at Bloomington and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he was appointed a class leader. On being licensed to

preach the gospel he entered ardently into the work and was active in the ministry in Indiana and central Illinois. In 1851 he was assigned to the Greensburg district and thereupon moved his family to a farm one mile west of that town, on the Michigan road, where he made his home until he died, in October of 1892. He was a lieutenant in the Mexican war.

Near Vevay, Ind., September 21, 1831, Rev. Joseph Tarkington married Miss Maria Slauson, who was born in Orange county, N. Y., January 22, 1806, and died in Indiana, in December, 1889. Her father, Simeon, was a son of Jonathan Slauson, who died August 31, 1820. A native of Stamford, Fairfield county, Conn., Simeon Slauson learned the cooper's trade in youth and besides following that occupation owned and cultivated a farm in Orange county, N. Y., three miles from Middletown. In 1818, accompanied by his family, he moved to Indiana and settled nine miles north of Vevay, Switzerland county, where he endured innumerable hardships in the difficult task of clearing a farm and making a comfortable home. In the family of Rev. Joseph and Maria Tarkington there were six children. The oldest son, Judge John S. Tarkington, who served in Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-second Indiana Infantry, during the Civil war, is now a resident of Indianapolis, and is the father of Booth Tarkington, author of "A Gentleman from Indiana," and other novels widely read and admired. The older daughter, Mary M., is the wife of Dr. John H. Alexandre of Greensburg, Ind., and the younger daughter, Martha, married Daniel Stewart, now residing in Indianapolis, Ind. The second son, Joseph A. Tarkington, M. D., who died May 1, 1902, had served in the Civil war as a leader of the regimental band of the Seventh Indiana Infantry; the third son, William S. R., who died in Indianapolis in August, 1903, was a drummer in the band of which his brother acted as leader.

The youngest son in the family was Matthew Simpson Tarkington, who was born at Greencastle, Ind., July 15, 1848, and was baptized by Rev. Matthew Simpson (later a bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church), in whose honor he was named. After completing the studies of the Greensburg public schools he entered DePauw University as a member of the class of 1870, and continued there until the close of the junior year. Meanwhile, in 1864, he volunteered in Company A, One Hundred and Sixth Indiana Volunteer Rifles, and served with his regiment until mustered out by special order in the fall of the same year. Later he took up the university course, but in 1869 was obliged to discontinue his studies on account of sickness, and afterward engaged in the stock and grain business



on his father's farm. For four years he was freight and passenger agent at Greensburg for the Pennsylvania Railroad, but in 1888 resigned to remove to California, where he has since made Tulare his home.

As state agent for the Page Woven Wire Fence Company, for six years Mr. Tarkington traveled throughout California. The first fence of this kind was put on Cartmill's ranch near Tulare and still stands. In 1894 he introduced the fence on the Southern Pacific system, where it has been used extensively ever since. The business grew to such a magnitude that since 1894 he has confined his personal work as agent to the San Joaquin valley, and has agents in every town of importance. In addition he acts as agent in Tulare county for the Lamb fence. A man of inventive genius, he patented the Tarkington wire fence stay, has two patents on lock whip sockets for buggies, and before leaving Indiana secured the second patent on the tongueless cultivator, operated by attaching a wheel, and manufactured in Kokomo, that state. In addition to his other interests, he built and now operates at Tulare the California steam barley mill, which has a large capacity for barley and other grains.

The residence of Mr. Tarkington was erected under his supervision at No. 346 West Tulare street, and is presided over by his wife, whom he married in Greensburg, Ind., and who was Clara W. Baker, daughter of Marsh Baker, a prominent farmer still living near Greensburg. Mrs. Tarkington is a direct descendant of Colonel Williams, one of General Washington's staff officers. Throughout his locality Mr. Baker has acquired considerable prominence through his successful work in importing and breeding Poland-China hogs and Polled Angus cattle. In religion Mr. Tarkington was reared in the Methodist faith and still adheres to the same, while his wife is identified with the Presbyterian Church. In politics he gives his support to the Republican party. Before leaving Indiana he was made a Mason and raised to the Royal Arch degree at Greensburg; also became a member of Baldwin Commandery No. 2, K. T., at Shelbyville, and was connected with Al Malakia Temple, N. M. S., of Los Angeles.

---

STEPHEN HICKS. A highly intelligent and prosperous farmer of Tulare county, residing three and one-half miles south of Dinuba, Stephen Hicks is well known in this vicinity for his varied interests, and he and his wife are held in high esteem as people of worth and integrity. A son of William Hicks, he was born November 3, 1851, in Scotland county, Mo., of Scotch ancestry, being the descendant of one

of three brothers that emigrated from Scotland to this country in colonial times. His great-grandfather on the paternal side served as a soldier in the Revolution. Stephen Hicks, his grandfather, served as captain of a company in the war of 1812. He subsequently removed from Tennessee to Missouri, settling in Schuyler county as a farmer and there spending the remainder of his life.

Born in east Tennessee, William Hicks removed when a young man to Missouri, and when ready to begin farming on his own account located in Scotland county. In 1852 he crossed the plains to California, coming with an ox team train, and for three years sought for wealth in the gold fields. Returning to Missouri in 1855, he lived on his farm until after the breaking out of the Civil war, when he enlisted in the Union army for three years, becoming a member of a Missouri regiment. Returning to his farm at the expiration of his term of enlistment, he continued there as a tiller of the soil until 1881, when he settled near Hanford, Cal., where he resided until his death. He married Nancy Pell, who was born in Missouri, a daughter of William Pell, a German by descent and a farmer. She survived her husband and now resides near Hanford, and all of her eleven children are in California and live not far from her.

The second child in order of birth of the parental household, Stephen Hicks, in common with his neighborhood companions, was educated in the district school and early taught to work on the farm. He remained at home until becoming of age, but the following spring bade good-bye to family and friends and started westward in search of fortune, being the first of the family to come to California, although the others followed him in due season. Arriving in Modesto on April 23, 1873, Mr. Hicks worked as a farmer until the fall of that year, when he borrowed money to procure an outfit and began farming on his own account, for six years thereafter being engaged in grain raising on a ranch lying between Lemoore and Hanford. For a short time he lived on land at Mussel Slough, but while there was between two fires, fearing to buy from the Settlers' League and realizing that if he staid the railroad company would bring judgment against him. Selling his house he came away, having lost nearly all of his possessions between the league and the company, and began life anew.

Locating in Tulare county in 1879, Mr. Hicks homesteaded eighty acres of his present farm, improved it, and rented other land, at one time carrying on seven hundred acres, which he devoted principally to grain. When the ditch was put through he sowed alfalfa, one of the best

paying crops that can be raised here now. He has two hundred and forty acres now in his farm, lying in sections 32 and 33, township 16, range 24. He carries on general farming, making a specialty of dairying and stock raising, keeping about seventy-five head of stock. He has made valuable improvements on his place, in 1902 building his fine residence, which is commodious and attractive.

In Missouri Mr. Hicks married Eliza Mullinix, who was born in Iowa, a daughter of John and Alzira (Brandon) Mullinix, the latter of whom died February 7, 1903, when seventy-four years of age. Mr. Mullinix is a farmer and makes his home near Hanford, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Hicks have two children living, Albert S., in the Dinuba high school, and Leah Ethel. Their oldest daughter, Alzira, died when six weeks old. In July, 1885, three children died from diphtheria, their names being Alzira, Eliza and John W. In his political relations Mr. Hicks is independent, voting with the courage of his convictions. For the past twenty years he has been one of the trustees of the Wilson school district, and is one of the trustees of the Dinuba Union High School. Both he and his wife are active members of the Baptist Church, of which he has been one of its board of trustees.

---

JAMES ANDREW BOYD. A resident of California since eleven years of age, James Andrew Boyd, a prosperous and thrifty farmer living seven miles southwest of Dinuba, may well lay claim to the title of a pioneer. His life in those early days was full of incident, and to the young people of this generation a record of his hard experiences, privations and tribulations might read like a tale of romance. As a teamster he hauled freight from Sycamore Point, on the San Joaquin river, to Visalia, a distance of seventy miles, that city being then the trading center for all this country, and the land office for the entire region roundabout. This whole section of the state was then an immense sandy plain, with but two sheep camps to be seen, and not a tree to be found excepting the lone willow on the old stage road leading from Kings River to Visalia. In the subsequent development of the rich agricultural and horticultural resources of the country he has played an important part, and by industry, keen foresight and sound business judgment has acquired a competency. A son of James S. Boyd, he was born June 24, 1848, near Van Buren, Crawford county, Ark., on the Middle Fork of the White river.

A native of Tennessee, James S. Boyd removed when young to Arkansas, settling as a farmer on the White river. He served throughout the Mexican war under General Taylor, tak-

ing an active part in many engagements, including the battle of Buena Vista. In 1852 he crossed the plains with ox teams, bringing with him a herd of cattle to California, and being seven months on the way. In 1853 he went home by way of Cape Horn, in a sailing vessel, and for six years remained in Arkansas, getting his living by tilling the soil. In 1859, accompanied by his wife and children, he again crossed the plains with ox teams, having three wagons in the train. One yoke of oxen gave out while en route, and a pair of milch cows was substituted. In order to leave Thousand Spring valley, which had but a short time before been the scene of a horrible massacre, on the right, the party made quite a detour, and came by way of the Humboldt river and desert and Carson river to Hangtown, Cal. Locating in the Napa valley in 1859, he was there employed in farming for one year, the following year, 1860, having a large ranch near Lincoln, Placer county, and from 1862 until 1868 being similarly engaged at Murphy's Camp. Becoming the first actual settler of Stokes valley in 1868, he homesteaded and improved one hundred and sixty acres of land. Subsequently selling that, he bought land on the other side of the valley, improved a good ranch and continued in agricultural pursuits for a number of seasons. Selling at an advantage, he moved to Traver, where he purchased town lots, erected a large building and embarked in the grocery business. Disposing of his store and stock, he bought land near Oroquieta, Tulare county, and for a while carried on general farming, living there until after the death of his wife. Selling out then, he removed to Oregon, and is now living near Salem, a hale and hearty gentleman of seventy-eight years. He married Mary M. Little, who was born in Tennessee and died, in February, 1903, in Oroquieta, Cal. Five children were born of their union, namely: James A., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Mary E. Moyle, who died in Traver, Cal.; George W., of Seattle, Wash.; Cordis J., engaged in farming at Oroquieta; and Mrs. Isabelle Robinson, living near Oroquieta.

Living in Arkansas during the first ten years of his life, James A. Boyd attended the public schools a short time. While coming with the family across the plains in 1859 he so injured his leg that he was unable to use it much for several years, and was consequently deprived of school advantages until 1864, when he attended one term, his education having been largely obtained by reading and observation. In 1868 he went with his parents to Stokes valley, where, in 1869, he took up a homestead claim. Relinquishing the claim in 1872, Mr. Boyd purchased a large ranch near by, becoming owner of eight hundred acres of land, and embarked





*James Cunningham*

in grain and stock raising on a large scale, in the meantime building the grade in the public road known as the Boyd grade. Selling out in 1887, he located in Tulare county, about seven miles southwest of Dinuba, where he has two farms, containing one hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land. His home estate contains forty acres and is highly improved, twelve acres being devoted to a finely-bearing orchard, six acres to the culture of grapes, and the remainder to the raising of alfalfa. Here he also has a commodious and conveniently arranged residence and a substantial set of farm buildings, his place being one of the best in its appointments of any in the locality, bespeaking the industry, thrift and wise management of the proprietor. His other ranch, and four hundred acres of land which he rents, is used for grain raising and grazing, and as a horticulturist, agriculturist and stock-raiser, Mr. Boyd is meeting with most satisfactory success.

At Todd's Flat, Tulare county, Mr. Boyd married Miss Litha Work, who was born in Missouri, a daughter of Fleming Work, an early settler and farmer of Todd's Flat. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd are the parents of three children, namely: James F. and Zachariah E., at home; and Mrs. Annie Martin of Coalinga, Cal. Politically Mr. Boyd is an ardent supporter of the principles of the Democratic party and an ex-member of the county central committee. Although not an office seeker, he served for a number of years as clerk and trustee of the Kennedey school district. He is an active and valued member of the Christian Church, in which he is a deacon and in whose Sunday-school he was superintendent for many years.

**JAMES CUNNINGHAM.** One of the most highly esteemed and interesting personages in Merced county is James Cunningham, to whom is accorded the distinction of being one of the organizers of the county. He was born in Dungen, County Londonderry, Ireland, May 12, 1824, a son of James, Sr., and Margaret (Dunlap) Cunningham, the former was born in Castle Colley, eight miles from Londonderry, and served in the English army as a member of the South Fifteenth Infantry for seventeen years, twelve of which he was color sergeant, stationed in the West Indies. He was a brave and courageous man, taking part in some of the most famous battles of his time, and was the last man to leave the island of Martinique when the island was given up to the French, wading to the boat with the water up to his neck. His father was a man of wealth at one time, but lost it all during the war.

James Cunningham, Jr., remained at home

until he was sixteen years of age, when he ran away and went to sea, his ambition as a mere boy being to become a proficient navigator and owner of ocean vessels. In company with a boy friend he went to Liverpool, England, and apprenticed for four years as a sailor with the firm of Booker, Bond & Co., merchants, who shipped to all parts of the world. Being an intelligent youth he was made second mate of the barque John Horrocks, at the age of nineteen, and a few months later was promoted to first mate of the ship Lancaster. While on this vessel he met with an accident, breaking his collar bone and shoulder, which incapacitated him for service for six months, during which time, however, he was not idle. Upon the advice of one of his employers he attended a school of navigation, and when he was able to do duty again he had successfully passed the examination and was made captain of the ship Cyclops. He followed the sea for eleven years, rounded Cape Horn three times, was twice over two-thirds around the globe, and visited many lands. In his travels he had heard of the gold discoveries in California and had made several attempts to get here, even offered to work his passage as ordinary seaman, without success. His idea was to work in the mines, the more rapidly to accumulate wealth, which he intended to invest in ships. In the fall of 1850 a golden opportunity came to him, being selected as chief officer of the clipper ship Canada, two thousand tons burden. After the ship had out-fitted in 1851 he started for the New World and for California, and at the end of a long and stormy voyage he landed in San Francisco in February, 1852. Here the entire crew deserted and left the ship. Mr. Cunningham had eight months' pay coming to him, but as he never received it he found himself in a strange land practically penniless. He soon found a friend in a Mr. Livingston, to whose cabin he removed his effects, and some time later a party was organized to go to the mines; Robert Sherwood supplied him with money and the party of five, among whom was a Mr. Stephenson, a geologist, who had been a passenger on the Canada, set out for the mines on the Yuba river. He spent about two years mining when he made his first trip on horseback to Mariposa county to visit a cousin named Laughlin. While there he located a claim on Mariposa creek, the place now being occupied by a Mr. Myers.

Returning to the mines in Grass valley, Mr. Cunningham also purchased some land in the vicinity, but continued to follow the former occupation. In 1853 he made another trip to Mariposa county, only to find that some one had jumped his claim. In the meantime Captains Smith and Renwick had secured three hun-

dred and twenty acres of good land and put in a crop of barley. Mr. Cunningham purchased the land and crop for \$1,000, which was the nucleus of his present large holdings. The land is located on the line between Mariposa and Merced counties and is still in his possession. He harvested his barley and succeeded in getting a good price for it. At the time of purchase the nearest neighbors were seven miles distant.

Not meeting with the desired result in the mines, Mr. Cunningham turned his attention to the stock business, in 1864, with Thomas Fowler, who was afterwards senator from Tulare county. He made several trips to the southern part of the state and purchased cattle for his ranch, and for beef to supply the mines, also horses. That same year was noted for the continued dry season, and many of his cattle died. Accordingly he started for Humboldt county, Nev., but lost nearly all his stock and barely escaped with his own life owing to the depredations of the Indians. After many years had passed he gave up the idea of becoming a ship owner and turned his attention entirely to general farming and the stock business, having on the ranch on an average about fifty head of fine horses and twelve hundred head of cattle. Beginning with his three hundred and twenty acres he has added to it from time to time until the combined acreage of the family aggregates nearly sixteen thousand acres, all devoted to the above named interests, and operated by the Cunningham Land Company, Inc., composed of Mr. and Mrs. James Cunningham (the former as president), his two sons, James Charles and Emmett T., and his daughter, Mrs. E. Massengale, all of whom reside upon the ranch, which is located about sixteen miles northeast of Merced."

July 30, 1868, Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage with S. Elizabeth Turner, a native of Jackson county, Mo., and a daughter of Capt. Nicholas Turner, a pioneer of '49, of California. Of this union three children have been born: James Charles, who married Stella Smith, a native of Mariposa county, and has two children, James Byron and Vesta; Emmett T., who married Bernice Brandon, a native of Merced county, and has two children, Margaret and Ione; and Evangeline, the wife of Eugene Massengale.

Mr. Cunningham is a Democrat in politics, and has taken an active interest in the deliberations of that party as delegate to county and state conventions, and held the office of supervisor from 1860 to '64. For many years he also served as school trustee. It has ever been his policy to elevate the standard of education and he has contributed liberally of his

means toward that end. In Ireland he was made a Mason, and is now a member of La Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M., of Merced.

In his long and eventful life Mr. Cunningham has had many interesting and thrilling experiences. Of the latter one incident worthy of mention and one that will perpetuate his memory for generations, occurred in 1862, during the flood at Snelling that threatened the lives of thirty-five people who had sought refuge in the trees when the hotel was washed from its foundation. Accustomed as a sailor to act quickly when danger threatened, he, with the assistance of others, among them Judge Breen, Hon. W. H. Howard, and a Mr. Perkins, constructed a raft and by hard work and danger to their own lives, safely landed the people from their perilous positions.

Though now past eighty years of age James Cunningham is hale and hearty, can read without the aid of glasses, and though practically retired from active labors, takes an intelligent interest in the improvement of his property. In all matters that have been put forward to advance the interest of the people or the welfare of the county, he has always given his support, and extended a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself, and his door is always open to the wayfarer. In the evening of his well-spent life, surrounded by his children and their families, he and his wife are living in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, respected and esteemed by all who have come to know them, and the love of their children.

---

**JAMES FRANKLIN WILLIAMS.** The lineage of the Williams family is traced to the southern state, and Alexandre Williams, a son of Dill Williams by his marriage to a Miss Brooks, was born near Salisbury, N. C., but in childhood, after his father's death, accompanied his mother and other members of the family to Indiana, where he took up farm work. Later he removed to Missouri and settled on a farm near Sandhill, Scotland county, where he remained until death. The next generation is presented by Wiley Williams, who was born in Washington county, Ind., and grew to manhood in Scotland county, Mo., thence at the time of attaining his majority starting to California in company with a cousin, Osborn Wilson, during the memorable year of 1849. Equipped with ox-teams, wagons and provisions, their party crossed the plains in safety and landed at their destination after a trip of six months. Later some of their company settled at Owsley's Bar in the northern mines. The cousin, Osborn Wilson, is still living and makes his home at Hanford, Cal.

Instead of trying his luck as a miner, Wiley



Williams began to run a pack-train into the mines, and later entered government land near Gilroy, three and one-half miles south of that town, on the San Juan road, where he built a hotel and stage station, known as the Eagle house. In addition thereto he conducted farm pursuits and operated a dairy. During the drought of 1856 he lost his cattle and a few years later disposed of the property, removing into Gilroy and opening a store. Previous to this the Spaniards had been the only merchants in the town and he was the first American to establish a store here. In addition he built the Williams house at a cost of \$40,000 in construction and furnishing, but when the railroad was built into the south part of the town, one mile from his hotel, he traded the building for a large stock ranch in San Benito county. Unfortunately, the title to this property proved worthless and he lost the entire tract. In 1882 he came to Tulare county and bought two hundred and forty acres two miles north of the present site of Dinuba, where he engaged in farming. While visiting his son at Lemoore, in 1884, he died suddenly of heart disease, aged sixty-six years.

The wife of Wiley Williams bore the maiden name of Mary Tennant and was born in London, England, whence she came by way of Panama to San Francisco with her father, William Tennant, and other members of the family in 1853. Shortly afterward Mr. Tennant settled on the Monterey road and erected the Twenty-one Mile house, which still stands. After some years he relinquished the management of the place to a son, William, and removed four and one-half miles northwest of Gilroy, where he engaged in fruit ranching until his death, in 1871, at seventy-one years of age. It was while Mr. Williams was engaged in teaming to San Jose and Gilroy that he stopped at the Twenty-one Mile house and there formed the acquaintance of Miss Tennant, whom he married in 1854 at the old homestead. At the time of her death, which occurred near Dinuba in 1894, she was sixty years of age. Seven children were born of her marriage and attained mature years, namely: William A., proprietor of the Kenmore, at San Jose; James Franklin, of Dinuba; Mary D., who died at twenty-six years; John, who died at twenty-one years of age, being accidentally killed while working as brakeman on the railroad at Gilroy; Fannie Ellen, wife of John T. Mickle, of San Francisco; Annie, wife of Charles Earhart, a farmer living near Dinuba; and Emily, wife of Porter Mickle, of Hanford.

Near Gilroy, Santa Clara county, James Franklin Williams was born April 18, 1856, and there he passed the years of early youth, receiving his education in the Gilroy public schools. When seventeen years of age he accompanied

his parents to San Benito county and afterward remained at home, aiding his father until he was twenty-five years of age. In addition to planting and cultivating the crops on the home place, he put in crops for himself on adjoining land. In 1880 he visited Tulare county and the following year he returned here to locate, having with him for investment \$1,000 that he had saved. Soon afterward he opened a livery barn at Lemoore, in what is now Kings county, and from there in July of 1889 removed to a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land near Dinuba. In 1890 he set out forty acres in vines which are still bearing, and in 1900 set out fifteen acres in Thompson's seedless grapes on the old place. Four hundred acres of adjoining land, as well as much of his own place, he had under wheat, and one hundred and twenty acres were leveled, checked and sown to alfalfa. In 1900 he embarked in the dairy business, which he conducted upon an extensive scale for two years and then sold the entire plant. Since then he has acquired other properties. For forty acres of grain land, purchased from Mr. Cummings, he paid \$62.50 per acre; one-half of this he planted in a vineyard and the balance is in alfalfa. From R. F. Dunn he bought forty acres for \$200 per acre, twenty acres of this being a vineyard and twenty acres an orchard. This gives him an aggregate of two hundred and forty acres in his home place, one and one-half miles south of Dinuba. Of this property ninety-five acres are in a vineyard, with twenty acres in Zinfindels, fifty acres in Muscats, ten acres in Sultanas, and fifteen acres in Thompson's seedless. Twenty acres are in an orchard and the balance of the ranch under alfalfa. The farm house was erected in 1885 and by subsequent enlarging has been converted into a commodious residence. The entire property is under irrigation and takes rank as first-class land. When he first began to raise alfalfa he had no facilities for irrigation, and of course did not cut the large crops that have been made possible by subsequent development of water supply. Through his place runs an avenue of fig trees one-half mile in length, greatly adding to the beauty of the homestead. His work of transforming a sheep range into a garden of beauty entitles him to praise from all who strive for the progress of this region and believe in its possibilities. The name "Moosehead ranch" might be given to the place appropriately, in recognition of what might be called a freak of nature. On one of the eucalyptus trees in front of the house, by the cutting of two large limbs, and the growing of new branches into the shape of horns, there may be seen the head of a moose, with its large nose, perfectly formed neck and curving horns.

In politics Mr. Williams votes with the Demo-

cratic party. Fraternally he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and is a charter member and past grand of the Odd Fellows' lodge at Dinuba, whither he transferred his membership from Lemoore. His marriage was solemnized in Lemoore and united him with Mrs. Alice (Casey) Wilson, a native of Indiana, born near Seymour, Jackson county. Her father, William Casey, was born near Lexington, Ky., a son of William Casey, Sr., a Virginian who spent his last years upon a Kentucky plantation. From Kentucky the junior William Casey moved to Indiana and settled on a farm near Seymour. His wife, Mary Anderson, was a member of an old Virginia family. They were the parents of seven children now living, but Mrs. Williams is the only one of the family to settle in California. While living in Indiana she became the wife of Robert Fulton Wilson, a native of Jackson county, that state. During 1874 they settled in Tulare county, Cal., where Mr. Wilson engaged in the sheep business and also for a short time followed the blacksmith's trade in Lemoore. While celebrating the election of Governor Budd in 1882 he was accidentally killed by an explosion of anvils. Besides his wife he left a son, Clarence Wilson, who is a graduate of the San Jose Normal School, class of 1902, and now holds the position of assistant cashier in the Bank of Dinuba. Of her present marriage Mrs. Williams has one child, Frankie. A woman of culture and refinement, her tastes for the beautiful are evidenced in her comfortable home, over which she presides with grace and hospitality. Active in social affairs, she is a member of the Ladies' Club and past noble grand in the Order of Rebekahs.

**CHARLES MELZAR HATCH.** Shortly after the Mayflower had landed its passengers on the dreary and ice-bound coasts of Massachusetts, two brothers bearing the name of Hatch came from Wales to the new world and identified themselves with the destinies of its pioneers. While one went some distance south, the other settled at Scituate, Plymouth county, Mass., and from him descended the branch of the family represented by Charles M. Hatch of Tulare county. One of the ancestors, Mark Hatch, a native of Bristol, Me., and for years a farmer in that neighborhood, left his plow at the outbreak of the Revolution, and followed the fortunes of the patriots in more than one sanguinary engagement with the British troops. Mark Hatch, Jr., who was a son of this Revolutionary soldier, and a native of Bristol, in early manhood settled upon a farm in Knox county, Me., where the remaining years of his life were uneventfully and busily passed. Among his children was a son who bore

the name of father and grandfather and who was born near Washington, Knox county, Me., but at twenty years of age removed to Bangor, the same state, and took up the trade of a builder. When the discovery of gold allured thousands to the Pacific coast, he took passage on a ship that sailed south on the Atlantic, rounded the Horn, then went north on the Pacific to San Francisco, where he landed in May, 1850. The climate and conditions for future success in California attracted him from the first, but the thought of the dreary miles of mountains and desert separating him from old friends and home gave him a feeling of homesickness, and in 1852 he returned to his home at the other extreme of the country. For some years he carried on a mercantile business at Charleston, Me., and also held the office of postmaster. Meanwhile, in 1857, his son, Charles M., came to California and the following year he joined him in Calaveras county, where he engaged in mining. Later he was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad at Sacramento. At the time of his death, in 1877, he was sixty-four years of age. His wife, Jane Stevens, was born at Stark, Me., and died in Charleston, same state, at forty-two years of age.

The family of Mark and Jane Hatch consisted of seven children, six of whom attained mature years and settled in California: Charles Melzar, of Tulare county; Roscoe Green, a contractor at Woodland, Yolo county; Jane A., wife of C. L. Chase, of Lodi; Florence Adelle, wife of Dr. W. A. Patterson, of Wheatland, Yuba county; Ann, who died in Sacramento; and Helen, wife of Walker Bagby, of Tipton, Tulare county. Charles Melzar Hatch was born in Bangor, Me., October 29, 1836, and received a district school education, supplemented by attendance at Charleston Academy. In 1857 he came via Panama to California, arriving on the 1st of August at San Andreas, Calaveras county, where first he engaged in lumbering and saw-milling, then became a placer miner at Eldorado. From 1871 to 1873 he was with the Southern Pacific at Sacramento, after which he clerked in San Francisco for one year, and in 1874 went to Lathrop, San Joaquin county, as clerk in the motive power department of that division of the Southern Pacific system. When the shops were located at Tulare, in 1875, he came to this place in the employ of the road, being the first division shop clerk in the plant at this place, and continuing as chief clerk until November, 1890. Upon resigning his position with the railroad he turned his attention to agriculture, having bought one hundred and sixty acres of land near Tulare. Immediately after settling on the land he put out an orchard of twenty-two acres. Later a vineyard of twenty acres was started. The balance of the land is under alfalfa, thus rendering the place available





*E. G. Jordan*



*Louissia, A. Jordan*





for a dairy industry. The irrigation system was completed about the time he settled there and in addition he had an artesian well from which to obtain a supply of water for the land. Under his wise oversight the value of the property has greatly increased and the income derived therefrom has assumed gratifying proportions.

In Dexter, Me., September 17, 1866, occurred the marriage of Charles Melzar Hatch and Miss Clara P. Dugans, a native of Orono, Penobscot county, Me., and next to the youngest of twelve children, of whom two, Newell and William, were killed in battle while serving with a Maine regiment in the Civil war. Her father, William, who was born near Bangor, was employed in early life as a pilot, then became a lumberman, but finally settled on a farm near Medford, Me., and there remained until his death at eighty-eight years of age. He was a son of William Dugans, Sr., a Revolutionary soldier, who married Miss McPheaters, member of an old Scotch family. The mother of Mrs. Hatch bore the maiden name of Mary Parsons, and was born in Bangor. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Hatch there were five children, but only two reached maturity, namely: Laura Alma, who married W. B. Cartmill, and died in Stockton, March 30, 1889; and Luella Augusta, Mrs. James B. Gist, of Los Angeles. For years Mr. Hatch was a member of the county central committee of the Republican party, and for two terms he was a member of the board of irrigation district directors. Largely through his efforts the Tulare Building & Loan Association was organized, and he officiated as its first president. To him is due the credit for securing the location of the cemetery and interesting the people in its establishment; while acting as director of the company having the movement in charge he succeeded in securing as a gift from the Southern Pacific road an acreage twice as large as originally planned. After coming to California he was made a Mason in Calaveras Lodge No. 78, F. & A. M., at San Andreas, and is now connected with Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, and is also a member of Tulare Lodge No. 78, A. O. U. W., in which he is past master workman. While aiding in the progress of the community along material lines, he was not forgetful of its needs from the standpoint of religion. Both he and his wife are ardent church workers, and to their efforts in no small degree is due the organization of the Christian Church of Tulare, in which he now officiates as a deacon and chairman of the board of trustees. The responsible task of building the new house of worship, which was dedicated in May, 1887, fell largely upon him as chairman of the building committee. It is the unanimous opinion of the people that the edifice, which was erected at a cost of \$10,000, is substantial, modern and appropriately fin-

ished, its quiet elegance within and harmonious effects without all combining to produce a result as desirable as it is rare.

ELIAS FRANCIS JORDAN. When Mr. Jordan started to California he had not been given a name whereby he was to be known among the children of his father's family. The members of the train in which the Jordan family traveled overland to the Golden state gave to the six-weeks-old baby the appellation of "California," their destination, a title shortened eventually to "Forney," the name by which he has ever since been known. He was born in Galveston, Tex., January 28, 1850, a son of John Jordan. The latter, who was a farmer by occupation, traveled overland to California by ox-teams via El Paso, Tucson, Fort Yuma to San Diego, reaching the last-named place in the fall of the year. He located first in San Juan, Monterey county, where he engaged in the stock business for seven years. In 1857 he removed to Tulare county and for one year made his home near Visalia, afterward purchasing a farm in the Yokohl valley. He obtained a charter to build a toll trail from Yokohl across the mountains and the Kern river into Nevada, and successfully completed it to the Kern river. In crossing the Kern river on a raft it went under a fallen tree, he was knocked into the river and was drowned, his body never being recovered. This occurred in 1861, and after that time the road was allowed to fall into disuse and has never been completed. His wife, formerly Eliza Jane Sadorus, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Henry Sadorus, of German ancestry, survives him, and at the age of ninety-two years is still hale and hearty. She makes her home with her son, E. F. Jordan, of this review. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Jordan were twelve sons and one daughter, of whom six sons are deceased.

Elias Francis Jordan was the tenth in order of birth in this large family. He was named by an uncle in Texas, at whose home they stopped on their way to the west, although he had already received the name which could not fail to cling to him throughout life on account of the peculiar circumstances under which it was given him. From the age of seven years he made his home in Tulare county, receiving his education in the public school in the vicinity of the paternal farm, which was located on section 13, township 8, range 26, at the mouth of the Yokohl. He remained at home until he was twenty-nine years old, helping his mother in the management of the farm. During this time he had, however, taken opportunity to locate a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres on section 20, township 18, range 26, three miles north of Exeter. In 1880

he removed to this land and has since made his home here, eventually purchasing another quarter section of section 20, and engaging in the raising of grain. In addition to this property he has rented, in connection with his brother, J. B. Jordan, as high as five thousand acres for the raising of grain. They were successful in their efforts and continued together for some years but have now dissolved partnership. In addition to his home property Mr. Jordan also owns eighty acres of section 26, and the same number of acres of section 35, as well as eighty acres of the old home place. He has at the present time planted to grain five quarter sections of land, eight hundred acres in all, in the operation of this enterprise using three six-horse teams, and a combined harvester which requires the use of thirty-two horses. He is also largely interested in the raising of cattle, horses and hogs, and in this line as well as that of general farming has met with a gratifying success. He is numbered among the representative citizens of the county and merits the esteem and respect of his fellow-men.

In Farmersville, Tulare county, July 23, 1879, Mr. Jordan was united in marriage with Lou-rissia Ann Hill, a native of Iowa, and they are the parents of four daughters and one son, namely: Alice, the wife of W. A. McNay, of Visalia; Leonora, the wife of M. M. Epperson, of Exeter; Frances, Estella and Grover. Mr. Jordan is a staunch Democrat in his political convictions and takes an active interest in the workings of his party. He has always taken a strong interest in the educational affairs of his community, now serving as clerk of the school board of the Kaweah district. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in Exeter, of which lodge he served as noble grand two terms. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jordan are charter members of the Rebekahs, in which Mrs. Jordan has passed all the chairs.

---

F. J. HESSE. Though born in Virginia, the earliest recollections of Mr. Hesse are associated with Kansas, where he grew to manhood, but since 1885 he has been a resident of Tulare county. In boyhood he removed to Kansas in company with other members of the family and for some years interested himself in general farming and stock-raising on a tract of land near Emporia. During 1884 he came to California and after trying unsuccessfully to get a start at the stock business near San Diego, he went to Santa Rosa, where he again met with losses. In 1885 he came to Tulare county and bought large tracts of land near the present site of Angiola, where at this writing he owns more than ten sections of land in one body. On his range he has large herds of cattle. The stock

business has brought him gratifying returns as well as a wide reputation among people engaged in the same business throughout the state. By his marriage to Kate Bamesberger, a native of Illinois, he has three sons and a daughter. The eldest of the children, William G., was born near Emporia, Kans., March 7, 1884, and grew to manhood in Tulare county, where he had the advantage of a course of study in the Tulare high school, supplemented by attendance at the Fresno Business College, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1904.

Very soon after his graduation from the business college Mr. Hesse bought the old Hitchcock meat market at Tulare. Since then he has remodeled the market and put in a cold storage plant with a capacity of two tons of ice. The market occupies a central location on Kern street, where he utilizes two floors in a building, 25x90 feet in dimensions. To facilitate the business he has his own slaughter house, where the meat is prepared for the market. In addition to his retail trade he has built up a wholesale business and ships to various points in the county. On account of the close attention which his business demands he has never participated in local or political affairs, aside from voting the Republican ticket at both local and general elections.

---

LARKENS K. FRASER. The Pacific coast with its world-famed mining, horticultural and agricultural specialties, has within the past two decades made rapid strides along the path of prosperity, and in no line of industry has there been more noticeable advancement than in that controlled by the energetic, wide-awake ranchman. Conspicuous among the participants in the grand transformation scene that has converted dreary wastes and sandy plains into fruitful orchards, vineyards and grain fields is Larkens K. Fraser, a successful vineyardist, orchardist and stockman, living two and one-half miles south-east of Dinuba, where he has a valuable and well-kept ranch. A native of Nova Scotia, he was born May 1, 1860, in New Glasgow, of Scotch ancestry, being a son of the late Robert John Fraser, and a brother of Abner Fraser, in whose sketch, which appears on another page of this work, further parental and ancestral history may be found.

At the age of eight years Larkens K. Fraser accompanied his parents to Omaha, Neb., where he attended the public schools two years, completing his early studies in the district schools of Visalia, Tulare county, whither the family located in 1870. He subsequently assisted his father in improving a ranch, acquiring valuable experience and knowledge. On attaining his

majority, Mr. Fraser took up a homestead claim of eighty acres on section 26, near Monson, and having improved it, he rented adjoining land, and for a number of years carried on grain farming on an extensive scale. Locating on his present ranch in 1891, he has continued in agricultural and horticultural pursuits, his farm of two hundred acres being highly improved, and bearing speaking evidence of his thrift, wise management and practical judgment. He has here a vineyard of thirty acres, an orchard of thirteen acres, and an extensive and valuable alfalfa field, raising the feed for his fine herd of Holstein cattle on the latter. His ranch, located on section 22, ranks high in its appointments, being one of the most attractive in the vicinity, and a credit to his energy and perseverance.

Mr. Fraser married, near Dinuba, Alice J. Garr, a native of Indiana, and into their home two children have been born, Louis Arthur and Dora. Politically Mr. Fraser is a sound Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and to the Beavers. He is a member of the Christian Church, in which he is serving as deacon, and to which Mrs. Fraser also belongs.

**JOHN ALBERT KNAPP.** Previous experience in different departments of agriculture qualified Mr. Knapp for successful work in the cultivation of the property which he began to operate in 1897 and which became his by right of purchase five years later. The quarter section lies within a few miles of Tulare and is under irrigation, Mr. Knapp having the use of water from the ditch, in addition to his own continuously flowing artesian well eleven hundred and fifty feet deep, with a connecting reservoir which covers one-half acre. In order to secure the feed necessary for the milch cows used in his dairy business he has seventy acres under alfalfa and a smaller acreage in grain. Besides dairying he makes a specialty of fruit and has twenty acres in a vineyard, also thirteen acres in an orchard of assorted fruits. Another specialty, and one in which he maintains a warm interest, is that of apiarist having nearly fifty colonies of bees, and this industry has proved a source of considerable profit in return for the amount invested therein.

The Knapp family comes from German stock. Henry Knapp crossed the ocean and settled in Fulton county, Ohio, later removing to a farm in Williams county, the same state, but eventually returning to Fulton county, where his last days were spent. Accompanying across the ocean, among other members of the family, was a son, Daniel Knapp, who was born in Bavaria, Germany, and was a youth of eighteen when he

became a resident of the United States. Near Archbold, Fulton county, he evolved a farm from the forest, a task that demanded the most arduous and long-continued labor. Later he removed to Williams county and bought a farm there. Since retiring from active farm cares he has made his home in the city of West Unity, Williams county. His wife, who survives to enjoy his present prosperity, was Rachel Spiess, a native of Canton Zurich, Switzerland, and a daughter of Henry Spiess. When she was a child the family came to the United States, her father first settling in Fulton county, Ohio, later removing to Williams county and then returned to Fulton county, where he died, aged about ninety-six years.

Among seven children now living (five sons and two daughters) John Albert Knapp is the eldest, and was born near Archbold, Fulton county, Ohio, June 11, 1859. After 1864 he was reared in Williams county, where he received a common-school education. Reared to farm pursuits and possessing a fondness for the work, he chose agriculture for his life occupation, and in addition to cultivating a farm he operated a steam thresher in that part of the country for ten years. His arrival in California occurred February 10, 1891, and soon afterward he bought twenty acres near Tulare. Of this tract five acres were in orchard, and the same amount respectively in a vineyard and alfalfa. After three years on that place he removed to the Lakeside country in Kings county, where he combined dairying and grain farming. In 1897 he moved to the place which five years later he acquired by purchase and of which he is still the owner. During his residence in Ohio he was united in marriage, in Williams county, November 28, 1880, with Miss Effie C. Rittenour, a native of that county and a daughter of George and Sarah (Hisey) Rittenour. Her father came from his native state of Virginia to Ohio and settled in Columbiana county, where he met and married Miss Hisey. From there he moved to Williams county, where he added shoe-making to general farm pursuits. Now, at eighty-six years of age, he is still living on the old homestead near Bryan, that county. Of his thirteen children all but three attained maturity and eight are now living, Mrs. Knapp being next to the youngest of the family. Born of her marriage are five children, namely: Daisy, wife of J. L. Crye, of Kings county; Ivy, wife of B. E. Matthews, of Kern, this state; Ernest, who assists his father on the home farm; Florence and George also at home. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church of Tulare. In politics Mr. Knapp has always been a pronounced Republican, while in social organizations he holds membership with the Fraternal Aid.

Keenly interested in educational matters, he has given his most efficient service to the Buena Vista school district, of whose board of trustees he is a member, and for five years has acted as clerk of the board.

ALFRED PETERSON. The success which has been achieved by Mr. Peterson since identifying himself with the agricultural interests of Tulare county furnishes another proof of the opportunities offered by this section of California to men of resolute spirit and persevering industry. It was during 1896 that he purchased his present property three miles east of Tulare. The original purchase consisted of only twenty acres, but at three different times he has added to the acreage until his landed possessions now aggregate three hundred and forty-five acres in one body, improved with the necessary buildings and fences, and planted to different crops for which the soil is adapted. One hundred and fifteen acres are under alfalfa. A special feature of the place is the raising of stock, and fine grades of horses, cattle and hogs may be seen here, the sale of which adds not a little each season to the income of the owner.

A native of Sweden, Mr. Peterson was born near Oskarshamn, Smoland, August 23, 1869, and is a son of Peter and Christine (Johnson) Carlson, natives of the same locality, where they still reside, the father being sexton in his home church and its cemetery. The grandfather was a soldier in the Swedish cavalry and served in the Napoleonic wars from 1812 to 1815. Since the establishment of the reformation by Martin Luther the various generations of the family have adhered to that faith, and Alfred Peterson was reared in its doctrines, but since coming to America he has been associated with the Methodist Episcopal denomination. He and his sister, Mrs. Selma Pospeshek, of Tulare county, are the only living children in his father's family, the other having died some years since.

At the age of fourteen years, in 1884, Alfred Peterson came to America with his brother, Oskar, and secured work on a farm near Long Point, Livingston county, Ill. After five years in the same part of the country, in 1889 he came to California and began to work as a farm hand. Four years later he entered into the threshing business and with a partner purchased and operated an engine of twenty-four horse-power, continuing with his partner for the first two years, but afterward working alone until 1901, when he retired from the business in order to devote his entire attention to stock-raising.

The marriage of Mr. Peterson, in Chicago, united him with Miss Hilda Anderson, who was born near Westervik, Smoland, Sweden, and

like himself, affiliates with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he votes the Republican ticket. Since coming to Tulare county he has been identified with the Lodge, Encampment and Rebekahs of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Of recent years he has devoted much of his time to travel and in 1903 covered thirty thousand miles by steamer and railroad. Seven times he has crossed our own continent, and twice has returned to the old home to renew the associations of youth, the first of these trips occurring in 1901, when he enjoyed a pleasant visit with his father in Oskarshamn and with other relatives and friends from whom he long had been separated. While maintaining a deep affection for the land of his birth, he is nevertheless loyal to his adopted country and especially to his chosen home in California, where he believes may be found the most fertile soil in the west. From an early period of his residence here he has been an advocate of irrigation, realizing that the lack of water is the only drawback to the achievement of the most satisfactory results in agriculture. At one time he served as a director in the Farmers' Ditch Company, from which his own land was irrigated, and in other ways he has endeavored to promote the irrigation facilities of his home neighborhood, nor has he been less responsive to other movements for the benefit of the people among whom he has cast his lot.

SPENCER FAY. A well-known landholder of Tulare county, Spencer Fay is located five miles south of Portersville, where in 1889 he purchased five hundred and twenty acres of land. Later he added six hundred acres, now owning eleven hundred, devoted to pasture and the cultivation of wheat. This property he leases, although he makes his home on the place. A native of Springville, N. Y., he was born August 20, 1849, a son of Benjamin Fay, a wagon maker and carpenter of the same place, where he is now living, at the age of eighty-two years. The family came originally from Massachusetts, the paternal grandfather, also named Benjamin, removing from Athol, that state, where he was a farmer, to New York state in 1811. He was an active participant of the war of 1812, after the war making his home in Erie county, where his death occurred. In manhood Benjamin Fay, Jr., married Hulda Cope, a native of Canada, and she died in New York state about 1865.

In a family of four sons and one daughter born to his parents, Spencer Fay was the oldest. He received his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home, after which he was apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmith. Deciding to locate on the Pacific coast,





John Barker



he came to California in 1874, and settled at Portersville, where for fifteen years he carried on a lucrative business as a blacksmith. With the results of his industry and energy, in 1889, he purchased the five hundred and twenty acres which formed the nucleus of his property. One of the branches to which Mr. Fay has given his attention has been the budding of orange trees for market, and in which he has met with gratifying success. For a time he was also engaged in sheep raising in partnership with Ed D. Halbert.

In California Mr. Fay married Tennie Rhodes, a native of Tulare county, and they have one daughter, Jewel, who is at home with her parents. Fraternally Mr. Fay is a charter member of Portersville Lodge, A. O. U. W., and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

---

JOHN BARKER was born in Bristol, England, September 4, 1832, and is descended from a family who for many generations had followed the sea. His father commanded a ship before he was twenty-one years old, and went down with all on board off the African coast when he was thirty years old. He left a widow and three children, the oldest of whom, John Barker, is the subject of this review. With the born instinct of the sailor, before he was twelve years old he made his first voyage to the island of Terceira, one of the Azores, from which place his ship brought home a cargo of oranges. He followed the sea in five Mediterranean voyages, each time passing through the Grecian Archipelago, on through the Hellespont and the Bosphorus, and into the various parts of the Black sea. During the intervals of these voyages he made four voyages across the Atlantic to the United States and one to British America. On three of these voyages he brought passengers, all in the steerage of a sailing ship. On a voyage to Quebec in 1847 his ship took four hundred passengers from the northwest coast of Ireland, where they had taken one thousand tons of shelled corn, the donation made by Abdul Medjid, the sultan of Turkey, to the starving people of Ireland, at the time of the famine there. About half of these passengers died while the ship was imprisoned among the icebergs on the banks of Newfoundland.

At the age of eighteen years Mr. Barker found himself second officer of his ship, well posted on navigation, and if occasion had demanded would have been capable of commanding a ship. In December, 1848, while on a homeward trip from Constantinople to England, they encountered a heavy westerly wind when nearing Gibraltar and were compelled to put into

the bay of Gibraltar for a time. This accidental stay was indirectly the means of changing the whole course of Mr. Barker's life, for while there the news of the discovery of gold in California reached his ears. The history of the coast of California was somewhat familiar to him through the stories he had heard from many of the old mariners who had been to the new country and taken back cargoes of hides and tallow. The first officer of his ship had been to the state in command of a ship, and was a whaler on the coast for about three years. His stories of the country and climate inflamed the already heated imagination of Mr. Barker, who determined to start for California as soon as he could after his arrival in England. On reaching England the ship was chartered to carry passengers to New York, and so Mr. Barker concluded to remain aboard of her and not to leave until that city was reached. In the meantime he opened communication with some friends who lived in Galena, Ill., and who advised him to cross to America and make the trip over the plains with them. Reaching New York in the latter part of February, 1849, he left the ship the first evening there, going aboard one of the Hudson river steamers, which carried him to Albany. From that point he chartered his passage on a canal boat to Buffalo, cabin passage with board being \$10. Arriving at that city he went aboard a propellor and took passage for Chicago, which was then a small, very dirty town, half buried in mud and water on the shores of Lake Michigan. Although offered profitable employment Mr. Barker declined and went on to Galena, traveling by wagon and stage, as there were then no railroads, only to find at the end of the trip that his friends had already started for the west. Knowing it would be impossible to overtake them before they started upon their journey across the plains, he decided to stay where he was and accept some kind of employment until the following spring, when he also would make the trip. He easily secured employment with Harris Brothers, of Galena, who owned a line of steamers which plied upon the Mississippi river between that point and St. Louis and to St. Paul, Minn. He remained as mate of one of their boats throughout that year, until the river froze up in November, when all traffic ceased above St. Louis. He then began preparations for his trip across the plains, joining a party of young men, eight in number, with eight animals and two wagons.

On May 1, they crossed the Missouri river where Omaha is now located. The trip was full of the incidents characteristic of life on the plains in the pioneer days of the country, including skirmishes with the Indians, in one of which Mr. Barker was wounded in the forehead by

a musket ball. They arrived in Salt Lake City on July 4, and remained a few miles from the city until the 26th, when the final start was made on what they were assured was the hardest part of their journey. They came over the Humboldt route along the line now occupied by the Central Pacific. The feed for the stock was of poor quality and scarce, the water bad, and for a great part of the way the road was literally a bed of alkali dust that cut and irritated the mucous membrane of both men and animals. The Shoshone Indians whom they encountered on this part of their journey were troublesome and treacherous, so they were compelled to stand guard over their animals day and night, and isolated and small parties were in constant danger of being massacred. Several of their animals were stolen in spite of their vigilance, and some died, and on their arrival at their destination they had but one pair of mules and a wagon. They reached the summit of the Sierra Nevadas on the old Carson route, September 1, 1850. There the party separated, and each went his way, intent upon finding the fortune for which he had endured such dangers and privations.

Mr. Barker drifted down through Eldorado, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne and Mariposa counties, experiencing various fortunes until the spring of 1853. He then was mining at a place called New Year's diggings, between the Tuolumne and Merced rivers. It was what was called "dry diggings," as he had to wheel his gravel in a wheel barrow about three hundred yards to a pool of water and wash it with a rocker. While thus engaged one afternoon three of his former companions with whom he had crossed the plains rode into his camp. He was just washing up his day's work and had \$28 in coarse gold as a result. This was the final result of three days' labor. His friends told him they had started out to explore the great valley of the San Joaquin, and that they had heard of a stream called the Kern river which was a perfect Eldorado, and as yet untouched by the hand of the miner. Accordingly he decided to cast in his lot with theirs, and on the following Monday he broke camp and set out for the south. After leaving the neighborhood in which he had located they found no other settlers until they reached Fort Miller, a military post, then under the command of Captain Jordan. There was quite a number of miners on the river as well as on Fine and Coarse Gold gulches. They found Chinamen making \$20 per day in diggings that had been abandoned by white men. But having set out for the Kern river they determined to reach it before stopping in their journey. When they arrived at Visalia the town and county were in process of organization and after

resting a few days they went on and entered the Kern river mines by way of Linn's valley. They here encountered the usual experience of miners, although the country was far from being as rich in the mineral as in the northern part. After working in the mines for several months they all became dissatisfied and returned to Visalia. There Mr. Barker found employment as a writer in the county surveyor's office and also received the appointment of under-sheriff to W. G. Poindexter. A year later he located on a ranch on Lower Kings river, in what is now Kings county, and entered extensively into the raising of cattle and horses and the growing of hay. He made a final settlement by erecting in 1856 the first human habitation on the Fresno plain and establishing a ranch and road house at Elk Horn.

A pioneer in the truest sense of the word, Mr. Barker was ever found ready to lend his aid for either the upbuilding or protection of his adopted state, and at the breaking out of the Indian troubles in 1856 he was one of the first to offer his services. The Four Creek and Tule River Indians, joined by the Owens river tribes, made a raid on the settlement at Tule river and literally destroyed it, immediately thereafter retreating to the mountains, driving all the stock they wanted with them. There they slaughtered the cattle and collected stores of "charqui" or dried beef, and with plenty of acorns, grass seed and roots, and among their fortifications they defied the settlers. The settlers built a cordwood fort at Visalia and collected therein all the women and children and mustered all the men between Kern river and the San Joaquin, two hundred in number. Accompanied by a lieutenant and twelve soldiers with a gun from Fort Miller, they entered the mountains by way of the Yokohl valley and reached the north fork of the Tule river. Finding there the fortifications of the Indians, they stormed them and destroyed them, killing forty of the Indians and scattering the remainder, which they afterward drove to the reservation. This was such a severe lesson to the savages that they never troubled the white settlers again.

In 1860, about the time of the breaking out of the Civil war, Mr. Barker sold his ranch at Elk Horn and went to Stockton, where, during that year, he was married to Mary Alma Weaver, a native of Ohio. Mr. Barker remained in the vicinity of Stockton for ten years, when, in 1870, he returned to Kern county and engaged in the sheep business, in 1882 changing to cattle, which he believed would be more profitable. After remaining on his ranch on Kern river until 1900 he removed to Bakersfield, where he now resides with two of his daughters, Lottie E. and Emma Belle. Nellie

A. became the wife of John Fremont Bonham and resides in Sebastopol, Sonoma county.

It is not necessary to pass an encomium upon the life of Mr. Barker, as pioneer, patriot or citizen, for he is so well known throughout this section of the state and so thoroughly appreciated for his many sterling traits of character that it would be no information to his friends, nor be understood by those who do not know him. A man of seventy-two years, he has retained his faculties and his mind is as clear and bright as in his young manhood, and teeming with the events which gave to California the chance for her present prosperity. A fluent speaker, he is a very entertaining companion, and is no less eloquent in the writings which he often gives to the public, and which are becoming more and more appreciated as time is removing from the present generation those who were eye-witnesses to the pioneer struggles of the state as well as helpers in the cause. True, earnest and steadfast in his convictions, he has been a Republican all his life, and has been one of the leaders of this party for many years, being one of the four Republicans in the entire San Joaquin valley who, during the early '60s, remained true to their principles and voted for Lincoln. During campaigns he has stumped the county in behalf of his party's candidates, and has also ably edited papers which have proved of immeasurable service to the cause. In personal characteristics he is a man of unimpeachable integrity and courage. As a link in the chain of events leading from the pioneer days to the present, Mr. Barker stands to-day, looking back without reproach, and forward without fear, secure in the peace which is his as a man who has done his best and is now content to reap the reward. Peace and plenty and prosperity are a part of this reward, while the love and respect of a young generation add sunshine to his declining years.

---

GEORGE W. GIBSON. The family of which this prosperous farmer of Tulare county is a member comes of old southern stock and has long been identified with the history of our country. At an early period in the agricultural development of Missouri his grandfather, John Gibson, removed thither from East Tennessee, and with him was a son, William B., who devoted the balance of his active years to agricultural pursuits in Missouri. During the Civil war the latter enlisted in the Union service as a member of a Missouri regiment and endured many hardships in weary marches, long campaigns and sanguinary battles. When the war closed he resumed the cultivation of his Missouri farm and remained there until his death

in 1902. During early manhood he married Susan Wills, who was born in Old Virginia and is still living in Missouri. From her native home she accompanied her father, Lewis Wills, to Missouri and settled in Christian county, where Mr. Wills added stock-raising to general farm pursuits. At the opening of the Civil war he offered himself to the Union, but was rejected on account of disability. In spite of this, however, he took part in a skirmish at Springfield against the forces of General Marmaduke.

The family of William B. and Susan Gibson consisted of seven children, all but one of whom survive, three residing in California and three in Missouri. G. W., who was fourth in order of birth, was born near Springfield, Mo., July 28, 1865. As a child he witnessed the hardships incident to life in Missouri during the years following the conflict between north and south. After finishing the studies of the district schools he was sent to the academy at Henderson for one term, but had no other advantages. Dissatisfied with prospects, he resolved to go to California and return thence to Missouri after earning the money needed to complete his education. The first part of his plan was carried out, but once definitely identified with the west, associated with its people, enthusiastic over its opportunities, and awake to its resources, he abandoned all plans to go back to his old home, and has been content since to remain "in the harness," enjoying the prosperity his quiet perseverance justly merits.

Arriving in Tulare county in 1886 with \$9 as his entire capital, but with youth and hope and strength to aid him in getting a start, he at once began to work on a farm owned by his uncle, J. H. Woody. A year later he took up general farming in the vicinity of Tulare and since that time has made a specialty of raising grain. During 1896 he spent six months in Alaska. In October, 1897, he bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres situated seven miles southwest of Tulare and here he has since operated a grain farm and dairy business. The excellent irrigation facilities furnished by the ditch enables him to raise alfalfa, to which product he has one hundred acres sown, and the crop is used for his milch cows. To aid in his dairy he avails himself of the advantages of a separator, thus securing the greatest possible results from his herd. A few years ago, when the Oakland colony was originated, he bought forty acres in its tract and this he planted to an orchard, afterward selling the land at an advance. After coming to Tulare county and securing the start necessary for the establishment of a home of his own he was married, in 1897, in San Francisco, to Miss Sadie Galbraith, who was born in Stockton, this state, and by whom

he has a son, Rex. Together with his wife he attends the Methodist Episcopal Church in Tulare and contributes to its maintenance. The Fraternal Aid numbers him among its members. Though a believer in Republican principles, he takes no part in party work aside from voting the ticket at all elections. Realizing the advantages of a good education and desirous that the children of his locality shall enjoy that which he earnestly desired in boyhood, he has willingly given of his time and influence to promote the cause of the public schools and by his service as a member of the board of school trustees of his district has promoted the interests of education in his district.

---

**HENRY WHALEY.** The proprietor of the Tulare Agricultural Works has built up an important trade in his specialties. The business was inaugurated in October, 1897, upon a small scale, but has been increased from year to year until now the stock fills a building 75 x 125 feet, as well as the warehouse adjoining. A general blacksmithing business is conducted, repair work is done, and buggies and various agricultural implements are manufactured, in addition to which a complete stock is carried of wagons, carriages, plows, harrows, discs, riding and walking cultivators. In cream separators Mr. Whaley acts as agent for the celebrated DeLaval, while in gasoline engines he is agent for the Weber, Jr., and in addition he represents the Rushford wagon manufacturers, the Milwaukee mower and rake, the Hooker line of buggies, and the Parlin and Obendorf plow goods.

Another enterprise of which Mr. Whaley is president and with which his name is intimately associated, the Tulare County Live Stock Show and Race Meet, was established by a private company consisting of himself and three others. They purchased the old fair grounds, comprising ninety acres, one-half mile from the city of Tulare, and adjoining the city limits on the east. The grounds have been improved, the old race track remodeled into a kite-shaped track of one mile, pronounced by experts to be one of the best in the state, a grand stand has been erected and large sums of money expended to meet the demands of the people for first-class accommodations. By the establishment of the show it is the hope of the projectors to cause an improvement in the grades of stock raised in the county, and should this ambition be realized the venture would prove more than a source of remuneration to its backers and more than a source of entertainment to its visitors, for the improvement of the stock would directly affect the entire county and promote the prosperity of

the people. During the meet, held October 17-22, 1904, Professor Majors was engaged to judge the stock and give lectures to stock-raisers.

Mr. Whaley is a Californian by birth, and was born at Olema, Marin county, October 26, 1871. His father, Samuel, came from Canada to California via Panama and followed dairy farming in Marin county, but later took up general farm pursuits near Sebastopol, Sonoma county, and in 1884 came to Tulare county, where he homesteaded a farm near Tipton. At this writing he makes his home on a farm near Stockton. He and his wife, Rachel, had fifteen children, and nine of these are still living, Henry being the eldest. He was reared principally in Sonoma county, but in 1887 came to Tulare county, and as soon as old enough to take up the task of self-support he began farming. In 1891 he left the farm and took up blacksmithing, which he followed, together with other mechanical work, in the village of Pixley, Tulare county. From Pixley he moved to Tulare, where he has since made his home and here he has built up a modern blacksmith and machine shop, operated by electricity, as well as a warehouse stocked with implements of the most modern patterns.

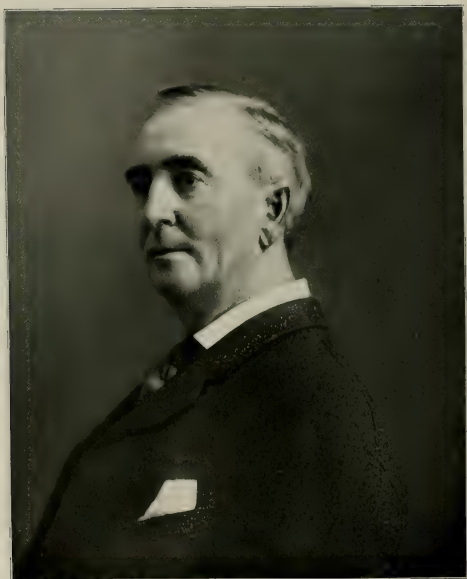
The marriage of Mr. Whaley was solemnized at Delano, Kern county, and united him with Miss Lizzie Aubery, who was born at San Jose, Cal., and by whom he has a son, Percy. In politics Mr. Whaley is a pronounced Republican. For one term he served as city marshal, but his attention has been given closely to business matters and he has had little leisure for public offices. For nine years he has been a member of the Tulare volunteer fire department, at one time served as foreman of the hose company, three times was chosen chief engineer and is now treasurer of the department. Since coming to Tulare he has been initiated into Masonry as a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., and is further connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of the Maccabees.

---

**JAMES TURNER DORAN.** Possessing great artistic ability, and much native talent, James Turner Doran is the leading photographer of Tulare, and has the distinction of being the longest-established artist in the county. He is also interested in horticultural pursuits, owning land in different parts of the state, and may truly be considered a representative man, enterprising and progressive. A native of Ontario, he was born, August 22, 1844, near Brantford, and was there reared and educated, remaining there until twenty-one years of age.

Migrating to the United States in 1865, Mr.





*B. E. Hutchinson,*



Doran located in McLean county, Ill., where he was engaged in business as a photographer for twenty years, during which time he kept in touch with all the newer methods employed in his profession. Removing to Chicago in 1885, he followed his profession in that city two years, and then came to California to reside. Settling in Tulare, Mr. Doran built his present studio, which was the first complete establishment of the kind in Tulare county. It is finely equipped with the best instruments and appliances used in photography, including artistic scenery and backgrounds. His work is acknowledged to be of a superior order, and he makes pictures of all styles and kinds, from the smallest to life size, doing his own retouching in a skillful manner. Mr. Doran has bought considerable land since coming to the state, and in its management has met with success. In 1886 he bought forty acres of raw land, lying about five miles west of Fresno, and this he devotes to the cultivation of fruit, one-half of it being set with raisins, and one-half with peach trees. He also owns six hundred and forty acres of land in San Diego county, and he is financially interested in the Tulare Fuel, Feed and Land Company, of which he is one of the directors.

In Illinois Mr. Doran married Kate Brown, a native of Connecticut, and a woman of culture and refinement. Mr. Doran is a member of the California Association of Photographers. Politically he is a strong Republican, never swerving from the principles advocated by his party. Fraternally he is prominent in several organizations. He was made a Mason in Farmer City, Ill., and is now a life member of Garfield Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Chicago; he joined the Odd Fellows in Illinois, and is now past grand of Tulare City Lodge No. 306, I. O. O. F.; and past chief patriarch of Mount Whitney Encampment No. 82; in 1896 and 1897 he was Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of California; in 1898 was representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge, which met in Boston, Mass., and in 1899 attended the meeting of the Sovereign Grand Lodge at Detroit, Mich., in the same capacity.

Revolutionary war. Mr. Hutchinson's father, Solomon, was born in Fenner, Dutchess county, N. Y., August 9, 1809, the son of William, also of that state. In manhood he became a carpenter, removing to Cleveland, Ohio, when it was a small place, and remaining a resident of Cuyahoga county until 1844. He then removed to Indiana, living first in Lafayette and afterward in Mishawaka, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, formerly Phalla I. Caswell, of New York state, died at the age of sixty-nine years.

The only child of his parents now living, B. E. Hutchinson was eight years old when his parents removed to Indiana, and he remained in the paternal home until attaining the age of twenty-two years. Under the instruction of his father he learned the trade of carpenter. In the spring of 1856 he joined a surveying party headed by Thomas R. Clark, which was planning to go to Superior, Wis., and begin the survey of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The survey was abandoned, however, and Mr. Hutchinson helped to lay out about seven thousand acres in town lots. He also named several of the bays in that vicinity. He then went down the coast, assisted in laying out another town and in building a mill, returning to Indiana in the fall of 1857. Soon afterward he went to Michigan and located in Big Rapids, then a hamlet of only seven buildings. He purchased the only store there and engaged in a mercantile business, continuing uninterruptedly for the period of twenty-two years. He met with success in his work and became an influential man in the town, which had grown to six thousand inhabitants. Always active for the advancement of all movements calculated to increase the prosperity of the community, he was chosen to represent his ward in the city council, was a member of the school board, deputy sheriff for four years, and township treasurer for six years. In addition to his first mercantile interests he had also engaged in the furniture business for a part of this time, and had as well traded among the Indians and learned their language, and attained a considerable degree of influence with them. In 1883 Mr. Hutchinson disposed of his interests in Big Rapids, and went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he remained eight months, in 1884 coming to Fresno, Cal., where he spent the intervening months from February to October. Returning to Iowa he made that state his home for the ensuing two years and a half, when in 1887 he came again to California and located upon his present ranch. This property lies in the Fowler district, on section 4, seven miles southeast of Fresno and three miles from Fowler, and consists of one hundred and seventy acres; eighty acres of this ranch are devoted to the cultivation of raisin

B. E. HUTCHINSON, a well-known vinedresser and orchardist of Fowler district, Fresno county, is still hale and hearty, and active in the supervision of his affairs. Born in Orange township, Cuyahoga county, Ohio, near Cleveland, June 19, 1836, he was the descendant of a member of an Irish family, three brothers of whom came to America before the Revolutionary war. One located in the southern states, one in Massachusetts, and the other in New York, and they all served the land of their adoption in the

grapes, and seventy acres are in orchard. This is considered one of the best fruit ranches in the county. In 1899 Mr. Hutchinson raised from four hundred trees one hundred and eighteen tons of fruit that went to the cannery, besides a large quantity which he dried. This is unquestionably the largest yield of fruit on record in the United States. Mr. Hutchinson has also been interested in the development of the oil fields of Kern county, and still holds stock in the Associated Oil Companies. He travels extensively through the state and addresses farmers' institutes on scientific fruit culture.

In Indiana Mr. Hutchinson was united in marriage with Elma L. Fuller, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Edson Fuller. The latter was also a native of Ohio, from which state he went to Michigan in 1846, engaging as a merchant in Grand Rapids. To Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson were born two children: C. C., who is station agent at Oleander, Fresno county, and W. W., manager of the Northwestern Insurance Company, his home being located in Seattle, Wash. Mrs. Elma L. Hutchinson died in December, 1896, and October 26, 1897, Mr. Hutchinson married Mrs. Marie L. Van Loo, a native of Michigan. Politically Mr. Hutchinson is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he is a prominent Mason, being a member of Pine Tree Lodge, the Chapter and Pilgrim Commandery of Big Rapids, Mich., having filled most of the chairs in all three organizations.

---

THOMAS JEFFERSON MULL. The founder of the Mull family in the United States came from Scotland and settled upon a plantation in North Carolina, where he passed the remaining years of his life with the exception of the period of his service in the war of 1812. After he settled in North Carolina his son, James, was born on the homestead in that state, and the latter as a boy was apprenticed to the trade of a tanner and currier, which he followed for a time in Georgia and later at Wetumpka, Elmore county, Ala. Moving to Arkansas in 1846 he carried on a large tannery at Batesville, Independence county, but in 1858 removed to Mississippi and engaged in the saw-mill business at Pontotoc. At the opening of the Civil war he enlisted in the Confederate service and was chosen captain of Company A, Twelfth Mississippi Cavalry, which he commanded until the close of the struggle. Eighteen different times during his service he received wounds in battle and in one engagement was four times wounded. The fall of the Confederacy brought disaster to the south, and he returned home to find plantations laid waste, mansions ruined and homes desolate. Within a short time he became

convinced that, to gain a livelihood for his family he must seek a new locality, and for this reason in 1868 he brought his family via Panama to California, where he settled in Merced county on a farm. On retiring from agricultural cares he came to make his home with his son, Thomas J., and here at eighty-eight years of age his life came to an end. In the home of this son also occurred the death of the wife and mother, Marion (Fraleay) Mull, a native of North Carolina, of Dutch lineage.

The family of James Mull consisted of nine children and all but one attained mature years, but only three are now living. Three sons served in the Civil war, Thomas J., Martin and James, of whom the first and last-named served with their father in Company A, Twelfth Mississippi Cavalry, while Martin was a member of the First Arkansas Regiment of Confederate Infantry. Thomas J. Mull, who was sixth in order of birth among the nine children, was born at Wetumpka, Ala., July 30, 1846. His earliest recollections are of Arkansas, whither his parents moved by wagon in his infancy, but after 1858 he lived in Mississippi and attended the public schools there. During the fall of 1862 he volunteered in the Confederate service and became a private in Company A, Twelfth Mississippi Cavalry, in which he remained until the close of the war. Among the engagements in which he took part were those of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Dalton, Kenesaw Mountain, Resaca (where he was severely wounded in the left ear), Dallas, Peach Tree Creek, Snake Creek, Marietta (where he was wounded in the right leg), Buzzard's Roost, Roma, Atlanta, Lovejoy Station, Jonesboro, Spring Hill, Franklin, Nashville and Selma. The war ended, he received an honorable discharge from his regiment, May 5, 1865, and returned at once to his father's home in Pontotoc, where he took up work in the saw mill. Until the fall of 1868 he remained in that town. Meanwhile a brother, Benjamin, had crossed the plains in 1853 and established a home in California, and, returning on a visit in 1867, brought such favorable reports concerning the west that the other members of the family decided to remove thither.

Ten miles south of Merced, Mr. Mull entered from the government one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he cleared and improved and devoted to raising stock and grain. In the fall of 1877 he became interested in the business of boring wells and this he followed until about 1896, meanwhile doing work of that kind in Merced, Stanislaus, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Kern, Tulare and Fresno counties. At one time he had five machines for well-boring in active use. All of his own tools he con-

structed himself, for he possesses mechanical ability of a high order. Some of the wells that he bored reached to a depth of more than one thousand feet, while others were only a few hundred feet deep. In December, 1888, he came to Tulare county and the following year bought an eighty-acre farm situated three and one-half miles northwest of Tulare. Until 1896 he continued to make his home in the city of Tulare, but at that time he retired from the well-boring business and settled upon his farm, where he engages in the dairy business, also has eighteen acres in an orchard of peaches and prunes, and has sixty acres under alfalfa.

The family of Mr. Mull consists of his wife and daughter Carle. The former, who bore the maiden name of Kate Stiles, was born in Iowa, but at the time of her marriage was a resident of Modesto, Cal. In religious connections she is identified with the Baptist Church and Mr. Mull, though not a member, is in sympathy with the work of that denomination and contributes to its work. In fraternal relations he is a Knight of Pythias, and politically adheres to Democratic principles. A man of enterprise, his progressive spirit brings him to the front in all movements calculated to advance the agricultural interests of the community. It is a source of considerable pride to him that he and his brother-in-law, Frank Stiles, own an irrigating plant declared by competent judges to be the finest of its kind in the San Joaquin valley. An abundance of water to accommodate himself and brother-in-law, as well as two neighbors, can be secured from a reservoir covering one-half acre, and into this reservoir the water is pumped from a well four hundred and thirty feet deep, whose pump is operated by a five-horse-power electric motor with a capacity of five hundred gallons per minute. In the building of the water plant every precaution was observed in order to secure the best possible results, and the success which has met the efforts of the two men has not only given them a pumping apparatus surpassed by none, but also has enhanced the value of their farms in a notable degree.

---

**THOMAS HAYES.** The founder of the Hayes family in America was Timothy Hayes, a native of Ireland, who after the death of his father accompanied the widowed mother to the United States, landing in New Orleans and from there soon going to New York. At Rosendale on the Hudson he opened the first cement mines in the United States. When these were sold he moved to Pennsylvania and bought large tracts of land near Honesdale, Wayne county, where in addition to general farm pursuits he built a saw mill and engaged in the manufac-

ture of lumber. During 1870 he came to California and bought a farm near Livermore, Alameda county, eventually moving into town, where he died in 1902, at ninety-five years of age. His three brothers, Thomas, Michael and John, came to California and attained eminence in public affairs. The first-named, Col. Thomas Hayes, who was a pioneer of 1848, became an historical character in San Francisco, where in business and politics his influence was great. Michael, also a resident of San Francisco, served several terms in the state senate; and John was a member of the state legislature from San Francisco several terms. All of the brothers are now deceased.

The marriage of Timothy Hayes united him with Julia Carey, who was born at Rosendale on the Hudson and died at Livermore in 1901. They were the parents of fourteen children, and it is worthy of note that all but two of this large family still survive. The eldest son and second child, Thomas, was born at Honesdale, Wayne county, Pa., March 2, 1852, and passed the years of boyhood on the home farm, receiving excellent advantages in the grammar and high schools, Cocheton Academy and Waymart College, from which latter he was graduated in 1869. Immediately after graduation he came to California and began to raise stock and farm products near Pleasanton, in partnership with Joseph Black. The ensuing years were fruitful of large successes and brought him ample means and local prominence. In 1884 he removed to Visalia and in the Redwood mountains of this county built the Hayes lumber mills, with a daily capacity of fifty thousand feet. By means of his own teams the lumber was hauled to his yards in Visalia, from which point it was shipped all through the country. Unfortunately the depression of 1889-90 found him unprepared for such a crisis. With many unsettled accounts on his books, he found his debtors were in no position to pay, while creditors demanded their dues. To add to his troubles lumber depreciated so that, at a price of \$8 and \$10 per thousand, there was no sale whatever for it. Under these circumstances he was forced to relinquish his business at a heavy loss and once more to make a start in the business world. After a few years as a real estate agent at Visalia, in the fall of 1896 he came to Tulare, where he has since followed the building business. While still a youth he learned the carpenter's trade and qualified himself for thorough and accurate work along building lines.

The first marriage of Mr. Hayes occurred in San Francisco in 1875 and united him with Miss Alice Nougues, who was born in Maryland and died at Visalia in 1888. The only child of this union, Shirley, was the recipient of superior

educational advantages and is now vice-principal of the Winfield Scott school in San Francisco. A few years after the death of his first wife Mr. Hayes married Miss Carrie Kelsey, who was born in Oakland, but spent her early life in Visalia. Two children, Leslie and Leland, bless this union. Politically Mr. Hayes is a Republican. Concerning early times in California he is well posted, not only by experience, but by hearing pioneer stories from his uncles. Among his experiences, of which he entertains a vivid recollection, was that of being at the hotel in Tracy when Terry was shot and sitting next to him at dinner just before the catastrophe.

---

CLARENCE O. MILLER. In Colony Center are located some of the most energetic and thriving young business men of Merced county; men who have been successful in their undertakings, and whose efforts through life thus far, by their own perseverance and activity, have borne ample recompense; prominent among this number is Clarence O. Miller, proprietor of a hardware business and founder of C. O. Miller's ten-acre addition to the town in which he resides. A son of the late F. P. Miller, he was born, June 30, 1873, in Shirland, Winnebago county, Ill. His paternal grandfather, Alexander Miller, was born and bred in Vermont, but subsequently came west in search of cheap and fertile lands, and became a pioneer settler of Winnebago county, Ill., where he followed the trade of a millwright and builder. He lived to a good old age, dying in Shirland, Ill.

A native of Shirland, Ill., F. P. Miller was engaged to some extent in agricultural pursuits, becoming owner of a good farm near Shirland. Possessing great musical ability, however, he made use of his natural talent in this science, for many years being a teacher of both vocal and instrumental music, making a specialty of instructing bands, his services in this capacity being ever in demand. He died in 1900. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Phelps, was born near Rockton, Winnebago county, Ill., a daughter of W. A. Phelps, who removed from New York, his native state, to Illinois, where he followed general farming. She survived her husband, and is now residing in Dos Palos, Merced county, where she owns a fine ranch of forty acres.

The oldest of a family of four children, Clarence O. Miller was brought up on the home farm, receiving the rudiments of his education in the district schools. In 1892 he was graduated from the Rockford Business College, after which he was employed as a farmer for two years. Coming to California in 1894, Mr. Miller located in the Dos Palos Colony, buying twenty

acres of land, which he devoted to the raising of alfalfa and fruit, setting out a good orchard. Ten acres of his ranch he has since laid out as an addition to Colony Center, plating it, and selling it in lots. Subsequently, wishing to become proficient as a dairyman, Mr. Miller entered the dairy school of the University of California, from which he was graduated, as a member of the first class to take a full course in that department, in 1901. Thus equipped, he served as manager of the Dos Palos Creamery from 1901 until 1903, and was very successful, winning such a wide reputation as an expert creamery man that he is often called upon to decide tests, and to settle questions connected with the dairy business. Embarking in a mercantile career in 1903, Mr. Miller erected a building and opened the first hardware store in Colony Center, where he has a rapidly growing trade. He is also an expert plumber, and does much skillful plumbing in the vicinity, and is agent for the Star Windmills and the Simplex Separator, and is now serving as secretary for the local telephone company.

In Sac City, Iowa, Mr. Miller married Nevada Irene Booth, who was born in Missouri. Politically Mr. Miller is a steadfast adherent of the Republican party. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, to the Knights of Maccabees and to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being one of the first in Colony Center to join this organization. He is one of the leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a trustee, and of which he has been steward.

---

DANIEL ABBOTT. The substantial and well-to-do farmers of Tulare county have no better representative than Daniel Abbott, who occupies a good position among the industrious, thrifty and business-like agriculturists who are so ably conducting the farming interests of this part of the state. He is a self-made man in every sense implied by the term, and though in his long career he has met with reverses and losses, he has pursued the even tenor of his way, and by his indomitable perseverance and patient toil has overcome all obstacles. Beginning life poor in pocket, he has acquired considerable property, and has now a clear title to a three thousand acre ranch lying four miles south of Portersville. A son of Joshua Abbott, he was born January 3, 1836, in Washington county, Ark., where he spent the first four years of his life.

Born in Pennsylvania in 1800, Joshua Abbott there grew to manhood. Ambitious and venturesome, he went to Arkansas, hoping in a newer country to secure greater financial advantages and opportunities. Locating in Washington county,





*H. H. Miner*



he remained there until 1840, when he settled in Benton county as a farmer. In 1857 he made another move, coming with ox teams and wagons to California, bringing with him his family. He knew something of the country roundabout, as in 1850 he visited Calaveras county, where he worked as a miner for awhile, but without sufficient financial encouragement to stay. Locating in Calaveras county, he lived there four years, but was not quite satisfied with his prospects. In 1861, therefore, he came to Tulare county, settling about four miles southwest of Portersville, on the Tule river, where he took up land, from which he intended to improve a ranch. Being washed out by the memorable floods of the spring of 1862, he removed to Princeton, Mariposa county, where he was a wood contractor for a year or more. Settling in Stanislaus county, near Melton, in the fall of 1863, he bought land, and was there engaged in general farming and stock-raising until after the death of his wife, in 1876. He subsequently spent the remainder of his life with one of his daughters, in Calaveras county, dying there at the venerable age of eighty-six years. He was a man of strong convictions, and a sound Democrat in politics. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Ann Matthews, was born in Tennessee, and died in Stanislaus county, Cal.

The third child in a family consisting of two sons and three daughters, Daniel Abbott was brought up in Benton county, Ark., where he received but limited educational advantages, pursuing his studies in the log schoolhouse during the brief school terms. Crossing the plains to California in 1857, he had many narrow escapes from the Indians while enroute. The savages stole some of the stock belonging to the company, and Mr. Abbott, with six of his companions, followed the marauders from daylight until ten o'clock. They met a large band of the Indians, who fired at their followers, wounding Mr. Abbott in the hip joint, and hitting one of his companions. Mr. Abbott, though badly wounded, was gritty, and while he laid upon the ground fired at the Indians, who fled for the time being. Mr. Abbott secured a horse, and was proceeding on horseback toward the wagon train when he came across his wounded comrade, whom he took on behind. Then, being again surrounded, his companion jumped over a bluff and escaped, but Mr. Abbott had to stand and fight the savages, who tried many times to kill him, but he succeeded in reaching camp after an all-night tramp to the train, which was only seven miles away. On reaching the party he was put into one of the wagons, and during the remainder of the journey suffered excruciating pain from his wound, and has since been a cripple. For two years afterward he was scarcely able to get around.

In 1866 Mr. Abbott embarked in sheep raising on his own account, having flocks in both Stanislaus and Calaveras counties, about six thousand head in all, and is still interested to some extent in this line of industry. He used to take his herds to the Alpine ranges during the summer seasons, bringing them back in the winter time. In 1874 Mr. Abbott settled in Tulare county, near Portersville, and in 1875 bought one hundred and sixty acres of the land included in his present home ranch. During the land grab that followed he acquired title to other tracts and has now three thousand acres all in one body, and all under good cultivation. During his thirty years' residence in this locality he has seen Portersville grow from a small hamlet into a flourishing town, and in its upbuilding has taken an active part. In 1902 Mr. Abbott moved to Portersville, where he has a beautiful residence, in order that his children might have better educational advantages than they could in the country, but after they are all through school he intends to return to his ranch, which he still manages.

In Tulare county, on the Tule river, Mr. Abbott married Mrs. Frances Elizabeth (Fine) Bursey, who was born in Arkansas, and crossed the plains to this state in 1857, the same year that he did, although they did not meet until after their arrival. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott nine children have been born, namely: Martha Ann, deceased; Charles, deceased; Mrs. Louise Mahaffey, of Portersville; Daniel, Jr., deceased; Arlesle, at home; Lana; Winifred and Minnie, twins; and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Abbott have also the care of two grandchildren, Earl and Claudia Billingsley, to whom they are giving the same kind and loving attention that they bestowed upon their own little ones. Mr. Abbott is much interested in the welfare of town and county, and is a strong supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.

---

HENRY H. MINER. As a prominent citizen and well-known real estate dealer of Le Grand, Merced county, Henry H. Miner's position is one of consequence in his community, and through him many important deals have been satisfactorily made. He is a man of noble instincts, congenial, friendly, methodical in regard to business details and he always aims to please those with whom he has business dealings. During the two years in which he has followed this line of work he has made a creditable showing, especially during 1904, for in the first five months of that year he effected the sale of forty-five thousand acres of land. He resides on his ranch four miles east of Le Grand, where he owns thirty-eight hundred acres of the best land of

the locality and where he has gained recognition as a successful stock and grain raiser.

Mr. Miner was born in Dent county, Mo., October 19, 1859, the eldest of three sons born to Jordan and Emeline (Parker) Miner, both of whom were also natives of Missouri, and descendants of prominent old southern families. The father followed farming as a vocation in Missouri until 1854, crossing that year overland to California behind ox teams. He followed mining four years near Placerville, afterward returning to Missouri by way of Panama and New York. He is now a resident of Madera county, Cal., where his youngest son, David E., resides. His second son, Benjamin F., resides in Madera.

July 17, 1888, Henry H. Miner arrived on California soil and in Shasta county he engaged in mining for eighteen months, later spending one year on a ranch in Butte county. About this time he entered the employ of the Mutual Life Insurance Company with which he was identified until 1892. During that year he was joined in marriage with Mrs. Mary Phenegar, widow of George Robert Phenegar, whose biography also appears in this history. Mr. and Mrs. Miner have one son, Hollis Homer Miner, aged eight years. After marriage Mr. Miner engaged successfully in the drug business in Merced for one year, when he took up farming, to which he has since devoted his time, in addition to carrying on the real estate business in Le Grand, where he is regarded as an influential citizen.

---

**DRAPER FOWLER.** For several generations the Fowler family has been identified with the building business. During his active business career Draper Fowler was an architect and superintendent of construction, while his father and paternal grandfather were both contractors and builders in county Kent, England. The former, John Fowler, spent his last days in the home of his son Draper, at Fresno, dying here at the age of eighty-four years. The mother, Mary M. Goldfinch, a native of Kent, was the daughter of a miller who came to America and settled in the south. In the parental family of five children, three daughters and one son are now living, and of these only two are in America, Maria and Draper. The former is the widow of William R. King, formerly an architect, and resides at Seattle, Wash. The third among the children was Draper, whose birth occurred in Kent county August 9, 1843. He was reared in his native town of Ashford and received an excellent education in Borrow Hill Academy and the Latin grammar school. Under the careful supervision of his father he early acquired a thorough knowledge of contracting and building, and when only

nineteen was placed in charge of the building of a large hotel. Having an ambition to become an architect he took up the study of the occupation at Croydon, across the line in Surrey county, and later completed his studies at Maidstone, Kent county, after which he took up practical work as an architect in his native village. In addition, with a partner, he established a yard for the sale of lumber, a kiln for the manufacture of brick and a mill for the cutting and sawing of timber, building up by degrees one of the finest plants of its kind in Kent county.

On disposing of his business interests in England, Mr. Fowler, in 1884, went by steamer from London to Auckland, New Zealand, and there for four years engaged in the occupation of an architect as a partner of A. C. Wilkinson, meanwhile erecting and designing many of the most substantial business blocks and private residences in the city. In 1888 he came to the Pacific coast and after arriving in San Francisco learned of the climate and possibilities of Fresno, whereupon he removed to Fresno, and with his New Zealand partner opened an architect's office, under the title of Fowler & Wilkinson. The partnership was dissolved in 1897, but Mr. Fowler did not retire from business until 1899. Meantime, in 1889, he had purchased twenty acres on East avenue in the Central colony and a few years later bought another twenty, making a total of forty acres, comprising lots 12 and 13. At first he made a specialty of raisins, but later decided that a variety of fruits was more profitable, and now has twenty acres in a vineyard and raisins, and the other twenty in apricots, peaches and other fruits, having altogether about twenty different varieties of fruit on the place. Before retiring from the work of an architect he designed a number of business blocks in Fresno and Sanger, as well as many fine residences, and by the excellence of his plans won merited praise.

The marriage of Mr. Fowler took place in Addington, Surrey, England, in July, 1867, and united him with Miss M. J. Brabner, who was born in Yorkshire, December 24, 1841. They are the parents of four daughters living, namely: Mrs. Louisa Marshall, who makes her home in New Zealand; Mrs. Edith M. Otto; Mrs. Flora Durrant, of Fresno county; and Mrs. Daisy M. Chamberlain, of Zion City, Ill. In religious belief Mr. Fowler is a member of the Christian Catholic Church and an upholder of its doctrines. Since becoming a citizen of the United States he has given his support to the principles of the Republican party. When the original Raisin Growers' Association was established on the co-operative plan he became associated with it and later took a part in organizing the society into which the former was merged. Among the people of Fresno he is held in the highest esteem and has

a host of warm personal friends in the community where for sixteen years or more he has been a resident.

CAPT. EGBERT H. TUCKER. In Fresno county, Cal., there is no more worthy gentleman than Capt. Egbert H. Tucker, who performs well his duties as justice of the peace. To him belongs the distinction of being one of the promoters and founders of the city of Selma, Cal., his home, which was platted in 1880, and is now the second city in size in Fresno county. As a citizen whose influence and worth early won recognition, Captain Tucker for years has made an efficient public servant, and it may be said of him that he has carried into public life the same indomitable will, honesty and industry that have characterized him in private life, and as a member of the general assembly he made a record that few have equaled. He was elected to this office in 1888, on the Democratic ticket, and was immediately appointed upon a number of important committees, among them were the Irrigation committee, of which he was chosen chairman, the committee on Indian affairs, the Judiciary committee, and others of minor importance. During his term of service he was one of the hardest workers in the assembly, and thirteen bills became laws; of these some were created and championed by Captain Tucker, and it was due largely to his influence that their passage was secured. Among the latter was a bill for the improvement of the Wright Irrigation law, and it is worthy of mention that upon the subject of irrigation, Captain Tucker is one of the best informed men of his locality, having made a study of the work for years.

A native of Livingston county, Ky., where he was born March 9, 1838, Captain Tucker is the second child in a family of five children, three sons and two daughters; his parents, Martin and Matilda (Owens) Tucker, were both Kentuckians, but the paternal grandfather, Lambert Tucker, was born in Virginia. Farm pursuits occupied the attention of Martin Tucker during his residence in his native state, and also in Iowa, whither he removed in 1840, locating in the vicinity of Mount Pleasant. His subsequent removal to Fort Des Moines in 1843 was of material benefit to himself and family, and there he conducted a hotel for a number of years. Disposing of his interests in 1852, he came to California, and the balance of his life was spent in mining at Sutter creek in Amador county. He died about 1868 at the age of seventy years. There also the mother of Captain Tucker passed the closing years of her life.

The recipient of a good education, acquired in the common schools of Iowa and of Cal-

ifornia, Captain Tucker when of sufficient age joined his father in mining operations, and was so engaged until 1858. About that time he went to Washington, where one year later he was elected sheriff of Pierce county. While there he also served in 1861 and '62 as deputy United States marshal. At the request of Colonel Justin Steinberg, an old friend of his father's, Captain Tucker resigned the office of sheriff, and assisted the colonel to recruit the First Washington United States Volunteer Infantry, and was elected captain of Company K. He continued in command until the close of the Civil war, being honorably discharged from service April 9, 1865. Being appointed quartermaster's agent at Fort Boise, Idaho, the year following, by Major T. J. Eckerson, he filled this position with credit until June, 1867. He participated in the various engagements with Indians that afterward occurred in California, Oregon and Idaho territory, and upon the termination of these wars returned to his home at Sutter Creek. In 1874 he received the appointment of United States mail carrier in Fresno county, and proceeding to Kingsburg, he assumed the duties of that position, and his interests have been identified with those of this section of the state ever since.

Aside from his personal affairs, the captain has been largely instrumental in the development of Fresno county. In company with J. E. Whitson, George B. Otis, and Monroe Snyder, he assisted in laying out the town of Selma in 1880, and also aided in developing the southern part of Fresno county. Neither capital nor labor were spared in building irrigation canals, so essential to this section. He was a member and director of the Centerville & Kingsburg Canal Company, and president of the Fowler Switch Canal Company for a number of years, and his connection with these companies, in addition to his being a member of the state irrigation committee, placed him in a position to render able assistance in the development of this section. By his influence extensive irrigation projects were put through, and the improvements then made have been of untold benefit to the property owners. It was in 1882 that Mr. Tucker first began dealing in real estate and became interested in irrigation, and he made a careful study of this business as the head of the firm of Tucker, Sharp & Co. He served as postmaster of Selma during Cleveland's administration, and in 1885 was also elected justice of the peace, an office he still holds and fills in an exemplary manner. A Democrat in his political preferences, and an active politician, he has also filled a number of minor offices, such as school director, city marshal, etc., and in every way possible has shown his fidelity to this party. By his

marriage in Fresno, he was united with Miss Martha E. Fanning, a native of Santa Barbara, Cal., and their union is blessed with one son, Clay H. The latter has been a student in the scientific department of the Stanford University for the past three years, and it is his intention to enter the law department of the same institution. The family unite in worshiping at the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which they are devout and consistent members, Captain Tucker being a member of the board of trustees.

---

ROBERT H. GALLAGHER. Among the leading business men of Sanger, Fresno county, who have demonstrated their ability to make a success of life financially as well as otherwise, a striking example is found in Robert H. Gallagher, a liveryman of Sanger. Since his location in Fresno county in 1889 he has been identified with several of the enterprising and progressive concerns doing business in this section, among them the Sanger Lumber Company, being in their employ for three years prior to engaging in the livery business. In Gold Hill, Nev., he was born, December 31, 1867, and is a son of the late Thomas Gallagher, of San Francisco.

The latter, a native of Ireland, spent his early life on the sea, and upon one of his voyages he sailed around Cape Horn, going as far north as San Francisco. In 1851, during the gold excitement, like others he went to seek his fortune in the mines, and for about eight years followed mining pursuits in and about Grass Valley, Virginia City and later in Nevada City. Although quite successful in his mining operations, in the early '60s he discontinued work in the mines and took up the somewhat hazardous but profitable business of freighting. Continuing in this business until 1882, he acquired considerable capital, which he invested in land in Solano county the following year and upon this he followed farming until 1890. Retiring from business he took up his residence in San Francisco, where he died in October, 1904, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years.

The boyhood days of R. H. Gallagher were spent in Nevada. He was fifteen years old when his father purchased land in Solano county, whither the family removed, and there he followed ranching pursuits until 1889, when he located in Fresno county. It was several years later that Mr. Gallagher went into the livery business and he has followed that line of work ever since. By his marriage he was united with Minnie M. Hanke, a daughter of the late H. H. Hanke, who in the early days of the history of Fresno county settled here and became prominent as a rancher. Three children bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher: Mabel, Grace and Arthur. A

faithful adherent to the Republican party, Mr. Gallagher can hardly be called an active politician, being too deeply engrossed in business pursuits. Fraternally he affiliates with the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World.

The Sanger, Millwood and Converse Stage Line, in which Mr. Gallagher owns a half interest, in connection with the Southern Pacific Railway Company, makes regular trips to and from Millwood, King's River Canyon and to the General Grant National Park. From Sanger to Millwood the distance is forty-five miles over an interesting route. The first six to eight miles traverses the level San Joaquin valley, with its orchards, vineyards and grain fields, and then begins the ascent to the mountains, the traveler passing many interesting points, among them the famous Sontag point, Squaw village and McKenzie's mill. After the summit is reached a beautiful forest ride completes the journey to Millwood. From this point by way of Meadow Lake a trip can be taken to the Grant National Park and the Big Tree Groves, which contain one hundred and twenty-five mammoth trees, including the General Grant, one hundred and six feet in circumference at the base, the Garfield, Cleveland, Lincoln, Washington, Dead Monarch, the Happy Family and many other noted specimens. Here also may be seen the Big Tree stump from which the Centennial exhibit was taken.

On the return trip from Millwood the beautiful Sequoia lake, four miles distant, may be visited and in the Converse basin is to be seen one of the largest sawmills in the west, which handles timber unrivaled in size anywhere in the world. A logging railroad extends back seven miles into the forest, which transports the logs to the mills, and from this point the lumber is shipped to Sanger in a V-shaped flume, fifty miles long.

---

GEORGE A. DODDS. In Plano, Tulare county, is located the ranch of George A. Dodds, where he is engaged in the raising of fruit, giving especial attention to the cultivation of apples, the trees having been brought around the Horn forty-five years ago. Mr. Dodds is a native of Wabash county, Ill., where he was born February 25, 1842, a son of Josiah Dodds, of Tennessee, a farmer in that location and later a merchant and farmer in Wabash county and Olney, Ill., where he located. He died there in 1846. His wife, formerly Cynthia Winters Skeggs, of England, died in 1843. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters, of whom George A. is the only one living.

George A. Dodds was reared by an uncle, S. Z. Dodds, of Richland county, Ill., who was killed at Chattanooga during the Civil war. He attended the common schools in pursuit of an edu-





E Lathrop



cation, and at the same time received the practical training which later added to his ability to make a success. In 1854 he ran away from his uncle's home, going to Crawford county, where he found employment on various farms at \$4 per month. After one year of this life he went to live with another uncle, Dr. Adams, also of Richland county, and for a year and a half studied medicine under his instruction. Upon the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted in Company L, First Regiment Missouri Cavalry, August 1, 1862, being mustered in at St. Louis. His regiment was active in the suppression of guerrilla bands, while they also took part in various battles, among them being Pea Ridge, where he received a slight saber cut on his right wrist. In September, 1864, at Jefferson Barracks, he was honorably discharged, when he returned to Illinois, and engaged in farming in the vicinity of Olney. In 1871 he located near Quincy, Mo., where he farmed and raised stock for two years. He then removed to Butler county, Kans., and began farming during the grasshopper season. He continued to make his home in that state until 1882, when he came to California and settled near Visalia, Tulare county. He located on a timber ranch on Deer creek until 1893, principally occupied in stock raising, but in that year removed to his present place in Plano, consisting at that time of twenty-one acres, eleven of which were in fruit and vines. Afterward he disposed of seven acres and at a later date bought ten acres more, the tract being given over to the cultivation of oranges.

In Richland county, Ill., April 18, 1867, Mr. Dodds was united in marriage with Lavina Smith,\* of that place, and they have had one daughter, Emma, who is now deceased. In his political convictions Mr. Dodds is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and is active in the councils of the party.

**EZRA LATHROP.** A record of the life of Ezra Lathrop is in many respects a record of the progress and development of Tulare, for he has long been inseparably associated with many of its leading and most substantial enterprises. Since 1873 Tulare county has been his home and he dates his residence in California from the year 1866, having come to the state after a brief sojourn in Nevada subsequent to crossing the range from his old Iowa home. The family of which he is a member traces its lineage to England and was established in York state during an early period of our nation's history. His grandfather, William, and father, Perrin Lathrop, were natives of New York, but settled in Susquehanna county, Pa., where the former re-

mained until death. The latter, following the tide of emigration as it drifted toward the Mississippi valley, became a pioneer of Dubuque county, Iowa, settling at Cascade, but later removing to the big woods region of Blackhawk county, where he improved a farm near Cedar Falls at Center Point. Eventually he identified himself with the agricultural interests of Louisa county, Iowa, but upon retiring from farm labors he returned to Blackhawk county to spend the closing days of life. By his marriage to Clementine Dowdney, who was born in the east and died near Center Point, Iowa, he had two sons and a daughter, namely: Ezra, of Tulare, Cal.; Gilead P., who died while serving in the Eighth Iowa Infantry during the Civil war; and Mrs. Mary Ellen Brown, who resides north of Visalia, Tulare county.

The early years of Ezra Lathrop's life were passed at Rush, near Montrose, Susquehanna county, Pa., where he was born in 1839, and where he was primarily educated in district schools. When ten years of age he accompanied the family to Iowa and after the death of his mother six years later he started out to make his own way in the world, at first earning a livelihood as a farm hand. During 1864 he started across the plains with a party of emigrants seeking a home in the western country. Indians were very troublesome at that time, having taken advantage of the war between north and south to commit depredations and steal from travelers. However, this cavalcade proceeded unmolested up the Platte and by way of Salt Lake City into Nevada, where Mr. Lathrop took up farm pursuits on the East Walker river. In 1865 he went to Dayton and worked at teaming. The following year he crossed the mountains to California and settled near Suisun, where he engaged in farming, but three years later removed to Montezuma Hills, and from there in 1873 came to Tulare. On a lot he then bought he built the residence which continues to be his home. At first he was employed in driving six-horse teams and hauling freight into the mountains. Meanwhile, in 1874, he homesteaded eighty acres four miles north of Tulare, which, with other lands, he began to cultivate in 1880, and by the purchase of adjoining property acquired the title to four hundred and thirty acres. At one time he was a director in the Rocky Ford Irrigation Ditch Company, and he also formerly owned the Round Valley ranch of thirty-eight hundred acres. At this writing his landed possessions include four hundred and forty acres in one body, all under ditch, and utilized for grain and alfalfa raising, also for the pasturage of stock; five hundred and sixty acres eight miles south of Tulare; and eighty acres southeast.

Perhaps no citizen of Tulare has been more intimately connected with the lumber industry at this point than has Mr. Lathrop, who embarked in the business in 1882. The most violent opposition only developed in him a determined persistence. After eighteen months, during which time he had built up a valuable trade, the company that had opposed him so strenuously sold out to Moore & Smith, a concern with large financial resources. Unable to cope with a firm of such resources, Mr. Lathrop in 1884 sold out to the Puget Sound Lumber Company, for whom he continued as agent. In 1886 the two firms consolidated as the San Joaquin Lumber Company and he continued as agent for five years. On the incorporation of the company he was chosen manager and continued as such until November, 1898, when the profits were divided among stockholders and the yard was closed.

On the incorporation of the gas company in January, 1884, Mr. Lathrop was financially interested in the work of the concern, and since May, 1885, has officiated as its president. The electric light plant was built by the company in 1890 and since 1894 they have discontinued the manufacture and use of gas. He was chairman of the liquidating committee that succeeded in compromising with the bondholders of Tulare Irrigation district for forty-one cents on the dollar and by fair assessment secured the consent of property owners, raising sufficient money to clear up the indebtedness; this resulted in a grand jollification and bond burning. By his service as school trustee and fire commissioner he has aided two movements of the greatest importance to the permanent prosperity of the town, and in many other ways the value of his citizenship has been felt. Especially has he been helpful to the place by his wise and conservative judgment in financial matters. In 1885 he assisted in the organization of the Bank of Tulare, which is the oldest institution of its kind in the town and, with a capital of \$100,000, transacts a general banking business. Under the capable oversight of Mr. Lathrop, who was the first and has been the only president, the bank has established a reputation for stability and strength, and has been a most important factor in the welfare and prosperity of the town. Though for years a Democrat, the silver question and the platform adopted by the Democratic party in 1896 caused Mr. Lathrop to transfer his allegiance to the Republican party, which he has since supported. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, being a charter member of the lodge at Tulare. Before leaving Iowa he formed the acquaintance of Miss Virginia Blake, a native of Oakland, that

state, where they were married. Their married life continued to be a union of mutual helpfulness until the death of Mrs. Lathrop in 1898. Two daughters, twins, survive their mother, and both make their home in Tulare, Martha Adeline being the wife of G. W. Bauman, and Matilda Eveline being the wife of W. J. Sturgeon. All movements for the benefit of Tulare have a staunch supporter in Mr. Lathrop, whose wise counsel, sagacious judgment and progressive spirit have been of the greatest assistance in the permanent upbuilding and prosperity of the town.

---

ELISHA L. CLOER. When Mr. Cloer located in the vicinity of Poplar, Tulare county, the land was nothing but sand moles and sheep camps. Time, with the energies of men strong in the pursuit of fortune and the development of a country given over to pioneer hands, has brought about the changes which today greet the traveler of the San Joaquin valley,—the wide farming lands rich with the harvest yields, the beautiful country homes, the towns, the cities, and the extensive business which speaks eloquently of the prosperity of this section of the state. Prominent among the farmers in the vicinity of Poplar is Elisha L. Cloer, who was born in Washington county, Ark., June 24, 1852. He is a son of E. L. Cloer, a native of Alabama, who settled in Arkansas in an early day and became a farmer and a breeder of fine horses in Washington county, where his death occurred in 1859. His wife, formerly Susannah Stone, was born in Missouri and died in Arkansas in 1886. They were the parents of five sons and four daughters, of whom Elisha L. Cloer was the seventh in order of birth.

Reared in the place of his birth, Elisha L. Cloer received his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home. He then engaged in farming on the old home place until 1873, when he followed the westward trend of immigration and came to California. He had but seventy-five cents in money upon his arrival, and for a time made his home with an uncle in Tuolumne county, where he remained for four months. He then went to Stanislaus county and farmed for two years, in the fall of 1875 going to Portersville, Tulare county, where he entered the employ of the government as assistant farmer on the Tule River Reservation. After five months there he went to Stanislaus county, but soon afterward located once more in Tulare county, purchasing a quarter section of land located two and a quarter miles northwest of Poplar, and here he engaged in farming. In 1879 he removed to Kern county and located on Posey

creek, near Delano, where he found employment until 1881. He then returned to Tulare county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, five miles southeast of Poplar, where he is now located, engaged in the raising of grain, stock and fine hogs. He has added to his property by purchase until he now owns six hundred acres in one tract, devoted to grain, also an additional eighty acres, which is given over to alfalfa.

In West Plains, Mo., Mr. Cloer was united in marriage with Ellen Krause, a native of that state, and they became the parents of five children, Thomas, Everett, Carl, Harold and Myrtle, the latter deceased. Politically Mr. Cloer is a staunch Republican and is active in the councils of the party. For the past thirteen years he has served as school clerk.

---

**WILLIAM ISHAM BURNETT.** The Burnett family is of southern extraction. Hardin H. Burnett, the son of a Kentuckian, was born and reared in Missouri, and for a time carried on a farm in Johnson county, but at the time of the discovery of gold in California he joined one of the early emigrant trains in 1849 and crossed the plains with ox teams and wagons. Ere yet success had come to him in the mines, and during his first winter in the west, he died and was buried near Angel's Camp. It had been his expectation, if fortune favored him, to return to Missouri for his wife and three sons, but his death left them with little means, and not long afterward the sons were orphaned by the death of their mother, who was Nancy Janes, a native of Missouri. The maternal grandparents were William and Mary A. (Leah) Janes, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of German descent. For years William Janes engaged in farming in Missouri and after his death his widow brought the three orphaned grandchildren in 1859 across the plains to California, where she still lives at San Jose, at the age of ninety-six years. Of the grandsons who accompanied her to the west, William I. makes his home in Tulare county, John J. resides in Hollister, and M. M. is a citizen of Stockton.

Near Warsaw, Benton county, Mo., William Isham Burnett was born December 26, 1845, and there he received such advantages as district schools afforded. When in his fourteenth year he came to California, leaving the Benton county home on the 1st of May and arriving at San Jose during the following September. The family settled in that city, where he attended the public schools and the old San Ramon College. Agriculture has been his life occupation. After working for others some years he bought a ranch near Milpitas, Santa Clara county, but in 1874 removed to Tulare county, where he has since

made his home. Immediately after coming to this county he purchased land on the Tule river at Earliham and began to make a specialty of raising grain. By gradual increase to his first purchase he acquired more than eleven hundred acres of land, all of which was utilized for farming and stock-raising. Early ventures in the sheep business did not prove profitable, and he discontinued their raising.

October 4, 1871, in San Joaquin county, occurred the marriage of Mr. Burnett and Martha Carter, a native of Clark county, Mo., and a daughter of William Carter, who came to California in 1853. Six children were born of their union, namely: Arthur H., who was one of the first graduates from the electrical engineering course at Leland Stanford University, and who now follows his occupation at Oakland; George Carter, who is his father's business partner, and is manager of the Tulare lumber yard; Mrs. Grace Rosson, of Hanford; Charles, manager of a lumber yard in Hanford; Roy, an employee of the Linder Hardware Company; and Clarence, a bookkeeper in Hanford. In order that the children might have the advantage of town schools, in 1884 Mr. Burnett moved the family into Tulare, later returning to the farm. In 1900 he sold the entire property and purchased his present homestead four miles northeast of Tulare, where he owns one hundred and twenty acres in the Bishop colony tract. One-half of the acreage is under alfalfa, giving him advantages for the stock business. With a dairy of full-blooded Holstein milch cows, and with a separator to aid in the care of the milk, he is equipped for profitable work in an industry that is one of the most profitable in the west. All of the land is under irrigation from the Farmers' ditch, while among the improvements are a neat farm house and substantial barns. Eight acres are in fruit, furnishing a sufficient amount for family use, as well as a considerable amount for the markets. In the organization of the Tulare Co-Operative Creamery Association Mr. Burnett took an active part and was elected the first treasurer, holding the office until he resigned. For eight years he was a director of the Tule River Irrigation District. In political belief he favors Democratic principles, along the line of his occupation holds membership in the Grange, and in religious connections is identified with the Christian Church, in which his first wife was a devoted member and earnest worker.

The death of Mrs. Martha Burnett occurred in 1902, and he was again married, July 3, 1904, at Tulare, his wife being Mrs. Cordelia E. (Chedester) Berry, a native of East Tennessee, and the eldest of three children, all of whom settled in Tulare county. Her father, John C. Chedester, was a son of Thomas Chedester, both natives of

Tennessee, in which the family were established at a very early date. In Hawkins county, Tenn., John C. Chedester has long been a well-known farmer and stockman, and there the greater part of his life has been passed. In early manhood he married Candacy Campbell, who was born in North Carolina, and removed to Tennessee with her father, Elijah Campbell. Afterward she made her home in that state until her death in 1885, when somewhat advanced in years. In 1890 Miss Chedester came to California and at Tulare was married to Alonzo Berry, a native of this state, and the owner of a farm in the Elk Bayou district, fourteen miles southwest of Tulare. During the years of their married life Mr. and Mrs. Berry resided on that farm, and there his death occurred in December, 1900, leaving his widow with two children, Vernon and Lois Berry. In her possession now is one hundred and sixty acres where she formerly made her home. For years she has been a member of the Baptist Church and a contributor to its maintenance, while socially she unites with Mr. Burnett in offering the hospitality of their country home to their many friends throughout this county.

---

HENRY KLEHN. Numbered among the more prominent and progressive agriculturists of Stanislaus county and one of the oldest and best posted settlers is Henry Klehn, who owns and occupies a large and well-improved ranch, lying about one mile north of Newman. As a general farmer and stock-raiser he has fine success, the productions of his land bring him in handsome profits. A self-made man in every sense implied by the term, he is everywhere respected, and his honesty and straightforward business methods have gained for him the confidence of the community in which he resides. He was born August 20, 1844, in Holstein, Germany, where his parents, Hans and Margaret (Meinke) Klehn, spent their entire lives.

The youngest son, and the sixth child, in a family consisting of four daughters and three sons, Henry Klehn received a practical education in the elementary schools of the Fatherland. A lover of the sea from his boyhood, he shipped as a cabin-boy on a Danish vessel when a mere lad, and subsequently as a sailor visited all the important ports of the world, including among others the following named: Hammerfest, London, Antwerp, Riga, Copenhagen, Hayti, Lagos, Mozambique, Zanzibar, St. Helena, Bahia, Valparaiso, Peru, Singapore, Siam, Hong Kong, Bankok, Canton, Chefu, Tien-Tsin, Manila and San Francisco. In the latter city, in 1866, Mr. Klehn took French leave of the vessel, and for a year was employed in coasting along the bay

and the river. Turning his attention then to agricultural pursuits, he worked first as a farm laborer in Napa valley, and afterward on Orestimba creek, in the San Joaquin valley. In 1872, forming a partnership with Morris and Crow and Ed. Randall, his former employer, he embarked in farming on his own account, continuing for seven years. The partnership being dissolved in 1879, Mr. Klehn located a mile north of Newman, where he bought his present ranch of six hundred and forty acres, which he has farmed with undisputed success, carrying on general farming, stock-raising and dairying on a large scale. His own land not being sufficient for his operations, he rented a thousand acres of land, which he operated in addition to his own. Active and enterprising, he kept busily employed at all times, during the harvesting season running a threshing machine for over twenty years. He sold his ranch September 1, 1904.

Mr. Klehn married Anna Kricke, a native of Germany, and a lady of culture and refinement; they are the parents of four children, namely: Walter H., Helena D., Bertha E. and Charles F. Of these Bertha E. married the Rev. August Hansen, a minister of the German Lutheran Church. Religiously Mr. Klehn is a member of the German Lutheran Church, and politically he is actively identified with the Democratic party. Fraternally he belongs to Newman Lodge, F. & A. M., in which he has passed all the chairs; is a member of the Stockton Commandery, K. T.; is a member and past officer of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Knights of Honor. Mrs. Klehn is a member of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a member of the Eastern Star.

---

ELIAS TOUT. Upon establishing his home in the United States during his early manhood Basil Tout, who was by birth a Londoner and descended from a long line of English progenitors, selected Kentucky as the scene of his activities, and there he took up the life of a planter. His son, William S., was born and reared on a Kentucky plantation, from there moved to Adams county, Ill., and eventually came to California, where he died near Dinuba at the close of eighty-four busy years. In marriage he had been united with Lovina Garr, a native of Indiana and a descendant of Abraham Garr, a German, who founded the family now numbering more than six hundred persons scattered in every part of the United States. Her father, Solomon Garr, was a lifelong resident of Indiana, where he followed agricultural pursuits. At the time of her death, which occurred in California, Lovina Tout was seventy years of age. In her family there were sixteen children, all of whom





*W. F. Link*



passed the years of childhood. They were named as follows: Mary, who died at sixteen years; Anderson, who enlisted in the Fiftieth Illinois Infantry during the Civil war and served until he was killed in the battle of Bentonville; Mrs. Martha Hobson, of Sultana, Cal.; Eucebia, who died in Illinois; John, a rancher of Fresno county; Mrs. Julia Sproat, living at Traver, Tulare county; Perry, now in Idaho; Mrs. Virinda Buttry, also of Idaho; William, now living near Sultana, and who during the Civil war was a member of the Fiftieth Illinois Infantry; Eleazer, who died in Illinois at twenty-three years; Mrs. Kate Lynch, who died in Idaho; Mrs. Nancy West, living near Dinuba; Elias, who lives near Sultana, and is supervisor of the fourth district of Tulare county; Mrs. Mathilda Fulton, of Illinois; Benjamin, a fruit farmer near Sultana; and Mrs. Letitia Seals, who died in Idaho.

On the home farm near Mendon, Adams county, Ill., Elias Tout was born February 28, 1854, and there he passed the uneventful years of boyhood. It was his privilege to attend the Christian University at Canton, Mo., after which he taught school for two winters in Illinois. In 1882 he came to California and near Hanford secured work in cutting cord wood. During the spring of 1883 he moved to Tulare county and bought land near Smith mountain, also homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres near Traver, Tulare county, locating on the latter property and setting out a vineyard, which he diligently cultivated. After twelve years he sold that place and removed to his other quarter section adjoining Sultana on the east. Of this tract he platted and sold twenty acres. The north eighty acres are in an orchard of different kinds of fruit, fifty acres being in peaches. There are also twenty acres of Sultana grapes. A large tract is in alfalfa, all of which can be irrigated, as indeed can the entire property, for water is abundant. To him belongs the distinction of setting out the first apple trees in Sultana district, and he now has a fine orchard of choice apples.

The marriage of Mr. Tout occurred in Adams county, Ill., and united him with Miss Mary Wright, a native of Missouri. They are the parents of six children, namely: Floyd, a student in the San Luis Obispo Polytechnic school, class of 1905; Mrs. Maude Depew, of Sultana; Carl and Jeane, who are also students in the school attended by their older brother; Grace and Beulah. The family are identified with the Dinuba Christian Church, in which Mr. Tout is leader of the choir and for years, until resigning in January, 1904, acted as superintendent of the Sunday-school. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World and the Court of Honor. In 1902 he was the independent candidate for supervisor of the fourth district of

Tulare county, and was elected by a plurality of ten votes given him by count of the supreme court. One of his opponents was given a certificate of election. Mr. Tout refused to appeal, but his friends started a contest, and the investigation proved that five of his votes had been overlooked, thus giving, according to the verdict of the superior judge, a plurality of three to Mr. Tout. His opponent carried it up to the supreme court, and in the recount the plurality of three was increased to ten votes. Meanwhile fifteen months had elapsed, so that it was on the 5th of May, 1904, when he entered upon his duties, after a long contest and with the record of being the first independent candidate for supervisor ever elected in the county. As supervisor he has championed movements for the benefit of the county, yet he has been conservative, careful as to expenditures, guarding well the interests of the tax-payers and property owners. In the temperance movements his influence has been strong and constantly exerted. Believing that a majority of the votes of the people should be necessary to the granting of a saloon license, instead of merely seven as at present, he has worked with unwearied interest and determination to secure the passage of a law giving the decision of this matter into the hands of the majority instead of a small minority as formerly. The new law went into effect January, 1905.

---

WILLIAM FREDERICK FINK. The substantial and respected citizens of Stanislaus county have no more worthy representative than William Frederick Fink, who occupies an assured position among the keen, progressive, and business-like farmers who are so ably conducting the agricultural interests of this section of the state, his well-improved ranch lying about one mile northeast of Crows Landing. A son of the late Jacob Fink, he was born November 10, 1854, in Marion county, Ohio, of German lineage.

Born and reared in Wurtemberg, Germany, Jacob Fink remained in his native land until 1846, when, his prospects for earning a livelihood there not being very brilliant, he immigrated to America, the land of promise for a poor man. Settling at first in Ohio, he was engaged in farming in Marion county for a number of years. In 1858 he removed to Minnesota, and two years later, in 1860, located in Sheboygan county, Wis., establishing himself in business as a tanner and farmer. Migrating to California in 1873, he bought a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres at Crows Landing, and was here engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1896, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. His wife, whose maiden name was Rosanna Harsch, was born in Wurtemberg,

Germany, and died at Crows Landing, Cal. Of their union five sons and two daughters were born, William F. being the oldest son, and the third child of the household.

Spending the days of his boyhood and youth in Sheboygan county, Wis., William F. Fink there acquired a practical common school education. Coming with his parents to California in 1873, he assisted his father in the improvement of a homestead, and in 1878 located one mile north-east of Crows Landing, purchasing three hundred and twenty acres of his present farm. To this he has added other land by purchase, having now four hundred and sixty acres in his home ranch. Here Mr. Fink is carrying on general farming with eminent success, having seventy acres in alfalfa, which is a most desirable crop in this region, the soil being well adapted to its growth. He also pays a good deal of attention to stock-growing, raising cattle, horses and mules. He has made many valuable improvements on his place, and in 1890 built a fine two-story residence.

Mr. Fink was married August 18, 1881, to Laura A. Pipkin, a native of Tennessee, and the only daughter of Andrew J. Pipkin and Elizabeth Gum Pipkin, both natives of Tennessee, where their ancestors were honored pioneers. Andrew J. Pipkin and family came to California in 1873, and settled in Yolo county. In 1874 they came to Stanislaus county, going back to Yolo county in 1876, but returned to Crows Landing in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Fink are the parents of six children, namely: Ida M., George W., Clara E., Esther R., Eva M. and Lloyd W. Politically Mr. Fink is an earnest Democrat, supporting the principles of that party at the polls. He takes a genuine interest in local affairs, and for a number of years served as school director. Mrs. Fink is a most estimable woman, and a valued member of the Presbyterian Church.

**FRANK B. HAMLETT.** Among the younger generation in Merced county who are actively engaged in farming is numbered Frank B. Hamlett, residing near Le Grand. He was born in Audrain county, Mo., December 4, 1874, a son of Thomas R. and Amanda (Culwell) Hamlett, both natives of Pike county, the former a descendant of a southern family and one of the well-to-do farmers in Missouri at the present time.

Frank B. Hamlett was reared on his father's farm, educated in the common schools and assisted with the farm work until 1891, at which time he came to California. After spending some time in search of a suitable location, he finally purchased two hundred acres, which he proceeded to cultivate. He later rented two hundred acres and now devotes his land to raising grain.

In December, 1896, Mr. Hamlett was married in Merced county, to Harriett L., a daughter of Jonas Turner, a native of Merced county. Capt. Turner, the father of Jonas, came to California in 1849, and some years later located in Merced county. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hamlett one daughter, Esma A. was born. In politics a Democrat, Mr. Hamlett takes no active part aside from casting his vote, preferring rather the quiet of his home life and his business. He is one of the well-known young men of his community.

**JOHN LOCKE HARDEMAN, M. D.** Among the leading citizens of Portersville is John Locke Hardeman, M. D., who takes a keen interest in all lines of industry in his adopted county. A son of Dr. Glen O. Hardeman, he was born February 27, 1855, in Marshall, Saline county, Mo.

A native of Howard county, Mo., Dr. Glen O. Hardeman was born in 1825, near Boones Lick. After leaving the district school he was graduated from McDowell's College, receiving the degree of M. D., subsequently taking the same degree at the University of Pennsylvania, where he completed his medical studies. He began the practice of his profession in Missouri, and at the breaking out of the Civil war, although he was a slave holder, enlisted as a surgeon in the Federal army. His father, John Hardeman, an attorney, moved from Tennessee, his native state, to Missouri, and was engaged in the Santa Fe trade. He lived near Kit Carson, the famous scout, who was not particularly friendly to him. He died while in New Orleans on a business trip. Dr. Glen O. Hardeman married Permelia Townsend, who was born in Missouri in 1830, a daughter of Sanders Townsend. Mr. Townsend was born and reared in South Carolina. In 1820 he moved to Missouri, becoming a pioneer farmer and stock-raiser of Saline county, his home being near Arrowrock. He was a man of strong personality, and until his death, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, was loyal to the south.

The oldest of a family consisting of five sons and three daughters, John Locke Hardeman laid a substantial foundation for his future education in the district schools, subsequently continuing his studies at Pritchett's Institute, in Glasgow, Mo. In 1874 and 1875 he attended the Missouri State University, and then, in 1876, entered the St. Louis Medical College, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1878. Locating in Brownington, Mo., Dr. Hardeman practiced his profession there for ten years, meeting with good success. Coming to California in 1888, he spent the first year

in San Diego, and in 1889 located in Portersville, where he has built up a remunerative practice.

Dr. Hardeman has invested his money in a fine orange grove of twenty acres lying east of the town, and a smaller one of five acres lying north of Portersville. With J. H. Williams, he is interested in saddle-bred horses, owning two stallions, registered stock, and five mares. They have some of the finest thoroughbred saddle horses to be found on the coast, among them being Squirrel Montrose, and at the state fair carried off several prizes.

In Washington, Mo., Dr. Hardeman married Elizabeth Jeffries, a native of Franklin county, Mo., and they have two children; Elvira, living at home; and Charles, of Seattle, Wash. Politically the doctor is a steadfast adherent of the Democratic party.

**FRANK B. MARKS.** Actively engaged in the prosecution of a calling upon which more than any other, the strength, wealth and prosperity of our nation depends, Frank B. Marks, of Dos Palos, is numbered among the successful farmers and dairymen of Fresno county. In his selection of a location, and in the improvement and stocking of his ranch, he has been particularly fortunate, his home estate being now one of the most productive and attractive in the community. A native Californian, he was born, January 31, 1870, in San Francisco, a son of Bernhard Marks. He comes of German stock, his Grandfather Marks, the descendant of a German family, emigrating from Poland, his native country, to America, settling with his family in New York.

Born in Poland, Bernhard Marks came with his parents to this country, and was reared and educated in New York City, and there began life for himself as a clerk. Migrating to California in 1852, he followed mining for three or four years, and then settled in San Francisco, becoming principal of the Lincoln school. He subsequently engaged in mining for a time, after which he again taught school in San Francisco. Taking up land in the San Joaquin valley, he was numbered among the reclaimers of the place, remaining there until he was drowned out. Going to Fresno in 1875, he organized the Colony Settlement of Fresno county, arranging with W. S. Chapman, the owner of the land, for its platting. Having laid out Central California Colony, he resided there for a while, and set out fruits and vines as an experiment, successfully improving a large orchard and farm. Bringing the Colony before the public by judicious advertising, he sold off all the lots, and afterward laid out West Park Colony, in Fresno county. Moving from there to Merced, he talked up the

colonization system, and induced the landholders of that section to lay out the Dean Colony, and others. Returning then to San Francisco, he entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company as general colonization agent, and traveled extensively throughout the east in the interests of the company. He induced Carr & Haggin to sub-divide land near Bakersfield, in Kern county, and in 1890 persuaded Miller & Lux to divide their land in Dos Palos. The land just south of the Dos Palos Depot was first colonized, but as good drinking water was there impossible to obtain the colony was removed to its present advantageous site the following year, a large colony being established through the efforts of Mr. Marks, who gave large concessions on land in the new colony, and persuaded Miller & Lux to move the houses, etc. Mr. Marks is still associated with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, traveling much in the eastern states, and is now colonizing near Galt, in the Sacramento valley, with headquarters at San Francisco. Bernhard Marks married Cornelia D. Barlow, who was born in Dutchess county, N. Y., a daughter of Elisha Barlow, the descendant of an old and honored New England family. She died in Dos Palos, leaving two children, namely: Howard B., employed in the San Francisco postoffice; and Frank B.

Brought up in Fresno, Frank B. Marks there acquired his elementary education, completing it in the San Francisco Boys' High School, from which he was graduated in 1887. Returning then to Fresno, he assisted his father in the land business for a year, and then traveled for a year in the east, visiting all the principal cities. Returning to the Pacific coast, he followed farming in Merced county for eighteen months, and was afterward for a time bookkeeper for Brigham, Hoppe & Co., in San Francisco. Coming to Dos Palos in 1893, Mr. Marks had charge of his father's colony land business for eight years, subsequently locating on his present home ranch, which was then raw land. He began its improvement at once, and on account of the beautiful palm trees which he set out the thoroughfare on which it is located was named Palm avenue. Leveling and ditching the original forty acres contained in his farm, Mr. Marks began farming and dairying on a modest scale, and has since greatly enlarged his operations. He has added by purchase to his first purchase, having now one hundred acres of fine land, the greater part of which he devotes to alfalfa. He has one of the best dairies in this section, milking about fifty cows, and keeping much other stock. In the care of his herd he exercises great judgment, feeding green feed all the year round. He has a large silo, one hundred and fifty tons capacity, which he fills with green corn in the fall for

winter feed, his silo being the only one in this part of the county. Mr. Marks' contract with the Colony expired in 1901. He assisted in organizing what is now the Rochdale Creamery Association, and helped build the creamery.

In San Francisco, Mr. Marks married Frances T. Olmstead, who was born in San Joaquin county, Cal., where her father, Edward Olmstead, was a pioneer settler. Three children have been born of their marriage, namely: Frances Blossom, Howard Edward, and Alice Marie. Politically Mr. Marks always casts his vote with the Republican party.

HON. CURTIS H. CASTLE, A. M., M. D. During the pioneer history of Illinois Henry Castle brought his family to that state from West Virginia and settled in 1833 among the early inhabitants of Knox county, where he remained until death. Among his children was a son Reuben, who was born in West Virginia, and devoted all of his active years to agricultural pursuits in Illinois, dying in Knox county during 1894. In early manhood he had been united in marriage with Mary A. Long, a native of Pennsylvania, whence she accompanied her father, George Long, to Zanesville, Ohio, and from there in 1835 to Knox county, Ill., where she met and married Reuben Castle. Four children were born of their union. The eldest, Rufus, was a member of Company E, Eighty-third Illinois Infantry, during the Civil war, and afterward settled on a farm near Healdsburg, Cal., where he remained until he died. The second son, George H., who was a lieutenant in the Fifty-ninth Illinois Infantry, from the beginning until the close of the Civil war, and who was severely wounded before Atlanta, is now an attorney in Shenandoah, Iowa, and serves as colonel of the Iowa state militia. The only daughter, Mrs. Griffith, resides in Omaha, Neb., and it was in her home that her mother died in 1904.

The youngest son in the family, Curtis H. Castle, was born near Galesburg, Ill., October 4, 1848, and received excellent advantages in youth, attending Knox College until the close of the sophomore year, after which he became a student in the Northwestern University, from which he was graduated in 1872, with the degree of A. B. Later the degree of A. M. was conferred upon him from the same institution. After graduating he engaged as principal of the schools of Washington, Tex., for four years, and during that time devoted all of his leisure hours to the study of medicine, which he further pursued as a student in the College of Physicians & Surgeons, at Keokuk, Iowa. After his graduation in 1878 he took up professional practice in Fulton county, Ill., but soon removed to what is now Wayland,

Henry county, Iowa, where he remained until 1882, and then came to California. A brief sojourn in Los Angeles was followed by his location at Point Arena, Mendocino county, in 1883. Four years later he removed his office to Merced, where he built up a large and lucrative practice.

Until 1892 Dr. Castle voted the Republican ticket, but in the campaign of that year he supported Weaver and since then he has been a Populist. At this writing he is a member of the national committee of his party. In 1896 and 1904 he was chosen a delegate to the national convention, but each time pressure of business and professional duties prevented him from being present at the convention. The convention of his party at Sacramento in 1896 nominated him for member of congress. Shortly afterward the Democratic sub-committee met with the Populist committee and a fusion was effected, Dr. Castle remaining as the candidate of the fusion ticket. He was elected by a majority of two hundred and forty votes over M. C. Bowers, and took his seat in March of 1897, serving through the extra session from March 12 to July 12; also serving in the regular session from December, 1897, to July, 1898, and then from December of 1898 to March 4, 1899. During his service he was a member of the committee on pensions and did much to aid the passage of private pension bills. The old Seventh congressional district which he represented embraced Stanislaus, San Benito, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Kern, Tulare, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange and San Diego counties. At the expiration of his first term he was again nominated by the Democratic and regular Populist conventions, but was defeated by Needham by about one hundred and twenty-five votes. His service had been one of the greatest fidelity. The interests of his constituents had been carefully and wisely represented, and he retired to private life with an enviable record in the halls of congress.

Removing from Merced to San Francisco in 1901, two years later Dr. Castle was induced to remove to Dinuba by reason of having acquired interests in raisin lands, and here he now engages in the practice of medicine, also superintends his varied business interests. Two miles north of Dinuba lies his vineyard of fifty-five acres, as well as his forty-acre orchard of peaches. He has been interested in the development of oil in the Coalinga field, is a stockholder in the Fossil Oil Company, and president of the Merced Oil Mining Company. Among the organizations with which he is identified may be mentioned the San Francisco City and County Medical Society and the American Academy of Medicine. While in Iowa he was made a Mason at Wayland and at this writing has his membership in the blue lodge at Point Arena. In relig-





W. B. Knapp



ion he is associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, while he has been no less active in educational matters than in religious affairs, being a school trustee and member of the county board of education. While living in Illinois he married Miss Alma Taber, who was born in Rhode Island and died in Illinois, leaving two children, Grace and Curtis. The Doctor's second marriage was solemnized in Merced, Cal., and united him with Miss Virginia Wills, who was born in Mariposa county, of pioneer parents, and by whom he has three children, Chandos Barrett, Mary Mercedes and Genevieve Wills.

**VALENTINE DARIUS KNUPP.** As mayor of Portersville, Tulare county, Cal., V. D. Knupp is intimately associated with the growth and progress of the city and in touch with all the movements which have tended to develop the county. He is a native of St. Charles county, Mo., where his birth occurred July 20, 1856. His father, Valentine Knupp, was a native of Pennsylvania, who emigrated to St. Charles county, Mo., where he became a merchant. He died in 1859, while on a trip to Texas. His wife, formerly Hulda Pringle, a native of Missouri, was the daughter of Mark Pringle, whose death occurred in that state. She survived her husband and came to California, her death occurring in Visalia in June, 1903, at the age of eighty-four years. They had two sons, Valentine Darius, the subject of this review, and Charles O., who is located in San Francisco.

The oldest son in the family of his parents, Valentine Darius Knupp was reared in St. Charles county, Mo., where he attended the district school and later the district schools in Warren county, where his widowed mother located. In March, 1869, he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama with his mother and brother, locating in Visalia, and the same year he returned east with his mother, attending school in Glasgow, Mo. In 1872 they removed to a farm near Carlinville, Ill., and two years later he returned to Visalia. In Tulare county he engaged in the stock business with his half-brother, Henry Perkins, being located on the Bayou until 1876. Deciding then to take a commercial course, he entered Heald's Business College, of San Francisco. Upon leaving school he became agent for the Visalia Railroad Company, a position which he held for four years, after which he became interested in the abstract business, the firm being known first as Miller & Knupp, later Knupp & Anderson, and is now merged into the Visalia Abstract Company. He became secretary of the Visalia & Tulare Railroad Company, which position he retained until July, 1895, when he resigned and located in Portersville to accept

the management of the Pioneer Land Company. This company owns five thousand acres of land, sub-divided in twenty-acre tracts, and since his assumption of the management one thousand acres have been sold off. A part of this land has been set out to oranges, the whole being irrigated by means of pumping plants and irrigating ditches in which the company is largely interested. It has also erected several buildings, among them being the Pioneer hotel and the Pioneer Bank building. In addition to his other interests Mr. Knupp is connected with the Sunnyside Water Company and the Hilo Water Company, both for the irrigation of oranges, and in both of which he serves as a director. Individually he has also given much time to the setting out and cultivation of an orange grove and in this work as well as that of his business career is meeting with a success which places him among the representative men of the vicinity of Portersville.

In Visalia Mr. Knupp was united in marriage with Nellie Cutler, a daughter of Dr. John Cutler, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. They are the parents of four children, namely: Reginald, who is a graduate of Heald's Business College, now associated with the San Joaquin Power Company, of Fresno; Guy, a graduate of the high school of Portersville and now a student in Stanford University; Wilko; and Myra. In his political affiliations Mr. Knupp is a Republican. In 1903, on an independent ticket, he was elected mayor of Portersville, for a term of two years. He has proven himself a man of exceptional ability and earnest integrity, giving his leadership toward the advancement and betterment of municipal affairs, and he is held in high esteem by all who have had business or social relations with him. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Visalia, of which lodge he is past chief chancellor.

**CHARLES A. MARSH.** For more than a quarter of a century Charles A. Marsh has been identified with the agricultural development of Fresno county, and his farm about one and a half miles north of Parlier is among the most productive and well kept in this vicinity, being utilized as a stock, grain and fruit farm. To Mr. Marsh belongs the distinction of being one of the early settlers of his community, for at the time of his locating here in 1877, there were only two sheep ranches between his farm and the city of Fresno. The country was new and undeveloped, a striking contrast to the present situation with its numerous cities and villages and productive grain field and fruit-bearing orchards.

Born in Muscatine, Iowa, October 2, 1856, Charles A. Marsh is the youngest of four sons

born to John and Eliza (Traer) Marsh, the latter of whom was born in Ohio and died in Iowa. The father of Charles A. Marsh went to Iowa in the early '40s, locating in Muscatine county, and for a number of years thereafter followed farming there. In 1877 he left those familiar scenes and came to California. Locating on a farm, now the home of his son, Charles A., for a few years he followed various pursuits and in 1881 went north to Shasta county, where he died about 1888.

The education of Charles A. Marsh was received in Iowa, where he attended only the common schools, and since locating upon this farm in 1877 he has devoted himself assiduously toward making a success of his chosen vocation. He purchased eighty acres from the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, one and a half miles north of Parlier, and at once engaged in farming and stock raising, having remained on the same farm through the intervening years. Thirty-five acres of his farm he planted in vineyards, twenty-five acres are devoted to the raising of alfalfa and about two acres are in orchard. The balance is used for grazing purposes, as he conducts a dairy, also shipping his cream to Visalia, Tulare county. In addition to his other undertakings he is interested in a packing house and winery in Parlier, while with his son, Arthur E., he is engaged in the real estate business, their transactions being conducted from the home place.

By his marriage in Cedar Rapids in 1876, Mr. Marsh united his fortunes with those of Sarah E. Zediker, who was born in Linn county, Iowa. Three children blessed this union, two sons and one daughter, namely: Beryl W., the wife of Walter Parlier, residing near the home place; Arthur E. and Glen W. Mr. Marsh is greatly interested in the cause of education and for a number of years has officiated as clerk of the board of school directors for the Mendocino school district. Fraternally he affiliates with Selma Lodge No. 155, K. P.

---

MAJOR PHILIP N. RUSSELL, M. D. Holding a position of prominence among the leading physicians and surgeons of the San Joaquin valley is Major P. N. Russell, M. D., of Fresno, a practitioner of skill and experience and a close student of the science which he has chosen as a profession. A son of J. N. P. Russell, he was born December 14, 1854, in Fredericktown, Madison county, Mo., of thrifty Scotch ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Levi Russell, a native of North Carolina, removed to Missouri with his family in 1827, becoming a pioneer of New Madrid and he there

spent his remaining days, dying at a good old age.

A native of North Carolina, J. N. P. Russell lived there until ten years old, when he accompanied his parents to Missouri. On attaining his majority he embarked in agricultural pursuits, and for many years was prosperously engaged in farming and stock-raising at Fredericktown. He died December 23, 1903, at the age of eighty-six years, at his home in St. Louis, Mo. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, toward the support of which he always contributed generously. He married Sarah Jackson, who was born in Kentucky, near Frankfort, where her parents settled on their removal from Virginia. She died on the homestead in Missouri. Of the eight children which she bore her husband, seven grew to years of maturity, and six are living, Dr. P. N. Russell being the only one residing on the Pacific coast.

The eighth child in succession of birth, P. N. Russell was reared on the home farm. After leaving the district school he continued his studies at the Fredericktown Academy, afterwards entering the Missouri Medical College in St. Louis, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1888. Beginning the practice of medicine in Van Buren, Ark., he remained there a year, and then took a post-graduate course in New Orleans. Returning then to Van Buren, he continued the practice of his profession there until 1891, when he came to California. Locating at once in Fresno, Dr. Russell soon acquired an enviable reputation as a skillful surgeon and physician, and in the comparatively few years that have since elapsed he has built up a large and remunerative patronage. In 1894 he was appointed a member of the State Board of Pension Examiners, of which he was formerly secretary, and is now the treasurer. For two years he rendered excellent service as city health officer, a position that he was forced to resign, in July, 1903, on account of his large practice. In 1894 Dr. Russell was commissioned, by Governor Markham, assistant surgeon, with the rank of captain, of the California National Guard, Sixth Regiment, and in 1897 was made surgeon of the regiment, with rank of major. During the Spanish-American war, in May, 1898, he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the Seventh California Volunteer Infantry, being stationed at the Presidio and at Los Angeles, and held the position until the regiment was mustered out of service, in December, 1898. Returning then to Fresno, Dr. Russell resumed his former position in the National Guard of California, and is still surgeon of the Sixth Regiment, with the rank of major.

August 14, 1899, in San Francisco, Cal., Dr. Russell married Zelia Bridgeport, a native of

San Francisco, and a graduate of the high school of that city. Her father, Judge Eugene Bridgeport, was born in Missouri, but when a young man removed to California, becoming a pioneer settler of Colusa county, where he was judge of the superior court for fourteen years. He subsequently became a resident of San Francisco, where he now resides, and where for many years he was engaged in the practice of law with General Cluney. Dr. and Mrs. Russell have one child, De Witt L. Russell. Dr. Russell is a staunch Democrat in his political affiliations. He is identified with the County Medical Society, of which he is ex-president; the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society, the State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. He is likewise a member of, and medical examiner for, the Woodmen of the World; a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood; medical examiner for both the Equitable and the Provident Life Insurance Associations; a member of the Spanish-American War Veterans' Association; and a charter member of the Missouri Society of San Francisco, of which Judge Bridgeport was the first president.

---

ISAAC WRIGHT, A. M., LL. B. As far back as the family history can be traced the Wrights have been identified with the history of county Down, Ireland, and there an ancestor bearing the name of Isaac followed farm pursuits and also engaged in the manufacture of linen. Among his brothers was one, Rev. William Wright, D. D., who became an eminent Presbyterian minister. In the family of Isaac Wright there were seven sons, all of whom crossed the ocean, six settling in the United States, and one in Montreal. Of these Samuel, a native of county Down, became a farmer on the border of Jefferson and Carroll counties, in the eastern part of Ohio, where also he operated a saw mill and manufactured lumber. In religion he was a strict Presbyterian and long officiated as a ruling elder of his church. During the existence of the Whig party he supported its principles and afterward he joined the newly organized Republican party, which he continued to support as long as he lived. At the time of his death he was seventy-nine years of age.

The lady who from early womanhood until her death in 1854 at the age of forty-seven remained the faithful helpmate of Samuel Wright bore the maiden name of Margaret McKee and was born in county Down, Ireland, where likewise were born her father, John (a farmer, flax manufacturer and lumberman), and her grandfather, David McKee (a native of Ayrshire, Scotland, and the founder of the family in Ireland). In the family of Samuel Wright there

were six sons and one daughter, namely: Mrs. Mary Kean, who lives near the old homestead; John, a resident of Paola, Miami county, Kans.; Isaac, the subject of this narrative and a resident of Dinuba, Cal.; James, deceased, formerly a merchant at McKee's Rocks, Pa.; William, who died at the old homestead in 1860; Samuel, who died in Minnesota in 1867; and David, who served in the Ninety-eighth Ohio Infantry until the close of the war and is now living in Jefferson county, Ohio.

The old home at Ballynahinch, county Down, Ireland, where he was born in 1835, Isaac Wright remembers with such affection that he has named his California vineyard in its honor. While he was still quite young he accompanied the family to America and settled in Ohio, where he attended district schools. In 1852 he began to prepare for college under Dr. Patterson, and in 1854 he entered Westminster College at New Wilmington, Lawrence county, Pa., from which he was graduated four years later with the degree of A. B. In 1859 he was graduated from the Ohio State Normal School at Hopedale, and immediately became principal of the schools of Steubenville, Ohio, where he remained for two years. For a year following he served at the head of the intermediate department of the high schools of Toledo, Ohio. At the expiration of that time he took up the study of law under Hon. M. R. Waite, on whose certificate he was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1864. During the four ensuing years he engaged in practice at Steubenville, Ohio. In 1868 he went to Tarrytown, N. Y., as vice-principal of the Irving Institute, where he enjoyed some of the most pleasant experiences of his entire life and had the privilege of attending the old church where Washington Irving once worshipped. After two years he became vice-principal of the White Plains military school and during his five years there he built up an institution that had experienced heavy reverses and many hardships. On leaving that school he became connected with the Brooklyn Polytechnic School as a teacher. His work ending each day at three in the afternoon, he devoted the remainder of the afternoon to study in the Columbia Law School, from which he was graduated in 1873 with the degree of LL. B. Meanwhile the school at White Plains, under the control of Dr. Willis, had become unpopular and Mr. Wright was urgently entreated to return, being offered a partnership in the institution. Returning to his old place, he succeeded in bringing the students back to the school and remained there for two years more.

During 1875 Mr. Wright came by steamer to California. His first experience was unfortunate. The Bank of California, in which his money was

deposited, closed its doors, leaving him without funds. However, without delay he secured a position in the California Military Academy. At the same time he was introduced to the supreme court by Governor Haight and received the privilege of practicing law in the state. In 1876 he became connected with the University Mound College at South San Francisco, but after five months resigned to enter upon the practice of law in Oakland, where in the spring of 1877 he was appointed deputy city attorney, and for two and one-half years continued in that position. Having meanwhile purchased the Oakland Academy he became its principal and remained at its head for twelve years, meantime bringing it to a high grade and raising its standard of scholarship. On selling the academy he accepted a position in the Oakland high school. A year later he was elected to the head of the classical department of the high school in Portland, Ore., but resigned in favor of a former incumbent of the office, and instead became principal of the Livermore high school. After a year in that position he became principal of the high school at Winters, Yolo county, where he remained for three years. His next position was that of principal in the San Luis Obispo high school. After a year devoted to recuperation and rest at Los Gatos he became principal of the high school at Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo county, where he saved the high school for the district. In 1900 he was elected principal of the Dinuba high school, established in 1899, and here he started the junior and senior classes, and had charge of the first graduating exercises. Going to Brentwood, Contra Costa county, in 1902, he organized the high school and had it in charge for a year, when he retired from educational work and returned to Dinuba. Previous to this, in 1901, he had purchased twenty acres adjoining Dinuba on the north, and a year later had set out a vineyard in Thompson's seedless grapes, which already are in splendid bearing condition and bring him quick returns for his investment. After a lifetime devoted to educational activities he finds the care of his vineyard a pleasant change, affording the outdoor exercise he so much enjoys and bringing him into direct touch with nature. As secretary of the Farmers' Institute he proved helpful to that movement and he has been interested in other plans for the benefit of those who gain their livelihoods from the tilling of the soil. The Presbyterian Church has received his support and allegiance for many years. Though not a partisan, he is a staunch Republican, ever interested in the party's principles and progress. While he is a student and a scholar rather than a public man or a politician, he has kept in touch with affairs connected with the prosperity and progress of

our nation, and has always been justly proud of the fact that it was his suggestion, made to Mr. Spafford during the presidency of U. S. Grant, that brought to the supreme court Judge M. R. Waite, whose judicial career has been one of unusual distinction and merited honors as chief justice of the United States.

---

**DENNIS A. LEONARD.** A practical agriculturist, and a man of more than ordinary executive and business ability, D. A. Leonard, manager for Miller & Lux, of the Dos Palos division, holds a position of eminence among the leading farmers of Fresno county. In the management of the one hundred thousand acres of land under his control, he exercises great skill and excellent judgment, and by his systematic and scientific methods of procedure has wrought wondrous improvements. A son of John Leonard, he was born July 18, 1860, in Utica, Oneida county, N. Y.

Settling when a young man in Utica, N. Y., John Leonard helped build the Erie canal, and afterward assisted in the construction of some of the first railroads of the state, at that time using the old strap rail. On retiring from that occupation, he bought land in Deerfield, Oneida county, N. Y., and is still living on the farm which he cleared and improved, being now a venerable man of more than ninety years, and one of the most respected and honored citizens of the town. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Allen, is now eighty years of age, and her mother lived past the century mark. Of the fifteen children born of their marriage nine grew to years of maturity, and eight are living, four of them being residents of the Pacific coast.

Removing with his parents from Utica, N. Y., to Deerfield, when a boy, D. A. Leonard worked as chore boy on the home farm, completing his education in the district schools. Beginning the battle of life for himself at the age of sixteen years, he worked for a while in Vermont, at the end of a year returning to New York. Engaging then in railroad work, he ran first as brakeman, and later as conductor, on the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, running from Utica to Binghamton. Resigning his position as conductor in 1881, Mr. Leonard came to Kern county, Cal., and as an employe of Carr & Haggin had charge for four years of the heads of the canals on the Zamjora. Locating in Bakersfield in 1885, he opened a livery stable, and was there engaged in business for six years. In 1892 Mr. Leonard assumed the management of the Dos Palos division, and has since continued in the employ of Miller & Lux. He is a man of great energy and perseverance, and has effected marked improvements on this immense





*Wm Blankenship*



ranch since becoming its manager, and is now extensively engaged in raising grain, alfalfa and stock. Fifty thousand acres are under irrigation.

In Bakersfield, Cal., Mr. Leonard married Maria Sanger, who was born in Alvarado, Cal., where her father, Gustof Sanger, now a resident of Inyo county, was a pioneer settler. Politically Mr. Leonard is a zealous supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and while living in Kern county served for several years as deputy sheriff. Fraternally he is a member of Los Banos Lodge, F. & A. M.; of Fresno Chapter, R. A. M.; of Fresno Commandery, K. T.; of Los Banos Chapter, O. E. S., and of the Knights of Pythias of Bakersfield.

**WILLIAM BLANKENSHIP.** During the early years of California's history as a state, when mining was attracting more attention than agriculture and men were eager to attain riches by a single bound, William Blankenship became a pioneer of Tulare county, where he contented himself with the peaceful pursuit of farming and stock-raising. That he made no mistake in the selection of an occupation is proved by his present standing as a large land-owner and prosperous cattleman. Since 1874 he has made his home nine miles southeast of Tulare, on the Tule river, where he owns all of section 16, and two hundred acres of section 15, making a total of eight hundred and forty acres in his home place, besides which he has three hundred and sixty acres one and one-half miles south of Visalia, where he has alfalfa land and a large herd of cattle.

A native of West Virginia, Mr. Blankenship was born on Brush creek, near Princeton, Mercer county, March 14, 1830, being a son of William and Polly (Martin) Blankenship, also natives of Mercer county. The maternal grandfather, John Martin, who traced his ancestry to Germany, was born and reared in Mercer county, and with the exception of the period of his service in the war of 1812, devoted all of his active life to the occupation of a planter in his native county. The paternal grandfather, John Blankenship, was likewise a Virginian by birth, a planter by occupation, and during the war of 1812 served at the front. At the time of his death he was one hundred and four years of age. His father, who bore the same name as himself, was born in France and in youth became a soldier in the French army. Enlisting under General Lafayette, he accompanied that famous soldier to America and fought on the side of the colonies. At the close of the war he settled in Virginia and took up the work of a planter in Mercer county.

As early as 1833, when Iowa was still considered the remote west and while as yet few

civilizing influences had been brought to bear upon its possibilities, William Blankenship, Sr., accompanied by his wife and two children, journeyed over the mountains from West Virginia to the valley of the Mississippi, his family riding pack-horses, while he walked by their side and drove a cow. Their possessions were meager, but their hopes were large, for before them lay the wealth of untilled acres and the possibilities of a vast valley. His course led him through the present city of Burlington, whose site was then unmarked by even one house. Near that locality he settled, but in three years moved to Jefferson county and took up land thirty miles below Des Moines, later going to Marion county. In the fall of 1834 he lost his wife and was left with three small children, namely: John, who became a pioneer of 1850 in California and now makes his home in Stockton; William, of Tulare county; and Mrs. Nancy Sweem, of Stockton. Afterward he married Rebecca Williams, who was born in Indiana and died in Tulare county, Cal. Of that marriage seven children were born, of whom four now make their home in Tulare county. During April of 1850 Mr. Blankenship brought his family across the plains with ox-teams, traveling along the North Platte, thence to Salt Lake, on down the Humboldt river, and via the Carson route to Hangtown, where he landed on the 1st of September, 1850. After mining at Mokelumne Hill for two years he returned to Iowa, but in 1853 again crossed the plains and with a herd of cattle purchased in the east he began in the stock business at French Camp, near Stockton. A second trip east was made in March, 1856, and in 1858 he came to California with his son William, settling down to farm pursuits at French Camp. A year later he came to Tulare county and bought a farm one and one-half miles south of Visalia, where he remained until his death at seventy-five years.

The fact that the subject of this article is a man of broad information may be attributed to habits of close observation and to self-culture rather than to any special advantages that fell to his boyhood years. The son of a pioneer, living in a sparsely settled region, he felt it a peculiar fortune that he was within walking distance of a log cabin where, during three months of the year, a subscription school was conducted, where boys and girls, seated on rude benches surmounting a dirt floor, were initiated into the mysteries of the three R's. Out of that life he passed into the difficult struggle with nature in the improvement of a raw tract of land. The difficulties and obstacles which he was compelled to meet and surmount fitted him to take hold of life as a California pioneer, when, in 1850, he crossed the plains with his father's family. After a brief experience in the mines of Calaveras county in

1852 he returned to Iowa by way of Panama and in 1853 again crossed the plains, this time driving three hundred head of cattle. While at the head of the Humboldt he and his companions missed six head of cattle and suspecting the Indians of having stolen them, four of the men volunteered to follow the red men. This they did, but failed to overtake them and in eighteen hours returned to camp, none the worse for their reckless adventure. On his arrival in California he established a stock ranch on a quarter section adjoining his father's half section at French Camp. In March, 1856, his father returned to the east, and the next month he too began the long journey to his old home. During the voyage a stop of fourteen days was made at the city of Havana. After arriving at New Orleans he proceeded up the Mississippi river to Iowa, where he married. In 1858, with an outfit of ox-teams and a drove of two hundred head of cattle and horses, he and his wife crossed the plains alone. Not an animal was lost during the trip, but their experience would have been different had they not followed in the wake of Johnston's army. After his return to French Camp he remained on his old farm for a year, but in 1859 removed to Tulare county, and from that time until 1874 made his home near Visalia, removing from there to his present homestead.

In Marion county, Iowa, November 3, 1857, Mr. Blankenship married Miss Melissa E. Guthrie, a native of Mercer county, Ohio, and a lady of attractive qualities, superior character and unusual capabilities. Born February 10, 1834, she was a child when the family moved to Indiana and in 1856 accompanied them to Iowa, where she married. In religion she is a faithful member of the Christian Church, in which her brother, Rev. J. D. Guthrie, pastor of a church at Oskaloosa, Iowa, is a leading and well-known minister. The family was founded in America by John Guthrie, a native of Scotland and a pioneer of Georgia. During the course of his service in the Revolutionary war he received a severe wound through the body, but recovered and resumed the work of a planter in Georgia. In that state occurred the birth of his son, James, who early in life settled in Ohio and there followed the tilling of the soil and the trade of a blacksmith. At an early day he settled in Jasper county, Iowa, where he improved a tract of raw land and supplemented his income by work at his trade. The lady who was the companion of his youth and survived to bless his age bore the maiden name of Nancy Corn and was born in Kentucky, her father, George, having emigrated from Germany to America, settled in Kentucky, served in the Revolutionary war, and late in life made his home in Ohio. Both James and Nancy Guthrie died in Iowa. Of their fourteen children

all but two attained mature years, but only three are living, and of these Mrs. Blankenship alone makes her home in California at this writing. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Blankenship who are living we make the following mention: John R. married Lena L. Scruggs and has two sons, Ewell C. and Roy W.; Bert G. married Mary Herndon and has two daughters, Mary E. and Retha E. The two sons mentioned, John R. and Bert G., reside on the old homestead, the former working as a farmer, while the latter makes a specialty of dairy business. Della Grace became the wife of F. J. Smith, of Grass Valley, and has one son, Frank W. The three oldest children in the family are deceased. Ludenia L. died at the age of eighteen years. Mary F. died when three years old. Blank William died in November, 1897, when thirty-four years old; in 1881 he married Lucy Hardaway, by whom he had two children, William R. and Kate M. At no time during his busy life has Mr. Blankenship been willing to accept office, and he has taken no part in politics aside from voting the Republican ticket at national elections. In county elections he maintains an independent attitude, giving his support to the men whom he considers best calculated to honorably and intelligently carry out the wishes of the people. Honorable in every transaction, sagacious in judgment, a friend to the needy, hospitable to all, he has proved himself an ideal representative of the honored class of pioneers.

---

STEPHEN A. TYLER. To Stephen A. Tyler belongs the distinction of being one of the early settlers in the neighborhood of Sanger, Fresno county, and for the past twenty-three years he has followed farming, ranking among the successful orchardists and vine growers in his locality. An Ohioan by birth, he was born July 8, 1847, and his youth and early manhood were spent in his native state. After leaving school he learned the blacksmith trade, which he followed until he attained his majority. His father, Stephen I. Tyler, was born in Providence, R. I. He was a sailor, and for many years was a captain on the great lakes. He was united in marriage with Miss Alzina Edmonds of New York state, and about 1840 he retired from marine life, settling in Ohio and devoting the remainder of his years to the useful trade of a blacksmith. He died at the age of fifty-five years.

At the age of twenty-one Stephen A. Tyler went into Michigan, where he lived for a time, but subsequently moved to Tennessee and followed farming in that state until 1876. It was in that year that he conceived the idea of coming to the Pacific slope and upon his arrival in

California found a desirable location in Yolo county, where he engaged in farming for three years. The following year he became a resident of San Joaquin county, where he resided for one year. In 1881 he looked about him for a good investment and a permanent location for a home, and as Fresno county appeared to offer both, he was induced to purchase land there. His original purchase, which consisted of eighty acres, was located one mile south of the farm which is his home at this time, and upon it he followed his chosen vocation for six years. He then purchased the farm upon which he still resides, consisting of sixty acres located in the Parrie school district, about five miles northeast of Sanger.

His ranch is well improved and very productive and bespeaks the prosperity and thrift of its owner. By his marriage in Michigan Mr. Tyler was united with Sarah Anderson, formerly of New York, and they have six children, as follows: George A., W. Harvey, William J., Effie M., Ella M. and Charles. The family unite in worshiping at the Baptist Church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Tyler are members. In his political convictions Mr. Tyler is active in the interests of the Prohibition party.

---

JAMES DANIEL WAGNER, M. D., furnishes a striking example of one who has made a success of his life work from a professional and a business point of view, and during the twenty-three years of his residence in the vicinity of Selma, Cal., he has been largely instrumental in the upbuilding of this section in addition to fulfilling his many obligations as a general practitioner.

A native of Savannah, Hardin county, Tenn., where his birth took place November 30, 1844, Dr. Wagner is the fourth child in a family of thirteen children born to his parents, being the eldest son of this family, of which seven were sons and six were daughters. On the paternal side, his great-grandfather left his home in Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, immigrating to the United States at an early age, and became a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He settled in Virginia, which was also the home of his maternal ancestors. The maternal great-grandfather was also a soldier, and served as captain on General Washington's staff. While serving as such, he was presented with a watch by the general, and this watch is now a much valued relic in the possession of Dr. Wagner. In tracing the lineage down one generation farther, we find the paternal grandfather, Daniel Wagner, to have been a native of Virginia and a farmer by occupation. He left that state for a home in the south, locating in Hardin county, Tenn., a

pioneer settler of that county, and it was there he died. His son, Matthias, also a Virginian by birth, was the father of Dr. Wagner, and he also settled in Tennessee, leaving Hardin county about 1870, and locating near Montague, Tex., and it was in that vicinity that he followed farm pursuits and stock raising until his death, which took place at the age of seventy-three years. He was united in marriage with Miss Mary Graham, a native of Tennessee, and a daughter of James Graham, who although born in Virginia passed his last days in Hardin county, Tenn. The mother of Dr. Wagner died in Texas when about sixty years old.

Completing the course in the common schools of Tennessee, James D. Wagner became a student at the University of Nashville, Tenn., in 1860, graduating from the medical department of that institution in 1873. Soon afterward he engaged as a general practitioner at his old home in Tennessee, and continued to live there for several years. In 1881 he sought a new location in California, locating at that time on the present site of Selma, which was then known as Selma Switch. Here he also began the practice of his profession, which has occupied the greater part of his time during the intervening years, and he enjoys today a practice second to none in his locality. He has certainly aided materially in the upbuilding of Selma, and in making it what it is today. Although the population is but two thousand, it has all the conveniences of a city many times that size, and this is due largely to the influence of such men as Dr. Wagner. He was one of a company who erected the Masonic Temple, and it was due largely to his efforts that the edifice of the Methodist Episcopal Church South was built in Selma in 1887.

In May, 1861, Dr. Wagner enlisted in the Confederate army, being then but sixteen years old, and served under Gen. Joseph Johnston in the Army of the Tennessee, and in General Wheeler's cavalry, in Company G, First Confederate Regiment. At the battle of New Hope Church a shell struck a tree behind which he was standing, and the shock rendered him senseless for several hours. He was rolled up in a blanket for burial, which was deferred owing to the necessary retreat, and in the meantime he recovered consciousness.

By his marriage in Tennessee, Dr. Wagner was united with Miss Elizabeth Gray, a native of Hickman county, that state. Nine children blessed this union, namely: William and Walter are deceased; Dr. J. H. is a graduate of the Vanderbilt University of Tennessee; Mary is also deceased; Alice is attending the State Normal at Los Angeles; John H. is deceased; Ella is also attending the State Normal, as is

also Lillian; the youngest child died in infancy. Mrs. Wagner died in Selma March 11, 1888.

Fraternally Dr. Wagner is allied with Selma Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M., Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M., of Fresno. In politics he is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, having served many times as a delegate to county conventions, and as a member of the state central committee. In religious circles he is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Such men as Dr. Wagner are a valuable acquisition to any community.

---

**AUGUST JERNBERG.** As agent for the Crocker-Huffman Land and Water Company, Mr. Jernberg also represents the Homeseekers Land Agency, with offices in the large cities of the Union, and through these mediums has assisted in disposing of the forty-five thousand-acre tract in Merced county owned by the former company, all of which is available for growing fruit or alfalfa. This land can be purchased for \$35 and up, per acre, with the assurance that the best system of irrigation prevails. Every inducement is given to those of limited means to build a home.

By trade Mr. Jernberg is a practical machinist, and comes of a family identified with that occupation for generations. One member, more ambitious than the rest, emigrated from Germany and settled in Sweden, his example being followed by his descendants, who were peaceful and law-abiding citizens. In Wernland, Sweden, Mr. Jernberg was born March 17, 1858, and the same kingdom was the birthplace of his parents, John and Ulrika (Lovequist) Jernberg, the latter the daughter of Olaf Lovequist, a harness-maker by occupation. That the family were in moderate circumstances, and encouraged independence at an early age, was demonstrated in the case of all the children, of which there were eight, five daughters and three sons. Of these, all but two daughters came to America, and the sons all engaged as ironworkers or machinists. While Mr. Jernberg has been forging his way to the front in real estate circles, his brothers, Carl and John, are equally industrious, the former being mechanical engineer and a partner of the Standard Forgings Company of Chicago, and superintendent of the plant at Indiana Harbor, while the latter brother assists him in the last named capacity. Mr. Jernberg's father was an engineer for his entire active life, and died in Sweden, although he had formerly spent a number of years in Chicago, Ill.

Coming to Chicago, Ill., about 1879, Mr. Jernberg became identified with the Chicago Bolt & Forge Company, was raised to the position of foreman in 1880, and remained with the con-

cern until deciding to embark in the real estate business in 1886. Chicago at that time offered inducements to men thus inclined, and from purchasing small tracts of land outlying the city, he enlarged his business in all directions, laying out the additions to west part of Englewood, and investing in lands in Austin, Morgan Park, West Pullman and South Chicago. At the same time he became identified with the well-known real estate concerns, of the Union Pacific, Western, and Koltz Brothers, operating successfully in the purchase and disposal of their various properties. The same tendency which had prompted the immigration of his family to Chicago, induced him to dispose of his Chicago interests and put his fortunes to the hazard in the west. Arriving in California in 1902, he traveled extensively over the state, finally selecting Merced as a promising and favorable field of operation. He practically laid out the Bradley addition of one hundred and sixty-one lots, and has since vigorously and with telling results, promoted its advancement to a thriving and useful community of interests. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Jernberg is improving a home place of thirteen and a half acres, where he is living with his family, and where may be found the comforts and luxuries dictated by a refined and exacting intelligence. His first wife, Hilda Stope, whom he married in Sweden, died during his residence in Chicago, leaving to his care seven children, in order of birth as follows: Ellen, a resident of Chicago; Hilda, the wife of F. Bryant, of Chicago; Gustav, a machinist by trade; and Laura, Julia, August and Ruth. His second marriage in 1900 united him with Anna Lilia, a native of Sweden and formerly a resident of San Francisco. Mr. Jernberg is a man of pleasing address, and courteous in dealing with patrons. He is rated as one of the substantial men of the community, having inspired confidence and support from the time of his arrival.

---

**JACOB RANDOL HOLDRIDGE.** The family of which Jacob Randol Holdridge of Tulare county is a representative was established in Connecticut over four hundred years ago. The emigrating ancestor located in that state and succeeding generations have followed him, members of the family taking an active part in the growth and development of the country. The great-grandfather of Mr. Holdridge was a patriot in the Revolutionary war, while his grandfather served in the war of 1812. His father, Randol Holdridge, a native of New London county, Conn., was a brick and rock mason by trade and also engaged in farming as a means of livelihood. Both himself and wife, the latter





*E. M. Stevens*



being in maidenhood Emeline Read, of the same locality, died in Connecticut. They were the parents of sixteen children, five sons and eleven daughters, of whom the tenth in order of birth was Jacob Randol Holdridge, born in New London county, Conn., March 12, 1849.

Reared upon the paternal farm in his native state, Mr. Holdridge received a rather limited education in the common schools which he attended for a time. When only nineteen years old he decided to follow the example of his earliest American ancestor and seek a home in a newer country. He accordingly came to California in 1868 via the Isthmus of Panama, and upon his safe arrival in the state located in the Sacramento valley near Dixon. Bringing to bear in the prosecution of his work as an agriculturist the qualities of his New England ancestry and training, he met with success and soon acquired a competency. He continued in the Sacramento valley, devoting considerable time and attention to the cultivation of various fruits, until 1891, when he sold his property and came to Tulare county and assumed the management of the Eppinger ranch in the vicinity of Visalia. He soon purchased one thousand acres of land located east of Portersville, in the Mountain View district, which he has owned since 1892. In 1901 he bought his present home property, a half section of grain land nine miles north of Portersville, where he is now living.

In Dixon, Cal., Mr. Holdridge was united in marriage with Isabel Marian Grieve, a native of Illinois, who died at Davisville, Yolo county, Cal., Tuesday, November 4, 1884, at the age of twenty-four years. She was a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Grieve, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of England. They were pioneers of Illinois, emigrating there prior to the Blackhawk war, and were also pioneers of California, coming overland by ox team and experiencing many hardships and trials, as well as attacks by Indians. They died in Dixon, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Holdridge were the parents of three children, namely: Ernest, located on the South Tule river; Robert, deceased; and Hazel Isabel, at home with her father. In his political convictions Mr. Holdridge is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**EZRA M. STEVENS.** Distinguished as one of the most successful and progressive business men of Fresno county, E. M. Stevens of Selma is widely known as a prominent vineyardist and orchardist. During the thirty years that he has been a resident of the Pacific coast fortune has favored him with her kindest smiles, bringing him wealth and influence. His investments have in-

variably proved profitable, and he is now one of the most extensive land owners in this part of the state, and a large stockholder in various leading oil companies. He was born April 28, 1840, in Ontario, Canada, a son of Enoch Stevens. His great-grandfather, Adam Stevens, was a life-long resident of New Jersey, and came from substantial colonial stock. David Stevens, Mr. Stevens' grandfather, was born in New Jersey, but when a young man migrated to Canada, where he was an inn-keeper for many years, but afterward became a farmer.

Brought up in Canada, near Toronto, Enoch Stevens was engaged in agricultural pursuits during his entire active career, being an extensive and prosperous farmer. He died in Blenheim, Ontario, where the last half of his life was spent. He married Clarissa Hall, a life-long resident of Ontario, and they became the parents of twelve children, six girls and six boys. One child died in infancy, and the others grew to years of maturity, E. M., the special subject of this sketch, being the fifth child in succession of birth.

Growing to manhood beneath the parental roof-tree, E. M. Stevens acquired a practical education in the common schools, and a thorough knowledge of agriculture on the home farm. In 1869 he came to California, arriving December 30, and the following six months was engaged in farming in Placer county. Going back to Canada at the end of that time, he remained there three years. Returning to California in 1873, Mr. Stevens bought land near Santa Rosa, and lived there two and one-half years. He subsequently spent one year in Sacramento and one year in Visalia. Locating in Fresno county in 1877, eight miles east of Selma, he purchased a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres, and has here improved and developed a magnificent vineyard of two hundred and twenty-five acres, and an orchard of seventy acres, the remainder of his land being devoted to alfalfa. In disposing of the fruits of his vineyard and orchard, Mr. Stevens does his own packing, his raisins being placed upon the market under the name of Ivy Brand.

Possessing unusual business activity and energy, Mr. Stevens is a large property owner, having one thousand acres of land in Kern county; one hundred and sixty acres in Tulare county; town and residence property in Fresno; one thousand two hundred and eighty acres in Adams county, Wash.; and owning mineral land, which he is interested in developing, in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada and Fresno mountains. He is financially interested in the oil industry, being a stockholder in the London Oil Company, of which he is the president, and which is developing fifteen hundred acres of land in Coalinga, Fresno county. He pays considerable attention

to mining pursuits, and is now working on the Golden Eagle and the Bonanza mines, and is interested to some extent in the Apache mine.

In Ontario, Canada, Mr. Stevens married Emma DeHart, who was born in Toronto, Canada, a daughter of Nicholas DeHart, a well-to-do farmer, now living retired from active pursuits. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, two children have been born, namely: Reuben E., in business with his father, and Edmund Leslie, deceased. Mr. Stevens is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Methodist Church. He is much interested in the cause of education, and was formerly one of the directors of the Reedley high school. He is a resident of the city of Selma, his home being pleasantly located at the corner of Second and Young streets.

**WILLIAM C. WILLIAMSON.** In the eastern part of Contra Costa county, just south of Antioch, is located the well-improved and highly cultivated ranch of William C. Williamson, which evidences the ability, energy and industry of its prosperous owner. He came to the state empty-handed less than thirty years ago, a young man of twenty years, his only capital a strong constitution and unlimited ambition, and from the foot of the ladder has climbed steadily upward until he holds rank to-day with the most successful ranchers of the county.

A native of Missouri, Mr. Williamson was born October 27, 1858, a son of Jesse and Missouri Ann (Stallcup) Williamson, the father being a miller by trade. He was reared and educated in Sullivan county, Mo., remaining in that location until 1878 when he decided to try his fortunes on the Pacific slope. Accordingly he came west in that year and located at Mendocino City where he spent one year in the lumber section, but not content with his prospects for a future success, he came to Contra Costa county and rented a ranch upon which he engaged in the cultivation of grain. He met with a success which brought him financial returns sufficient to justify the purchase of a quarter section of land in 1888 from Mrs. Thomas Shannon. This property he continued to cultivate and improve and when it was all paid for he immediately purchased two hundred and forty acres more, all of this land being now devoted to the cultivation of wheat, barley and hay, the first named, however, occupying the greater part of his attention. Among the improvements which have added value to his property are a comfortable residence and commodious barn.

In California, November, 1888, Mr. Williamson was united in marriage with Elizabeth Shannon, a native of the state, and a daughter of Thomas Shannon, who is now deceased. They

are the parents of seven children, namely: Nellie, William, John, Mabel, Aubrey, Francis and Leslie. Fraternally Mr. Williamson belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a charter member of the Knights of the Macca-bees.

**C. B. DRIVER.** Identified with California not only by reason of a sojourn of more than twenty years in the state, but also by reason of his loyal devotion to the state's welfare and progress, Mr. Driver is typical of the twentieth century spirit of progress and enthusiasm which is bringing to California a foremost position among the states of our nation. He is a member of an eastern family, his parents, James A. and Mary J. (Smith) Driver, having been natives respectively of Maryland and Ohio. After some years upon an Ohio farm his father went as far west as Colorado, where he became a pioneer in the now well known and prosperous community of Greeley, and there for some years he engaged in farming and raising sheep. In 1883 he brought his family to California and settled on a small farm near Fresno. Here he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1887, and since then his wife has made her home in Fresno. Of their ten children all but two are still living, C. B., having been born in Lorain county, Ohio, May 15, 1863. At the time of the family's removal to Colorado he was nine years of age, and his subsequent schooling was obtained at Greeley.

When twenty years of age, in 1883, Mr. Driver accompanied his father's family to California and settled at Fresno. Two years later he went to Oakland and there served an apprenticeship to the trade of stereotyping and electrotyping, which he followed in that city for some years. In 1889 he went to Australia and at Melbourne put in the machinery for an electrotyping and stereotyping plant, which he conducted for eighteen months. Returning from Australia to California, he resumed work at his trade in Oakland, but after two years discontinued that employment and took up the occupation of vineyardist at Fresno. After nine years in that county, in 1901 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of open land two miles south of Dinuba and in 1903 purchased another quarter section adjoining, so that he now owns three hundred and twenty acres. The entire tract is planted in vineyards, one-half being in Thompson's seedless grapes, while the other one hundred and sixty is in Muscats, with the exception of ten acres in Sultanas.

While in Australia Mr. Driver met and married Miss Jean E. Fraser, a native of Australia, and the eldest daughter of William and Jane

(Stuart) Fraser, the latter a relative of James Watt. At an early age William Fraser left his native home in Scotland and tried his fortunes in Australia, where for years he was identified with the lumber business. At this writing he still makes his home there. In his family there are four daughters and three sons now living, all of whom remain in their home land with the exception of the daughter, Jean, in America. Of their union Mr. and Mrs. Driver have three children, Paul, Stephen and Ruth, who are being given excellent educations and the most thorough preparations for positions of responsibility in the social and business world. In religion Mr. Driver is identified with the Seventh Day Advent Church and for some years has officiated as a deacon of the congregation at his home town.

DAVID BROWN DUDLEY. Worthy of mention among the pioneer agriculturists of California who have attained success from a financial point of view is David Brown Dudley, residing near Los Banos, where he has a clear title to two highly-cultivated and well-improved farms. He is one of the progressive and energetic farmers and dairymen of this section of Merced county, and is complete master of the honorable calling which he is following, while his sterling integrity and upright manhood fully entitle him to the position which he holds in the estimation of the people of the community. A son of John Dudley, he was born, August 10, 1840, in Readfield, Me., of English ancestry, being able to trace his descent from the Duke of Dudley. His Grandfather Dudley served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, after which he settled as a farmer in Kennebec county, Me., purchasing land in Readfield.

A life-long resident of Readfield, Me., John Dudley chose the independent calling to which he was reared, spending his days as a tiller of the soil. Patriotic and loyal as a citizen, he served in the war of 1812. His wife, whose maiden name was Polly Brown, was born in West Hampden, Me., and died on the home farm, in Readfield. She bore her husband twelve children, nine of whom grew to years of maturity, David Brown, the subject of this sketch, the youngest child of the household, being the only one now living.

Brought up on the parental homestead, David B. Dudley acquired his elementary education in the district schools, completing it at Kent's Hill Seminary. Thus equipped, he subsequently taught school several terms, turning his attention to farming during the long vacations. After the breaking out of the Civil war, Mr. Dudley, fired with the same patriotic zeal that inspired his ancestors, tried to enlist in a Maine regi-

ment, but having lost the sight of one eye was rejected. In 1863, on account of ill health, he started for California, hoping in this sunny climate to regain his pristine vigor. Leaving New York on the liner North Star in November, he sailed by way of Panama, where he took passage on the ship Constitution, which landed him in San Francisco in June, 1864.

Going at once to Eureka, Cal., Mr. Dudley taught school there during the summer, and then entered the employ of a stockman, and for eighteen months was engaged in gathering up cattle and taking them in large herds to Bald Hill. Starting then in business on his own account, he located about fifty miles south of Eureka, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in the Mattole country. To this he afterward added by purchase until he owned eight hundred acres of land, and on this ranch he was extensively and successfully engaged in dairying and stock-raising for a number of seasons. Leasing his ranch in 1878, Mr. Dudley started out on a camping expedition, and in the two ensuing years visited twenty-three different counties in this state. Subsequently locating in Pacheco, Contra Costa county, he purchased a ranch, and was there engaged in raising fruit, hay and dairying for seven years. Disposing of that property in 1892, Mr. Dudley came to Los Banos, intending to settle here permanently. Buying ten acres of alfalfa, lying north of the park, he enlarged and repaired the buildings, and embarked in the dairy business. He has been exceedingly prosperous in his undertakings, and has since bought adjoining land, having now one hundred and fifty acres, all under irrigation, and the most of it planted to alfalfa. He made improvements of great value on the estate, putting up windmills, and stocking his dairy with over one hundred head of cattle. Renting this large ranch in 1903, Mr. Dudley sold all of his cattle, and in 1904 bought a smaller farm, consisting of forty-five acres of land almost adjoining his other ranch, and is here busily and profitably engaged in raising alfalfa and dairying, his farm being one of the best in this locality.

In San Leandro, Cal., June 4, 1865, Mr. Dudley married Addie M. Bean, who was born in Readfield, Me., and came to California in 1865. She comes of New England Quaker stock, being a daughter of John Bean, and granddaughter of Joel Bean, prominent members of the Quaker Society of Maine. Her father, who followed the occupation to which he was brought up, was a woolen manufacturer and miller, and one of the brave soldiers of the war of 1812. He married Sophronia Dorr, who was born in New Hampshire, and died in Los Banos, Cal., at the home of Mr. and Mrs.

Dudley, at the venerable age of ninety years. Her father, Stephen Dorr, was a prominent attorney of New Hampshire, and served in the state legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Dudley are the parents of three children, namely: Chester D., in partnership with his father; Annie A., the wife of J. E. Smith, of Pacific Grove; and Serene S., wife of R. L. Miller, of Pacific Grove. Politically Mr. Dudley is a steadfast Republican.

---

JOHN M. VAN EMON. Born in Minnesota, near Stillwater, Mr. Van Emon is a son of Cyrus and Massah (Miller) Van Emon. His father was a native of Ohio, having been born near Youngstown. He was a son of Michael, who was a native of Pennsylvania and who settled in Ohio in 1805. The great-grandfather of our subject emigrated to this country from Holland and settled in Pennsylvania. Cyrus Van Emon followed farming in Ohio for several years, but later removed to Indiana, where he lived until 1857, when he located near Stillwater, Minn. There he continued farming until 1862, then going to Rice county, and in 1876 migrating to Linn county, Iowa, where he lived until 1884, the year of his arrival in California. Locating in Fresno county, he again engaged in farming. He died near Portersville in 1898, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife was born in Indiana, a daughter of Joshua Miller, a native of New Jersey. By her union with Mr. Van Emon she became the mother of seven children, all of whom are living, as follows: Phoebe, wife of John J. Smith of Portersville; Isabelle, wife of Thomas H. Smith of Portersville; Sarah D., wife of Charles Graham of Minnesota; Louisa, wife of William Maxwell of Fresno; John M., the next in order of birth; Walter S., who resides in Fresno, and William E., whose sketch will be found on another page of this volume.

John M. Van Emon first saw the light of day on January 22, 1858. He was brought up on his father's farm, attending the district schools and assisting in the labors about the home place until he was eighteen years of age. He then went to Iowa, where he remained until 1878, when he came to California. Locating in Tulare county he at once became engaged in farming, which occupation he has since followed with marked success. In 1880 he returned east and in Lisbon, Iowa, married Rosa A. Files. The next year he and his wife came to California and Mr. Van Emon homesteaded a ranch six miles north of Portersville, where he engaged in grain raising. Later he bought a farm on the Tule river, four miles west of Portersville. There he became a large stock-raiser and made his home until 1896, when he removed to the place which

is his present place of residence. From time to time he has added to his first purchase until he now owns eleven hundred acres, all in the vicinity of Portersville. While he has, to some extent, engaged in the cattle business, his entire land is practically devoted to grain and at times he rents additional land, having upwards of five thousand acres in grain. He owns two combined harvesters and reapers, and when both are in operation it requires eighty head of horses and mules to propel them. His farm is within one-half mile of the Zante station on the Southern Pacific, making the shipping facilities equal to any ranch in the county. Recently Mr. Van Emon has subdivided three hundred and twenty acres of his land into ten and twenty acre tracts, which are on the market, the whole being the best of orange land. The ranch is supplied with a fine pumping plant of forty horsepower. This makes it possible to irrigate part of his property independent of ditch companies.

As a result of his marriage four children have been born, as follows: Ray C., Mabel G., now the wife of Glover Eldridge of Poplar; Maudie E., now living at home, and Earl E., also at home. The mother of these children died in 1904.

In politics Mr. Van Emon is a Republican, but aside from being a trustee of the Welcome school district, he has never cared to take part in public affairs. In the conduct of his own business he finds all that he can properly attend to. Fraternally he is prominently identified with the Odd Fellows, being a member of the Encampment of which he is past chief patriarch.

Mr. Van Emon is what the world styles a self-made man. He has succeeded in his ventures and is looked upon as one of the leading men of Tulare county. As a citizen he never fails to perform his part. Every movement tending toward progress has his hearty support. He is a firm believer in all that is modern, and is counted one of the most progressive men in the state. Much in the lives of such men is worthy of emulation. Much can be learned from the experiences of those who have fought their way alone and written the word "success" on the pages of time.

---

JOSEPH M. SMITH, cashier and manager of the newly incorporated Farmers' Bank of Selma, Cal., was born in Gibson county, Ind., February 20, 1874. Mr. Smith is the youngest of two children, being the only son born to W. L. and Annie J. (Calhoun) Smith. The parents were both born in Gibson county, Ind. The father, a man of scholarly attainments, followed teaching as a profession, not only in Indiana but in Santa Barbara, Cal., whither he removed in





*Timothy Hayer*



1875. In later years he located in Fresno county and turned his attention to carpenter work in connection with farm pursuits in that locality, where he still resides. In 1887 he lost his wife, who died in Selma.

Joseph M. Smith had educational advantages above the ordinary, and his common school education was supplemented by a complete course in the Fresno Business College. It was there he secured the necessary training so essential to success in his after years. After leaving college, he entered the employ of the Wells Fargo Express Company, in Selma, where he filled a clerical position until 1890. The two years following were spent by him in Texas in farm pursuits, but returning to Selma in 1892, he resumed his former position in the office of the express company, and spent two additional years in their employ. In 1894 Mr. Smith first became identified with the banking business, becoming clerk and bookkeeper in the Bank of Selma, retaining his position until 1897. In January of that year he accepted a more lucrative position one step up the ladder, with the Farmers' National Bank of Fresno, where he filled the position of assistant cashier in an able manner until April, 1903, tendering his resignation at that time to assume the duties of his new position as cashier and manager of the Farmers' Bank of Selma.

By his marriage in Selma, Mr. Smith united his fortunes with those of Miss Georgia Nees, who was born in Missouri, and their home is brightened by the presence of one son, George G. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith occupy a high position in social circles. In politics Mr. Smith is an adherent of the Republican party, having frequently been a delegate to county conventions, and served as city treasurer of Selma one term. He is a member and master of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., a member of Fresno Lodge of Perfection No. 6, Scottish Rite, and a member of Selma Lodge No. 309, I. O. O. F.

**TIMOTHY HAYES.** Well known as a successful farmer and stock-raiser, Timothy Hayes is extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits, and is one of the largest landholders in the vicinity of Visalia. A resident of California for thirty-five years, he has witnessed its almost marvelous development and progress, and has well performed his part in those grand transformation scenes that have changed the wild and uncultivated tracts of land into waving fields of grain, productive vineyards and fruitful orchards. A son of Timothy Hayes, Sr., he was born, March 10, 1859, in Wayne county, Pa., about ten miles from Honesdale.

A native of Ireland, Timothy Hayes, Sr., came

with his parents to the United States when a lad of fourteen years, and lived for a time in New York City, going from there to Rosendale, on the Hudson river. He was subsequently engaged in farming in Wayne county, Pa., for a number of years. Migrating to California in 1870, he settled in Alameda county, and having purchased six hundred and forty acres of land in Livermore, in the valley, engaged in raising grain and stock, and likewise planted a vineyard. He was exceedingly fortunate in his undertakings, and resided on his ranch until his death, in 1900, at the venerable age of ninety-two years, being active and hearty until the last year of his life, retaining his physical and mental vigor to a remarkable degree. His wife, whose maiden name was Julia Carey, died in Livermore, in 1898. Of their twelve children, one daughter died in New York state, and eleven grew to years of maturity, all of whom came to California, and nine of these are still living.

The fifth child of the parental household, Timothy Hayes obtained his elementary education in the public schools of his native county, and after coming with the family to California, in 1870, here continued his studies, which he completed at Heald's Business College, in San Francisco. He subsequently spent two years in that city as shipping clerk for Hawley Brothers, and the following year followed farming in the San Ramon valley. Returning thence to Livermore valley, Mr. Hayes was there engaged in wheat growing for two or three seasons. Locating in Tulare county in 1885, he was for two years foreman on a ranch containing sixty-four hundred acres. Beginning farming on his own account in 1887, he first rented four hundred acres, and succeeded so well that he next took two thousand acres near Goshen. In 1890 Mr. Hayes made his first purchase of land in this county, buying forty acres of the land now included in his home ranch, and in 1891 bought an adjoining forty, giving him eighty acres in section 17. He has from time to time made many other investments in real estate, being now the owner of about twelve hundred acres, five hundred and forty of which are located in section 17, township 18 south, and range 24 east. He also owns all of section 20, and the southeast quarter of section 19. He is one of the largest grain and stock raisers of Tulare county, and is considered an authority on agricultural matters. He has two hundred and fifty acres sowed to alfalfa, a vineyard of ten acres, and an orchard containing thirty-five acres, in which he raises peaches and prunes of a superior quality. Aside from the management of his home farm Mr. Hayes operates a grain ranch of thirteen hundred acres south of Goshen. He runs four and five eight-horse teams, and has a combined har-

vester and thresher, which he keeps busy in the season. In addition to the holdings already mentioned Mr. Hayes also owns seven hundred and twenty acres of valuable land in Kings county, near Goshen, which is used as a stock farm. He pays much attention to the breeding of hogs and cattle, preferring the Short-horns and Durhams to any other grade of cattle. His home ranch lies six miles north and west of Visalia, and two miles from Goshen. He is interested in the Modoc Ditch Company, in which he is a director, and of which he has been president since 1900, and his entire ranch is subject to irrigation.

In Visalia Mr. Hayes married Elsie Hausch, who was born in Sonoma county, a daughter of C. Hausch, in whose sketch, which appears elsewhere in this volume, a more extended parental and ancestral history may be found. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have two children, Horace and Helen. In national politics Mr. Hayes is a Democrat, and is a member of the county Democratic central committee.

---

**SIDNEY J. SHANNON.** A man of excellent business capacity and tact, enterprising and liberal, Sidney J. Shannon, an esteemed resident of Los Banos, is widely and favorably known throughout the length and breadth of the San Joaquin valley, his position with Miller & Lux as their land agent bringing him in contact with the leading men of this part of the state. A native Californian, he was born, August 27, 1868, at Fort Miller, near Millerton, Fresno county, a son of the late Hon. Jefferson M. Shannon. His paternal grandfather, Nathaniel Shannon, was born and bred in Kentucky, in early life moving from there to Marion county, Mo., where he cleared and improved a farm. Crossing the plains with ox teams in 1849, he located at Diamond Springs, Eldorado county, Cal., where he at once embarked in business as a butcher, thinking to make more money by supplying the miners with meat than in digging for gold. His career, however, was short, his death occurring a few weeks after his arrival in the late fall of 1849.

Born in Marion county, Mo., Jefferson M. Shannon was there brought up and educated. In the spring of 1850, following in the footsteps of his father, he crossed the plains to California, and not until his arrival on the coast did he hear of his father's death. Locating in Sonoma county, he carried on the butchering business there four years, meeting with good success. Settling on Chowchilla creek, in Fresno county, in 1854, he was employed for a time in stock-raising and dealing. Subsequently removing to Fort Miller, he was elected one of the early sheriffs of Fresno county, a position which he held two terms,

being connected with the office of sheriff and tax collector until the removal of the office to Fresno. While a resident of Fort Miller he served one term in the state legislature. In December, 1873, he removed to Fresno, where he became connected with the land department of the Southern Pacific, or Pacific Improvement Company, as general town-site agent, having charge of the location of town sites in California, Arizona and New Mexico. He made wise investments in land, becoming owner of several vineyards, comprising hundreds of acres, and being among the largest raisin-growers of California. Removing to Alameda, in 1888, he continued as town-site agent until his death, June 8, 1902. He was a man of upright character, respected and honored by all, and was a prominent member of the Republican party.

Mr. Shannon married Rebecca M. Bailey, who was born in Jackson county, Mo., a daughter of Judge Gillam Bailey. Judge Bailey, a native of Kentucky, moved first to Missouri, settling as a pioneer in Jackson county. Coming across the plains to California in 1854, he located in Visalia, Tulare county, where he served as district judge for Fresno, Mariposa and Merced counties for several terms. He died in Fresno. Of the union of Hon. Jefferson and Rebecca M. (Bailey) Shannon four children were born, namely: Scott Ashman, of Fresno, managing the Fresno county property of his father; Idria, wife of W. E. Toms, of Alameda; Sidney J., the special subject of this sketch; and Leland S., of Alameda. The mother is still living, making her home at No. 1610 Central avenue, Alameda.

His parents removing from Fort Miller to Fresno in 1873, Sidney J. Shannon was there educated, completing the course of study in the public schools when but fourteen years old. Entering then the employ of Miller & Lux, at Dos Palos, he began work in a low position, but gradually worked his way upward, remaining with the firm until 1888. In January, 1889, removing to Alameda, Mr. Shannon accepted the position of office boy with the Pacific Improvement Company, and proved himself so efficient that he was promoted from time to time, soon becoming chief accountant, in which position he remained until April, 1901. Resigning at that time, Mr. Shannon has since served in his present position as land agent for Miller & Lux, in this capacity superintending the colonization of different places, laying out new additions to towns and having charge of the land sales throughout the San Joaquin valley.

In Alameda, Cal., Mr. Shannon married Johanna M. Brock, a native of Alameda, and they have one child, a daughter named Marie Margaret. Politically Mr. Shannon is a staunch Re-

publican. Fraternally he is a member of Oak Grove Lodge, No. 215, F. & A. M., of Alameda; of Alameda Chapter, No. 70, R. A. M.; of Oakland Commandery No. 11, K. T.; of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco; a member and past president of Halcyon Parlor No. 146, N. S. G. W., of Alameda, and also a member of Fresno Lodge of Elks. Mrs. Shannon is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

R. M. OSBURN. The dairy industry, which has proved of incalculable benefit in the development of Stanislaus county, owes its inception and progress to a number of public-spirited men, among whom mention belongs to Mr. Osburn, residing one-half mile from Newman on the west side. When he came to this locality, in 1886, he bought forty acres of wild land under the ditch, and here he has built a residence, set out fruit trees and placed the land under excellent cultivation. Finding that hay could be raised profitably, he has gradually put all of the land in alfalfa, and since 1891 has made a specialty of the hay and dairying business. The dairy industry has proved a source of gratifying profit in Stanislaus county, and on his homestead may be seen one hundred head of high-grade Shorthorn Durhams, thirty of which are milch cows. The demands of his dairy interests were such that he found it advisable to purchase a tract of thirty acres adjoining his original purchase, and this gives him a total of seventy acres, which at its nearest point is one-eighth of a mile from Newman.

In Ontario, between St. Thomas and London, Mr. Osburn was born October 31, 1857, being a son of Hugh and Rebecca (McCully) Osburn, the former a native of Scotland, and the latter born near Dublin, Ireland. Upon starting out to earn his livelihood, Hugh Osburn left his old home and crossed the ocean to Ontario, where he settled on a farm. In 1865 he came across the plains to California and tried his luck at mining on the Frazier river and other localities, returning east via Panama and resuming farm work in Ontario. About 1881 he came to California a second time, but instead of seeking the regions familiar to him during mining days he established himself upon a farm in San Benito county. His last days were passed in Ontario, where his death occurred. In religion he was of the Presbyterian faith. His wife, who was the daughter of Robert McCully, a lifelong resident of Ireland, accompanied him to California, and died in Gilroy. Of their twelve children eleven came to California, and nine still survive, R. M. being fourth in order of birth. When a little less than eighteen, in 1875, he

came to California and secured employment as a farmer near Salinas, Monterey county. Subsequently for many years he was employed by Henry Miller in Santa Clara county, and from there removed to San Benito county, where he embarked in stock raising and grain farming. With four other parties he rented Quien Sabe ranch, of twenty-four thousand acres, and during the ten years, beginning in 1881, that they retained the property, they paid an aggregate rental of \$150,000. Before giving up his interest in that ranch he came to Stanislaus county, and in 1891 sold his ranching outfit in order to devote himself to enterprises in his present location.

When a movement was inaugurated for the establishment of a creamery Mr. Osburn was quick to see the advantages to be derived from such an industry, and gave it his enthusiastic support, becoming one of the original stockholders in the New Era Creamery Company, which erected the first of the creameries in the county. The name New Era did not prove a misnomer, for the starting of the plant inaugurated a new era of prosperity for the people, and made the dairy industry profitable. Not a little of the recent growth and development of the county is due to the dairy interests and enterprises, whose existence and success are dependent upon the operation of creameries. In politics Mr. Osburn is a believer in Republican principles. Since coming to the coast country he has been a student of the Spanish language, in which he has acquired such fluency that his services are often brought into requisition as an interpreter. He was married in San Jose, this state, his wife being Miss Annie Dunn, like himself a native of Ontario. Their children are Elmer, Robert, Ruth and Raymond.

CLEMENT J. McCULLAH. The keynote to the success of Clement J. McCullah is unflinching industry, to which might be added a love of home, and a desire to make those dependent on him both comfortable and happy. He has never been afflicted with towering ambitions, but has quietly pursued the occupation of soil tilling, for which he is admirably fitted, and in which he finds sufficient to meet his wants.

Mr. McCullah was born in Parker county, Texas, November 28, 1854, his father, John McCullah, being an early settler of that county. John McCullah was born in Tennessee, and when a small boy moved with his parents to Bond county, Ill., where he was reared to manhood and married, and from which place he departed overland with teams and household furnishings to Parker county, Texas. Evidently he found less than he expected to in the great cattle state, for

after four years he journeyed back to Bond county. He is now living at Kingston, Cal., at the age of seventy-two years. Clement J. McCullah remained on the Bond county farm until his twenty-second year, and in 1876 came to California by way of Panama, bringing little with him save a strong constitution and willing hands. In what is now Kings county he found employment at ranch work for about four years, and at the end of that time had saved enough money to purchase his present farm of eighty acres six and a half miles northwest of Hanford. He has found alfalfa raising a paying branch of industry, and with the exception of a small dairy, devotes all of his land to it. He has a small family orchard and a garden in which the finest of vegetables grow, and his farm and buildings are neat and convenient, showing the thrifty nature of their owner.

Mr. McCullah is a Democrat in politics, but in local affairs is liberal, voting for the men best qualified to serve the common good. In Kings county he married Alice Smith, a native daughter of California, and they are the parents of six children, namely: Charles Albert, John Dobson, Henry Edward, Lucy Ellen, Neola Ida and Nellie Irene. The last named are twins. Mr. McCullah is a man of highest personal honor, and is esteemed and respected by the neighbors who have worked beside him in the struggle for a competence.

CHARLES PHILLIP SMITH is widely and favorably known as a representative farmer and dairyman. The son of Samuel A. Smith, an honored pioneer of this part of Merced county, he is a native son, a business man of ability, and a highly esteemed citizen. He was born near what is now Los Banos, September 6, 1874, being the youngest son in a family consisting of five boys and two girls. A brief parental history may be found elsewhere in this volume, in connection with the sketch of his father, S. A. Smith.

The early life of Charles P. Smith passed without especial incident. In common with the children of the neighborhood, he attended the district school, gleaning a practical knowledge of books, while on the home farm he labored industriously, becoming familiar with the science of agriculture. Wishing to enter a mercantile career, he was for two years engaged in the grocery business, being a member of the firm of Smith Brothers, in Los Banos. The occupation not proving congenial to his tastes, he sold out his interest in the store, and began the improvement of his farm of forty acres, which is situated one-half mile south of Los Banos. He was one of the first in this locality to check up and ditch his land, and has it now devoted to

alfalfa and dairy purposes. Mr. Smith now manages his father's farm of two hundred acres, making a specialty of alfalfa-raising and of dairying. He has over two hundred head of cattle, mostly Holsteins, and milks about one hundred cows. His dairy is equipped with a separator, operated by steam power, and with all other needed machinery and appliances for a first-class dairy. He carries on a large business in this line of industry, shipping his cream to Oakland, where he receives the highest market prices. Politically Mr. Smith is a staunch Democrat. Until the disbandment of the Santa Rita Parlor, N. S. G. W., he belonged to the organization, having been one of its charter members.

GEORGE L. BRADY. Among the successful young business men of Dos Palos, Merced county, there are none possessing greater enterprise and energy than George L. Brady, now serving as postmaster, a position which he has filled with eminent satisfaction to all concerned for more than four years. He comes of old Virginia stock, and was born, September 19, 1867, near Muncie, Delaware county, Ind. His father, the late Jackson Brady, was born and bred in Virginia, but settled as a farmer near Muncie, Ind., where he resided until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine La Rowe, was born, lived and died in Indiana. She bore her husband eight children, of whom three survive, George L., the seventh child in order of birth, being the only one on the Pacific coast.

Brought up in Delaware county, Ind., George L. Brady acquired his early education in the district school, spending the days of his boyhood and youth on the parental homestead, which was located about eleven miles from Muncie. After attaining his majority he had charge of the home farm for awhile, continuing thus occupied until 1889. Thinking in a newer country to enlarge his opportunities for acquiring wealth, he then went to Nebraska, and the following four years was a resident of Geneva. Migrating to California in 1893, Mr. Brady purchased land at Dos Palos, and, improving a good farm, was here engaged in agricultural pursuits for several years, being quite successful. In 1900 he was appointed postmaster of Dos Palos; taking the oath of office July 1, 1900, he has performed the duties devolving upon him in this capacity with commendable fidelity and ability. The work of the office has been enlarged since he assumed his position, rural free delivery in this vicinity having been established in September, 1900. Since 1903 Mr. Brady has also served as fireman at the Dos Palos station of the Pacific Coast Oil Company.

In Shickley, Neb., Mr. Brady married Julia





*Emmet Barber*



Brown, a native of Illinois, and they have one child, Edna Brady. Mrs. Brady assists her husband in his duties at the office, being assistant postmaster. In his political affiliations Mr. Brady is a true blue Republican. While living in Nebraska he joined Geneva Lodge No. 79, F. & A. M., and is now also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and a member and past officer of the Knights of the Maccabees.

EMMET BARBER. The lineage of the Barber family is traced to the Puritans of Massachusetts. One of the name was a brave soldier of the Revolution, and his son, Reuben Barber, went to the front during the war of 1812. After the close of the first struggle with Great Britain the soldier returned to his home in Massachusetts and later (whether before or after the birth of his son cannot be definitely ascertained) removed to Vermont, where he took up farm pursuits. The next step westward was made by his son, who removed to New York state about 1809 and settled in St. Lawrence county. William, son of Reuben Barber, was born at Middlebury, Vt., in 1804, and was five years of age when the family joined the tide of emigration drifting toward the west. Throughout his entire life he remained a resident of that vicinity, where he was a prosperous farmer near Canton and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church until his death in 1864. By his marriage he was united with Eliza Barnes, who was born in Connecticut in 1818, and accompanied her father, Truman Barnes (the son of a Revolutionary soldier), to New York, settling in St. Lawrence county, where she married. At this writing she makes her home in Cresco, Iowa, where after a busy and useful existence she is quietly passing the twilight of life's day, cheered by the hope which religion gives.

In the parental family of eight children all but one attained mature years and six are now living, Emmet being the fourth son in order of birth. He was born at Canton, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., September 10, 1849, and in boyhood was given public-school advantages, supplemented by attendance at the St. Lawrence Academy. In 1867 he went to Ohio, where he worked for a year on the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad out of Dayton. A year was then spent in New York, but in 1869 he returned to the same railroad in the bridge and carpentering department. In 1870 he went west as far as Iowa and settled in Cresco, where he worked at farming during the summer months, and then attended the Cresco high school. While teaching in a district school during the next two years he studied surveying and civil engineering, and in 1873 and 1874 acted as deputy county surveyor of How-

ard county, Iowa. The latter part of 1874 he was employed on a railroad survey in Wisconsin, after which he resumed teaching in Iowa. The year 1875 found him a resident of Decorah, Iowa, where for two years he was deputy county surveyor and a practicing civil engineer. In 1880 he removed to Knox county, Neb., and followed surveying and civil engineering, with headquarters at Niobrara. A year after going to the state he homesteaded a quarter section of land. Removing to Creighton, Knox county, in 1883 he worked as a surveyor and also engaged in the real estate business, besides acting as manager of the *Creighton Pioneer* from January, 1884, to April, 1886.

From October 1, 1887, Mr. Barber dates his residence in California and his first identification with Tulare, where he has engaged in surveying and civil engineering, with a specialty of irrigation work. For fifteen months he was employed in the Poso irrigation district and for six months had charge of construction work for the Tulare irrigation district. As chief engineer, in 1893, he had charge of the construction work of the Tule river irrigation district, a task that occupied eighteen months, then made a trip with team to Mexico and return looking for a location for a colony. For two years, beginning in 1895, he was employed by Miller & Lux in building canals in Kern county. On his return to Tulare in 1897 he resumed professional work and also took up the real estate and insurance business. An important responsibility which he filled was the dividing up of the Waukena tract of two thousand acres, also the surveying and dividing of the Laurel tract of fourteen hundred acres. At this writing he represents the Central California Realty Company, also the Atlas and Liverpool, London & Globe, and German Alliance Fire Insurance Companies. Elected the first city engineer of Tulare, he established the city grades and did other work of an important nature while filling the office from 1888 to 1892.

When the McKittrick oil fields were opened Mr. Barber surveyed the first tract of oil lands there and did other pioneer work in the district. On the organization of the first oil company he was retained to survey their lands and assisted in the management of the property. After several good wells had been found on the Shamrock oil claim this claim was sold to the Associated Oil Company for \$50,000. Eight hundred acres of oil land are still in the company's possession and he remains a stockholder and director. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Tulare, owns an interest in more than two hundred acres of land in this vicinity (a part of which he owns individually), owns two dairies individually and a one-half interest in another dairy, was interested in the establish-

ment of the Tulare Co-operative Creamery Association that bought and improved a creamery in this city, and was also interested in organizing and starting the Tulare Rochdale Company.

While living in Iowa Mr. Barber was married at Cresco to Miss Ella A. Smith, who was born in Wisconsin and died in Nebraska. The children of their union are named as follows: Alma B., who is married and makes her home in Petaluma, this state; Louis and Luther (twins), the former professor of schools in Cortlandt, S. Dak., and the latter a traveling salesman of Denver, Colo.; and Mrs. Blanche Frisby, who resides at Hulett, Wyo. The marriage of Mr. Barber and Mrs. Belle Perrine, a native of Monroe, Wis., was solemnized at Omaha, Neb., in 1883; Mrs. Barber died in California, August 31, 1901, and their only son, Earl, passed away December 22 of the same year. The present wife of Mr. Barber was Mrs. Mollie B. Gould, a native of Missouri, who was united with him at Tulare October 5, 1902. The connection of Mr. Barber with the Episcopal Church dates back to 1877 and for years he has officiated as a vestryman. In early manhood he voted the Republican ticket, but a study of the relations between capital and labor and the conditions that depress the poor in great cities has caused him to adopt socialistic views. In fraternal relations he has been identified with Masonry since his initiation in 1871 into the blue lodge at Cresco, Iowa, and at this writing he holds membership with Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., at Tulare; while at Cresco he was also raised to the chapter degrees and since coming west he has transferred his membership to Tulare Chapter No. 71, R. A. M. January 7, 1905, he was installed as master of Tulare Grange, P. of H., No. 198. No resident of Tulare is more interested than he in the development of its resources. The success he has attained he attributes to the possibilities this valley affords, and the opportunities he believes to be as great now as in years gone by.

**JAMES H. HAMLETT.** Located on a ranch of six hundred and forty acres, thirteen miles east of Merced, is the residence of J. H. Hamlett, where, since 1808, he has been engaged in general farming. He was born in Pike county, Mo., August 24, 1863, a son of William and Altha (Burford) Hamlett, natives of Virginia and residents of Missouri from their early married life. The father is a successful farmer there and owns a quarter section of land.

Upon his father's farm in Missouri James H. Hamlett was reared to manhood and until twenty-five years of age he remained at home assisting his father. He then went to Texas, where he farmed for some time, after which he returned

to Missouri. In 1894 his attention was attracted to the west, at which time he came to California. His first location was in Mariposa county, where he remained for four years and then came to Merced county. Here he rents a ranch which is devoted to the raising of grain and stock, meeting with success in both of these branches of agriculture.

In California, August 23, 1896, Mr. Hamlett was united in marriage with Miss Rhoda Ryan, a native of Mariposa county and a daughter of James Ryan, an early settler of that county. Mr. Hamlett is a Democrat in politics. He and his estimable wife are held in high esteem by their friends and acquaintances in the community in which they reside.

**EDWARD GUY WILSON.** Occupying an assured position among the venerable and well-to-do citizens of Fresno county is Edward G. Wilson, a veteran agriculturist. He is the owner of a choice and well-appointed ranch near Selma, where he is spending the later years of his long and varied life in ease and comfort. A native of England, he was born June 24, 1819, in Bingley, Yorkshire. His father, Dr. Thomas Wilson, was born in Yorkshire Center, England, and there began the practice of his profession. Removing to Bingley after his marriage, he continued there as a physician until his death, at the age of seventy-one years. His wife, Jane Tenent, was a native of Yorkshire, also, and spent her entire life in England. Of the three sons and one daughter born of their union, Edward G., the special subject of this sketch, was the third child.

Having completed the course of study in the grammar schools of Bingley, Edward G. Wilson served an apprenticeship at the tinsmith's trade. He was a musician and leader of the band and served during the Crimean war in the First Royal Lancashire Militia. A skilled mechanic, and possessing considerable inventive talent, he began the manufacture of brass musical instruments and of sewing machines. The first sewing machine that he made was most intricate, having fifty-six needles to be used in making figures, and cost him five hundred pounds sterling. After being in business for himself three years, Mr. Wilson disposed of his interest in the firm for twelve hundred pounds. Prior to this, in 1857, he went to Australia, where he mined for gold two years, and was afterward employed in the manufacture of machines. Immigrating to California in 1878, Mr. Wilson engaged in fruit growing in Petaluma, buying five acres of land for \$1,500, but a few years later selling it for \$2,000. Locating in Fresno county in 1885, he purchased ten acres of land lying one mile

northeast of Selma, on the line of the Centerville and Kingsburg irrigating ditch, and has from it developed a productive fruit and raisin ranch, which yields him an annual income of \$800.

In England, in 1854, Mr. Wilson married Margaret Ann Crossley, who was born in Yorkshire, England, and died, in 1884, in Petaluma, Cal. Five children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, namely: Alice M., Albert E., Edgar G. (deceased), Emily J. and Harry C. Albert E. Wilson, the oldest son, was born in Keighley, England, May 30, 1872, being but six years old when he came with his parents to America. With his brother and sisters, he remains at home with his father. He is an industrious, progressive agriculturist, owning a valuable ranch of eighty acres, of which fifteen acres are devoted to the culture of vines, twenty acres are set out to trees, and five acres are sowed to alfalfa.

**HON. WILLIAM L. WILLIAMS.** The postmaster of Madera is a member of an old and honored Welsh family and was born at Milford-Haven, the largest natural harbor in the world, situated in Pembrokeshire, on the southwest coast of Wales. His father, John Williams, of Welsh birth, married Fannie Lloyd, also a native of that country. In the spring of 1869, seeking a new home for the family, he came to the United States and settled at Nanticoke in the mining regions of Pennsylvania. Shortly after his arrival a memorable disaster occurred whereby more than one hundred men and boys were entombed in a mine that was on fire. The horror-stricken spectators of the disaster, not knowing the fate of those within the mine, sent down a dog in a cage and were encouraged when it was brought up alive. Two men then volunteered to undertake the work of rescue and were sent down, but when the cage came again to the surface both were dead. Undeterred by this calamity, two more men volunteered to descend. One of these was John Williams. He stayed below twenty-one minutes and found the men and boys dead in a heap, all naked, having taken off their clothing to use as a barricade against the smoke. On being brought to the surface he was overcome and passed into a state of coma. When he recovered consciousness he found himself in a morgue. He remained in Pennsylvania until 1891, when he settled with the John Brown colony in Madera and now owns twenty acres near this city. When the smelter was building here he hauled brick for its construction and while engaged at this work his team became frightened and ran away, throwing him to the ground. For six weeks he remained unconscious. Skilled physicians in San Francisco, who examined the case, were baffled by it and con-

fessed their inability to be of any assistance. At the end of that time he regained consciousness and soon recovered. Notwithstanding his age (he was born in 1837) and the many hardships he has experienced, he retains a degree of health scarcely to be expected and works almost as constantly as in his younger years. He and his wife became the parents of six children, four of whom are living, all in Madera.

The oldest member of the family circle was William L., who was born July 25, 1860. In the fall of 1869 he and the others in the family joined his father, who had preceded them to the United States. At the age of nine years he was put to work in the breaker as a slate picker. Two years later he was sent into the mines as door boy, then made a driver and next a runner, finally becoming a miner. In 1886 he left the mines to enter school, for he was ambitious to gain an education. With the money he had saved he paid his expenses in the Bloomsburg normal school, from which he was graduated in 1888, having completed the regular three years' course in two years. At his graduation he received the degree of B. E. He remained in Nanticoke, where he was employed as principal of the school until 1891. Meanwhile, in the fall of 1888, on the Republican ticket he was elected to represent Luzerne county in the state legislature and served in the session of 1889.

On leaving Nanticoke in 1891 Mr. Williams came to California and secured employment in his profession at Madera, where for eleven years he was a teacher and principal. In the fall of 1902 the board of supervisors appointed him expert bookkeeper to examine the county books, and this work occupied his entire attention during the winter. In February of 1903 President Roosevelt appointed him postmaster of Madera and on the 1st of April he took the oath of office, since which time he has given his attention to the duties of his position. Just prior to his appointment there had been a number of candidates and the determination with which each faction supported its candidate caused much ill-feeling. In order to settle the difficulty J. C. Needham proposed that the candidates be dropped and the different factions unite on another Republican. This was done. Both sides solicited Mr. Williams to become a candidate and he consented, although prior to that he had no idea of entering the race.

During his residence in Nanticoke Mr. Williams married Mary Hughes, who was born in Glamorganshire, Wales. They have three children, Percy, Maude and Ethel, of whom the two eldest are high-school students. The family is identified with the Madera Baptist Church and Mr. Williams is a member of its board of trustees. He was made a Mason in Madera Lodge

No. 280, F. & A. M., and is further connected with the Woodmen of the World. Though no longer actively engaged in teaching, his interest in educational affairs remains as deep and strong as in his earlier years. For six years he was a member of the Madera board of education and during four years of that time he officiated as its president. On two occasions the Republican party placed him in nomination for the office of county superintendent of schools, but he was defeated with the balance of the ticket, the county being strongly Democratic. From 1894 until 1900 he served as secretary of the county central committee of his party and he was also secretary of the congressional convention at the time that Congressman Needham was first nominated to represent this district at Washington. Movements for the benefit of his home town, including the Chamber of Commerce, receive his support and encouragement, and he may always be relied upon to aid all such to the extent of his influence and ability. Thoroughly devoted to the interests of this part of California, he is one of those public-spirited citizens whose coming from the east has meant so much to the development and growth of the state.

---

HENRY CLOW, one of the most prominent citizens of Le Grand, Merced county, has been interested in farming for many years and since 1808 has conducted a livery, feed and sales stable in Le Grand. He caters to the traveling public, having a fine equipment of horses for ladies, saddle horses and up-to-date vehicles for the transient trade.

Born in Defiance county, Ohio, October 31, 1855, Mr. Clow is a son of Abraham and Maria (Vigerson) Clow, the former born in Defiance county, September 13, 1827, and the latter a native of Germany. At the age of thirteen years she immigrated to America with her brother, who located in Ohio. When Henry was two years old his parents moved to Fort Dodge, Iowa, locating on a farm, where the son received his education in the common schools.

In 1876 Henry Clow came to California and in Mariposa county followed stock-raising for a few years prior to locating in Merced county in 1880. In the vicinity of Le Grand he began raising wheat and barley upon fourteen hundred acres of rented land, giving his attention to this branch of agriculture for fourteen years. He subsequently moved into Le Grand and engaged in the livery business. He built the Commercial hotel, which he afterward sold. He now owns the building in which were located the lodge rooms of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; the Knights of Honor and the Le Grand hotel. In addition he owns other valuable real

estate in Le Grand, including a comfortable residence.

In Mariposa county Mr. Clow was married to Lucinda J. Kinser, a native of Kansas, and to them have been born six children, namely: Elsie, the wife of E. A. Graham, of Point Richmond; Edward, deceased; Bessie, Harry, Edith and Elmer. Politically Mr. Clow is a faithful adherent of Republican principles, and at all times exerts his influence in favor of his chosen party. Considerate and thoughtful for others, he has every claim to the title of gentleman, and his popularity is richly deserved.

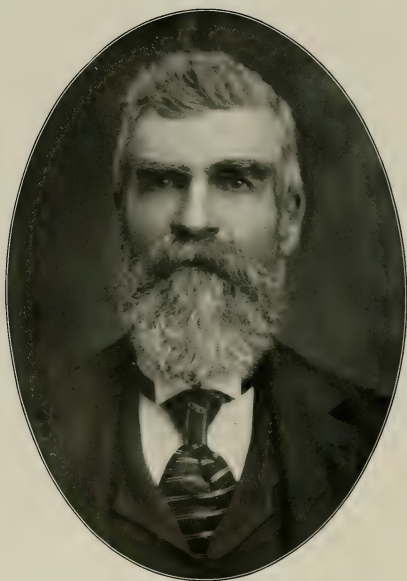
---

LE GRAND, unlike many other towns that have sprung up in the west during the last few years, had many natural advantages to offer as inducements to settlers, and as a result its growth has been steady and permanent. Situated in the center of the most fertile spot of the San Joaquin valley, a few years ago the town site was a part of the Dickinson estate, but the building of the San Francisco & San Joaquin Valley Railway through the eastern part of Merced county opened a market for the hitherto unknown country and consequently lands formerly devoted to wheat were divided into small tracts to sell to homeseekers. In this way the splendid lands of Mrs. Luella Dickinson and others were thrown open to settlers upon such terms as made it possible for the most humble family to own a home.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Dickinson the right of way was granted to the railroad company on the condition that they erect a depot and freight station, the town site, however, to remain a part of the property of the Dickinson estate. As a result a very handsome depot and warehouse were built, and in July, 1896, the embryo town took definite shape. In September of the following year the town site was surveyed and laid out and the growth of the town from that time has been phenomenal. What Chicago has accomplished on an immense scale has been done by Le Grand in miniature, for almost in a single night the transformation from a dreary ranch into a bustling town took place, and today there stands on the same ground a prosperous town, a town of steady, rapid, substantial growth, that gives no evidence of falling off in the future, but on the contrary shows every sign of continued prosperity and growth.

The Le Grand Improvement Club has not only been instrumental in inducing residents to set out trees and otherwise make permanent improvements, but through their efforts, \$300 was raised to buy the right of way through two pieces of property in order that the road into Mariposa county could be thrown open. The opening of this road has been of untold benefit to the citizens





*L M Limerick*



of Le Grand and the whole of Mariposa county is now easy of access from the town.

The soil of the surrounding country is a sandy loam susceptible of irrigation without baking, but by far the greater part of the land is very fertile and productive without irrigation. Surface water can be obtained at a depth of from twelve to fifteen feet, and by agreement with the Dickinson estate the railroad company supplied all the water necessary for town purposes for two years, for which purpose they erected a substantial tank with a capacity of fifty thousand gallons. The place now contains several hotels, general merchandise stores, drug stores, livery stables, blacksmith shops, general provision stores, harness shops, dressmaking parlors, barber shops, churches, schoolhouse, hall and a number of handsome residences. In the surrounding country can be seen growing side by side all the different varieties of citrus and deciduous fruits, which prove to the most skeptical the truthfulness of all that is claimed for this section, showing the capability of the soil without water, save the natural rainfall. The same can be truthfully said not only of these particular lands, but of the thousands of acres owned by Price Brothers, the Ipsom estate, the Turners, the Burchells, and in fact all the lands surrounding this prosperous town, which has inducements offered by no other part of the state.

---

CHARLES M. LUMEREAU. Now retired from the active cares which have so long engrossed his attention, Charles M. Lumereau is numbered among the representative citizens of Portersville, Tulare county, where he is making his home. A native of Jefferson county, N. Y., he was born January 21, 1838. His father, Lucius Lumereau, was a native of Albany, N. Y., and as a lad demonstrated the qualities inherited from pioneer ancestry. When only nine years of age he drove a team for his father, and at twelve drove a government team during the war of 1812. In young manhood he mastered the trade of carpenter, and after his marriage in Jefferson county, N. Y., removed to Syracuse, where he followed his trade. In 1850 he came as far west as Bureau county, Ill., where he remained for four years, when he started for Nebraska. Meeting with a wagon train bound for the more remote west, and being disappointed in Nebraska, he joined them and traveled to Salt Lake City. There he spent the winter and in the spring continued the journey to California. He located in El Dorado county, where he carried on his trade, until injured by a nail striking him in the eye, causing total blindness. His death occurred in that location. His wife, formerly Eunice Brogham, was a native of Ostego county, N. Y., and

the daughter of Alexander Brogham, of Vermont, who located in New York state and carried on shoe-making, farming and the conduct of a hotel until his death. The family was distantly related to Lord Brougham, of England. Two sons and two daughters blessed this union, of whom Charles M. is the third in order of birth.

Charles M. Lumereau received his education in the common schools in New York and Illinois. He was sixteen years of age when he accompanied his parents across the plains, and after his arrival he found employment in the mines of El Dorado county. After five years (in 1859), he located in Tulare county, and prospected and traveled for his health on the desert, a year later going to Mono county, and in 1861 to Lind valley, with the exception of three months spent as clerk in a store, remaining there two years. In November, 1863, he went to Los Angeles and in the hope of benefiting his health made a trip to the Colorado river shortly afterward. Later he drove an ambulance at Drum Barracks for three months, after which he returned to Visalia. During the year 1864 he worked in a sawmill on Greenhorn mountain, two years later went to Pajaro valley and farmed, and in 1867 removed to Mountain View, Tulare county, and in partnership with three others put up a sawmill. This they conducted for a year, when they sold out. Mr. Lumereau then engaged in saw-milling in conjunction with the farming of his mother's claim, located on the north fork of the Tule river, continuing so occupied until 1878. In that year he sold the mill and shortly afterward traded land which he had pre-empted in 1877 in Pleasant valley, for one hundred and sixty acres on the Tule river, four miles west of Portersville. He farmed in that location until 1880, the following year homesteading one hundred and sixty acres near Tipton, which he left in 1897, moving back to the Tule river ranch. In December, 1903, he located in Portersville, renting his ranch, which is considered one of the most fertile in this section, all being under irrigation ditches, while he also irrigates from the river.

In 1876, at Mountain View, Tulare county, Mr. Lumereau was united in marriage with Margaret E. Frame, a native of Guernsey county, Ohio. She accompanied her parents to California in 1859, her father, James Smith Frame, of Ohio, bringing his family across the plains to Nevada and later to El Dorado county, Cal., where he engaged in mining. In 1876 he came to Tulare county and located at Mountain View, where he engaged in farming. He finally made his home with Mr. Lumereau, where his death occurred in 1883, at the age of sixty-one years. His wife, formerly Susan C. Webster, a native of Virginia, still survives him, making her home

with Mr. Lumereau and his wife at the age of seventy-six years, still enjoying the best of health. Mr. Lumereau and his wife have reared two children, namely: Albert A. Foster, employed in the ticket office for the Southern Pacific Railway, of San Francisco; and Lillian Lottie, who is the wife of W. H. Simms, of Lindsay, Cal. Fraternally Mr. Lumereau is a member of Tular City Lodge No. 306, I. O. O. F., of Tulare, and Portersville Encampment No. 89. Politically he reserves the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

---

W. A. MOORE. Notwithstanding hardships and discouragements, of which he has experienced not a few, Mr. Moore, by force of persistence and persevering industry has risen to a position of influence among the business men of Madera and is now president of the Moore-Plate Company, Incorporated. Of remote Scotch-Irish descent, he is a descendant of one of the pioneer families of New Jersey and his great-grandfather was a native of that state, but removed to Northumberland county, Pa. The grandfather, Abraham, and father, Charles Moore, were natives of Northumberland county and both learned the mason's trade; but, while the former followed it as a life occupation, the latter early turned therefrom to farm pursuits and now resides on the property which has been his homestead since 1858. During the Civil war he was unable to serve, but was in sympathy with the Union, and had two brothers who went to the front as soldiers. His wife, Jane Thomas, daughter of a Quaker family of Northumberland county, died in Pennsylvania in March of 1903.

In a family of seven children, all still living, W. A. Moore was fourth in order of birth and is the only one to settle in California. He was born near Sunbury, Northumberland county, Pa., February 27, 1862, and as a boy aided in the cultivation of the home farm. However, his tastes did not lie in the direction of agriculture. Ambitious to acquire a thorough education, he attended Union Seminary and after teaching school for two years used his earnings to pay his expenses in the Bloomsburg normal school, from which he was graduated in 1885 with the degree of B. E. For three years afterward he engaged in teaching in his home county. The convention of the National Educational Association, held in California in 1888, led him to come to the coast and he was so pleased with the country that he abandoned his plans for returning east. After traveling over the southern part of the state he settled on a ranch at Piru City, Ventura county, but a year later went into town and secured a clerkship in a store. Three years

later he embarked in business for himself, but after a year sold out in 1893. The sale proved an unfortunate one, as the purchaser failed and Mr. Moore lost \$1,500.

Coming to Madera in 1893, Mr. Moore became a partner with C. M. Petty in the grocery business. At first they carried only a small stock and conducted business with a very limited capital. During the financial depression which swept over the country from 1893 to 1897 it was only by the exercise of the greatest economy and constant care that they were able to continue in business. However, as better times came to the country and they became more widely known for integrity of dealings and honesty of purpose, they reaped a more gratifying success. In January of 1895 the store was moved to its present location, where a two-story structure is occupied, 25x100 feet in dimensions. Here may be found a complete assortment of groceries, hardware, queensware, paints, oils, etc. In January of 1903 the Moore-Plate Company was incorporated, with Mr. Moore as president, and in that capacity he has the management of the growing business. At the time of the incorporation of the Madera Match Company he became interested in it and became treasurer of the original company, serving in that capacity until its plant was destroyed by fire.

In San Jose, Mr. Moore married Nettie Falconer, who was born in Nova Scotia and died at Madera in 1899, leaving three children, Walter LeRoy, Estella and Charles A. The second marriage of Mr. Moore was solemnized in Madera and united him with Freda C. Kicker, who was born in St. Louis, Mo. Of that union there is a daughter, Marie. The family is connected with the Presbyterian Church of Madera, in which Mr. Moore is treasurer, an elder and trustee, also assistant superintendent of the Sunday-school.

The Madera Chamber of Commerce is one of the local activities which he supports, believing it to be an influence for the upbuilding of the town and county. Though not a partisan, he is stanchly Republican in his political views, while fraternally he associates with the local organization of Woodmen of the World.

---

FLEMING McLEAN. Among the prominent vineyardists of the Malaga district is Fleming McLean, owner of an eighty-acre ranch five miles southeast of Fresno, and one of the most successful in his line in the county. Fifty acres of his ranch are devoted to raisin grapes, averaging about a ton to the acre. The balance of his ranch is under orchard and alfalfa, and is under the direction of Mr. McLean, who thoroughly understands the scientific aspect of horticulture,

as well as the possibilities of soil production in his adopted state.

Of Scotch ancestry on the paternal side, Mr. McLean is descended from an ancient Virginia family, his mother having been Hannah, daughter of Jacob Weese, both of whom were natives of the Old Dominion. His father, William, was born in Virginia, as was also his paternal grandfather, Daniel, while his paternal great-grandfather, the founder of the family in Virginia, was born in Scotland. William McLean followed in the footsteps of his forefathers and devoted his life to farming, his death occurring in Virginia at the age of fifty-six years.

The youth of Fleming McLean was uneventfully passed on the paternal farm until the breaking out of the Civil war. In 1863 he enlisted in the Confederate army in Company E, Sixty-second Virginia Infantry, and served until 1865 in Virginia, under command of Captain Hill. After the downfall of the Confederacy he returned to his home in Virginia, and in 1867 removed to Scotland county, Mo., and engaged in farming until the spring of 1869. He then boarded a steamer bound for the Isthmus of Panama, reaching San Francisco April 1, 1869, and soon after went to Dixon, Solano county. There, and in Colusa county, he remained for fourteen years.

In 1883 Mr. McLean came to Fresno county and located on his present ranch, almost immediately returning to Scotland county, Mo., where he farmed for six years. In April, 1890, he returned to his farm in Fresno county, and has since bent his efforts towards its wisest and most substantial upbuilding. In Canton, Iowa, Mr. McLean was united in marriage with Tenna M. Smith, who, at the time of her death, left a daughter, Mina F. Mr. McLean is a Democrat in politics, and fraternally is a Mason.

**ORLANDO D. BERRYHILL.** For nearly thirty years a resident of California and for twenty-two years a resident of Fresno county, Mr. Berryhill has demonstrated the possibilities of the agriculturist's life. His success is attributed not alone to his industry and singleness of purpose, but to his keen foresight and good judgment in selecting the most profitably grown crops. He has found by experience that both climate and soil are adapted to fruit growing in his locality, and this is particularly so regarding raisin grapes and alfalfa.

Born in Barry county, Mo., in April, 1849, O. D. Berryhill is a son of M. V. Berryhill, who was a native of Alabama and a farmer by occupation. He went to Missouri in the early days of the history of that state and later to Arkansas, and it was in the latter state that he died at the

advanced age of eighty-two years. In 1875 O. D. Berryhill came to California to seek his fortune and for a few months was located in Sonoma county. In 1876 he went to Kings county and upon leased land engaged in raising wheat until 1882, when he found a more favorable location in Fresno county. Purchasing a ranch south of his home place from the Southern Pacific Railway Company, he lived upon it for three years, when he sold his right and purchased two other farms north of his present home, where he farmed for twelve years. Again selling, he purchased the farm of eighty acres upon which he now resides, four miles south of Sanger, and he also owns forty acres one mile north. Of the home place forty acres are devoted to the raisin grape, thirteen acres to other fruits, and twenty-seven acres to alfalfa. January 12, 1879, Mr. Berryhill was united in marriage in California with Melissa Myers, a native of Missouri and daughter of Conrad Myers. They have a family of seven children living, as follows: Floyd H., Eugene A., Homer Lee, Edith (the wife of Henry Estes), Claude C., Leonard R. and Augusta Pauline. Zoia Alice, the first born, died at the age of six years.

**LEONARD P. ST. CLAIR.** Whatever measure of success Mr. St. Clair has achieved may be attributed to his unaided exertions, for he was orphaned at an early age and has made his own way in the world ever since youth. He was born in Allegheny county, Pa., November 20, 1831. After the death of his parents he accompanied his grandfather, Philip Covert, to Athens county, in the southern part of Ohio, where he aided in the cultivation of a farm in summer and during the winter months attended district school. In the spring of 1848, when sixteen years of age, he went to Iowa and secured employment as a farm hand near Burlington. Next he was engaged on a farm near Mount Pleasant. In the spring of 1850 he went to Burlington for the purpose of learning the blacksmith trade, but after he had worked in a shop there about a year he determined to come to California. Returning to Mount Pleasant he prepared for the long journey across the plains. In March of 1852 he started overland, with a party of eleven, having three wagons drawn by oxen. He walked most of the distance, driving one of the ox-teams.

Upon arriving at the headwaters of the Feather river, August 1, 1852, Mr. St. Clair began prospecting and mining, but after a few weeks he left with the intention of going to the mines of Australia. However, upon reaching Sacramento he gave up the trip and spent the winter of 1852-53 in Auburn and vicinity. In the spring

of 1853 he engaged in mining on the Middle Fork of the American river, but after a short time went to Volcano, Eldorado county, where he engaged in the butchering business. On selling out in 1856 he bought a tannery on Otter creek in company with Judge Aaron Bell, but the venture did not prove successful and the following year he resumed the meat business. In 1859 he went to Red Dog, Nevada county, where he engaged in butchering for a year or more. His next location was on Dutch Flat, in Placer county, but he soon left there for his former location and remained at Red Dog until 1865, when he went back east. After two years, in 1867 he came again to California and opened a meat market at Dutch Flat, at the same time buying and selling cattle.

The fall of 1887 found Mr. St. Clair a resident of Bakersfield, where he has since made his home. For a year after settling there he conducted a meat market. On disposing of that business he turned his attention to securing gas and electric lights for the city, and acted as manager of the Bakersfield Electric Light & Gas Company until 1902, the success of which is largely due to his assiduous devotion and painstaking care. In that year he sold his stock in the company and has since lived retired. His home, erected by himself, is a beautiful residence and stands on the corner of Fourteenth and H streets. Its presiding genius is his wife, formerly Mary F. Dunn, whom he married in 1869 and by whom he has four children: Leonard P., Jr., Everett S., Franklin C. and Cora May, all at home.

JOHN W. KELLY. Only those who have lived in Kern county, and are familiar with the motley crowd which comprises a considerable portion of its inhabitants, can arrive at an appreciation of the enormous responsibility of the man elected to serve its interests as sheriff. There are but two cities in the state of California where more civil and criminal cases are tried than in Bakersfield, Kern county. These are San Francisco and Los Angeles. In the former, the law allows eighty deputy assistants, in the latter ten, and in Bakersfield there are but four. Numerous causes contribute to the lawlessness of the region, among them being the oil fields and mines, which attract large numbers of wealth seekers, many of whom bring with them lurid careers, and a propensity for breaking out afresh under the favorable circumstances among which they find themselves in the west. The history of criminology in the county is both startling in its nature and persistent in its duration, in consequence of which, the high official depended on to bring order out of chaos, and maintain a wholesome respect for the law, is necessarily a

man of great force of character and unflinching determination. An average of from fifty-five to sixty prisoners are guests of the state, and in their aggregate embody the sharpest and most desperate of offenders.

John W. Kelly, the present sheriff of Kern county, is a Democratic politician who has effected his rise solely through the medium of sterling worth and faithfulness to trusts imposed. He is a Missourian, and spent his youth on the farm in Cooper county, where his birth occurred October 19, 1861. His first educational training was received in the country school near his home, and subsequently he attended a private school at Boonville with his second cousin, Ex-Gov. L. V. Stevens, of Missouri. His childhood was one of toil and privation, for after the death of his mother, when he was eight or nine years old, he was obliged to shift for himself, and to depend upon his innate strength and fine instincts for guidance. He contracted the western fever in 1884, and after locating in Newville, Glenn county, worked by the day, and later became interested in a stage line operating between Newville and Redbluff, a distance of forty-five miles. Those were desperate times, and the stage-driver took his life in his hands in the same way that he did in the days of the discovery of gold and the rush of early argonauts. After a year of stage-driving he engaged in farming in Colusa, now Glenn county, until 1895, and then repaired to Randsburg, which was then making a start as a mining center. He was one of the first to place any faith in its future, and remained there in active mining for several months, in time purchasing property, which he still owns.

Mr. Kelly's active political career began in 1897, when he was appointed constable of Randsburg, a position maintained until his election to the office of supervisor in 1900. Upon being elected sheriff of Kern county in 1902, he resigned the supervisorship, and has since devoted himself uninterruptedly to making the life and property of citizens as safe here as elsewhere in the state. He is admirably adapted for his work, possesses authority of manner, and while humane in his tendencies, and always willing to help a man to better things, he knows no mercy for the habitual evildoer. During his maintenance of his present office he has been called upon to perform dangerous service in the interests of good government, not the least of which was his position as leader of a posse which surprised a desperado in the Chinese quarter, April 19, 1903, and succeeded in shooting him only after he had added to his crimes the killing of two of the officers under Mr. Kelly. In Glenn county, Mr. Kelly married Ida Perry, a native of California. He is one of the prominent men in fraternal circles of Kern county, and is identified with the





*James A. Britton.*





MRS. J. A. CRABTREE



Masons, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Eagles, all of Bakersfield. Mr. Kelly is a brave, tolerant and broad-minded citizen, a keen reader of human nature, and an ardent worker for the best welfare of Kern county.

**JAMES A. CRABTREE.** Among the earliest pioneers of Tulare county, James A. Crabtree has been identified with the development, growth and material upbuilding of this section for nearly a half century. A native of Jefferson county, Ill., he was born November 13, 1829. The family traces its ancestry to England, when two brothers, banished from their native land, came to America and located in Virginia. The first to leave Virginian soil was Isaac Crabtree, a native of the Old Dominion, who became a pioneer farmer of Tennessee and later of Illinois. In his family was a son, J. B. Crabtree, who was born in Tennessee. In young manhood he enlisted for service in the war of 1812, serving at New Orleans as a member of the life guard of General Jackson, who as a boy had made his home with the Crabtree family. Coming safely through the perils and adventures of war, J. B. Crabtree returned to civic life as a farmer in Illinois, preferring agricultural pursuits to the trade of hatter, which he had learned. He eventually removed to Benton county, Ark., thence to Newton county, Mo., remaining in the latter location for four years, when he settled in Lamar county, Tex., and engaged as a stockman and hatter. In 1852 he brought his family across the plains, crossing the country by teams to Durango, thence packing across the mountains to Mazatlan, then by boat to San Diego. The remainder of the journey was made on the steamer Ohio to San Francisco. A desirable location was chosen for a home at Santa Cruz, but the family later removed to San Juan, Monterey county, where they remained until 1857. In that year James A. Crabtree located in Tulare county, where he engaged in the stock business. In 1860 his father, J. B. Crabtree, located in Tulare county, and in 1864 homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres on the site of the soda springs at Springville, which town he laid out. Later he sold the springs and passed the remainder of his life in retirement, living to be eighty-three years old. His wife was formerly Rebecca Wilkerson, a native of Tennessee, and a daughter of Thomas Wilkerson. She died on the home place in Tulare county at the age of seventy-four years. Of their family of nine children, four sons and one daughter are living, namely: Rebecca, the wife of J. H. Thorp, of Napa; James A., of this review; J. F., located on the Kings river; W. N., on the Tule river; and E. J., at Bakersfield.

The boyhood years of James A. Crabtree were

spent principally in Texas, receiving his education in private schools in Hopkins and Cherokee. He was twenty-three years old when he accompanied his father across Old Mexico to California, remaining with him in his residence in Santa Cruz, San Juan and Tulare counties, engaging in the stock business on the lands adjacent to the Tule river. For many years he remained occupied as a stockman, when he began prospecting and mining, opening the White Chief mine at the headwaters of Kaweah, which he still owns. Adjoining that is the Silver Lake mine and the Lady Franklin mine, both of which are fine silver properties. Of late years he has sought retirement from active cares and is making his home on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres located two and a quarter miles east of Portersville, in which town he had previously made his home. Seventeen acres of his ranch is devoted to navel oranges in full bearing, while the entire property is fine orange land, all being under irrigation, as he has a fine electric pumping plant. He is also interested in the Pioneer Ditch Company.

At Plano Mr. Crabtree was united in marriage with Paulina Moreland, a native of Jackson, Mo., who came with her father, Zachariah Moreland, to California, in 1849. She died January 12, 1903, at the age of sixty-one years. She was a devout member of the Christian Church, although her husband is a Methodist. Of the five children born of this union two are living, namely: Thomas, a farmer living at home, and William, a farmer at Rocky Ford, both of whom own considerable alfalfa land. A public-spirited citizen, Mr. Crabtree has taken an active interest in public affairs, being one of the organizers of the cemetery association at Portersville, and was for several years a director. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. As a pioneer Mr. Crabtree has many recollections of the early days, interesting alike to old and young,—to those who participated in the stirring events and to those who are profiting by the courage and energy of the first settlers of this region. He recalls the days when the plains abounded in deer, elk, bear, panther, etc., and the many adventures which he had when only courage and presence of mind saved his life. Today the fields are dotted with orange groves, orchards and prosperous farming lands, all eloquent of the changes which the years have wrought.

**ALBERT H. DEAN.** One mile north of Fowler is located the well-improved ranch of Albert H. Dean, consisting of forty acres, twenty-two of which is given over to the

cultivation of grapes, seven to a peach orchard, and the remainder devoted to general farming. Mr. Dean has been the owner of this property since January, 1882, when he came to California and located in Fresno county, purchasing the ranch which he has since brought to rank with the best in this section of the country. Born in Indiana August 15, 1849, he is the son of Harmon R. Dean.

Harmon Dean was a native of Virginia and the son of John Dean, also of that state, whose ancestors had emigrated to the western world from Germany. Harmon Dean removed to Indiana with his parents when only four years old, in years of maturity engaging in an agricultural life and marrying Catherine Evens, a native of Indiana and daughter of Samuel Evens, an emigrant from Wales. The remainder of the years of Mr. and Mrs. Dean were passed in the Hoosier state, and there Mr. Dean died at the age of seventy-eight years, his demise occurring in Dearborn county. Albert H. Dean was reared upon his father's farm until he had attained the age of twenty-two, when he married Martha Allen and engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself. He remained in Indiana until 1876, when he came as far west as Osborn county, Kan., continuing his farming operations until January, 1882. On that date he sought a home in the state of California, becoming the owner of his present property, since which time he has devoted himself assiduously to its proper cultivation and has met with the returns which follow close application in any line.

His first wife having died in February, 1895, Mr. Dean was married in 1896 to Mrs. Emma L. (McKittrick) Radley. By his first wife he has two daughters, namely: Ida, wife of J. S. Niswander, of Fresno county, and Emma, wife of D. S. McCullaugh, of Fowler. Politically Mr. Dean is identified with the Republican party and fraternally belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church and for six years has been chairman of the board of trustees.

**CHARLES WILLIAMSON.** With a justly won popularity and esteem, Charles Williamson is rounding out the years of a well spent life as a vineyardist of the beautiful and productive county of Fresno, where he has made his home for nearly a quarter of a century. A native of Scotland, he was born August 23, 1831, a son of David and Johanna (Henderson) Williamson, and was reared upon the paternal farm until he was twenty years old. Attracted by the man-

ifest advantages of the western world, he came to the United States in June, 1852, and located first in the state of Pennsylvania, remaining three years, when he came as far west as Illinois. In the latter state he engaged in coal mining for a like period, after which he settled in Missouri and followed farming. In 1862 he once more took up the march westward and became a resident of Nevada, working in the Comstock mine for many years and winning for himself a position of prominence in the county wherein he resided. Becoming interested in the fruit growing districts of California, he came to this state in 1881 and purchased a ranch of twenty acres located about four miles southeast of Fresno on Cherry avenue, devoting this land to the cultivation of grapes and various other fruits, as well as alfalfa. He has made a success of his agricultural work in the county and has built up for himself a competence and a very desirable home among the pleasant and prosperous surroundings of one of the finest counties in the state.

Mr. Williamson has been thrice married, his first wife being Elizabeth Perry, to whom he was united in Missouri, and his second, Asenath Geach Gay, whom he married in Virginia City, Nev. By his present wife, formerly Jessie L. Gibson, he has one son, Charles F. In politics Mr. Williamson is a staunch Republican and has always been active in the promotion of the principles he endorses, while a resident of Nevada serving as sheriff of his county for two years.

**MARCUS L. DEAN.** In reviewing the lives of the substantial and representative citizens of Fresno county, we call attention to Marcus L. Dean, who is not only a practical farmer and orchardist, but a firm business man in every particular, a gentleman of quiet tastes, of exceptional worth, and one who is esteemed by all who know him. He first became identified with agricultural pursuits in Fresno county in March, 1878, and for a number of years thereafter he rented land near what is now Sanger and carried on farm pursuits. In 1888 he purchased his home place of eighty acres in Bethel school district, about two and one-half miles southwest of Sanger. In addition to improving and beautifying his place, Mr. Dean accumulated capital and in 1902, by additional purchase, he acquired eighty acres directly opposite his home place, thus making his farm one of the most productive farms in this locality. Planting eighty acres in vines, he grows the raisin grape quite successfully, and his peach orchards cover a tract of forty-five acres, containing some of the choicest varieties grown.

In tracing the ancestry of Marcus L. Dean, we find him to be a member of a worthy southern

family and a son of William and Annie (Lilly) Dean, both of whom were natives of North Carolina. His father, a farmer by occupation, removed to Mississippi in 1858, and for eleven years followed farming in that state. In 1869 he found a more suitable climate and location for a home in Arkansas and for many years was an esteemed resident of that state. He was a Democrat in his political views. He died at an advanced age in February, 1900. Born March 6, 1855, in Anson county, N. C., Marcus L. Dean was taken to Mississippi by his parents when but three years old, and spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm. He attended school and improved every opportunity to add to his stock of knowledge and became equipped for his life-work, being in his fifteenth year when the family removed to Arkansas.

At the age of twenty-three he left home to seek his fortune and spent the following six months in Colorado, working for a month or so in the mines adjacent to Denver. In October, 1877, he proceeded to California and after a short time spent in San Francisco he went to Placer county and worked for a time in the wood camps. But with keen foresight he once more returned to the occupation of his youth, this time in Fresno county. By his marriage in California, Mr. Dean was united with Mrs. Amanda Edwards, who was born in Tennessee. Fraternally Mr. Dean is a member of Sanger Camp No. 265 W. O. W. In his political affiliations he supports men best qualified for office regardless of party lines.

**BENJAMIN F. COKLEY.** Self-made in the best sense implied by the term, Benjamin F. Cokley, a prominent vineyardist of Paige district, Fresno county, has brought his own success by the application of energy and industry with which he has devoted himself to the accumulation of a competence. A native of Sumner county, Tenn., he was born September 10, 1859, a son of William Cokley, who owed his nativity to Robinson county, of the same state. He married Martha Lawrence, also of that state, whose father, Lamy Lawrence, was a native of Virginia. William Cokley was a farmer, and both himself and wife died early in life, leaving Benjamin F. Cokley an orphan at the age of twelve years. Reared to manhood in the family of an uncle, he was trained in the practical duties of a farmer. He remained with him until attaining the age of twenty-two years, when he came to California, locating, in 1882, in Fresno county, where he engaged in farm work on King's river. For twelve years he was actively engaged in this work, and having accumulated sufficient money to warrant his enterprise he came into

possession of the property upon which he has since lived, that being the year of 1897. He has forty acres of land devoted to the cultivation of grapes, orchard and the raising of hay. He also has sixteen acres in alfalfa in the Malaga district, and twenty acres in the Garfield district devoted to vines and peaches. Politically Mr. Cokley is a Democrat and fraternally is identified with the Woodmen of the World.

**JOHN J. SCHLITZ.** Like the majority of men gifted with speculative ability, John J. Schlitz has experienced his moments of financial elation and depression, and on several occasions has won and lost fortunes which would have maintained an average family in comfort for the remainder of its days. Unquestionably one of the most capable grain buyers and dealers in Kern county, his present position as buyer for the G. W. McNear Company affords ample scope for his exhaustive knowledge of the grain resources of this section of the state, knowledge gained through practical management of a grain farm of fifteen hundred acres, and years of study along his chosen occupation. He has been with the present concern since 1898, and during certain prosperous years has purchased as high as a hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of grain. The company has four warehouses between Bakersfield and Tulare, and carries on one of the most extensive businesses of its kind on the Pacific coast.

A representative German-American citizen, Mr. Schlitz is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and was born December 2, 1835. According to the custom of the country, he learned a useful trade, apprenticing to a lace maker for three years, with which assurance of a livelihood he immigrated to the United States, arriving in New York in September, 1852. A year later he went to Philadelphia and worked at his trade for a couple of years, and in 1855 sailed around the Horn to San Francisco, reaching there August, 2. His first occupation in the west was as an assistant in the construction of the first starch factory in Berkeley, for the firm of J. Everding & Company, and after its completion he was employed in the factory for a year. He then worked on a farm until 1859, when he became interested in mining, and ineffectually sought to enlarge his fortune at Dutchflat for one season. His next venture was as manager of a dairy ranch in Contra Costa county, and in 1866 he engaged in a general merchandise business at Walnut creek, Contra Costa county, a venture which netted him twenty-five thousand dollars, when he sold out in 1876. Later on he engaged in quicksilver mining speculation in Napa county, and in one year lost all that he had.

Removing to Oakland, Mr. Schlitz became manager of a produce business until 1881, and then rented a ranch near Fresno for a couple of years. In 1883 he went to Tulare and operated a grain warehouse for three years, and in the meantime had purchased a three hundred and twenty acre ranch in Tulare county, where he raised his first crop of grain in 1884. He continued in grain raising with fluctuating success until 1898, often having as many as fifteen hundred acres under cultivation. He still owns his ranch in Tulare county, near the Kern county line, but found that grain raising, when conducted exclusively, did not pay. In keeping with his line of business and public spirit, Mr. Schlitz became one of the organizers and the secretary of the Delano board of trade in 1903. From time to time he has taken an active interest in Republican politics, serving as justice of the peace for twelve years in Walnut creek, for two years in Fresno, and for four years in Tulare county. He has been a notary public for several years. Mr. Schlitz is identified with Delano Lodge No. 309, F. & A. M., and Tulare Chapter, R. A. M. His marriage occurred in 1868, which united him with Mattie A. Jones, a native of Contra Costa county, who was born in 1847. Six children have been born of this union, of whom the oldest is deceased. Lizzie, the second child, is the wife of Charles S. Eaton, of Tulare; Mabel is the wife of H. D. Zimmermann, a large sheep raiser of Tulare county; Juanita is the wife of R. M. Miller, of the vicinity of Delano; Nellie is the wife of A. B. Bullock, of Reno, Nev.; and Frank is a rancher in Tulare county. Mr. Schlitz bears an honored name in the community, and is regarded as one of the liberal-minded, generous and public-spirited citizens of Delano.

**ROBINSON R. PORTER.** A thorough business man and a highly respected citizen of Malaga, R. R. Porter is conducting a general mercantile establishment as well as acting as postmaster of the town. The family of which he is a member came originally from England, the grandfather, William Porter, a native of Virginia, being the first born upon American soil. Later in life he removed to Elizabeth county, Ky., and there William Pike Porter was born. He married Nannie Robinson, also a native of the state. He removed to Lewis county, Mo., and abandoned his work of brick mason for that of farming, continuing so employed until his death at the age of sixty-eight years.

Born in Lewis county, Mo., February 17, 1868, R. R. Porter was reared and educated among the surroundings of his birthplace, remaining on his father's farm until attaining the age of twenty years. In 1890 he came to California

and located in the Malaga district, Fresno county, where he followed farming for three years, after which he engaged in the general merchandise business in Malaga in partnership with Frank S. Bagley. Disposing of his interests a little later he bought forty acres of land, where he engaged in raisin culture for six years. Returning to Malaga he purchased the store of Mr. Bagley in 1902, since which time he has carried on a successful business in the mercantile life of the community.

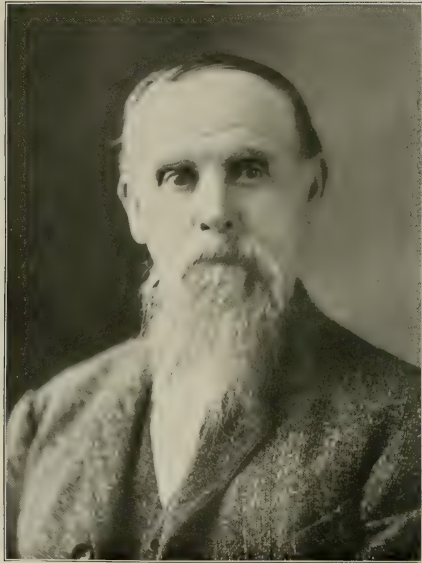
Mr. Porter was married February 17, 1892, to Rose McCann, a native of Marion county, Mo., and daughter of Thomas McCann of Kentucky. They are the parents of the following children: Maurine, Beth, Roberta and Thomas. In his political preference Mr. Porter is a Democrat. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World, being a member of the Fresno lodge. In his religious convictions he subscribes to the doctrine of the Baptist Church.

**PERCY B. FULTON.** The efficient postmaster at Dinuba, who has filled this responsible position since November of 1897, is a descendant of old Virginian ancestry and a member of a family prominent in the early settlement of the west. His father, Rev. Samuel D. Fulton, was born in Ohio, where the grandfather, John Marks Fulton, M. D., a native of Botetourt county, Va., engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery for a long period. Early in life he completed his classical education and supplemented the same by the study of the law, which he practiced in Weston, Mo., and also as a member of the law firm of Bixler, Williams & Fulton, at Virginia City, Nev., during the balmy days of the rich Comstock mine. On his return to Missouri he resumed professional work at Weston, but later removed to Quincy, Ill., and there was ordained to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. For years he served as a missionary on the frontier and established churches and schools in various parts of New Mexico and Arizona. From New Mexico he removed to Oregon and accepted the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church at Dallas, Polk county. His next and last pastorate, which covered a period of several years, was at Hollister, Cal., and from that place he came to Dinuba, where he died in 1896 at the home of his son. During much of his active life he was connected with the Masonic fraternity, whose principles of brotherhood and charity he believed to be in harmony with the divine teachings.

The marriage of Rev. Samuel D. Fulton united him with Adelaide A. Buell, who was born in New York City, July 31, 1838, and was the eldest child of John T. and Louisa Pamela (Cook)







*Jim Hultead*

Buell, the former born in New York City, June 19, 1812, and the latter born in Bridgeport, Conn., July 13, 1817. Her grandfather, Abel Buell, was a sea-faring man and a ship officer in the merchant marine service. In October of 1839 John T. Buell left his eastern home and migrated to Burlington, Iowa, where he was soon afterward chosen chief of police and continued in that capacity until shortly before his death in 1900. During the early history of the town he was one of its most influential citizens, and few were more closely associated with its growth than he, nor did any cherish a deeper interest in its development. Of his marriage there were six children, and the eldest, Adelaide Augusta, Mrs. Fulton, now makes her home with her only son, Percy B., in Dinuba, and in her family there are also two daughters.

At Weston, Mo., Percy B. Fulton was born July 25, 1867. In boyhood he attended the public schools of Quincy, Ill., and later became a student in Highland University, at Highland, Kans. During 1886 he went to New Mexico and settled at Aztec, San Juan county, where he held the office of postmaster for two years. While there he was admitted to the bar and began the practice of law. On the Republican ticket in 1889 he was nominated as a member of the constitutional convention of New Mexico, but removed before the election to Oregon, consequently resigned as nominee. After settling at Dallas, Ore., in 1889, he engaged in the real estate and insurance business. During 1893 he came to California and bought a fruit ranch at Dinuba, where he not only engaged in fruit-growing but also carried on a real estate and insurance business. When he was appointed postmaster under President McKinley this was a fourth-class office. In the fall of 1903 it became a third-class office, and about the same time two rural mail routes were started from here into the adjoining country. January 1, 1904, he was again appointed to the office under President Roosevelt. In addition he continues to sell real estate and negotiate insurance policies. In 1896 he was appointed justice of the peace and two years later was elected to the office for a term of four years, at the expiration of which he was re-elected to the position.

While living at Aztec, New Mexico, Mr. Fulton married Miss Irma Koontz, who was born in Florence, Colo. Her father, Hon. John A. Koontz, was a member of the Colorado state legislature several terms, later founded the town of Aztec in New Mexico and at this writing is a resident of Palo Alto, Cal. By his marriage Mr. Fulton has four children, Howard, Gladys, Lester and Muriel. In religion he and his family are identified with the Presbyterian Church. Here, as in the other places where he has resided,

the Republican party has received his staunch allegiance, and at this writing he is a member of the county central committee. In the Board of Trade he is a member of the executive committee. Fraternally he is secretary of the Court of Honor and past officer in the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

JASPER NEWTON HALSTEAD. In Mr. Halstead we find one of the oldest pioneer settlers of Tulare county. Coming here in 1854 he has seen this country change from a wilderness to a thickly populated district. In his time cities have grown up, the railroads have come as have also the telegraph, the telephone, electricity, in fact everything that makes us the advanced nation of the world. When Mr. Halstead located here the only means of travel were ox teams. Neighbors were few and far between, yet there was a spirit of brotherly love and helpfulness that can no longer be found. At that early date men were taken for what they really were. If a stranger appeared, no questions were asked and as long as he acted the part of a man he was honored and respected by all. In this great march of civilization Mr. Halstead has played a prominent part. He has ever been ready to lend a helping hand and when there were need of men to do men's work Mr. Halstead was there. A native of Indiana, he was born near South Bend April 30, 1836, a son of Timothy and Annie (Dendend) Halstead. His father was born in New York state and on going to Indiana settled near South Bend, where he resided until 1845, when he removed to Kirksville, Mo., remaining there until 1853 and that year he brought his family across the plains, six months being the time necessary for this long journey. The first year in California was spent near Stockton and in October, 1854, he located near Visalia, where he purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres on which he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. There he died at about the age of eighty years, as did also his beloved wife.

Jasper N. Halstead attended the pioneer schools in Indiana and Missouri and in 1853 crossed the plains with his parents, driving four yoke of oxen most of the way. Coming to Tulare county in 1854 he remained at home for a time, but later became engaged in the stock business and the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land. Meeting with success in this line of business, he became known as one of the leading stock men of the county, following this occupation until January, 1892, when he removed to Goshen and engaged in the livery business, which he has since conducted, although he still owns eighty acres of land three miles from Goshen, where he raises considerable stock.

Mr. Halstead has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Mary Cason, who was born in Missouri. She bore him one child, Edward, who lives in Goshen. For his second wife Mr. Halstead married Miss Georgie Bacon, a native of Massachusetts and a daughter of George and Charlotte (Sawyer) Bacon. George Bacon, a soldier in the Civil war, was killed the first year of the war, 1861, at the age of twenty-three years. As a result of this marriage three children have been born, as follows: Burt, who is in the employ of the Southern Pacific at Bakersfield; Mabel and Walter, at home.

In politics Mr. Halstead is a true-blue Republican and while he has never been very active, he has at all times been deeply interested in local affairs, taking an especial interest in educational matters. Although now an old man and with but a few more years to live, Mr. Halstead is active and takes as much interest in affairs as he did fifty years ago. It is a matter of special pride that the famous historian and writer, Murat Halstead, is an own cousin of Mr. Halstead, and yet, while he has fine antecedents on both sides of the family, he has never risen in the world through any support he has received from them. What he has accumulated has been the natural results of his own honest efforts. He is one of the vast army of men who crossed the plains to this new country that is fast becoming thinned in ranks, each year adding to the list that has responded to the last call. Tulare county honors and respects Mr. Halstead. Here he has hosts of friends who wish him many years of continued happiness.

---

**ADONIJAH BICKFORD.** Well known as a sturdy and successful agriculturist, Adonijah Bickford of Merced is also distinguished as one of those brave and heroic pioneers who, by their industry, energy and pluck, assisted in developing the resources of that country bordering on the Pacific coast, and paved the way for civilization's grand march across the continent, thus making possible California's present prosperous condition. Little do the young people of this day and generation realize their indebtedness to those men of brain and muscle. The descendant of an old and much-respected New England family, Mr. Bickford was born November 24, 1829, in Penobscot county, Me. His parents, Nathaniel and Susan (Stevens) Bickford, were both born and brought up in New Hampshire, but after their marriage settled on a farm in Maine.

Educated in the district schools and reared on the parental homestead, Adonijah Bickford remained at home until attaining his majority. When the news of the discovery of gold on the

Pacific shores reached the eastern coast of our continent, his ambition was aroused and in 1851 he came by way of Panama to California, landing in San Francisco. He proceeded directly to the gold fields of Placer county, and for eighteen years thereafter was a gold digger. In 1863 he went to Arizona prospecting for a company at the Walker and Weaver diggings, and after his return to this state again mined in Placer county. During the eighteen years that he was thus employed, Mr. Bickford had the proverbial luck of a miner, being a rich man one day, and the next day perhaps losing all of his wealth. On the whole, however, he was quite successful, accumulating considerable money.

Coming to the San Joaquin valley in 1869, Mr. Bickford lived for three years in Tulare county. In 1872 he came to Merced, and the next seven years had charge of the Eagle hotel. Then, renting a section of land four miles south of Merced, he was engaged in grain raising for a number of years. In 1880 Mr. Bickford purchased his present ranch, which is favorably located, about one-half mile southeast of Merced, and contains one hundred and fifty acres of rich and productive land. He is here successfully carrying on the various branches of agriculture, raising grain and stock. From the time of settling here until 1904 he also rented five hundred acres of adjoining land, which he managed in connection with his own, but this tract he has recently given up, giving his entire attention now to his own ranch.

In the fall of 1859 Mr. Bickford married Eleanor Adeline Kerr, who was born in Mansfield county, Ohio, October 4, 1842. She is the daughter of Col. William Kerr, who raised a company and was commissioned an officer for the Mexican war, and subsequently, in 1855, brought his family to California. Mr. and Mrs. Bickford have one child, Lillian M., wife of Edward Mugler, who was the first white child born in Merced county. Mr. and Mrs. Mugler have two children, Eleanor Caroline and Frederick Riley. Politically Mr. Bickford is a stanch Republican, and fraternally he has belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for forty-five years. He was one of the organizers and is one of the directors of the Merced Security Savings Bank.

---

**FRANZ MISCH.** Prominent among the younger generation of agriculturists who are meeting with commendable success in their undertakings is Franz Misch, who, as superintendent of the Colony farm for Miller & Lux, is carrying on an extensive and lucrative business. He is a man of good executive ability, well versed in the science of agriculture, and holds an as-

sured position among the leading men of the community. A native of Germany, he was born, November 19, 1870, in Breslau, where he attended the public schools and the gymnasium. Working with his father, he subsequently learned the miller's trade, after which, at the age of eighteen years, he became bookkeeper for a large milling establishment in Breslau.

Leaving the Fatherland in 1892, Mr. Misen immigrated to the United States, locating first in Chicago, Ill. A month later he came to the Pacific coast, and in San Francisco completed his education, attending the Lincoln evening school, and studying under private tutors. Going to Firebaugh in 1893, he accepted a position as foreman over a gang that were leveling and ditching for alfalfa. The following year he was made foreman on the Colony farm, and in 1895 was promoted to the position of manager, which he has since filled with signal ability. The ranch was almost in its original condition when he assumed its management, but he has labored unremittingly in its improvement. He has broken much of the land, fenced and ditched it, and has leveled and checked three thousand acres, placing it in alfalfa. In the orchards that he has set out he raises a variety of choice fruits, including peaches, apricots, apples, pears and plums. He likewise pays much attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of Short-horns. Mr. Misch also owns a valuable ranch of thirty-five acres in the Dos Palos Colony, on Eucalyptus and Elgin avenues, where he has an apple orchard of twelve acres, the remainder of his farm being devoted to alfalfa.

In Dos Palos in 1901 Mr. Misch married Annie May Christian, who was born near Stockton, Cal., a daughter of Martin Christian, proprietor of the Dos Palos hotel, and into their household three children have been born, namely: Madeline M., Alvina E. and Annie F. Politically Mr. Misch is a steadfast Republican, and takes great interest in party affairs. He is a member of the board of directors of the West Side Union high school at Los Banos. Fraternally he is a member of Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. O. F., of Los Banos.

**WILLIAM E. VAN EMON.** A native of Minnesota, Mr. Van Emon was born near Stillwater, July 1, 1864, a son of Cyrus and Massah (Miller) Van Emon. His early days were spent on his father's farm near Faribault, but in 1876 he went with his parents to Iowa, settling near Lisbon. There his attendance at the public schools was followed by a course in Cornell college at Mount Vernon. In 1883 he started out for himself and came to California, securing employment on the farm of his uncle, J. W. Miller,

near Portersville. Seven years later, in 1890, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is his present home and where he has since resided. The place is now known as the "Oakdale Dairy," which branch of farming Mr. Van Emon has made a decided success. He has nearly fifty cows and supplies the local trade in Portersville with milk and cream. His place is located five miles northwest from Portersville and is well improved. He disposed of seventy acres of his land in 1896. Mr. Van Emon is also engaged in the stock business on the Tule river.

In 1891 he was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Payne, a native of New York state, and a daughter of James H. Payne, who is a resident of Portersville. To this union have been born five children, as follows: Roy E., Merle Eva, Irving, Bernice and Grace E.

Fraternally, Mr. Van Emon is a member of the Woodmen of the World, while in politics he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, but he has never cared to take a very active part in public affairs, preferring rather to devote his time to his own business. He is a self-made man in the full sense of the word.

**JOHN WILCOX MILLER.** Probably no name in Tulare county is more widely or favorably known than the one introducing this review, and no work of this nature would be complete were mention of this honorable pioneer and successful business man to be omitted. A '49er, Mr. Miller came to the state when all this country was a barren waste of land, and where one now sees beautiful orchards and well cultivated fields was then an endless expanse of sand that no one thought would ever be used for any purpose.

A native of Indiana, he subsequently removed to Missouri, being one of the very early settlers of that state. It was in the early '30s that Mr. Miller took up his residence there, and St. Louis was merely a French trading post, numbering but a few hundred souls. Not being satisfied with the prospects in Missouri, he soon after went to Texas, locating near Paris, where he erected a tannery and engaged in the tanning business until 1849, the year of his arrival in California. The trip overland was made with ox teams, and none but those who have made a similar journey can tell of the hardships these venturesome pioneers endured. After spending some time in the mines, Mr. Miller engaged in the hotel and livery business at Marysville. Later he went to Havila, and still later to Visalia, where he conducted a livery stable on the corner that is now occupied by the Harrell block. Subsequently he sold this business and started in to raise sheep. This was about 1868, and his

first ranch was located near where the Welcome school house now stands. Soon after he purchased the old Lewis place, on which he located. From that time on he began adding to his landed possessions until at one time he owned ten thousand acres of valuable land, six thousand five hundred acres of which was located on the Tule river. For many years he was one of the largest and most successful sheep raisers in the state, but during the last few years of his life he devoted more of his time to general farming and grain raising. It is quite natural that a man so prominent in a business way should take a leading part in public affairs, but Mr. Miller never had the desire to hold office, although he was deeply interested in the success of the Republican party, which organization he always supported by his voice and vote.

In fraternal relations he held membership with the Masons, in which lodge he attained the Royal Arch degree. His death was caused by an accident in 1886, which happened during a visit to Portersville. He was driving a spirited team which became frightened and ran away; the wagon struck against some obstruction, and he was thrown from his seat against the post of the bridge; this resulted in internal injuries from which he died twenty-four hours later. His death was a sad blow to the whole county in which he had lived so many years, and the funeral was one of the largest ever held in the vicinity of Portersville.

Such, in brief, is an outline history of this man who took such an important part in the developing of the county. He was public-spirited to the last degree and never withheld his support from any movement calculated to be of material benefit to the county or state. Had he desired he could have been elected to any office within the gift of the people, and his circle of friends was co-extensive with his circle of acquaintances. Such men are history makers, for they blaze the way for later day developments, and while the present generation has done much to perpetuate the memory of the pioneer, these noble men and women will never receive too much credit. But for them California would never have been developed, and what is now one of the greatest states in the Union would still be a wilderness.

---

**HORACE GREELEY BROWN.** The original acreage purchased by Mr. Brown shortly after his arrival in Tulare county in 1894 has been increased by subsequent purchases and at the same time the entire tract has been brought under cultivation and improved with a substantial set of farm buildings. The twenty acres constituting his first purchase has been placed under cultivation to an orchard and improved

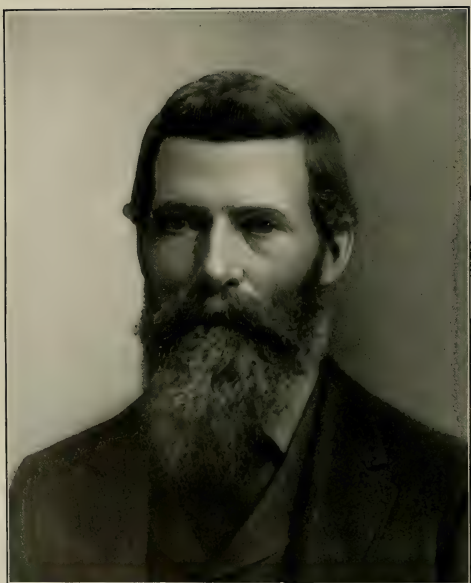
with buildings erected by himself and in addition he owns an adjoining tract of seventy-five acres on the Lindsay road, about two and three-quarters miles east of Tulare. Of this tract thirteen acres are in an orchard, eighteen acres in salt grass for pasturage and the balance in alfalfa, irrigated by the Farmers' ditch. The dairy business forms a leading industry, but in addition Mr. Brown engages in bee culture on an extensive scale, having over one hundred colonies of bees on his home place, and an apiary of equal size on the Lindsay road.

Very early in the history of Indiana William Brown left his native state of Pennsylvania and settled in the wilds of the new region, where he proceeded to evolve a farm from a tract of raw land. With him from Pennsylvania came his son, Joseph H., who in early life followed farm pursuits and also worked at the building business, but left home to serve the Union as a soldier in the One Hundred and Twenty-third and later in the Sixty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged and returned to the pursuits of civic life, but, instead of resuming the occupations in which he had engaged formerly, he studied law and became a very successful attorney, his worth, character and ability giving him large influence among associates. In early manhood he married Hester Palmer, who was born at Steam Corner, Fountain county, Ind., a daughter of Daniel Palmer, and a descendant of Scotch-Irish progenitors. Her death occurred in middle life, about 1868. Of her six sons and three daughters, three sons and three daughters survive, among these being Horace Greeley Brown, who was born at Alamo, Montgomery county, Ind., November 29, 1862, and in boyhood lived at Steam Corner, attending the common schools of that locality. When fourteen years of age he began to work for farmers and ever since then he has depended upon his own exertions for whatever progress he has made in the world. With a desire to broaden his education he attended the Veedersburg high school, working his way by his own labors.

When seventeen years of age Mr. Brown removed to Newman, Ill., and engaged in farming. After getting a start he returned to Indiana and at Veedersburg married Caroline Hershberger, a native of that state. The young couple began housekeeping four miles from Longview, Ill., where Mr. Brown bought a farm of eighty acres and engaged in farming and stock-raising. During 1891 he removed to Iowa and bought three hundred and twenty acres of land near Rockwell City, Calhoun county. Two years later he sold the land at an advance of \$2,500, and with the proceeds of the sale was ready to invest in California property upon removing to







*O. B. Bennett*

this state in 1894. During that year he acquired the twenty acres forming the nucleus of his present homestead near Tulare, and here he has since engaged in dairying and the work of an apiarist. His home is brightened by the presence of his wife and their children, Claude, Joseph, Everett, Charles, Edith, May, Goldie, Ruth and Hester. The family stand high in the community and have many friends among those whose acquaintance they have formed in the decade of their residence in Tulare county. Mr. Brown is independent in politics, voting for the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. The Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Brotherhood number him among their members, and in the work of each he takes a lively interest. For five years he was a member of the board of school trustees of Oakdale district and served as clerk of the board until he declined to hold the position longer, preferring to give other men the opportunity to serve the interests of the school as he had done. In every respect he has proved himself a valuable addition to the agricultural population of Tulare county.

---

OBADIAH RIPLEY BENNETT. Distinguished alike as a pioneer resident of California and as the representative of an honored pioneer family, Obadiah R. Bennett is well worthy of mention in a work of this character. There is probably no man more familiar with the topography of the Pacific states than he, his rides on the range having extended from Tulare Lake to Puget Sound and Spokane Falls. He comes of Revolutionary stock, and among his most cherished possessions is a powder horn, a Revolutionary relic, probably one hundred and fifty years old, that both he and his father have often used in hunting excursions. A son of the late Silas F. Bennett, he was born February 12, 1846, in Stephenson county, Ill.

Born in Canada in 1801, Silas F. Bennett was brought up on a farm in Ohio, and as a boy endured the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. He subsequently moved to Stephenson county, Ill., where he reclaimed a farm from the wild prairie, living there nearly a score of years. Starting with his family for California in 1848, he joined a party coming with ox-teams along the overland trail. While en route, in Nevada, they met Mormons from California, who told them of the discovery of gold in California. This so excited the people that they threw away much of their load, even provisions, and when the stock became exhausted they were helpless and their stock was run off by the Digger Indians. They were so nearly starved that at one time Mr. Bennett, unable to get anyone to ac-

company him, started alone to hunt, and killed a large deer, but was too exhausted from hunger to load it on his horse. He returned to his companions without it, but later brought the deer into camp, when all ate the meat raw, and then laid down around the camp fire to sleep, the stars the only sentinels and wolves howling a lullaby. Soon afterward relief appeared, Kit Carson having heard of their distress through the Indians. On arriving at Coloma, Mr. Bennett was for a while employed as a lumber manufacturer and dealer, subsequently re-building Sutter's mill lower down the stream. Going then to Sacramento, he ran a schooner for a short time, and then located in Santa Cruz, where he was employed in agricultural pursuits until 1861. He afterwards removed to Mendocino county, where he built a saw-mill and a grist-mill, both of which he operated for a number of years, being at the same time engaged in stock-raising. He spent his last years in Oakland, dying at a ripe old age. His wife, whose maiden name was Susanna Ripley, was born in New York state, and died in Oakland, Cal. Of the three sons and three daughters born of their union, all are living excepting one son and one daughter. One daughter resides in Corvallis, Ore., being the wife of Prof. T. M. Gatch, president of the Oregon Agricultural College. The professor is very prominent in educational circles, having formerly served as president of Willamette University, in Salem, Ore., and of the University of Washington, at Seattle.

Brought up in Santa Cruz and Mendocino counties, Obadiah R. Bennett attended the public schools when young, and from his earliest boyhood was accustomed to the saddle, riding on horseback all over the vast ranges of the great northwest. He began life as a stockman in Mendocino county, in 1879, going from there to Soden Flats, Idaho, near Lewiston. Purchasing land on the Snake river, he rode the range for eighteen consecutive years, traveling all over Idaho, eastern Oregon and Washington. Returning to California, Mr. Bennett located at Grangeville, where he embarked in horticulture, for which he had a natural taste, setting out an orchard of twenty acres, and in its subsequent care meeting with good success. In 1899 he bought his present home ranch of seventy acres, lying one mile east of Dinuba, and in 1900 assumed its possession and management. It was then an immense grain field. Erecting the first house built on his section, Mr. Bennett began the improvement of his ranch, setting out vines and fruit trees, and has now a fine vineyard of thirty acres, and a bearing orchard of sixteen acres, the remainder of his farm being in alfalfa.

February 8, 1869, in Mendocino county, Cal.,

Mr. Bennett married Candace Cassandra Kanawyer, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Peter Kanawyer. She comes of substantial German ancestry, her grandfather, Frederick Kanawyer, having emigrated from Germany to the United States, locating first in Ohio, and then in Indiana, where he spent the closing years of his life. A native of Ohio, Peter Kanawyer was brought up principally in Iowa on a farm. In 1862 he came by the overland route to California, settling first in Grangeville, and being there through the Mussel Slough troubles, which are so vividly portrayed by the late Frank Norris in his celebrated novel, "The Octopus," which treats of the conflict between the wheat growers of the San Joaquin valley and the railroad. Mr. Kanawyer married Abigail Cole, who was born in Ohio, where her father settled on removing from Pennsylvania, and died at Grangeville, Cal. Of the children born of their union, three survive, namely: Mrs. Crowell, of Hanford; Mrs. Bennett; and Peter, of Fresno, a government ranger. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett are the parents of four children, namely: Mancel A. and Horace H., engaged in horticultural pursuits near Dinuba; Mrs. Edna Smith, living near Dinuba; and Pearl K., at home. Politically Mr. Bennett is a true-blue Republican, and religiously he is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Bennett is identified by membership with the United Brethren Church, and belongs to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

---

**WILLIAM WHITTINGTON, M. D.** Notwithstanding a comparatively brief sojourn in Dinuba, Dr. Whittington has established a practice which proves his growing reputation as a skilled physician, particularly in the line of his specialty, tuberculosis and other diseases of the lungs. With a beautiful home in this city, a cultured wife and talented children, possessing the friendship of many and the esteem of all, he has won many of the greatest prizes that life can offer. Of northern birth and southern extraction, he unites with the enterprise of the one the culture of the other, and worthily represents an honored race.

At an early period in the settlement of Illinois Joseph Whittington removed from Tennessee and settled near Benton, Franklin county, where he secured a tract of virgin soil and engaged in farm pursuits until his death. Next in line of descent was J. F., a native of Franklin county, Ill., and a farmer near Benton until death terminated his activities about 1886. Surviving him is his widow, formerly Mary Spencer, who removed from Tennessee to Illinois with her parents and settled on a farm in the neighborhood where

she still resides. Of her ten children two sons and three daughters survive, William being the eldest of those now living and the only member of the family in California. He was born near Benton, Ill., December 12, 1853, and grew to manhood on the old homestead, where he acquired a thorough knowledge of every detail connected with agriculture. The occupation, however, held few fascinations for him as conducted in that day and locality, and at an early age he began to teach school, also took up the study of medicine under Dr. C. O. Kelley, of Ewing, Ill. During 1878 he matriculated in the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis, from which he was graduated March 4, 1880, with the degree of M. D. Returning to Illinois, he took up professional practice at Ewing, but soon removed to Campbell Hill, Jackson county, where he married Miss Jennie Hackney, a native of Tennessee.

On coming to California in 1891 Dr. Whittington opened an office at Reedley, Fresno county, but in 1893 removed to Tulare, where he conducted practice for a number of years. From 1898 to 1900 he followed his profession in Los Angeles, after which he returned to Reedley, and continued in practice there until his removal, in November, 1902, to his present location at Dinuba, Tulare county. During his residence in Illinois he was actively identified with the Southern Illinois Medical Society and still retains membership in that organization. In politics he is a Democrat, but not radical in opinions. With his wife he holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church and contributes to its maintenance and charities. Initiated into Masonry in Shiloh Hill Lodge No. 695, F. & A. M., he is now a member at Reedley, and has further been raised to the thirty-second degree, Scottish Rite. In his family there are one daughter and four sons now living, namely: Pearl Ione, wife of H. Hamner, of Los Angeles; Frank Edward, who died at the age of ten months; William E., a student in the medical department of Washington University, St. Louis; Charles Roy and Ray Hackney, who are students in the high school of their home town.

---

**ALFRED RICHARD GURR.** An active, brainy and progressive man, noted as a promoter, and an early settler, of the British Colony, Merced county, Alfred Richard Gurr is a prominent exponent of its agricultural, manufacturing and business interests. By occupation he is a general farmer, raising grain, cultivating fruit, manufacturing olive oil, and keeping a large apiary, in every branch of his industries meeting with eminent success. A son of the late A. J. Gurr, he was born in London, England, March 13, 1851.

A. J. Gurr was born, reared and educated in the county of Sussex, England. Engaging in mercantile pursuits when a young man, he settled in London, where he was in active business until his death, at the age of forty-eight years. He married Mary Bennett, a native of London, and of the children born of their union three are living, namely: Alfred Richard, the subject of this biographical sketch; Rev. Henry J., a minister of the Episcopal Church, located in Chelan, Wash., and Edwin R. of England. A. R. and Rev. H. J. Gurr came to Merced in 1889, and were the first settlers of the British Colony, Merced county, Cal., from which was derived its present name. E. R. Gurr came to Merced in 1891 and resided two years, in the meantime building the Weaver residence. He then returned to England.

After his graduation, in 1866, from Christ's Hospital, better known as the Blue Coat School of London, England, Alfred Richard Gurr entered into business in London with his father, remaining in that metropolis until 1889. Emigrating then to the United States, he came directly to California, and bought his present farm, which lies four and one-fourth miles west of Merced. About twenty acres of his ranch he has sowed to alfalfa, and in addition to general farming he has a fine dairy, keeping Jersey cows, and also raises many hogs each year. He is an expert horticulturist, and has made great success in caring for his vineyard of four acres, at the mid-winter fair in San Francisco winning the bronze medal for his exhibit of three and four crown raisins. A man of great enterprise and keen foresight, Mr. Gurr manufactures a fine quality of olive oil, having established a plant on his farm, and buying his olives from the growers of that fruit. He leases land on the San Joaquin river, and on this land are his apiary, which contains three hundred stands of bees, and yields him large quantities of honey each year.

In London, England, Mr. Gurr married Emily Hunter, a native of that city, and into their home twelve children have been born, namely: Alfred J., Henry R., Edwin, Emily M., William, Mary (the wife of M. P. Crookshanks of Hanford), David, Nellie, Ethel, Gordon, Beatrice, and Ernest.

**CHARLES R. SCOTT.** The family represented by this influential citizen of Tulare is of eastern extraction. His father, Joseph, was a native of Chambersburg, Pa., but at an early age accompanied his parents to Ohio and settled on a farm near Goshen. On starting out to earn his own way in the world he went to Illinois and settled on a farm in McLean county, thence in

1864 removing to Doniphan county, Kans., where he combined the raising of stock with the tilling of the soil. When advanced in years he came to the coast and died in California, August 24, 1904, after eighty busy years. During the days of his youth he met Maria Thacker, who was the daughter of William Thacker, one of their neighbors near Goshen, Ohio. The acquaintance thus formed ripened into affection, and their destinies were united by marriage. Mrs. Scott was a member of an eastern family; her father was a native of New York state, and for years carried on a farm in Ohio, but eventually removed to Michigan, where he died. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Scott has made her home in Tulare, and notwithstanding her advanced age of seventy-eight years, she is still physically and mentally robust. In religious belief she is a devoted adherent of the Presbyterian Church.

In a family of seven children, of whom two sons and two daughters are now living, Charles R. Scott was third in order of birth, and was born near Heyworth, McLean county, Ill., April 6, 1857. Accompanying his parents to Kansas in 1864, he was primarily educated in the public schools of Doniphan county, and then took the regular course of study in Highland University, from which he was graduated in 1882 with the degree of A. B. During the next few years he engaged in teaching school in his home county and in Buchanan county, Mo., meanwhile devoting his leisure days to the study of law under the preceptorship of M. Poke, of St. Joseph. In 1885 he was admitted to the bar in Kansas and entered upon a general practice at Nashville, Kingman county. The prospects, however, were not flattering. There was much to turn his ambitious thoughts from the conditions and climate there to the opportunities offered in the transmountain region, and he decided to seek a home in the coast country. On New Year's day of 1889 he arrived in Fresno, and with the new year began life in a new region. November 20, 1889, he left Fresno and came to Tulare, where he began in the practice of law, but gradually drifted into the real estate and insurance business, which he now conducts, in addition to the negotiating of loans. He also acts as agent for the Laurel colony of fourteen hundred acres, is a director of the Rochdale Company, owns individually an alfalfa ranch north of Tulare and considerable orchard land, and is further a one-tenth owner and a stockholder in El Mirador Colony with four thousand acres of orange land, which, as the company's local agent, he superintends for colonization purposes. The El Mirador Land Company's property lies at Lindsay, at the approach of the Sierra Nevada range, almost at the base of Mount Whitney, with sufficient elevation to give a commanding view of the valley

to the west, with a climate of warm, sunny days and cool but frostless nights, thus being well adapted to the orange, lemon, fig, apricot, peach, plum and cherry. El Mirador is a tract formerly known among Californians as the Lewis creek ranch, and at the old homestead there stands the largest lemon tree and the largest lime tree in the state, also figs forty years old and more than a hundred feet high, which each year are burdened to the ground with valuable fruit.

In Tulare Mr. Scott married Miss Annie H. Wilder, who was born in Germantown, Pa., and by whom he has a son, Joseph Francis. For six years Mr. Scott filled the office of city attorney of Tulare, elected on the Independent ticket, and he has also served as treasurer of the Tulare Board of Trade, being the present incumbent of the office. He is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood and a leading worker in the Tulare Congregational Church, of which he is now president of the board of trustees.

**MORTIMER G. THOMPSON.** The Thompson homestead consists of one hundred and twenty acres situated five and one-half miles southwest of Dinuba and largely under alfalfa and in pastures, facilitating the dairy interests of the owner, who since 1894 has made this industry a special feature of his farm work. While it was in 1889 that he purchased this tract, it was not until three years later that he built a farm house and brought his family to reside on the place, and since then he has made various other improvements that have added to the value of the property. Besides the management of his land and dairy, he devotes considerable attention to the work of ditch tender of the Alta district, which he has filled since March of 1904, and in which one of his duties is to make daily inspections of many miles of canals.

Of eastern ancestry, Mr. Thompson was born at Theresa, Jefferson county, N. Y., May 7, 1840, being the second among seven children, all but one of whom reside in California. His father, J. D. Thompson, was born and reared in New York, where he followed the milling business. After removing to Wisconsin and settling at Neenah, Winnebago county, he supplemented milling by agricultural pursuits, and became a prosperous and influential man in his community. From Wisconsin he came to California in 1888 and settled on a small ranch at Traver, Tulare county. His death occurred in Oakland when he was seventy-four years of age. While living in the east he married Mary E. Kennan, who was born in New York and now, at seventy-six years of age, makes her home with her children in California.

From the age of three years Mortimer G.

Thompson was reared in Wisconsin, where the family home was on a farm near Neenah. At nineteen years of age he began to farm for himself and for this purpose rented land near Fond du Lac, Dodge county. While living there he established domestic ties through his marriage, March 30, 1870, to Miss Jennie Butler, a native of Leroy, Dodge county, Wis., and a daughter of James Henry and Sarah (Billings) Butler, natives respectively of Pelham, Hillsboro county, N. H., and Newburg, Cleveland, Ohio. Her paternal grandfather, James Butler, removed from his native locality in New Hampshire to New York and afterward became a pioneer of Wisconsin, where he improved a farm in Dodge county, but eventually moved to Adams county and there died. The maternal grandfather, Sylvester Billings, removed in an early day from Vermont to New York, later settled in Ohio, and finally established himself in the sparsely settled region of Dodge county, Wis., where he improved a farm from a tract of raw land. Late in life, during 1874, he came to California, where he died at Healdsburg, aged seventy-eight years. At the time of settling in Dodge county, Wis., James Henry Butler was twenty-one years of age, and at Leroy in 1850 he married Miss Billings, after which he settled on a farm of his own near Leroy. During 1874 he came to the west and bought land near Healdsburg, Cal., where at first he devoted himself exclusively to agriculture, but later turned his attention to the trade of blacksmith and carriage-maker. At the time of his death, in 1895, he was sixty-eight years of age. His widow now makes her home with her oldest child, Mrs. Jennie Thompson, besides whom she has two other children now living, four being deceased.

After his marriage for a time Mr. Thompson engaged as baggageman with the railroad at Fond du Lac. With other members of the family, in 1874 he came to California and settled on a farm near Healdsburg. Four years later he became a pioneer of the state of Washington. With the first boat that landed at Asotin Flats he sought the new country in the southeastern part of Washington, and took up one hundred and sixty acres as a homestead, situated south of Lewiston, Idaho, in the Nez Perces country. Fifteen miles back from the creek he built a log cabin, where he made his home. Hardships innumerable were crowded into the next few years. The struggle for a livelihood was fought amid the most discouraging environments, in a region where settlers were few and conveniences conspicuous by their absence. At harvest time he went to Walla Walla to earn money with which to buy provisions for his family.

Tiring of the uncongenial environment Mr. Thompson in 1885 came south overland, bring-







C. J. Greene

ing with him fourteen horses and household necessities. For his first location he settled one mile south of his present home in Tulare county and here engaged in grain-raising, operating at times as many as eight hundred acres. In 1889 he bought and began to improve his present property, and here he and his wife, with their son, James Earle, have made their home since 1892. Fraternally he was formerly connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Traver and is now a member at Dinuba, where he is past grand. With his wife he is connected with the Order of Rebekahs, in which he is past noble grand, and in addition he holds membership with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Though not identified with any denomination, he is in sympathy with the work of the Christian Church, to which his wife belongs and in which he has been a contributor during the entire period of his residence in Tulare county. In politics he favors Republican principles and casts his ballot for the men and measures advocated by that party.

---

**ELEAZAR T. GIVENS.** Living retired in Oakland, Cal., E. T. Givens is rounding out a well-spent life, free from the business cares which have engrossed his attention for many years. He was born in Union county, Ky., October 17, 1828, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Richards) Givens, both of whom were highly esteemed residents of Union county. E. T. Givens received his education in the pioneer school of his day and grew to manhood on his father's farm. Among his schoolmates were George Penn Johnston, of San Francisco, and the Casey brothers, for whose father Caseyville, Ky., was named.

April 5, 1849, Mr. Givens left Caseyville with a party of emigrants for California, crossing the plains by way of St. Joseph, Mo., and Salt Lake City. At the latter place the party separated, and Mr. Givens and his brother remained six weeks in that city, then joined another party under the leadership of James Waters, of San Bernardino. They took the southern route and in October arrived at the Rubidoux ranch, along the Santa Ana river, and there the following winter was spent working on the ranch. March, 1850, found Mr. Givens in the Coarse Gold Gulch, of Fresno county, where he met with fair success. He then went into Mariposa county, where he met with good success in the Whitlock and Agua Frie mines. October 11 of that year he met with a severe accident that necessitated his retirement from mining for a time. On that morning one of the party, John W. Childs, wounded a grizzly bear and returned to the camp for assistance. Mr. Givens and three others responded and upon going to the place where the

encounter had taken place, found the bear with two cubs. Upon the approach of the party they started to run away, when both Mr. Childs and Mr. Givens shot and wounded the bear again. After following them for some time they were found in a thicket and the final fight took place. Being near the bear Mr. Givens fared badly, losing a part of his scalp and sustaining other severe injuries. Mr. Childs, with true heroism, stood by him and fired three shots, at the risk of killing his friend, before the bear was killed. After suffering for a long time Mr. Givens recovered and in 1851, nearly a year afterward, was enabled to return to his home in Kentucky. In 1852 his parents came to this state by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and the following year E. T. Givens returned overland, coming as far as Salt Lake City by the same route that he had first traveled and completing the journey by way of the Carson route. In the meantime, in 1853, in Morganfield, Ky., he had married Martha Pratt, who came with him. They arrived in California without any mishap and spent that winter on the old Texas ranch in Mariposa county, then owned by his father. In 1854 they settled on Bear creek, in what is now Merced county, ten miles from the present site of Merced. Upon the organization of Merced county Mr. Givens assisted in electing the first officers. In 1856 he removed to a place on Mariposa creek, and it was under the trees on this ranch that the first court in the county was held. This ranch continued to be his home until the fall of 1904. There were seven children born of this marriage, but of these four died in early childhood. The others are: Mary Louise, wife of C. H. Porter, of Chico, Cal.; Matilda Frances, wife of E. B. Trescott, of Texas; and James William, of Merced county. In 1867 Mrs. Martha P. Givens died at the home of her sister in East Oakland. The daughters were placed in Mills' Seminary at Benicia, and the son was later educated at the California Military Academy, in Oakland. In 1870 Mr. Givens was united in marriage with Adelaide M. Brooks, who was born in Canada in 1837, a daughter of Alonzo Brooks, who removed in an early day to Jefferson county, N. Y., in 1838 to Sheboygan, Wis., and in 1849 to California, during the excitement of the discovery of gold. By this marriage five sons and two daughters were born, viz.: Arlington B. of Merced, Helen E., E. Virgil, Thomas T., Frederick C. and Constance E., living; and John H., a twin of Thomas T., deceased. Two of the sons operate the home ranch of thirteen hundred and sixty acres, which is devoted to grain, stock and poultry. The ranch is well improved, with a comfortable house and a substantial set of buildings adequate for the needs of the place; also to facilitate shipments of grain. Mr. Givens has a ware-

house 40x100 feet located on the Southern Pacific Railroad. On his ranch is located one of the oldest buildings in Merced county, a smoke-house, erected in 1856, which is covered with shingles made by hand from timber brought from the mountains. This has never been re-shingled and is now in a fair state of preservation.

In politics Mr. Givens has given his support to the Democratic party and by his voice and vote has ever been an advocate of good government and is a promoter of education. He has never been willing to accept any office, though he has had them offered him at various times. By his upright character, integrity and public spirit he has won a host of friends among those with whom he has come in contact.

---

ELMO E. PYLE. Prominent among the younger generation of ranchers of Kern county is Elmo E. Pyle, of whom it may be said that the advantage of inheriting his estate and of being surrounded with early opportunities above the average has in no wise stilled the voice of ambition nor lessened his desire to establish an independent reputation for enterprise and public spirit. Mr. Pyle has the task before him of maintaining high standards established by two other generations of his family in the state, that of his grandfather, William, and his father, Hon. Darius Pyle. William Pyle became an early settler of Vermilion county, Ind., where two of his eleven children were born, a daughter, and Darius, the latter born April 20, 1851. Mr. Pyle was ambitious and far-sighted, and in 1852 came to the Pacific coast, settling at Sutterville, three miles below Sacramento. In 1855 he was joined by his wife and two children, Darius at that time being four years old. He removed to Orange county in 1883 and continued to live on his farm for the balance of his life, dying in 1890, at the age of sixty-six years. Eight of his children attained maturity, and all had opportunities for developing their various abilities not experienced by the average children of the pioneers. Mrs. William Pyle makes her home in San Francisco, aged seventy-three years.

Hon. Darius Pyle was educated in the common schools and at the University of the Pacific, and afterward applied himself to learning the tinner's trade. After serving an apprenticeship of three years he taught school for four or five years in Santa Clara county, a part of that time being principal of the Alviso school. He took a prominent part in educational matters in the county, was clerk of the board of trustees, and assessor of the town of Santa Clara. In 1876 he leased land and engaged in the stock-raising and dairy business at Gilroy. During the six years thus employed he was elected to

the general assembly, serving in the regular session of 1885, and the special session of 1886. In the latter year he was elected supreme representative of the American Legion of Honor of California, and was present at the session of the council in Boston, Mass. In February, 1887, he removed to Kern county and became superintendent of the Mountainview dairy and stock-ranch for the Kern County Land Company, and in the fall of 1891 bought the ranch upon which his son Elmo now lives, and which consists of sixty acres, at that time unimproved. He has made extensive changes, erecting a fine rural home, and setting the ranch out to fruit and general products. In 1894 he supplemented his former political success by service as under sheriff of Kern county. In 1897 he became interested in mining, and with his son Elmo and others prospected near Randsburg and discovered what is now the St. Elmo mine, named after the son, to whose energy was due a large share of the success of the expedition. The history of this mine is a veritable financial tragedy, and as far as the Pyle family was concerned had its end in the duplicity of a trusted friend. Father and son were offered \$150,000 for the mine, but thinking to make more money by retaining possession, formed a stock company with a capitalist who froze them out and stole the mine. Mr. Pyle was completely prostrated by the change in his fortunes, but fortunately in 1897 had deeded his ranch to his son, and thus averted total financial loss. For a time he was manager of a ranch for Claus Spreckels in Santa Clara county, and eighteen months later removed to Guadalajara, Mexico, where he started the creamery and cheese factory which has since netted him a comfortable income. Personally he is a man of strong character and fine business ability. While his mining experience was a bitter one, it covered but a small part of his life, and represented the loss of a piece of good fortune, rather than the gain of a lifetime of toil. He bore it as would a strong and noble character, and remains unembittered, and hopeful in his survey of life.

The wife of Mr. Pyle was formerly Mary Rea, born in Santa Clara county January 1, 1850, an adopted daughter of Hon. Thomas Rea, who was a native of the vicinity of Gallipolis, Ohio, and born November 22, 1820. Mr. Rea removed to Hancock county, Ohio, in 1833 with his parents, thence to Macon county, Ill., where he started out to earn an independent livelihood. From 1842 until 1849 he was interested in lead mining in Wisconsin, and then responded to his ambition to make a fortune in the mines of the far west, reaching San Francisco via Panama February 22, 1850. He worked in the mines of Placer county and Downieville until 1852, and

then returned east and married, at Springfield, Ill., in 1853, Mary Ann Jones, and with his wife started overland to the coast, locating in Gilroy township, Santa Clara county. Here he engaged in ranching and stock-raising on a large scale, and in 1868 removed to Gilroy, where he erected his present handsome residence, and has since lived in comparative retirement. His active brain has seen countless opportunities of increasing his fortune, and he owns thousands of acres of land in Santa Clara county, all valuable, and bringing in a substantial yearly income. He also erected the Rea building in San Jose, which is a valuable property. He gave his children the best possible education, as Mrs. Pyle can testify, and his life and character are enshrined in the hearts of an appreciative community. To Mr. and Mrs. Darius Pyle four children have been born, namely: Elmo E.; Aldine, a musician of repute; Elva W. C., an artist, being educated by her grandfather, Thomas Rea, at Hopkins Art Institute; and Rea, at home.

Elmo E. Pyle was sixteen years old when he came to his present ranch, and with the exception of the two years spent in mining with his father, he has made this his home. Since 1902 he has served as postmaster of Pylema, the town being named after the family. He is a keen, practical business man, industrious and bound to succeed, and utilizes to the best possible advantage his sixty acres of well-tilled land. His home is ten miles south of Bakersfield, where hospitality and good cheer seem to emanate from its fertile fields, and its quiet, peaceful and sunshiny atmosphere.

---

**BENJAMIN M. ALFORD, M. D.** The Alford family is of English extraction and the first representative in America became a planter in North Carolina. A son of this immigrant, Wylie Alford, was born and reared on a southern plantation and at an early age settled near Nashville, Tenn., where he enjoyed the prosperity attending southern planters in the days before the Civil war. At the time of his death he was sixty-two years of age. During early manhood he married Sophia Drake, like himself a native of North Carolina; she was the daughter of a farmer who served in the Revolution and traced her lineage direct to Sir Francis Drake. When eighty-six years of age she passed away on the Tennessee plantation.

Among the eleven children of Wylie and Sophia Alford the youngest was Benjamin M., a native of Tennessee, born fifteen miles from East Nashville, December 13, 1833, and reared on the plantation, with the best educational advantages private schools could bestow. While still a mere

lad he developed a liking for the medical profession and selected the same for his life work. Pursuant upon that ambition, he took the entire course of lectures in the Nashville Medical College, from which in 1856 he received the degree of M. D. Immediately after graduating he opened an office at Boston, Bowie county, Tex., where he built up a practice extending through all of the surrounding country. When the Civil war began it was natural that his southern training and sympathies should assert themselves. Fired with loyalty to the old southland, he at once offered his services as a surgeon in the First Mounted Battalion of Texas Troops. However, the battalion being already overcrowded, the regiment was made the Thirty-second Texas Infantry, and he was commissioned surgeon, with the rank of major. The record of his army service is a record of hard marches, privations innumerable and hunger that at times verged on starvation. The effect of constant hardships and exposure wrecked his health and threatened life itself, but with the devotion characteristic of those who loved the lost cause, personal suffering was sunk beneath the claims of the Confederacy.

In all of the engagements of his regiment Dr. Alford bore a part. After crossing the Mississippi with General Price he took part in the battle of Corinth and then accompanied Gen. E. Kirby Smith into Kentucky, serving under him until after the battle of Perryville. Later he was present at Murfreesboro and Chickamauga, and then followed Gen. Joseph E. Johnston into the Georgia campaign, participating in the battles that marked the retreat to Atlanta, after which he served at Nashville, Tenn., for a time, then was transferred to Mobile, Ala., and remained until the campaign ended. When the war came to a close he returned to Texas, with health shattered and property gone. All that was left to him were his ex-slaves who, remembering his goodness to them and reluctant to take up the task of earning a livelihood without his aid, refused to leave him; but, as he was no longer able to support them, he found homes for all as soon as possible and assisted them to get a start in the world.

During 1868 Dr. Alford came to California via Panama. Having heard much concerning the climate of the Pacific coast, he was desirous of coming hither in the hope that his health might be benefited by the change. For five years he remained with his father-in-law, W. B. Poer, who owned the McFarland toll road in the mountains. The pure mountain air proved the tonic most needed and, with health renewed, he returned to Texas in 1873 and opened an office at Fort Worth. However, like the majority who have once come under the fascinating spell of



California's charms, he felt dissatisfied elsewhere, and in 1875 returned to the coast, settling at Portersville, Tulare county, where he engaged in the practice of medicine. Since June of 1881 he has engaged in practice at Tulare, where he is now the oldest physician in point of years of practice. Since coming here he has acquired alfalfa lands, which he rents, and also owns a building on the corner of Tulare and K streets. Twice since buying this corner he has been burned out, but the present building is a fire-proof structure, so he has no further fear of disaster.

While living at Boston, Tex., Dr. Alford married Miss Josephine Poer, a native of Texas, and a daughter of W. B. Poer, who served in the war for the independence of Texas, also in the Mexican war, later becoming a pioneer of 1849 in California, and eventually dying at Tulare. The family of Dr. and Mrs. Alford comprises two sons and two daughters, viz.: William H., an attorney of San Francisco, now serving as adjuster of the state taxes on the board of equalization; Forest L., who practices law at Bakersfield; Josephine, the widow of W. D. Haslam, and a resident of San Francisco; and Daisy, Mrs. Hetherington, of Columbia, Mo. Throughout all of his active life Dr. Alford has been a staunch Democrat and has never failed to cast a vote for the candidates of his party. Along the line of his profession he has been an interested worker in the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society and the Tulare County Medical Society, and has officiated as president of the latter organization. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows number him among their members and he is also identified with Masonry, having been made a Mason while at Boston, Tex., and later becoming a charter member of Olive Branch Lodge, F. & A. M., at Tulare, in which he is now an influential member.

---

JOHN B. ROSSON, M. D. The founder of the Rosson family in America was Major Joseph Rosson, an Englishman, who crossed the ocean accompanied by a brother and settled in the colony of Virginia. When the Revolutionary war opened he offered his services in behalf of his adopted country, was commissioned a major in Washington's army and bore a part in numerous engagements, including the siege of Yorktown, where he witnessed the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. Later he engaged in the practice of medicine in North Carolina, where his son and namesake was born and reared. In time the latter removed to Tennessee and engaged in farming in Marshall county. Next in line of descent was Osborn Rosson, a native of North Carolina and by occupation a farmer. When the Civil war

brought its train of devastation and financial ruin to the south he suffered the loss of his farm, and in 1866 made a new start in the world, removing to Illinois and settling on a farm near Murphysboro, Jackson county, where he died in 1894 at eighty-three years of age. In character he was a man of great strength, firm of purpose, strong of will, and politically was a Democrat and a great admirer of Stephen A. Douglas. By his marriage to Rebecca Patton, a native of Marshall county, Tenn., he became allied with a family of Scotch extraction and southern renown. John Patton, her father, was a soldier in the Seminole war, and for years followed farming in Tennessee; her mother was a member of the Beck family, of German descent, and was an aunt of Gen. N. B. Forrest, the celebrated cavalryman.

In the family of Osborn and Rebecca Rosson there were four sons and one daughter, namely: John B., of Tulare, Cal.; Mrs. Virginia Mahoney, M. D., who is a graduate of the Woman's Medical College of Chicago, and is now engaged in practice at Phoenix, Ariz.; William T., a farmer in Jackson county, Ill.; James A., who follows farming in Union county, that state; and Theodore W., deceased. John B. Rosson was born in Marshall county, Tenn., November 30, 1853, and at thirteen years of age removed with his parents to Illinois, where he attended the Centralia high school. Later he pursued academic studies at Troy, Tenn. For five years he engaged in teaching school, using the money thus earned in paying the expenses of his medical education. After having taken his preliminary studies under Dr. O. L. Mahoney, of Phoenix, Ariz., he matriculated in the Ohio Medical College (now the medical department of the University of Cincinnati), and there he remained until his graduation in 1872. Returning to Jackson county, Ill., he took up professional work near Vergennes, where he built up a valuable practice and served also as a member of the board of pension examiners. In 1894 he removed to California and settled in Tulare, where he has since devoted himself to professional work. Surgery has always possessed especial fascination for him, and his work in that department has been skillful to an unusual degree.

While still a mere lad Dr. Rosson took up the study of shorthand under Prof. Charles Wright, under whom he made such advancement that his accuracy and speed in stenographic work attracted local attention. In 1866 he was engaged to report the Braden-Ditzer debate and for twenty years acted as reporter for the Southern Illinois Medical Association. His work in reporting was a source of great pleasure to him and was continued for years, not as a source of remuneration, but for the enjoyment it afforded him. He is the father of five children. The eldest child,







*J A Moorehead*

Charles T. Rosson, M. D., now of Hanford, is a graduate of the College of Physicians & Surgeons, San Francisco, class of 1903, and later engaged in clinical work at the San Francisco county hospital. The other children are Dora L., of Tulare; Maude, a teacher in Illinois; Virginia F., who also resides in Illinois; and Ray Wright, now in Tulare. Since coming to his present location Dr. Rosson has rendered valuable service as a member of the board of health examiners and the school board. Various fraternal organizations number him among their members, some of these being the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Improved Order of Red Men, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and Fraternal Brotherhood. In politics he was reared in the Democratic faith and has never swerved in his allegiance to the party. Whatever pertains to the progress of medical science receives his thoughtful attention. Especially has he been interested in bodies organized by physicians rendering possible the cultivation of a fraternal spirit as well as discussion concerning methods of coping with disease. Besides being prominent in the organization of the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society he has officiated as its president and been a leading factor in its deliberations. The Tulare County Medical Society also receives his support and co-operation, while he is further connected with the American Medical Association and retains connection with the Southern Illinois Medical Association as an honorary member.

---

**JAMES ADDISON MOOREHEAD.** Occupying a position of prominence among the active and prosperous agriculturists of Tulare county is James A. Moorehead. His fine homestead and farm, located about six miles northwest of Tulare, is a well-appointed and well-kept estate, his stock and machinery being of modern manufacture, and everything about the premises indicating the industry and keen judgment of the owner. A large number of magnificent oak trees adorn his ranch, one of which, the monarch of all, is worthy of especial mention. It is nearly, if not quite, thirty feet in circumference, one hundred and twenty-five feet in height and its top over-shadows a larger space of ground than any other tree of its species in the county or valley, its trunk resembling one of the immense redwoods for which the state is noted. It is known far and wide, and has been many times photographed, both by local artists and by tourists.

A son of John Moorehead, Jr., Mr. Moorehead was born, August 15, 1833, near Lewisburg, Greenbrier county, W. Va. His paternal grandfather, John Moorehead, Sr., was born on the Atlantic ocean, while his parents were en

route from England to the United States. He was brought up in West Virginia, and during his active career was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Greenbrier county.

Born, reared and educated in Greenbrier county, W. Va., John Moorehead, Jr., grew to manhood on the home farm. Moving westward in 1850, he bought government land in Louisa county, Iowa, and was there employed in general farming for nearly a quarter of a century. In 1873 he located in Idaho, and a few years later came to California, settling in Stanislaus county, near Newman, where he resided until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Nancy McVey, was born in West Virginia, and died of cholera, in 1850, while en route to Iowa. Six sons and four daughters blessed their union, and of these four sons and one daughter are living, James Addison, of this review, being the second child.

Spending the days of his boyhood and youth in his native town, James A. Moorehead received but meager educational advantages, his school life being limited to a few brief terms. One of the oldest of a large family of children, he began assisting his father on the farm and in the sawmill when a lad, and after removing to Iowa assisted in the clearing and improving of a homestead, remaining at home until after attaining his majority. Embarking then in agricultural pursuits on his own account, he continued a resident of Louisa county until 1862, when he made up his mind to follow the march of civilization to the Pacific coast. With a train consisting of thirty wagons drawn by horses he started across the plains, having previously been appointed captain of the party. Taking the old overland trail, via Salt Lake City, he found some of his former friends there among the Mormons, and being well treated by them stopped there two weeks, having a pleasant visit and a good rest. Continuing the journey to Stockton, Cal., Mr. Moorehead remained in that city about two years, and was afterward engaged in placer mining in Eldorado county for four years. Locating in Tulare county in 1869, he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of his present ranch, and after proving up homesteaded eighty acres of adjoining land, so that he has now in his home farm two hundred and forty acres. By dint of unceasing toil and wise management Mr. Moorehead has made substantial improvements, enhancing its value and adding to its attractions. He has a productive orchard and vineyard, forty acres planted to alfalfa, all under irrigation, and in addition to general farming, pays considerable attention to the breeding and raising of stock, his specialty being horses and hogs, and in conducting the latter industry he has eighteen different fields fenced, and hog tight. He also owns a fine grain

farm of one hundred and sixty acres, lying about three miles southwest of Tulare, and from this he receives a good annual income also. Though not an aspirant for office, Mr. Moorehead takes an intelligent interest in political matters, and is a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

ABRAM HUNTER MURRAY, Sr. Although several generations of the Murray family have made their home in America they still display, in their rugged constitutions and mental traits, the possession of Scotch proclivities inherited from a long line of sturdy ancestors who lived and labored and died in Bonnie Scotland. A strong patriotic sentiment and a love for the stirring life of the frontier were predominant characteristics among representatives of the family in the early days of American history. Originally established in the southeast of the Mississippi river, Thomas Murray, who was a native of Tennessee, removed from that state to Missouri. Accompanying him, among other members of his family, was a son bearing the name of Thomas, who was born in Campbell county, Tenn., January 28, 1797, and who during early manhood served in various wars. During the war of 1812 he went to the front, later served in the Blackhawk war from Missouri and was an officer in the Mormon war. After making his home for a time at Boone's Lick, Cooper county, Mo., he moved to the mouth of the Moniteau river in Cole county, that state, where he ran a ferry across the river and also carried on farm pursuits. About 1843 he moved to the western part of Missouri and settled in Cass county near the town of West Point, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. Meanwhile, drawn to the west by the discovery of gold, his sons had joined a party of Argonauts, and in 1853 he and his wife, with their three daughters, followed the westward tide of emigration and joined their sons in California, settling at Petaluma, Sonoma county, where he died at the age of eighty-five years. During his residence in Missouri he had served as county judge about fourteen years and there as well as in California he held office as justice of the peace for many years.

The marriage of Thomas Murray, Jr., united him with Barbara Hunter, who was born in Powell's valley, Tenn., July 7, 1797, and died at Cloverdale, Sonoma county, Cal., at eighty-four years of age. The family of which she was a member crossed the ocean from Germany to Virginia in an early day and her father, Abram Hunter, removed from the Old Dominion to Tennessee, where he engaged in farm pursuits. Of her marriage twelve children were born, namely: Mary M. (commonly called Polly), Mrs. Walker, who died at Santa Rosa, this state;

Margaret, Mrs. Hensley, who died in Madera county; Jane C., wife of Enoch Enloe, and deceased in Cole county, Mo.; Emily M., Mrs. Hugh Enloe, a resident of Inyo county, Cal.; Abram H., Sr., who was with one exception the earliest settler of Tulare county; Urith, Mrs. Orr, who died in California; Barbara Ann, Mrs. Williams, of San Diego county; Joshua H., who came to California in 1850, engaged in farming for years, and eventually died at Visalia; Josephine, who died at the age of ten years; Rachel, Mrs. Clark, a resident of Santa Rosa; Sarah E., Mrs. Stanley, living in Humboldt county, this state; and Hannah Retta, Mrs. Cooper, of Cloverdale.

At the home farm, ten miles west of Jefferson City, in Cole county, Mo., Abram Hunter Murray, Sr., was born January 17, 1827. From the age of sixteen years he was a resident of Cass county, Mo., until his removal to California. April 25, 1844, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah T. Hensley, who was born in Cole county, Mo., July 4, 1824. Her father, Hon. John Hensley, a native of Tennessee and a pioneer of Missouri, passed through St. Louis when it was still under the Spanish government. For a time he lived in Gasconade county, that state, but later became a pioneer farmer of Cole county. A man of large ability and possessing the qualities qualifying him for leadership, he was three times elected to represent his district in the state senate, where his record was that of an honorable official and progressive citizen.

After having engaged in farming and stock-raising in Cass county for some years, Mr. Murray decided to remove to the coast. In 1852, accompanied by his wife and three children, he crossed the plains with ox-teams and driving a herd of cattle. On the 19th of April the journey was begun. After leaving Missouri the party traveled up the Platte, thence along the overland trail, and down the Humboldt, then into California by the Carson river route. After a few weeks in Stockton they came up the San Joaquin valley in the then wilderness of Tulare county. S. C. Brown had arrived here a few days before Mr. Murray and they were the only men in all the country. As early as 1850 a Mr. Woods had sought to establish a home here and had built a log hut, but he had been killed by the Indians and seventeen of his men met a similar fate, only one escaping to tell the story of their massacre. The town of Woodville in Tulare county was named in honor of this first settler.

Selecting land in what is now the western part of Visalia, Mr. Murray engaged in farming and stock-raising on an extensive scale. From the state and government he bought eighteen thousand acres of land, but this he afterward lost through business reverses. He was

also unfortunate in losing a large number of sheep during the dry years. In 1879 he removed to The Dalles, Ore., where he was engaged in steamboating and the wood business. However, finding the winters too cold in that climate, he returned to the San Joaquin valley and settled on a tract of two hundred acres. Much of this property has been sold, but he still retains forty acres in vineyard and alfalfa. Politically he is a Democrat and fraternally holds membership with the Masons, being connected with Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., of which he was twice elected master; and in addition he is a demitted Chapter Mason. In religion he was liberal, but generous to all denominations and especially interested in the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of which his wife was a member. Mrs. Murray died July 8, 1902, and since then her place at the old homestead has been filled by her eldest child, Mary F., wife of William J. Adams, who was a California pioneer of 1850. The other children are as follows: Thomas H., who follows ranching near the Toll Gate in Fresno county; John H., also a rancher of Fresno county; Commodore P., a retired rancher in Humboldt county; Jackson C., who carries on a ranch in Fresno county; Barbara E., Mrs. Taylor, who died in Tulare county at her home on the White river; and A. H., Jr., court reporter, and a resident of Visalia.

ABRAM HUNTER MURRAY, JR. Practically the entire life of A. H. Murray, Jr., has been passed in Tulare county, where he is well known. Upon the home farm near the present city of Visalia he was born November 12, 1863, being the youngest among the seven children of Abram Hunter Murray, Sr. The educational advantages of the growing town of Visalia were within his reach and of these he availed himself to the utmost, taking the regular course of study in the old Visalia Normal, from which he was graduated in 1882. Meanwhile, during a portion of the years 1879 and 1880, he had been employed at The Dalles, Ore., where his father temporarily engaged in business. Soon after his graduation from the Normal he took up the study of shorthand in San Francisco and when he had completed the course he returned to Visalia. For a time he was connected with an abstract office as clerk and stenographer and then entered the service of another abstract firm, with whom he remained until his appointment in 1888 as deputy to the county clerk, John G. Knox. In September, 1890, he was appointed official reporter of the superior court of Tulare county and has held the position ever since, with the exception of the years 1896-98, when he was engaged in private business. In his pro-

fession he has the reputation of being an expert, and among the court reporters of the entire state none stands higher than he in accuracy of transcripts and thoroughness of work. A man of progressive spirit, he has been eager to adopt any plans calculated to benefit him in the discharge of his official duties. Among other improvements, he was one of the first to adopt the graphophone in the transcribing of his notes. The first efforts in this line were not successful, but after certain changes had been made in the cylinders, the machine began to work with accuracy, and he now uses it to the entire exclusion of the old-fashioned system of transcripts.

Within one-half mile of the city limits of Visalia Mr. Murray owns a fruit ranch of twenty-three and one-half acres, of which eight acres are in an orchard and the balance in alfalfa. The supervision of this property enables him to gain a needed relaxation from the trying responsibilities of his work as reporter. The comfortable home occupied by his family was built by himself some years since and is one of the attractive dwellings of Visalia. An influential Democrat he holds office as chairman of the county central committee and is a leader in all local work of the party. Fraternally he is a prominent Mason, being master of Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M.; member of Visalia Chapter No. 44, R. A. M.; Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T.; Islam Temple, N. M. S. and the Order of the Eastern Star. In addition, he is an active member of Visalia Parlor No. 19, N. S. G. W.

In Visalia Mr. Murray married Miss Karoline A. Knox, by whom he has one child, Rita. Mrs. Murray was born in the Greenhorn mountains in Kern county and received her education in Visalia, where she is a leading member of the Episcopal Church, the Eastern Star, and Visalia Parlor, N. D. G. W. In the latter organization she acts as grand organist of the Grand Parlor, to which she presented a march of her own composition. The Parlor adopted it as their official march and published it under the name of the Karoline march in her honor. In other ways her talent as a pianist has brought pleasure to her friends and honors to herself. The family of which she is a member traces its genealogy to Scotland, but became early settlers of Virginia and a number of them bore arms in the Revolution. Her father, John G. Knox, a California pioneer of 1857, was born in Greene county, Mo., being a son of George and Amanda (Gaw) Knox, natives of old Virginia, but long residents of Greene county, Mo., where George Knox followed mercantile pursuits, also engaged in the steamboat business and the Santa Fe trade. In a family of four daughters and four sons, of whom two daughters and two sons survive, John

G. Knox is the oldest one now living. He was born February 19, 1838, and after completing the studies of the district schools attended the Jones Commercial College at St. Louis for a year. When seventeen years of age he became a clerk on one of his father's boats. In 1857 he made the overland trip to California, whither an older brother, George, had migrated in 1850. The journey was made with ox-teams to Salt Lake, and thence by pack animals on the old Mormon trail to San Bernardino, Cal., thence to Visalia and on to the Kern river mines, where Mr. Knox became interested in buying and selling mines, and also engaged in the stock business. In 1865 he was elected county clerk, but after three months he resigned for the privilege of residing in the Greenhorn mountains. He was interested in the organization of the county of Kern and served there as an under-sheriff. In 1869 he came to Visalia, where he first served as deputy county clerk and later for twelve years held the clerk's office. In 1893 he took out papers as a notary public and United States commissioner and at this writing is referee in bankruptcy, also owns an interest in the Tulare Abstract Company. Politically he is a Democrat and fraternally holds membership in the Independent Order of Foresters. Elected a member of one of the first boards of school trustees in Visalia, for years he continued in that position and filled the same with characteristic fidelity. Near Farmersville, Tulare county, he married Julia Brown, who was born in Indiana and came to California in 1854 at the age of eight years, accompanying her father, John Brown, a pioneer miner of Tulare county. Of their marriage three children were born, namely: Karoline, wife of A. H. Murray, Jr., of Visalia; Nora, wife of W. T. Nicholson, who is supreme court reporter in San Francisco; and John Franklin.

A. J. HONIGSBERGER. Among the active and progressive business men of Visalia is A. J. Honigsberger, proprietor of one of the leading clothing establishments of Tulare county. A man of good impulses and strict integrity, careful and conscientious in all of his dealings, he is observant of those high moral principles that have gained for him the respect of the community and the good will of his fellow-men.

Born, reared and educated in New York City, A. J. Honigsberger began life as a wage-earner at the age of thirteen years, finding employment in a jewelry store. His health failing, he came to San Francisco, Cal., in 1876, and was there engaged in the wool business for a number of years. Locating in Visalia in 1891, Mr. Honigsberger opened a gentlemen's clothing and furnishing goods store, and has since built up an ex-

tensive and lucrative trade. Beginning on a modest scale, he enlarged his operations as demanded by his patronage, and has now a fine location on the corner of Church and Main streets, having moved to this building on its completion, in 1897. By good management and thrift Mr. Honigsberger has accumulated a competency, a part of which he has invested in real estate, having a peach orchard of ten acres lying a mile and a half southwest of the city. He is identified with the business progress of this section and is a member of the Visalia Board of Trade.

Politically Mr. Honigsberger supports the principles of the Democratic party. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in San Jose, and is now past grand of Visalia Lodge, past chief patriarch of Visalia Encampment; a member of the Rebekahs, and of the Visalia Canton; and belongs to the Woodmen of the World.

BASIL G. PARKER. This California pioneer of the early '50s was born in Ray county, Tenn., September 20, 1825, and in 1834 accompanied his parents to Arkansas, settling on a tract of cane land in Carroll county. There with a grubbing hoe he assisted in clearing off the cane and underbrush and endured all the privations of life in the midst of the most primeval conditions. Educational advantages there were absolutely none. All the knowledge he possessed was acquired in the school of experience. While still less than twenty-one, July 20, 1846, he married Malinda Charlotte Kelly, and the two began housekeeping without any capital save affection and hope. Hardships gathered thick and fast; the loss of their little home by fire proved a distressing occurrence; and the strictest frugality and hardest labor did not enable them to provide their children with the comforts they desired. Believing he might be more successful in another section, Mr. Parker secured the consent of his wife to remove to California, and April 1, 1853, they started on the long journey through an unknown desert and over trackless plains. They crossed the Arkansas river with a large party, then traveled up the river to Fort Smith, next journeyed through the Cherokee, Chickasaw and Choctaw Indian nations, crossed the Red river at Preston, traveled across the frontiers of Texas to the Rio Grande, which they followed about sixty miles before crossing, and from there pursued their way into New Mexico, a land then abounding with rattlesnakes, horned toads, centipedes and tarantulas; next entered the most desolate part of Arizona, and traveled on through Santa Cruz, Tucson and Pima. After crossing the Gila river they began the journey through the desert of ninety miles, on whose glistening surface lay the bleaching







*Henry Clark*

bones of many travelers. The journey was full of perils. Water was so scarce that death from thirst threatened the entire party, and at one time Mr. Parker was about to give up in despair when his father, a man then about sixty years old, walking on ahead, soon returned to tell of a running brook of pure water. With the discovery of this stream their worst troubles were over, for they were then within sixteen miles of the end of the desert.

While the family were spending the winter at Los Angeles, one of the daughters died of the scarlet fever. In the spring Mr. Parker brought the other members of the family to Tulare county, stopping at Visalia, where they camped under an immense oak tree occupying the present site of the court-house. The town consisted of a few board shanties, but the climate seemed excellent, wood, water and grass abounded, and all the better Mrs. Parker could make found ready sale at seventy-five cents a pound. These inducements were sufficient to cause the family to settle here. Mr. Parker obtained a tract of land five miles north of town, and there put up a shanty about twelve feet square, this being the first roof they had slept under for twenty months. From the first he was interested in raising stock, those he brought with him forming the nucleus of a large herd. After a few prosperous years word came from Arkansas of the death of his oldest brother, so Mr. and Mrs. Parker decided to return there for the widow and her three little boys, also for a widowed sister of Mrs. Parker with her two girls. Proceeding to San Francisco, they bought first-class tickets on the Orizaba, which sailed November 20, 1856. At Central America they encountered trouble owing to the filibustering expedition of Walker and were forced to go without food for such a long period that, when provisions came, many of the passengers ate too heartily and died of cholera. From Greytown they proceeded to New Orleans and there took a Mississippi river steamer for Arkansas. Meeting old friends did not form all of Mr. Parker's activities while there, for he also bought a herd of cattle to drive overland; with these and a number of Arkansas acquaintances he started on the return trip, traveling via the Arkansas river and on to the South Platte, over Cripple creek to Green river, thence to Salt Lake City, where they procured a reinforcement of provisions, on to Ogden, thence to Bear river, and the head waters of the Humboldt river, thence across the desert of forty-five miles to the Carson river, after which they found an abundance of water, grass and wood all the way to the Sierras, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles. October 1, 1857, they reached the summit of the mountains, and then traveled along the Big Tree route

past Angel's Camp and Murphy's, and on the 26th of October arrived at his ranch with a herd of three hundred head of cattle.

Shortly after his return Mr. Parker built a two-story brick house. For some years he was prospered, but with the passage of the law regarding fences he saw that cattle could no longer be raised with profit, and so turned his attention to sheep. However, these proved an expensive investment and caused him heavy losses, finally obliging him to sell his ranch to meet his debts. At this time a nephew, Thomas Kelley, came to his aid, offering him equal shares in all that he could raise on a ranch on the Tule river. The proposition was accepted and in less than three years uncle and nephew divided over \$7,000 and had more stock on the ranch than at first. With the money thus gained Mr. Parker bought a ranch near Portersville, but there he became a sufferer from malaria, and was forced to move out on the plains, where he soon regained his health. On account of his two grandchildren who lived with him wishing to find work, he and his wife moved into Tulare, and there ten years later his beloved wife passed away, leaving him alone in the world. His last days were spent in the home of his grandchildren at Tulare, where the loneliness of age was mitigated by their companionship and cheerful ministrations. He passed away May 19, 1903.

---

**WILKO MENTZ.** Active, energetic and progressive in his views, Wilko Mentz is prominent in the agricultural, financial, social and fraternal circles of Tulare county, and is identified with the best interests of Portersville, where he has spent the greater portion of his life. A man of ability and push, he has been successful in his undertakings, and judging from his past career a fine future is before him. He is a native-born Californian, his birth having occurred, January 5, 1857, in San Francisco. On both sides of the house he comes of thrifty German ancestry, and has inherited in a marked degree those habits of industry and prudence characteristic of his race.

Henry Mentz, his father, was born August 20, 1824, in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, and when a young man immigrated to the United States, arriving in the spring of 1850. He came almost directly to California, and for a few years resided in San Francisco. Coming to Tulare county, from there, he located in Portersville, where he was engaged in the cattle business until his death, which occurred August 13, 1901. His wife, whose maiden name was Regina Meyers, was born in Germany, and died in San Francisco, leaving an only child, Wilko, of this review.

Reared and educated in San Francisco, Wilko Mentz first attended a private school, after which he entered the City College, where he took a full business course. After his graduation he worked with his father in the stock business for a few years. In 1887 he opened a store of general merchandise in Portersville, and built up a large and thriving trade, which he conducted until burned out in the great fire of 1897, when his building, with its contents, was destroyed. Since that time Mr. Mentz has rented a store and continued as a general merchant, meeting with exceptional success. He is also still interested in the stock business, having two large ranches, aggregating thirty-six hundred acres of land, devoted to general farming and cattle breeding and raising. He is recognized as a man of financial ability, and is serving as president of the First National Bank of Portersville. He was president of the first board of trustees of the city, of which he was one of the incorporators.

Politically Mr. Mentz is a stalwart Republican, ever ready to support the principles of his party by voice and vote. Fraternally he is a member of Portersville Lodge No. 303, F. & A. M.; of Portersville Chapter No. 85, R. A. M.; and of Portersville Lodge No. 93, K. of P., in which he has passed all the chairs.

**WILLIAM L. WEAVER.** Prominent among the most respected and esteemed residents of the British Colony, Merced county, is William L. Weaver, who, as an industrious and capable farmer, is closely identified with the agricultural and industrial prosperity of this section of California. Although not very large, his ranch, with its excellent improvements, constitutes one of the best and most desirable pieces of property in the neighborhood. His house, a two-story frame building of modern construction, was built at a cost of \$7,000, and contains eight rooms and a bath. It is conveniently arranged and furnished, surrounded by beautiful flowers, whose brilliancy is enhanced by the vivid green of a large field of alfalfa which forms the foreground of the home lot, rendering the estate especially attractive to the passers-by. A native of Westmoreland county, Pa., he was born January 15, 1847. His father, Henry Weaver, was a Pennsylvania farmer and died at his home in July, 1888, aged seventy-three years. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Pool, survived him, passing away at the age of eighty-seven years, in 1902.

Reared and educated in his native state, William L. Weaver followed the carpenter's trade during his earlier life. In January, 1870, he made a trip to California, and until October, 1871, remained here, working in the meantime

for wages. Returning home in 1872, he followed his trade in Pennsylvania for a while, but not content came again to the Pacific coast in 1874, bringing his family with him. In 1876 he took up his residence in Merced county, and for three years was employed on different ranches. Buying a half section of land in 1879, he was for twenty-one years successfully employed in raising grain, finding the occupation both pleasant and profitable. Disposing of that property, Mr. Weaver bought his present ranch in 1901, at that time buying sixty-two acres of land, but having sold a part of the original purchase his farm now contains but forty acres, the greater part of which he devotes to alfalfa, although he has a vineyard of three acres from which he has gathered forty-five tons of grapes. He likewise pays some attention to stock growing, raising hogs on a limited scale. His farm is advantageously located, being but four miles west of Merced, and within easy reach of good markets. Mr. Weaver has three brothers living in Merced county, one of whom, R. A. Weaver, owns a ranch fifteen miles from Merced, which is operated by John and Abram Weaver, his brothers.

While a resident of Pennsylvania Mr. Weaver married, December 28, 1871, Annie Stoner, who was born in that state February 5, 1847, a daughter of Christian Stoner, a lifelong resident of Pennsylvania. Nine children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, the two oldest of whom were born in Pennsylvania and the others in California, namely: Charles H., farming on the west side; Elma, the wife of J. C. Middleton, living near Newman, Cal.; Sarah C.; Christian S., a teacher; Robert, farming with his brother Charles; Mollie R., a teacher; Nettie M.; Margaret A.; and Alvin E.

**JOHN CRAL BRAUER.** The industrial circles of Newman have no more worthy representative than John C. Brauer, who has built up an extensive and remunerative business as a general blacksmith, his mechanical skill and ingenuity being recognized by all with whom he has dealings. A son of Paul Brauer, he was born August 20, 1861, in Rendsburg, Holstein, Germany. A native, also, of Holstein, Paul Brauer was for many years foreman of a fertilizer factory in Rendsburg, Germany, where he is now living retired from the active cares of business. He married Christina Hansen, who died in the fatherland, where her entire life had been passed. She bore him nine children, three sons and six daughters, John C. being the fifth child in order of birth.

Having acquired a substantial education in the public schools of his native land, John C. Brauer served a full apprenticeship at the black-

smith's trade in, or near, Rendsburg. In 1880, prior to attaining his majority, he crossed the ocean to America, and for about six months worked at his trade in the Simpson Carriage Factory, in Omaha, Neb. Going thence to Colorado, he assisted in the construction of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, and of the Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad, working as a blacksmith in the railway camps. Removing to Idaho in the spring of 1882, Mr. Brauer worked on the Oregon Short Line for six months, and then, in the fall of 1882, came to the Pacific coast, locating in Sacramento, and has since traveled extensively throughout the state. Settling in Newman, in 1890, he worked as a journeyman blacksmith for a year, and then, with a partner, bought his present smithy. In April, 1903, Mr. Brauer purchased his partner's interest in the business, which he has since managed alone, meeting with characteristic success in his undertaking.

Since becoming a resident of Newman, Mr. Brauer married Maria Ibs, a native of Germany, and they have four children, namely: Ella, Paul, Freda and Anna. Intelligent and well informed, possessing excellent judgment and sound common sense, Mr. Brauer is ably performing his duties as a faithful citizen of his adopted country. A staunch adherent of the Republican party, he has served for the past six years as a member of the County Central Committee. He is an influential member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed all the chairs of his lodge, and belongs to the American Order of United Workmen, and to the Woodmen of the World. A man of great moral worth and integrity, he is a valued member of the German Lutheran Church, toward the support of which he contributes liberally.

---

CAPT. THOMAS H. THOMPSON. Intense loyalty to their country has ever characterized the Thompson family. When they became transplanted from Scotland into the rigorous climate of Maine they brought with them the courage, perseverance and fidelity characteristic of the race. Thomas Thompson of Maine was a brave soldier of the Revolution, and his son, Capt. Thomas H., Sr., who was born in Brunswick, Me., served in the war of 1812 with the same patriotic devotion that had led the father to endure hardships innumerable in the first struggle with Great Britain. Some years after the second war had terminated Captain Thompson removed to Plattsburg, N. Y., and in 1832 went as far west as Chicago, then known as Fort Dearborn, where he built the first bridge across the Chicago river. Eventually he removed to the Fox river in Kane county, where he died in 1861.

His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Hoit, was born in Plattsburg, N. Y., and died in Illinois. She was a daughter of Col. George W. Hoit, a native of New York, and an officer in the war of 1812, later becoming a pioneer of Bloomingdale, Ill., where his last days were passed.

In the family of Capt. Thomas H. Thompson, Sr., there were ten children, and all but one attained mature years. A son, Harlow C., is now manager of the water works at Santa Barbara, Cal. Thomas H., Jr., was born in Kane county, Ill., October 1, 1842, and as a boy worked so constantly on the home farm that he had little leisure to attend school. Notwithstanding his lack of advantages he gained a thorough knowledge of civil engineering and surveying, and as early as 1859 he turned his attention to surveying and map-making. When the Civil war began he was fired with the patriotic spirit inherited from a long line of courageous ancestors and at once offered his services for the required time of three months, but the quota being filled he and his companions were not sent to the front. During September, 1861, he enlisted in Company I, Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, which was mustered into service at Geneva, Ill., and sent south. The list of his engagements includes the battle of Pittsburg Landing or Shiloh, first battle of Corinth, Lagrange, Iuka, Holly Springs, Chattanooga, Dallas, Resaca, Snake creek (where his regiment built the pontoon used to move the first troops over the water), Peach Tree creek, Kenesaw, Lost mountain, Buzzard's Roost, Altoona Pass, Jonesboro and siege of Atlanta. After Shiloh he was promoted from the ranks to be second lieutenant, sixty days later became regimental quartermaster, eighteen days later was made brigade quartermaster, still later was made first lieutenant and division quartermaster, and eventually was raised to the rank of captain and inspector-general, detailed as topographical engineer on the staff of General McPherson, whom he met fifteen minutes before he fell in battle. After the death of McPherson he was given the same work on the staff of General Logan, but after the arrival of General Howard he was transferred to the staff of Gen. John M. Corse as inspector-general with the rank of captain. It is significant of his accuracy that, when relieved as quartermaster, his accounts showing millions of dollars that had passed through his hands were closed up and settled with the passage of but one letter. Not the slightest error could be found in them, notwithstanding the large amounts handled.

On the expiration of his term of office and service Captain Thompson in October, 1864, was mustered out at Rome, Ga. The following winter he spent in Louisville, Ky., and during that

time renewed a close friendship formed with General Sweeney, the veteran of the Mexican and Civil wars. For about seven years afterward he engaged in publishing maps and county atlases in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. After the great fire in Chicago he carried on a furniture business there, but sold out in 1873 and resumed the publication of maps. On coming to California in 1875 he engaged in the map business in Oakland, continuing there until his health failed about the fall of 1883. During 1885 he came to Tulare county, where he bought a ranch and took up farm pursuits. Later he became interested in the sale of agricultural implements and vehicles, from which he drifted into the real estate business and also published atlases of Fresno and Tulare counties. At this writing he is an extensive dealer in lands and real estate, makes loans and issues insurance policies in old-line companies.

Ever since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, Captain Thompson has been a firm believer in Republican principles. In Illinois, Iowa and California, he has been prominent in the work of the state conventions, and in this state served as a member of the executive committee for years, also in 1884 was chosen a delegate to the national convention at Chicago that nominated James G. Blaine for president. In 1890 Governor Markham appointed him commissioner from his congressional district to the Columbian Exposition of 1893. On the organization of the commission he was chosen secretary and general manager and during the following two years devoted almost his entire attention to the work of preparation, meanwhile advertising to the state and the country the fine natural resources of California. In April, 1893, he resigned as secretary of the commission, but three months later returned to assist them in their work. The splendid state building at the Chicago Exposition, furnishing a fine type of old mission architecture, and filled with the most magnificent fruits and other products of the state, was admired by thousands of visitors and brought many home-seekers to the coast.

The marriage of Captain Thompson occurred in Dundee, Ill., and united him with Lucy W. Hemenway, who was born and reared there. Her father, William R., who was a farmer by occupation and for some years the postmaster of Dundee, served as commissary sergeant in the Civil war, being a member of Company I, Fifty-second Illinois Infantry. The children of Captain and Mrs. Thompson are Sarah May (Mrs. C. F. Rillet of Oakland) and Lucy Pearl (Mrs. William H. Jones of Salt Lake). In religious connections Mrs. Thompson is identified with the Congregational Church. While living in Illinois Captain Thompson was made a Mason at Dun-

dee, and is now a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, at Tulare; is demitted from the Chapter at Anamosa, Iowa, and still a member of Mount Olivet Commandery No. 36, K. T., at Anamosa. Until the disbandment of the Grand Army Post at Tulare he was its commander, and he is further connected with the California Chapter of Loyal Legion in San Francisco. Among the social organizations of which he is a member may be mentioned the Union League Club of San Francisco. At this writing he holds office as vice-president of the Tulare Board of Trade, in which for years he has been a leading worker. At the time of President Harrison's visit to the Pacific coast he was appointed president of the committee to arrange for the entertainment of their distinguished guest. Desiring to introduce some novel feature into the affairs, the captain brought to town the stump of one of California's big trees. The stump had a diameter of twenty-nine feet and from it, with appropriate decorations, President Harrison delivered an address to the throng of people gathered to welcome him. The unusual platform furnished gave rise to the comment that this address was the "biggest stump speech" ever given, and the presence of such a unique product of the state, supplemented by other features provided for the entertainment of the president, made of the occasion a successful function to which the people still refer with pride and pleasure.

---

CHRISTOPHER H. BANTA. The owner of a pleasant home and farm in Fresno county, C. H. Banta, of Dos Palos Colony, is widely and favorably known as justice of the peace for the First District of Fresno county, which includes nearly all the west side of the county. Liberal and enterprising, he is also noted for his keen intelligence, and sound judgment as a public official, his decisions being marked by fairness and impartiality. A son of William J. Banta, he was born April 22, 1855, near Clinton, Henry county, Mo. His paternal grandfather, A. Banta, was one of the hardy pioneers that assisted in settling Missouri. He afterward removed to Colorado, and there spent the declining years of his life, dying in 1883.

Although born in Kentucky, William J. Banta grew to manhood in Missouri, and there commenced life for himself as a farmer. Removing with his family to Colorado, he settled first near Pueblo as an agriculturist, but went from there to Cripple Creek, where he discovered and opened mines that proved of great value. He accumulated great wealth in his operations, and now has two homes, one in Idaho, and one at Dos Palos, Cal. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Goff, was a native of Tennessee.







*John Martens*

The oldest of a family of nine children, C. H. Banta spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Colorado, going there when eight years old, and receiving his early education in the public schools. Turning his attention to agricultural pursuits, he afterward worked on cattle ranches and as a teamster for a while. He subsequently traveled extensively in Colorado, becoming acquainted with all parts of the state, for a short time being employed as clerk in Durango. Coming to California in 1884, Mr. Banta located in what is now Kings county, and for two years followed farming for a living. Locating in Firebaugh in 1886, he worked during the summer seasons for Miller & Lux for a number of years, while in the winter he was busily employed in hunting, supplying the local and city markets with ducks and geese. In 1899 Mr. Banta settled in Dos Palos Colony, his residence and farm being in Fresno county, where he operates ten acres of land. Being elected justice of the peace in November, 1902, he took the oath of office in January, 1903, and has since served ably and faithfully in this position, his services being recognized and appreciated by all concerned. The territory over which he has official jurisdiction embraces a large part of the west side of Fresno county, and he has two offices, one at Firebaugh and one at Mendota.

Mr. Banta married, in Fresno, Mrs. Sarah P. (Johnson) Dye, who was born in West Virginia, and came to Dos Palos in 1894. By her former marriage four sons were born, Homer, Clarence, Frinzy and Evert. The only child born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Banta is a son, named Leonard. In his political views Mr. Banta is a staunch Republican, and is an active member of the party, at the present time being a member of the Republican county central committee. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of the Knights of the Maccabees and of the Fraternal Aid.

**JOHN MARTENS.** Coming from a country where the density of population makes of agriculture an intensive occupation, one unfamiliar with Mr. Martens' capable and energetic disposition scarcely would expect him to embark in stock-raising upon a scale undreamed of in his native land. Abundant proof of his ability is furnished by the quickness with which he grasped the large opportunities offered by California. From the time of his arrival in Tulare county, in 1872, until the present day, he has been engaged in the sheep business upon a scale so extensive that more than once his flocks have numbered twenty-three thousand head, and without question he is the largest raiser of sheep in the entire county. During the long years of his large

ventures he has had his share of losses, perhaps the most disastrous of these occurring in 1877, when out of a flock of thirty-seven hundred he lost all but fourteen hundred. Yet, take it all in all, the business has proved very profitable, the losses have been recompensed by large profits, and the years have brought him a success where another man with less courage might have met with failure.

The Martens family is of loyal German stock. John Martens was born in the city of Heide, Holstein, not far from the shores of the North sea, and is a son of John J. and Wipke (Sivers) Martens, natives of the same kingdom, and lifelong residents of that part of Germany, making their home upon a farm. The father was a participant in the first Schleswig-Holstein war; at the time of his death he was sixty years of age. In his family there are six children, namely: Harder, who remains upon a farm in Holstein; Claus, who is engaged in the sheep business in Tulare county; Hans, a manufacturer of plush cases, doing business in New York City; Mrs. Annie Besthorn, of San Francisco; John, of Tulare county; and Elene, Mrs. Peters, who still lives in Holstein. The youngest son, John, was born August 28, 1850, and received a common school education in Heide. During the fall of 1867 he crossed the ocean to New York, and from there sailed to Aspinwall, thence to San Francisco. For a year he was employed on a farm at what was then Bannos. In the fall of 1868 he and two brothers went to the new city of San Diego and homesteaded land on the mesa near the San Miguel mountains, where they engaged in raising grain for three years. The rainfall being insufficient to mature their crops and facilities for irrigation not being available at that time, they abandoned their house and farm and came to Tulare county, where they entered land on the Big Bayou and engaged in farming.

The sheep business, which has been the chosen occupation of Mr. Martens since 1873, was started in that year on the Bayou, the valley being utilized as a range for the flocks. After three years he moved his sheep to Kern county and later to Fresno, where he had his camp on a spot within the limits of the present city of that name. Returning to Tulare county in 1879 he rented land at Fountain Springs south of Deer creek and turned his sheep upon that range for three years, later moving to a point somewhat below the other. At this writing he rents for his sheep a ranch of nine thousand acres, and of this property he owns four hundred and eighty acres situated near Alila. In addition he rents twenty thousand acres in the Antelope valley in Kern county, this property, as the other, being abundantly supplied with wells. The sheep are of the Shropshire and Merino varieties, and to

care for them twenty hands are employed under the oversight of two foremen.

In San Francisco, September 2, 1886, occurred the marriage of Mr. Martens and Miss Christina Dorothea Dahl, a native of Heide, Holstein, and a daughter of Suhl and Christina Dahl. Her parents were natives of Holstein and spent their lives upon a farm, dying at their home farm on the same day. Of their seven children, Claus died in Iowa. Five are now living, namely: Herman and John, of Iowa; Katherine, who remains in Holstein; Wipke, living in Iowa; and Christina, Mrs. Martens. Mr. and Mrs. Martens have been extensive travelers. He has made six trips back to his old German home and his wife has returned there seven times. Their daughters, Dorothea and Mary, were born in Linden, Germany, and have been made citizens of Germany by Emperor William. The family are of the Lutheran faith and conform to the doctrines of that denomination. After coming to Tulare county Mr. Martens was initiated into the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is still a member of the local lodge. Though cherishing the greatest fondness for his native country, he discharges every duty resting upon a citizen of California, has been a student of the government of the United States and has adopted the Republican platform as the expression of his personal opinions in matters of national moment. Any plan for the promotion of the sheep industry meets his hearty co-operation. Largely through his efforts an organization was effected known as the Tulare County Wool Growers' Association and of this he has been an active member and leading worker.

**JOHN AUGUST LEEBON.** Three miles east of Visalia, Tulare county, is located the fine fruit ranch which belongs to John August Leebon, one of the progressive and successful ranchmen of this section. A native of Sweden, he was born May 16, 1861, and was reared to young manhood in the country, receiving his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home. In 1881 he immigrated to America and located in Minneapolis, Minn. Desiring to acquire more education than he possessed he attended school for one year, after which he engaged as a laborer on a farm, and also worked in the stables of a street car company. Coming to California in 1886 he located in San Jose and found employment in an orchard for a year and a half, after which he worked in a sawmill in Tacoma, Wash. As the result of an accident he was in a hospital for some time, and in 1889 returned to San Jose and engaged in teaming. He continued profitably in this employment for about eight years, when, in 1897, he came to

Tulare county and in the vicinity of Visalia rented one hundred and eighteen acres of land from the First National Bank of San Jose. In 1901 he was able financially to purchase this property, the greater part of which was then planted to fruit, sixty acres given over to the cultivation of peaches, twenty to prunes, six to nectarines, while the balance is devoted to pasture and grain. He is modern and up to date in his methods and has made a success of his work.

In San Jose, Cal., Mr. Leebon was married to Annie Anderson, also a native of Sweden, who died in her home in Visalia, leaving two sons, Oscar William and Carl Edward. Mr. Leebon was one of the founders of the Swedish Mission Church of San Jose, of which he is a charter member. Politically he is a Republican, and though never desirous of public office he has accepted that of school director, and is now serving as clerk of the board. He is an enterprising and public-spirited citizen and commands the esteem of all with whom he comes in contact.

**ALBERT G. AKIN.** The record of a life well lived, of duties faithfully discharged, of a competence won in all good conscience, make bright the evening of his days for Albert G. Akin, a pioneer vineyardist of Fresno county, located upon his ranch near Oleander. A native of Wentworth, N. H., he was born November 22, 1824, the son of William Akin, also a native of New Hampshire and whose death occurred in Rochester, N. Y., when Mr. Akin was but one year old. He was a millwright by occupation. The family is of Scotch origin, the great-grandfather of Mr. Akin, Jedediah, having emigrated from his native land to the United States, where he participated in the Revolutionary war.

Reared to manhood upon a farm, Mr. Akin was trained in the practical duties and the methodical habits which are characteristic of the successful agriculturist, and in engaging for himself in the battle of life carried with him the benefits of both training and inheritance. Being of a studious turn of mind he at first thought he would follow a profession, studying law for two years. In 1870 he went to the oil fields of Pennsylvania, where he engaged in drilling wells for some time, remaining in the state for fifteen years. Previous to his work in the oil wells of that state, however, he had gone to Indiana, where he enlisted in the Forty-second Indiana Regiment of Infantry and served valiantly in the Civil war. Attracted by the manifest opportunities of the West he came to California in 1885, spending the first eight months in Ventura county, after which he located in Fresno

county, purchasing his present farm of forty acres in Washington Colony, seven and a half miles from the city of Fresno. Upon this ranch he has since made his home, interested in agricultural pursuits. Of the ranch twenty-nine acres are devoted to the cultivation of grapes, and he has also another ranch of forty acres in the same colony, devoted to grapes and various other fruits.

In Newcastle, Pa., March 17, 1846, Mr. Akin was married to Joanna W. Carroll who was born in that state October 19, 1826, a daughter of Jonathan Carroll, also a native of that state. Mr. Akin and his wife celebrated their golden wedding in 1896 and are happy in their lengthening years together. They are the parents of five living children, of whom Emlin H. is engaged in Texas oil fields; George W. is operating for oil in Indian Territory; Melvine is engaged in drilling water wells in Fresno county and conducts the home ranch; Franklin A. is a printer in Titusville, Pa.; and Willard N. is mining in Alaska. In his political convictions Mr. Akin is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and fraternally is a member of the Masonic order, in which he is past master.

**JAMES M. ESTES.** Ever since establishing his home in the county of Tulare Mr. Estes has made agriculture his chosen occupation, his specialty at times being the raising of grain, while more recently he has devoted his attention largely to the dairy business as a member of the firm of Hunsaker & Estes. By means of a dairy comprising seventy-five head of cows and with the aid of a separator, a large and profitable industry has been gradually built up by the two partners. The cattle are pastured on their farm of nine hundred and sixty-seven acres on Elk Bayou, four and one-half miles east of Tulare, of which property five hundred and fifty acres are under alfalfa and the balance utilized for the raising of general farm products. In the mowing of hay a Fleming buck rake is used to gather up the alfalfa, which is then brought to a stack and from there elevated by a derrick and fork. During the last season (1904) five hundred tons were baled from two cuttings of two hundred and fifty acres and the balance of the cuttings were threshed for seed.

Mr. Estes is of southern parentage, his parents, W. H. and Emily V. (Carroll) Estes, having been natives respectively of Kentucky and Virginia. The paternal grandfather, James Estes, who served in the Black Hawk war, removed from Kentucky to Missouri in 1823, when W. H. was only a year old, and the latter in time became the possessor of the Missouri homestead, where he

remained until his death in July of 1887. His wife, who accompanied her parents to Illinois at an early age and from there went to Missouri, died at the old home in August, 1885. Of their seven children three make their home in California. J. M., who was the eldest son and second child, was born near Louisiana, Pike county, Mo., February 19, 1860, and in boyhood attended the common schools of his district. When twenty-one years of age he took up farming for himself in his home state, but in 1886 removed to Kansas and entered upon railroad work at Chanute, Neosho county, later following the same occupation at Blue Hill, Neb. From there in 1887 he went to eastern Oregon, spending a short time at Arlington, Gilliam county. During six months of 1888 he was engaged in assisting to drive seven thousand sheep from that section of country across the plains to Sidney, Cheyenne county, Neb., it being his intention to remain in the east after his return. However, finding that his father had died during his absence and the old home thus broken up, he decided to come to California, and April of 1889 found him in Los Angeles, whence in June following he came to Tulare. Since then he has made his headquarters in this city, his present home being on South G street. From here he has made frequent trips to his country place, in the interests of his agricultural pursuits. At one time he cultivated a tract of three thousand acres, using four six-horse teams in the work; but of recent years he has given his attention almost wholly to the dairy industry, and has been successful to a gratifying degree in the management of this responsible work. In politics he votes with the Democratic party. The Woodmen of the World and Fraternal Brotherhood number him among the members of their orders at Tulare. In this city he was united in marriage with Miss Mary White, who was born and reared in Tulare county, being a member of a pioneer family of the state. At an early day her mother came to the coast by way of Cape Horn, while her father, Mosby White, who now resides at Palo Alto, was a very early settler of Tulare county.

**LOUIS F. BAMBAUER.** Among the dairymen of the Los Banos district are many who correctly estimate the opportunities by which they are surrounded, and who, by diligence and faithfulness to trusts imposed, fulfill their mission as exponents and successful managers of worthy enterprises. Of these, Louis F. Bambauer is well known and highly honored, being one of the younger generation who are carrying on the work begun by worthy sires in the pioneer days.

Mr. Bambauer was born in Calaveras county, this state, February 11, 1872, the youngest of the

children of Charles Daniel Bambauer, who came from Baden, Germany, and whose life is reviewed elsewhere in this work. Mr. Bambauer lived on his father's mountain farm until five years old, and then located with the rest of the family on a farm near Hills Ferry, Merced county, where he attended the public schools, and lived until his twentieth year. Looking ahead into the future, he chose the blacksmith trade as a worthy means of livelihood, serving an apprenticeship under his brother, Charles D., at Volta, and continuing to work at his trade in the same town for nine years. He then left the forge and anvil and engaged in stock-raising and general farming, and in 1902 purchased his present fertile ranch of forty acres, one mile south of Los Banos. He has a dairy of about twenty-five cows, mostly Durhams and Holsteins. The Bambauer ranch, called Green Acres, is well improved and equipped with modern, labor-saving devices, and under its present management gives evidence of the method and care adopted by its owner.

In Palo Alto, this state, October 5, 1903, Mr. Bambauer married Lulu Gertrude, daughter of the late Charles A. and Mrs. Marian A. (Souther) Wood, both early settlers of California. Mrs. Bambauer was born in San Felipe, Santa Clara county, and after graduating from the San Jose Normal School engaged in educational work in Los Banos for several years. Mr. Bambauer votes the Democratic ticket in national politics, but locally is guided solely by the merits of office-seekers. He is a liberal and public-spirited gentleman, having many friends in a community which has watched his progress during his active life, and which has found him invariably honorable, courteous and steadfast.

**PETER S. CROOP.** Eight miles north of Le Grand, in Merced county, Cal., and fifteen miles northeast of Merced, resides Peter S. Croop, who, for the past five years, has rented a ranch which contains fourteen hundred and eighty acres, upon which he devotes his time to raising grain and stock, and from the beginning has met with gratifying success. A native of Allegany county, N. Y., he was born December 16, 1872, the fourth in a family of six children born to Stephen and Susan (Wagner) Croop, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania.

When a young man Stephen Croop left the Keystone state for a home in New York, where he engaged in dairy farming, for years devoting his time exclusively to this business. In 1880 he left New York and with his family came to California; locating in Merced county, he purchased the ranch of eight hundred acres which is still occupied by his widow and where his death occurred in 1900. He met with good success in

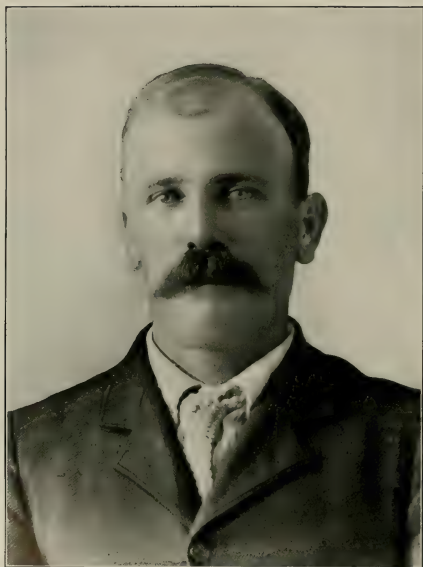
his farming operations, and as a citizen he was one of the most highly respected men in the county. Politically a Democrat, he never cared for office, but was always a strong advocate of party principles. He was a member of the Masons and Odd Fellows. Mr. and Mrs. Croop became the parents of six children, namely: Mrs. Ida Herren, Mrs. Hattie Aumsbaugh, Scott, Peter S., Maggie and Grover, all residents of Merced county. Grover conducts the home ranch for his mother, twelve miles southwest of Merced.

Peter S. Croop was about eight years old when his parents brought him to Merced county. He was educated in the common schools and remained on the home ranch until he was twenty-five, and then embarked in business for himself. Renting twelve hundred acres of land six miles south of Merced, for two years he engaged in raising stock and grain; he then leased the ranch where he now resides. He is a worthy representative of the young men of Merced county, aiding all movements that have been of benefit to the people and making it one of the prosperous communities of the state. Like his father he is a Democrat, and fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**SAMUEL A. ALLEN.** A few years before the discovery of gold had attracted thousands of fortune-seekers to California, the Allen family became established in this state, and S. A. Allen, manager of the Westwood orchard, three miles west of Tulare, represents the third generation of the family in the far west. During the early years of the nineteenth century his paternal grandfather, Isaac Allen, left his home in western Tennessee and migrated by wagon to Missouri, settling near Jefferson City, and also for a time making his home on the Platte purchase. Reports concerning the desirable soil and climate of California led him to determine to make the long journey hither, although at the time the overland trail was not definitely marked out and emigrants faced countless perils in attempting to reach the coast. In 1846 he started upon the journey, accompanied by members of the family, including a son, William, who was a native of west Tennessee, and who some years before had taken as a bride a young lady from Missouri, Miss Albina J. Foster. With an equipment of wagons, ox teams, and necessary provisions and supplies, the Allen family joined a large train bound for the west. After the journey had progressed for some time Isaac Allen died and his body was buried on the plains. The others continued on the road, where for a time they were companions of the unfortunate Donner party, but crossed the Sierras about two weeks







*Morgan Rush*

ahead of them. Some members of the train wished to camp at the lake in order to secure needed feed for their oxen, but the guide urged them so strongly to hasten onward without delay that they yielded to his solicitations and thus their lives were saved. After their arrival in California the widow of Isaac Allen made her home with her children for a time, but later married Elam Brown, a well-known resident of Lafayette, Contra Costa county.

The first winter in California William Allen and wife spent in the Childs valley, Napa county, but in the spring of 1847 settled at San Jose, and a few years later removed to Martinez, where he built one of the first frame houses erected in the town. For some time he engaged in placer mining, but afterward took up farming and stock-raising near Lafayette, and in 1860 settled in San Joaquin county, at Collegeville, twelve miles from Stockton. Eventually he took up farm pursuits in Kings county, which at the time was still a part of Tulare county. After his retirement from active cares he came to make his home with his son, S. A., and here died in March, 1903, at eighty-four years of age. All through his life he was guided by high Christian principles and exemplified in his kind and charitable disposition the doctrines of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he officiated as a ruling elder. His wife was a daughter of Elijah Foster, a pioneer of Missouri; she died near Tulare at sixty-five years of age.

Three children had been born to William and Albina Allen while living in Missouri, but two had died there, and at the time of crossing the plains they had only one child, Isaac N., who now resides on a farm at Camp Badger, Tulare county. Nine children were born after the family settled in California, but only four of these are now living, namely: Mrs. J. E. Barton, at Three Rivers, Tulare county; E. E., near Watsonville; William T., near Ripon, San Joaquin county, and S. A., who forms the subject of this narrative. He was born near Lafayette, Contra Costa county, Cal., April 2, 1860, and until fifteen years of age lived principally near Collegeville, after which from 1875 to 1882 he made his home on a farm in what is now Kings county. Going to Orange, Cal., in 1882, he for four years was engaged in the horticultural business there. On his return to Kings county in 1886, he took up horticultural work near Hanford. From 1892 to 1899 he acted as superintendent of the Minnewawa ranch in Fresno county, where under his supervision was a valuable tract, comprising six hundred and forty acres of land, utilized for dairy purposes, also to some extent planted in an orchard and vineyard. On resigning that position he acted as superintendent of an orchard at Farmersville, Tulare county, for a year. In July, 1901, he was ap-

pointed manager of the Westwood orchard of three hundred and eighty acres, situated three miles west of Tulare, and under cultivation to peaches, prunes, pears and grapes. This position he has since filled with characteristic energy and capability.

The marriage of Mr. Allen united him with Miss Rhoda J. Fry, who was born in Iowa, but at the time of marriage made her home in Visalia, Cal. Their family consists of six children, Clarence A., John Wesley, Myrtle, Henry L., Ralph E., and Roy H. The family are in sympathy with the work of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, with which Mrs. Allen is actively identified and to which Mr. Allen has always been a contributor. In politics he gives his support to the Republican party, but is not active in public affairs, his tastes inclining him toward horticulture and agriculture rather than toward public life. In fraternal connections he is associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen at Fresno, the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Aid at Tulare.

---

MORGAN RUSH was born on the old Rush homestead five miles north of Visalia, March 13, 1863. His father, Isaac Rush, a native of Tennessee, was the son of a farmer and was trained to the practical duties incident to such a life. In young manhood he removed to Arkansas, where he married, and from which state, in the early '50s, he crossed the plains to California. Upon his arrival in the state he located on the property now owned by his son in Tulare county, entering the land and proceeding to a practical improvement and cultivation of the farm. He became an extensive and successful stockman and was one of the prominent men of his day in this section. His death occurred in Texas, at the age of seventy years. Mrs. Rush, formerly Mary G. Parker, was a native of Arkansas and a daughter of Hiram Parker, who removed from Tennessee, his native state, to Arkansas, where he died. Another member of this family is the late Basil G. Parker, of Tulare county, who was a cousin of Mrs. Rush. She survives her husband and makes her home on the old farm. Of her six sons and five daughters all attained maturity, while seven are now living.

The fourth in the family of his parents, Morgan Rush was reared on the old home place, receiving his scholastic training in the public schools in the vicinity. From boyhood he followed farming, when still youthful assuming charge of the place for his mother, as he was the oldest living son, and he remained at home for about twenty years as manager of the property. In 1898 he bought the two hundred and forty acres which forms his property, located on

section 5, township 18, range 25, four and a half miles north of Visalia, where he now engages in farming and stock-raising. He has twenty-five acres devoted to alfalfa, and is largely interested in the dairy business, besides which he also engages in stock-raising in the mountains, and owns three hundred and twenty-nine acres in Harmon valley, Fresno county, on section 18, township 13, range 25, eighteen miles from Sanger, where he has the greater part of his cattle and hogs.

In Fresno Mr. Rush married Rosalie Bennett, a native of Tulare county, and the daughter of Booker and Lizzie Bennett, residents of Fresno. Politically Mr. Rush is a Democrat and fraternally is identified with the Woodmen of the World of Visalia. All his life a resident of this county, with the exception of four years, from 1900 to 1904, which he spent on a farm in Fresno county, Mr. Rush has won the highest esteem from those who have known him, his ability in his line of work winning the commendation of the farmers, and for his integrity and manhood the respect of all.

---

SOLOMON SWEET. Scarcely any name in Tulare county is more intimately associated with the business history of Visalia than that of Solomon Sweet, whose death was a distinct loss to the citizenship of the town with which he had been identified for more than forty years. A native of Germany, he was born in Kreisheim, October 18, 1827, and received a fair education in his native locality. Desiring to avail himself of the opportunities offered by the new world, in 1845 he crossed the ocean to New York and from there went to Chicago, thence to Ogle county, Ill., where he was employed as a stage driver. Later he secured a clerkship in Milwaukee. In the fall of 1850 he returned to New York and took passage on the Georgia for Chagres, thence across the Isthmus, and from there on the Columbia to San Francisco. At first he clerked in a general mercantile store in Stockton, but in the fall of 1851 proceeded to the mines of Mariposa county and later carried on a general store at Agua Fria.

Arriving in Visalia in 1857, Mr. Sweet in 1859 opened what is now the oldest store in town, having as a partner James L. Wells, under the firm title of Sweet & Wells. Railroads as yet having not been built into the valley, all the goods were hauled in wagons drawn by oxen, and the trip of two hundred miles occupied from one to three months. In addition the firm furnished the milling supplies for this part of the state. Their goods were sold and hauled to Kern, White and Owens rivers; to Millerton, sixty miles north; to Tehachapi Pass on the south,

and to Independence, Inyo county, on the east. Eventually Mr. Wells was succeeded in the business by J. M. Fox and he by Elias Jacob and Simon Sweet, and after 1879 two nephews, Adolph and Leon Levis, were associated with Mr. Sweet as active partners in the house. About 1895 the firm of S. Sweet & Co. was incorporated, with Solomon Sweet as president, a position that he continued to fill until his death in San Francisco four years later.

By the purchase of land at different times Mr. Sweet acquired a large acreage in Tulare county, and this he improved and irrigated by means of canals, then set out orchards and engaged in horticultural pursuits, also raised general farm products and stock. As a stockholder, vice-president and chairman of the executive committee he was connected with the California Fruit and Wine Land Company, which owned sixty-six hundred and forty acres, with three hundred acres of the land planted in raisins, and one hundred and twenty acres in oranges, olives, almonds and peaches. He was a stockholder and director in the Goshen & Visalia and the Visalia & Tulare Railroads. Another enterprise was the building of the Palace hotel, which his estate now owns. In politics he always voted the Republican ticket. Fraternally he was a Mason of the Royal Arch degree. The Jewish Orphan Asylum of San Francisco, which he assisted in founding, for years had the benefit of his counsel and experience as a member of its board of trustees.

The marriage of Solomon Sweet was solemnized in San Francisco in 1860 and united him with Miss Annie Phillips, who was born in New York City. Their eight children were born in San Francisco, and during his latter years Mr. Sweet spent much of his time in that city, in the society of his family and in the enjoyment of their beautiful home on Pacific avenue. Since his death Mrs. Sweet has continued to live in that city, which is also the home of a number of her children.

---

N. H. LEGGETT. A small stock of dry goods, occupying but one-half of a store room, formed the nucleus from which Mr. Leggett has built up an extensive and growing trade in Tulare and the surrounding country. When he located in this city, April 28, 1899, he had little capital and was obliged to start in business upon a very small scale, but as his means increased, he was enabled to add to his stock and enlarge his equipment. The original room soon became too small for his growing trade and he removed to a brick building, and in December of 1903 opened business in his new building, a structure 60x75 feet in dimensions, which is well stocked with a full line of dry goods, ladies' fur-

nishings, carpets, etc., while the clothing and gents' furnishings are still carried in the brick building across the street. The department plan has proved a success in this store, as it has also in the establishment at Portersville, which he opened October 9, 1903, and which he now successfully conducts.

Early in the colonial settlement of Virginia the Leggett family crossed the ocean from England and became planters and farmers in the new country. John Leggett, who was a Virginian by birth and a soldier in the war of 1812, became a pioneer farmer of Bedford county, Tenn., and about 1874 came to California, where he died in Tulare county. His son, John Calvin Leggett, was a native of Tennessee and for many years engaged in farming in that state, but in 1892 established his home in Texas and later died in Grayson county, that state. Since his death his widow, who was Elizabeth Musgraves, daughter of a Tennessee farmer, has continued to make her home in Texas. Strong in Christian faith, he was a man universally respected, and his wife also has always held the regard of acquaintances. In their family of three daughters and three sons, one of whom, Cooper, is a resident of Hanford, Cal., N. H. Leggett was next to the youngest, and was born in Bedford county, Tenn., January 8, 1868. After having completed his studies in the grammar and high schools of Bedford he began to earn his livelihood as a clerk when he was eighteen years of age, but two years later became interested in photography and the picture business, in which he continued until his removal to California. During July of 1891 he arrived in Hanford, where he secured employment as a clerk with A. Weiner. In 1897 he went to Fresno and became a clerk in the White Front store, but resigned the position in order to embark in business for himself at Tulare. Since coming to this city he has become identified with the Tulare Board of Trade and has also been interested in other enterprises for the benefit of the vicinity, the development of material resources and the enhancement of the people's prosperity. Fraternally he holds membership with the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Foresters, Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Aid.

---

ALEXANDER LOGAN WILSON, M. D. Among the well known physicians and surgeons of Tulare is Alexander Logan Wilson, M. D., who by his devotion to his work and the careful study and diagnosis of the various diseases that have come under his observation, has been exceptionally successful in his professional career, and has gained a wide reputation for skill and ability. By means of thrift and good manage-

ment he has accumulated some means. A son of A. M. Wilson, he was born January 31, 1860, in Randolph county, Ill., near New Palestine, of English ancestry. Grandfather Wilson, who was born and reared in London, England, later settled in New York City. His son, A. M., was born in the new world and spent the first ten years of his life here. Running away from home then, he sailed on a merchant vessel to London. There, joining a whaler, he followed the seas for a number of years, and in this way circumnavigated the globe several times. Retiring from that occupation, he settled in Illinois when about twenty-three years old, and became a citizen of prominence. He bought land near New Palestine and carried on general farming during the remainder of his life. In 1861 he enlisted in the Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being first a member of Company C, but afterwards of Company I, and served until the close of the war. He was present at the siege of Vicksburg, marched with Sherman to the sea, and was mustered out at Washington after the grand review. He was promoted from time to time, receiving commissions from both Gov. Richard Yates and Gov. Richard Oglesby, becoming major of his regiment. He married Susan Young, who was born in Illinois, coming from an old and honored family, and they became the parents of eight sons and four daughters, and of these six boys and two girls are living, Alexander L. being the eighth child. The eldest son, Ulric, in 1861, when but seventeen years old, enlisted for three months, and at the expiration of that term joined the Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served under his father till the close of the conflict. Two of the sons, John and Edwin, are prosperously employed in farming in Tulare county.

Brought up on the home farm, Alexander Logan Wilson attended first the district schools of New Palestine, and was afterwards graduated from the Sparta high school. Entering then the Missouri Medical College, he was graduated from there with the degree of M. D. in 1884, and at once began the practice of his profession in Appleton, Cape Girardeau county, Mo. Succeeding well, he remained there eleven years. In 1895 Dr. Wilson located in Tulare, Cal., and in the years that have since elapsed has built up a substantial and remunerative general practice. He is also surgeon for the Santa Fe Railroad Company, having the medical and surgical charge of the Tulare district. The doctor is also identified with the agricultural prosperity of this section of the county. Six miles south of Tulare he owns a well improved ranch containing three hundred and eighty acres, through which the Tule river passes, and from which he secured water for irrigation, having his own ditch sys-

tem. He makes a specialty of dairying, has one half of his farm planted to alfalfa and has a good orchard of twenty acres.

In Appleton, Mo., Dr. Wilson married Emma Lang, a native of that place, and they have four children: Maud, Delia, Edgar and Murray. The doctor is prominent in medical, fraternal and political circles. He is a member and ex-president of the Tulare County Medical Society; a member of the San Joaquin Medical Society; of the Pacific Coast Association of Railway Surgeons; is United States Pension Examiner; is a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M.; of Tulare Chapter No. 71, R. A. M.; and is a member and medical examiner of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Foresters. Politically he is a steadfast Republican. Mrs. Wilson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**HENRY E. WEAVER.** A man of excellent business capacity, keen foresight and great enterprise, Henry E. Weaver holds a prominent position among the active and progressive agriculturists of San Joaquin county. As a general farmer and grain raiser, he has met with unquestioned success, and in the harvesting and handling of the products of the eighteen hundred acres of land that are under his management he uses the most modern approved machinery, all of his implements and appliances being up-to-date and of a practical and substantial character. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born March 5, 1872, in Westmoreland county, which was the home of his ancestors for several generations, being the birthplace of his father, J. L. Weaver, and of his grandfather, Henry Weaver. The latter, a farmer, came to California with a view to settling here in 1875, but being dissatisfied with the place returned to Westmoreland county and there passed his remaining days.

Born and reared in Pennsylvania, J. L. Weaver began work for himself as a coal miner, but subsequently purchased land and was there employed in tilling the soil from 1877 until 1884. Migrating then with his family to the Pacific coast, he located in Merced county, Cal., where he continued his farming pursuits. Subsequently buying the ranch of one hundred and sixty acres that he now occupies, he has since been prosperously engaged in raising grain and stock. He married Jennie Greer, a native of the Keystone state, and they have three children, namely: Carrie, born February 10, 1870, and now the wife of Charles Sutliff, of San Joaquin county; Henry E., with whom this brief sketch is principally concerned; and Lloyd, born July 9, 1875, engaged in farming near Merced.

Coming with his parents to California when twelve years old, Henry E. Weaver completed his early education in the schools of the Merced district. Working under his father's instructions, he obtained a superior knowledge of the various branches of agriculture, remaining beneath the parental roof-tree until his marriage, in 1892. Locating then in Stanislaus county, Mr. Weaver rented a ranch of seven hundred and twenty acres, near Turlock, and for a year was prosperously engaged in raising grain. In 1893, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Charles Sutliff, he rented the Joyce ranch of two thousand acres, which he operated a year. The ensuing four years he carried on the Mitchell ranch in Merced county, renting it and making considerable money. Locating in San Joaquin county in 1897, Mr. Weaver rented the Muenther and Sutliff ranches, together containing twelve hundred and fifty acres of land, and operated them successfully until the fall of 1904, when he gave up the Sutliff farm. Removing then to the Harrison ranch, which contains one thousand acres of land, lying in Stanislaus county, he is carrying that on with characteristic success, and also manages the Muenther farm of eight hundred acres, which he still rents. Mr. Weaver raises one thousand acres of grain each year, running three ten-mule teams, and has a combined header and harvester, which is run by thirty-two head of horses and mules and cuts over forty acres of grain per day.

In San Joaquin county, near Stockton, Mr. Weaver married Lulu May Sutliff, who was born March 7, 1872, near Stockton, a daughter of Charles B. Sutliff, and they have two children: Claude Leslie, born July 30, 1893, and Stella Myrtle, born June 4, 1897. Politically Mr. Weaver cordially supports the principles of the Democratic party by voice and vote. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Woodmen of the World.

---

**ALBERT WARREN MORLEY.** California numbers among her native-born citizens many loyal, true-hearted men, men of excellent business ability, who, as farmers, have done their part toward making the state famous for its grain and live-stock, and to this class of citizens belongs A. W. Morley, a prominent rancher in the vicinity of Plainsberg, Merced county. Mr. Morley has under his supervision twelve hundred acres of the most productive land in the county, a part of which is rented land. He owns his home place of two hundred and forty acres about two miles west of Plainsberg. He is successfully engaged in raising grain and live-stock.

Born near his present home, August 5, 1871, Albert W. Morley is the eldest of five children







*A. G. Seelbeter*

born to John W. and Abbie Jane (Spangenberg) Morley, and is a grandson of Israel Dodge and Samantha Morley. John W. Morley was born in Onondaga county, N. Y., September 29, 1836; his wife, Abbie J., was born June 16, 1847. They were married in 1869 in Stanislaus county, and of this union the following children were born: Albert W., of this review; Eugene L., born July 29, 1873, now a rancher near Plainsburg; Walter S., born June 3, 1875, an instructor in the University of California; Helen, deceased; and Edith, born in 1883.

John W. Morley was reared on a farm, and in 1847, being then a mere boy, he ran a horse-power threshing machine under his father's direction. After leaving home he spent five years in Indiana and Michigan; subsequently locating in Steuben county, Ind., he resided near Ft. Wayne until 1852. In March of that year he began the tedious journey with ox-teams across the plains to California, coming by way of Chicago, Iowa City, and Council Bluffs, crossing the Missouri river May 2, 1852, and arriving in Hangtown, Cal., August 3 of the same year. During the most of this trip Mr. Morley was confined to a wagon, owing to inflammatory rheumatism. He farmed in San Joaquin county until 1853, then went to Stanislaus county, which continued to be his home until November 16, 1869, at which time he located in Merced county, where the remainder of his life was spent as a successful rancher and stockman. At the time of his death in 1891, he had accumulated twelve hundred acres of land, which was divided among his heirs. His widow is now a resident of Missouri.

Albert W. Morley was educated in the public schools of Merced county and attended school in Oakland for five years. Upon leaving school he turned his attention to farming, having been engaged successfully in that vocation ever since. By his marriage he united his fortunes with those of Mary E. Earl, a native of Merced county and a daughter of Robert Earl, who settled in California about 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Morley are the parents of three children, Gladys T., Grace H. and Kenneth E. The family are attendants of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Morley is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Aid societies, and as a citizen he is highly respected.

---

**ADDIS GOULDER LEDBETTER.** The Ledbetter family is widely known throughout Tulare county and honored for the sterling traits of character which have distinguished its members. The pioneer to the state of California was James Ledbetter, a native of Lincolnshire, Eng-

land, who located in New York state upon his removal to the United States. There he engaged as a farmer until his removal to Waterloo, Iowa, where he followed the same occupation, and finally in Blackhawk county, purchased a farm, which he cultivated and improved, breaking up the prairie land. Deciding to locate in the more remote west, he brought his family to California in 1876, locating in Tulare county, where he engaged in farming on the Cottonwood. The following year he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres in Drum valley, after one year returning to the Cottonwood. In the fall of 1879 he purchased three hundred and twenty acres on section 17, which is now the site of Orosi, and which he held for some time, erecting modern and substantial buildings and improving the land. Eventually he traded that property for his present place, consisting of one hundred and forty acres in Orosi, a half-mile south of the corners. He is still living, a hale and hearty man of nearly eighty years, having been born in February, 1825. He married Sarah Wrought, also a native of England, the ceremony being performed in New York state. Her father, Thomas Wrought, was an early settler of New York, and afterward a farmer in Iowa. Mrs. Ledbetter died in Orosi, four of her eight children surviving her.

Addis Goulder Ledbetter was born September 20, 1860, the second in age of the children now living. He is a native of Blackhawk county, Iowa, where he spent the first fifteen years of his life, receiving his scholastic training in the common schools, and at the same time following the practical work of a farmer's son. Coming to California in 1876, he found employment in farming and teaming. Deciding to take up agricultural pursuits independently, he located upon his present property and has since given his entire time and attention to this work. For many years, in conjunction with his father and brother, he was interested in an extensive line of work, the three cultivating as many as twelve hundred acres at a time. He bought two hundred and forty acres on the Lovell road and improved the same, later selling eighty acres of it. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres located on sections 17 and 18, upon which he has put up modern buildings, improving and cultivating the land, principally devoting his time to grain and stock-raising. Since 1896 he has found considerable profit in running a combined harvester, which requires thirty-two horses and mules.

In Orosi Mr. Ledbetter was united in marriage with Mary Calcote, who was born near Visalia, a daughter of A. K. Calcote, and sister of William Calcote, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. They are the parents of four children, namely: Lee, a student of the Dinuba high school; Roy, attending the Chest-

nutwood Business College, of Fresno; Oscar, and Gordon. Mr. Ledbetter is Democratic on national issues but locally gives his support to the man whom he considers best qualified for public office. In the interest of educational matters in his vicinity he has served on the board of school trustees for twelve years, for eight years of that time acting as president. Fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias, being past chancellor for two terms. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, in which he has officiated as ruling elder and trustee for some years. He is also active in the work of the Sunday-school, having acted for some time as superintendent. Mr. Ledbetter is a man of force and energy, his ability commanding the respect of his business associates, and by the sterling qualities which have distinguished his citizenship winning the esteem of all who know him. He merits the high place he holds among the representative men of this section.

---

JOHN B. O'CONNOR. The first locomotive whistle which awoke the echoes in Visalia was blown by the trained engineering hand of John B. O'Connor, as he started the first engine over the Visalia & Goshen Railroad in 1874. Mr. O'Connor was the first steam engineer to locate in this town, and he has since been identified with its growth, having shared its fortunes when little of promise beckoned settlers within its borders, and helped to bring about the prosperity which it now enjoys. After years of activity as an engineer he is living retired on his beautiful home of twenty acres at the foot of Watson avenue, on the southern edge of the town, caring for his apricot and French prune trees and taking a genial and kindly interest in his many friends and associates. Mr. O'Connor has traveled far and in many directions during his active life, and always with observant eye and remembering brain. He is an interesting and instructive conversationalist, having picked up snatches of humor and pathos from his surroundings, wherever he has been.

Mr. O'Connor was born in Maine, on a farm along the Penobscot river, in Indian Old Town, twelve miles from Hampden, December 4, 1825. His family was an old one in Maine, having been established on the Penobscot in 1812 by his parents, Daniel and Bridget (Keenan) O'Connor, natives of Ireland, the former born in County Kerry in 1802. The elder O'Connor was a machinist by trade, who in 1827 moved to Syracuse, N. Y., and was employed by the Schenectady Locomotive Works in that city. In 1857 he located in Louisville, Ky., and engaged in the machine shops of the railroad company, his death occurring in Louisville in 1861. His

father, Arthur O'Connor, also was a native of Ireland, and was a man of military prowess, attaining to the rank of general in the rebellion against England under King George's reign. For this disregard of royalty he was transported to Van Dieman's Land, but was allowed his freedom on the island, and in 1837 was made a free man by Queen Victoria, married and remained in Australia. Mrs. O'Connor died in Huntsville, Ala., in 1887, at the age of seventy-seven years, having reared a family of four sons and two daughters.

The oldest in his parents' family, John B. was educated in the public schools of Syracuse, and as soon as old enough served an apprenticeship as machinist in the Schenectady Locomotive Works. With this admirable training he moved to Massachusetts in 1845, and during the next three years assisted with the construction of the Vermont & Massachusetts Railroad and the Cheshire Railroad, afterward becoming an engineer on these roads. Returning to New York state in 1854, he soon after was sent to Sycamore, Ill., as an engineer on the Dixon Air Line, and in 1859 crossed the plains to California with horse teams, locating in Visalia, where later he left his team and went to Oroville. Engaging in mining in Oroville, on the Feather river, he next mined in Inyo county, on Owens river, for three years, and after locating in Visalia worked as an engineer of the Visalia Flour Mill for twenty-four years. He then returned to locomotive engineering, pulled the throttle of the first engine that came to the town, and for a few years was interested in running a threshing machine in different parts of the county. He put together the first steam fire engine that came to Visalia and ran it four years. From 1872 until 1876 he engaged in the sheep business in connection with his other work, purchasing his present place in the latter part of 1865, and moving onto it in 1867.

While living in Syracuse, N. Y., December 7, 1850, Mr. O'Connor married Elizabeth Bettinger, who was born in 1825 on a farm skirting the Mohawk river in Herkimer county, and who, as a child, was a playmate of her husband's, and a daughter of Baltes and Elizabeth (Fulmer) Bettinger, of Dutch ancestry. Mrs. O'Connor has grown old gracefully, retaining her charm of manner, her innate refinement and her large-hearted hospitality. She is the devoted mother of three children, of whom Mary is the wife of S. Stevenson of Visalia, and John is living at home. Francis died at the age of twenty-three. Mr. O'Connor's genial manner and ability to entertain his friends have made him a social favorite, and for years he has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been a delegate to the Grand Lodge on five occa-

sions. He also is a member and past chief patriarch of the encampment, and was sent as a delegate to the Grand Encampment in San Francisco in 1904. He is a Republican in politics and in religion is a member of the Christian Church.

**COTTLE BROTHERS.** Energetic, industrious and enterprising, Messrs. Melvin Green and Ulysses Grant Cottle are actively identified with the business and agricultural interests of Tulare county. They are land owners and stockmen, and are also carrying on a substantial livery business as proprietors of the Tulare stables, located on South K street, Tulare. Sons of the late E. L. N. Cottle, both were born in Lincoln county, Mo., near Troy, the birth of Melvin Green occurring February 16, 1861, and that of Ulysses Grant September 22, 1862. Their grandfather, Edward Cottle, the descendant of an old and honored New England family, was born and reared in Vermont. Moving westward, he located in Missouri, where he cleared and improved a farm, and for many years was prosperously engaged in tilling the soil. Crossing the plains in 1854, he came as a pioneer to California, settling first in Coyote, four miles from San Jose, but subsequently removing to that city, where he spent his last years.

Born in Missouri, E. L. N. Cottle spent the larger part of his life in his native state, being engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1885 he came to California to make his permanent home. Locating thirteen miles southwest of Tulare, he bought land, and there continued the independent occupation of his choice until his death, September 22, 1892. He married Louisa Duff, who was born in Lincoln county, Mo., the daughter of a pioneer settler, who removed to that state from Pennsylvania, and was afterwards killed by the Indians while hunting for his horses. She survived her husband, and now, a bright and active woman of seventy-six years, continues her residence in Tulare. She bore him eleven children, ten of whom are living, namely: J. A., of San Jose; R. E., of Los Angeles; H. B., of San Francisco; Mrs. Celia E. Elder, of Visalia; Sarah, of San Jose; Marshall, of Tulare; Mrs. Jennie Birkhead, living near Tulare; Melvin Green and Ulysses Grant, of this review; and M. Mae, of Tulare. One child is dead, William having lived but two years.

Both Melvin Green Cottle and Ulysses Grant Cottle were brought up on the home farm in Missouri, and both were educated in the public schools and subsequently trained to agricultural pursuits. In 1885 M. G. Cottle came to Tulare county, Cal., and the following year he was joined by his brother, U. G. Cottle. Both brothers worked as farm hands until 1887, when they

began farming on their own account, renting two ranches and making a specialty of raising grain. Giving up that business in 1898, they turned their attention to stock raising. They purchased land in different places and now own eight hundred and eighty acres of land, all lying within twelve miles of Tulare. A part of this they use for grazing and stock raising and a part is sowed to alfalfa. They keep now about one hundred and fifty head of cattle and maintain a good dairy farm, which they run with profit to themselves. In April, 1904, Messrs. Cottle purchased of Williams & Webb the Tulare stables, and have since carried on an extensive livery, feed and sale stable. Although they still continue their stock and dairy business, they reside in Tulare, and Melvin G. is a member of the Tulare Board of Trade.

M. G. Cottle is a shareholder and a director of the Co-operative Creamery Company of Tulare. For eight years he served as deputy county assessor. He was made a Mason in New Salem Lodge No. 270, of Argenteville, Mo., and is now a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., and also belongs to the Woodmen of the World. Fraternally Ulysses G. Cottle is a member of the Woodmen of the World, of the Improved Order of Red Men, and of the Independent Order of Foresters.

**SEBERT STEVENSON.** One of the first white children born in Tulare county was Sebert Stevenson, whose natal day was September 16, 1854, and whose native town was Visalia. In 1852 his parents, Robert and Frances (Willis) Stevenson, crossed the plains with ox teams, having the usual experiences which befell the plains travelers, and eventually located in what is now Tulare county. Robert Stevenson was born in Pennsylvania, and after starting out on his own responsibility lived in Illinois, Missouri and Iowa, in the latter state changing his bachelor state for one of marriage with a native daughter of Iowa. He assisted in the organization of Tulare county, took quite an active part in its politics and government, and became the owner of a large amount of land upon a portion of which Visalia has since been built. His home was just half a mile from the town of Visalia, and here he died in 1874, at the age of sixty-seven years. June 10, 1893, his wife died at the age of seventy, having reared a family of seven children, of whom Sebert is the fifth oldest. Cyrus and Preston are deceased; Curtis is a resident of Visalia; Robert is a rancher of this county; Corolla is deceased; and Fannie is now Mrs. Keener of Visalia.

From boyhood up Sebert Stevenson has engaged in stock raising and farming, and he has

both the desire and the industry to succeed. He had a common school education, which he has supplemented by years of reading and research, and for many years he was one of the most successful stock raisers in this neighborhood. Continuously since his father's death he has lived on the home place, and still owns the fifteen acres within the city limits, which is now set off in town lots. He has been an interested spectator of the upbuilding of Visalia, particularly of Main street, which goes by his house. He married into one of the old families of Tulare county, Mary O'Connor being a daughter of John O'Connor, the first steam engineer of Visalia, and who, previous to locating on his present fruit ranch near the city, was employed in engineering and other capacities here for many years. Mr. O'Connor, whose information concerning the early days is both interesting and exhaustive, is written of at length in another part of this work, and given the honor due his energetic and worthy life. Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson have three children, Ocie, Hazel and Sebert, Jr. Mr. Stevenson is a Republican in politics, and is a quiet, methodical man, faithful to friends and interests and appreciated for his many excellent traits of character.

---

**WILLIAM L. SELLERS.** A typical representative of the self-made men of today, W. L. Sellers came to California without means, and by the exercise of his resolute will and persevering industry has established a prosperous dairy business and gained a substantial position among the successful agriculturists of Tulare. His enterprise, thrift and straightforward dealings with all have won for him the respect of the community in which he resides. A native of Iowa, he was born, October 6, 1856, in Keosauqua, Van Buren county, a son of Franklin S. Sellers.

Born and reared in Pittsburg, Pa., Franklin S. Sellers was well endowed with mechanical genius, and when a young man learned the trade of a blacksmith. He settled in business first in Muncie, Ind., from there removing to Keosauqua, Iowa, where he followed his trade a few years. During the Civil war he served in a Kansas regiment, and took part in Price's raid. He afterward took up land in Wilson county, Kans., becoming owner of three hundred and twenty acres, from which he improved a farm. He spent his last years, however, in Ford county, dying in Dodge City. He married Lydia Bentley, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Joseph Bentley, and died in Kansas. Five children were born of their union, William L. being the second child.

Brought up in Wilson county, Kans., William L. Sellers received a limited education in the pioneer district schools, and as a boy and youth

assisted his father in clearing a farm from the low prairie. After his marriage Mr. Sellers engaged in farming and stock-raising in his native state, remaining there until 1887. Going then to Las Animas county, Colo., he bought government land, and there continued as a farmer and stock-raiser for three years. The land being too dry, with no irrigating advantages, Mr. Sellers returned to Kansas in 1890, and for two years was engaged in farming in Wilson county. Not satisfied with the result of his labors, he came to California in 1892 in search of a more favorable opportunity for increasing his finances. Beginning again at the very bottom of the ladder, he worked out as a farm hand for about three years, and by means of economy and prudent thrift saved some money. In 1895 Mr. Sellers purchased twenty acres of land, lying one and one-half miles southeast of Tulare, and started in the dairy business on his own account. In this occupation he labored hard, for the first six years doing all of the work himself, milking the cows, and delivering the milk, making two trips each day. Meeting with well-deserved success in his operations, Mr. Sellers enlarged his business as his patronage demanded. January 1, 1904, he bought his present ranch of forty acres, lying within the city limits, and now retails all of his milk in the city, running the Tulare Dairy. His home ranch is all under irrigation, and is devoted to alfalfa. He also rents three hundred and twenty acres of land near Tulare, and part of this he has sowed to alfalfa, while on the remainder he pastures his large herd of cattle. He keeps a fine lot of choice cows for his dairy, and in the raising of stock is carrying on a good business also.

In Wilson county, Kans., October 31, 1879, Mr. Sellers married Mary E. Sears, who was born near Joplin, Mo., and they have two children, Effie J. and Mattie B. Politically Mr. Sellers is a Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and to the Woodmen of the World.

---

**SAMUEL BURGAN.** A worthy representative of the prosperous and thriving agriculturists of Tulare, Samuel Burgan holds a high position among the esteemed and respected residents of the township. He has seen much of the stormy side of life, but even under the most discouraging circumstances never for a moment lost his grit. As a freighter across the plains, he met with many rough and thrilling experiences, and in the mining camps of the earlier days suffered hardships and privations. Industrious and courageous, however, he continued his way without thought of giving up, and by dint of perse-



verance and good management has acquired a fair share of this world's goods. A son of Samuel Burgan, Sr., he was born, September 25, 1841, in Holmes county, Ohio, of Scotch descent. His paternal grandfather, William Burgan, was born in Pennsylvania, but removed from there to Ohio, becoming a pioneer of Wayne county.

A life-long resident of Ohio, Samuel Burgan, Sr., was born and reared in Wayne county, and died in Holmes county. His wife, whose maiden name was Hester Burnett, was born in Pennsylvania, and died in Wayne county, Ohio, where her father, Isaac Burnett, settled when she was a girl. Of the six children born of their union, five grew to years of maturity, Samuel being the youngest child.

Brought up on the home farm, near Wooster, Wayne county, Ohio, Samuel Burgan received a common school education in his native district. Breaking home ties in 1861, he migrated westward, going as far as Indiana, where he spent a year. Continuing his onward progress in 1862, he started with wagon and team, May 6, intending to come to the Pacific coast. After crossing the Missouri river he and a companion started across the plains with a load of freight and provisions, using ox-teams for transportation. Selling out his entire load at Fort Kearney, Mr. Burgan returned to the Missouri river. Hiring out then to a man loading a freight train, he proceeded to Denver, Colo., arriving there in January, 1863. Finding nothing to do in that embryo city, he went back to the Missouri river to await the opening of spring, when he started with a load of freight for the mines, going first to Montana, then to Idaho, and on to Oregon, where he intended to winter. From Boise City he went down the river of that name to the Snake river, but finding the snow too deep to travel through, he turned his course, and after camping for awhile went back to the Idaho mining fields. The following winter Mr. Burgan spent in Denver. In July, 1866, he made a trip to Nebraska, locating on the Missouri river. Picking up a load of freight, he started, in October, 1866, for Kansas. Arriving in the Kaw valley, he took up land two and one-half miles north of Lawrence, and there engaged in farming and freighting, for a number of seasons being engaged in teaming to southern Kansas. He subsequently sold and traded lands until he had title to eighty-four acres, situated three miles north of Lawrence. He engaged in general farming, including the raising of vegetables, finally achieving notable success as a potato grower. He also operated a threshing machine, and paid much attention to horse breeding, in all branches of agriculture being successful, and in the mean-

time improving one of the finest home estates in Grant township.

In 1901 Mr. Burgan came to California, locating in Tulare, where he has since been extensively and profitably employed in the stock business. He owned five hundred acres of land five miles south of the city, and also leased a large tract, running a little over nineteen hundred acres in all until the fall of 1904, when he sold out to his son-in-law, William E. Green, whose sketch may be found elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Burgan now owns a valuable ranch near Tulare, where he is successfully conducting his chosen occupation.

While a resident of Nebraska Mr. Burgan married Ellen Foltz, a native of Ohio, and into their home nine children have been born, namely: Rose, wife of W. E. Green, of Tulare; John, engaged in the livery business in Tulare; Anna, of Nebraska; Charles, a dairyman in Tulare; Ida, wife of Dr. Snell, of Texas; and Etta, Samuel, Blanche and Inez, of Tulare. Politically Mr. Burgan is a Democrat in national affairs; socially he belongs to the Fraternal Aid; and religiously he is a Methodist.

---

JOSEPH WEISENBERGER. As a successful orange grower of the vicinity of Portersville, Tulare county, Joseph Weisenberger is widely known. A native of Germany, he was born in Baden, near Weissweil, June 7, 1842, the youngest in a family of five children, of whom three are living. His father, Mathias Weisenberger, was a native of the same locality and a farmer by occupation. He was accidentally killed by a falling tree when his son was six months old. His wife, formerly Magdalena Houser, was also a native of the Fatherland; she died in Missouri in 1871, having come to America to make her home with her children. Joseph Weisenberger was reared on a farm in his native country until 1865, when he came to America, locating first in New York state, then in New Jersey, and in the spring of 1868 coming as far west as Illinois. He was located for a time in Chicago, then in Bloomington, remaining in that state until 1871, when he went to Rockport, Atchison county, Mo., where he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty-two acres. He engaged in general farming and stock-raising in that locality for twenty-three years, meeting with success in his work. His first trip to California was made in 1890, but he returned east shortly afterward and then it was his intention to remain. However, five years later he sold out and sought a home in the southern part of this state, buying the ranch of forty acres, which he now owns. In the spring of 1896 he set it out in navel oranges, and now has twenty-five acres in this fruit. The land

is under irrigation from the Pioneer ditch, and in the spring of 1905 he contemplates putting in a pumping plant. His orchard is located within a half mile of Zante.

In Missouri, in 1874, Mr. Weisenberger was united in marriage with Augusta Heidenreich, a native of Germany. She died in California in 1898, the mother of eight children, of whom six are living, namely: Ernest J., of Portersville; Anna, the wife of J. B. Spears, of Berkeley; J. Richard, of Portersville; Leo M.; Carl; and Josephine, the three last named being at home. Mr. Weisenberger's second marriage occurred in California, April 20, 1901, and united him with Mrs. Amelia (Becker) Mathews, a native of Germany, who was brought to America by her parents when an infant. Her first husband died in Mississippi, after which she came to California. Mr. Weisenberger is interested in the Portersville Rochdale Company. Politically he is independent in his affiliations, preferring to reserve the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

---

JOHN W. MARTIN. The Martin family is of colonial Virginian ancestry. James Martin was born in Montgomery county, Va., in 1801, and removed from there to Livingston county, Mo., in 1843, settling on a large tract of land, where he engaged in general farming and the breeding and raising of fine horses. During 1854 he crossed the plains to California with ox-teams and settled in Yuba county near Marysville, where he remained until his death in 1861. With him to the west came his wife, who was Linnie Williams, a native of Montgomery county, Va., and a daughter of George Williams, a Virginian planter. She survived him for a long period and died in Yolo county during 1884. Of their five children only two are living, viz.: George C., a farmer near Woodland; and John W., who is engaged in raising horses and in general farm pursuits near Woodville, Tulare county.

While the family were living near Chillicothe, Livingston county, Mo., J. W. Martin was born April 2, 1850, and from there he accompanied his parents to California at the age of four years. During the memorable flood of 1862 their fine bottom land was almost wholly ruined and his mother therefore decided to dispose of the property. After selling out they removed to the vicinity of Woodland and bought a raw tract of land, which the sons improved and placed under cultivation. Meanwhile J. W. Martin was given good educational advantages in Hesperian College and later, at the age of about twenty years, began to teach school. With the money thus earned he paid his tuition and board while

attending the California State Normal at San Jose, where he remained until his graduation in 1874. Returning to Yolo county he resumed the work of teaching school and for eight years acted as principal of schools in that county. Eventually, however, delicate health forced him to seek an occupation that would permit him to be in the open air, so he turned his attention to the raising of standard-bred horses, in which both his father and grandfather had been successful. As early as 1875 he had purchased land on the Tule river, ten miles southeast of Tulare, and in 1890 he settled on the farm, which he still owns and occupies. In 1890 he brought fifty head of horses to the farm and has since made the breeding of horses his principal industry. The farm comprises three hundred and twenty acres, of which eighty acres are under alfalfa, irrigated from the Woodville ditch, in which he is financially interested. Among the valuable horses that he owns may be mentioned McKinley, with a record of 2:29, one of the greatest horses in the San Joaquin valley, by McKinney, dam by Richard's Elector, son of Electioneer, and he also owns some fine fillies that are standard-bred. In 1905 he installed a twenty-five-horse power pumping plant on his ranch.

While living in Yolo county Mr. Martin married Miss Emma Bonham, who was born at Healdsburg and died in Yolo county. Of their four children the sole survivor is Benjamin A., who is a practicing attorney of Woodland, Cal. The second marriage of Mr. Martin occurred in 1884 and united him with Miss Lizzie Smith, by whom he has four children, Claire E. C., Leland S., Roswell E. and Lucille. In 1902 he was elected on the Democratic ticket to serve for a term of four years as supervisor of the fifth district. In 1898 he was chosen a presidential elector on the Bryan and Sewall ticket, receiving a majority of about four thousand and being the only Democratic elector chosen at the time. It is worthy of note that he received a large vote in his old home locality in the Sacramento valley as well as a large vote in the San Joaquin valley, this attesting his popularity among neighbors and associates. With characteristic enthusiasm he canvassed the entire valley in the interests of the ticket. At the election Bryan received one hundred and forty-four thousand seven hundred and sixty-six votes, being the largest vote ever received by a Democrat in California. At one time Mr. Martin was a member of the county central committee of his party and he has also served as a delegate to state Democratic conventions. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World, also the Fraternal Brotherhood, of which organization he was chosen the first president.

Through the efforts of Mr. Martin the indebtedness was settled that long had hung over the Tule River Irrigation District, and for his work in the matter he received many flattering press notices, not a few papers claiming that the settlement was the best of its kind ever made in California. Seven months of arduous labor brought about the result he so greatly desired. Through bringing together the bondholders and land owners, he secured the consent of the former to settle at fifty cents on the dollar, without interest, and bonds in escrow. Next an order was made levying a tax. It was necessary to negotiate, in person or by letter, with all land owners. Finally he succeeded in raising \$50,000, with which he cancelled the bonds at Fresno in January, 1904, and in May of the same year the bonds were burned, leaving the district in excellent financial condition.

---

**SAMUEL KELLEY GREENE.** Capable, enterprising and eminently trustworthy, Samuel K. Greene occupies a conspicuous position among the leading residents of Dinuba and vicinity. The owner of a finely improved ranch, situated three and one-half miles from Dinuba, towards the southeast, he is carrying on an excellent business as a general farmer and dairyman, and is widely and favorably known as the superintendent of the Alta Irrigation District, which includes Fresno, Tulare and Kings counties, his office being in Dinuba. A native Californian, he was born, May 24, 1858, in Merced county, a son of Robert L. Greene.

Of Virginia ancestry, Robert L. Greene was born and reared in Tennessee. He settled as a farmer in Menard county, Ill., living there until 1850, when he crossed the plains to California, coming by the southern route. He brought with him his wife and family, and it is said that she was the first white woman to cross the Tehachapi Pass. In 1858 he returned east with his family, and until after the close of the Civil war resided in Texas. He subsequently spent two or three years in Menard county, Ill., and 1868 again came across the plains to this state. For six years he lived on a farm in Snelling, then located at Fresno Flats, from there coming, in 1876, to Tulare county, where, not far from Dinuba, he homesteaded land, on which he lived until his death. He married Rebecca Center, a native of Tennessee, and she now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Ellen Lewis, being the widow of the late Judge Louis Van Tassel, whom she married for her second husband.

Until the close of the war Samuel K. Greene lived in Dallas county, Tex., from there going with the family to Illinois, and with them coming to California in 1868, completing his edu-

cation in the district schools of Merced county, and at Fresno Flats. In 1876, while yet in his teens, he wrote a petition for the establishment of the Greene school in the Wilson district. On attaining his majority Mr. Greene took up a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres, three and one-half miles south of Dinuba, and having proved up engaged in grain farming until he sold the farm to his sister, Mrs. Lewis. He subsequently built a planing mill at Traver, after which he erected a steam saw-mill in the Redwood Mountains, where for awhile he was engaged in the manufacture of lumber. Returning to the vicinity of his old farm, Mr. Greene bought ninety acres of land, which he has placed under irrigation, and is now engaged in dairying, stock-growing and fruit-raising, having a good vineyard and orchard, and raising alfalfa as his principal crop.

In 1895 Mr. Greene was elected superintendent of the Alta Irrigation District, which embraces one hundred and thirty thousand acres of land, and has over two hundred and seventy-five miles of canal, all of which, with the aid of ten men, he supervises.

In Tulare county, on the Tule river, Mr. Greene married Lula J. Harper, who was born in Yolo county, Cal., where her father, T. W. Harper, was a pioneer settler, and they are the parents of eight children: Joseph E., a graduate of the Dinuba high school, is now a student in the law department of the University of California; Daisy, Pearl and Hazel are pupils in the Dinuba high school; and Ruth, Irene, Edward and Marguerite complete the family. Mr. Greene is interested in educational matters, and is one of the trustees of the Dinuba Union High School, and a trustee and clerk of the Wilson District School. Politically he is a sound Democrat, and fraternally he belongs to Traver Lodge, I. O. O. F. Mrs. Greene and the family are members of the Christian Church.

---

**CHARLES L. SMITH, D. D. S.** A skillful dental surgeon, possessing a thorough knowledge of his profession, Charles L. Smith, D. D. S., of Tulare, has attained his present honorable position among the leading dentists of Tulare county by his own unaided exertions, earning the means for pursuing his studies by his own labors. A son of the late Valentine E. Smith, he was born, August 13, 1859, at Strongs Prairie, Adams county, Wis. His grandfather, Rev. John Smith, a minister of the United Brethren Church, removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio, settling in Galion, Crawford county, where he had charge of a large society.

A native of Pennsylvania, Valentine E. Smith was born and brought up near Harrisburg. He

afterward lived in Ohio, from there going to Strong's Prairie, Wis., becoming the pioneer merchant of that town. About 1872 he removed to Chippewa county, Wis., where he was engaged in the hotel business until his death. He married Miena Wock, who was born in Sauk county, Wis., a daughter of Peter Wock, who emigrated from Germany to the United States, and settled permanently in Wisconsin. She survived her husband, and now resides in Tulare, making her home with her son, Dr. Smith. She has three children: William, in business at Chippewa, Wis.; Charles L., and Edward B., of Tulare.

Accompanying his parents to Bloomer, Chippewa county, Wis., in 1872, Charles L. Smith continued his studies in the district school, remaining at home until 1885. Coming in that year to the Pacific coast, he located in Tulare, and for two years thereafter was employed in boring for artesian wells, and the following three years worked in the Southern Pacific Railway car shops. Desirous then of entering upon a professional career, Mr. Smith began the study of dentistry with Dr. Belfis, and afterwards practiced for a year by himself in Lemoore. Entering the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in San Francisco, in 1896, he took a course of three years in the dental department, from which he was graduated in 1899 with the degree of D. D. S. Returning then to Tulare, Dr. Smith opened an office here, and has since built up a large and lucrative practice.

In Delano, Kern county, Cal., Dr. Smith married Alma Latimer, a native of Fairbury, Ill., and they are the parents of two children, Edgar and Esther. The doctor is much interested in everything pertaining to the advancement of his profession, and is a member of the State Dental Association. In April, 1903, he was elected to the City Council, from the first ward, and is now chairman of the finance committee. He is quite active in secret and benevolent organizations, being past grand of Tulare Lodge No. 306 I. O. O. F.; chief patriarch of Tulare Encampment; a member of the Woodmen of the World; and of the Fraternal Aid.

---

JOHN JACOB LASCH, M. D. Through travel in every part of the United States, including visits to every city of importance in the entire country, Dr. Lasch has gained a knowledge of climates, customs and conditions not always possessed by a native-born American, and as a result of this experience he gives it as his opinion that Tulare is the healthiest city in our country with the sole exception of Ironton, Mo. Since establishing his home in Tulare in 1888 he has conducted a drug business and, in point of years

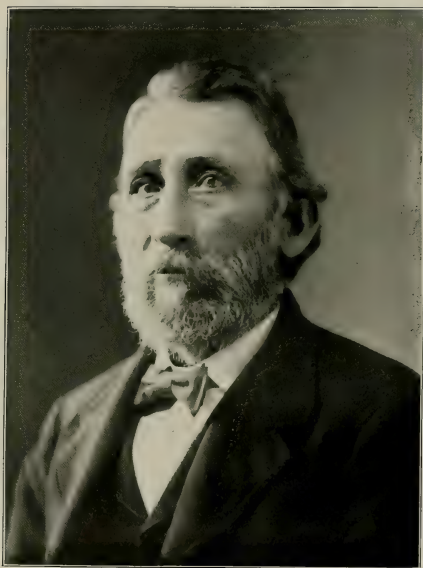
of business activity, claims to be the oldest pharmacist in the town. Though a graduate in medicine, the science of therapeutics never fascinated him, and for this reason he has devoted himself to pharmaceutical work, in which he is deeply interested and well informed.

The Lasch family was founded in America by Jacob Lasch, who in early life served as an official in the German government, but after the revolution of 1848 plunged his ambitious hopes in defeat, he removed to America, settling in New Orleans in 1850. Three years later he died of yellow fever. With him to America came his wife, who was Elizabeth Kunz, a native of Baden; after his death she continued to make her home in New Orleans until she passed from earth in 1866. Of their seven children only two are living, one of these being John Jacob, who was born in Baden, Germany, October 6, 1838, and at twelve years of age accompanied the family to New Orleans, where the advantages previously obtained in German schools were supplemented by attendance at public schools and a commercial college. Varied experiences were crowded into his youth. Disliking the work at which he was engaged, he ran away from home on a steamboat, but soon returned, only, however, to run away a second time and take up the carpenter's trade. A cruel master filled his days with heavy tasks, and caused him to regret his rashness in leaving home, so he returned and took up the study of pharmacy under Dr. Albrecht, of New Orleans, later becoming a student in the medical department of the University of Louisiana (now Tulane University), from which in 1860 he was graduated with the degree of M. D.

A short experience in the practice of medicine convinced Dr. Lasch that the work was not to his taste, and he accordingly entered the drug business as a clerk, filling positions in this capacity in all the large cities of the United States. After some years, in 1872 he suffered a severe and almost fatal attack of cerebro-meningitis, during which his physician gave him at one time eight grains of quinine, instead of the usual dose of two grains. He was left blind and deaf and almost helpless, but with a firmness of will characteristic of him he refused to be discouraged, and as soon as possible began to work at hard manual labor, gradually regaining his faculties and strength. In 1886 he arrived in San Francisco and bought out a drug company on Mission street, but the climate did not prove satisfactory to him and two years later he moved the stock of drugs to Tulare, where he continues in business at this writing, and is also a member of the State Pharmaceutical Association.

By his first marriage Dr. Lasch has three children, namely: Arthur C., a resident of Delano, Kern county; Mrs. Florence L. Lee and Miss





*J R Robinson.*



Mary Louise Lasch, both of Tulare. The present Mrs. Lasch was Mrs. Mary Josephine Michau Bering, a native of Tallahassee, Fla., and who became his wife at Houston, Tex., in June of 1900. Her father, Dr. M. M. Michau, a native of South Carolina, was a dentist, and also filled pulpits in the Methodist Episcopal Church in both Florida and Texas, his death finally occurring in Galveston. The two children comprising his family were born of his marriage to Louisiana Floyd Newsom, daughter of Capt. D. P. F. N. Newsom; she was born in Florida, and died at Houston, Tex. The first husband of Mrs. Lasch was Louis H. Bering, a hardware merchant and influential Mason of Houston, Tex., where he died at fifty-two years of age. The children born of that marriage are named as follows: Robert E. Bering, M. D., of Tulare; Mrs. Hortense Bryant, of Houston, Tex.; and Raymond L. Bering, a stenographer, now in charge of the Lasch pharmacy at Tulare.

J. R. ROBINSON. Many and varied have been the experiences of this well-known pioneer of Tulare county, who for more than twenty years was the most extensive stock-buyer in the upper part of the San Joaquin valley, but who now to some extent is retired from active business cares. Two and one-half miles north of Visalia, on the St. John's river, lies his stock farm of three hundred and twenty acres, the value of which is greatly increased by sub-irrigation. Throughout all this section of country he has a reputation as a judge of stock, and often now his counsel is sought by those desirous of making purchases, but he no longer conducts the large enterprises of former years, when he was accustomed to ship stock by the train load from Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and California. During his long and active career he made thousands and lost thousands, his largest losses being caused by cholera breaking out among his hogs. At one time he lost \$20,000 from that disease alone. However, many of his ventures in the hog industry were most profitable. It is still a matter of history in the San Francisco stock market that at one time (1880) he cornered the hog market so completely that the city dealers were obliged to come to him for purchases, large San Francisco buyers paying him seven and three-fourths and even eight cents per pound for hogs, of which he had more than ten thousand head. In buying wool his first experience was with a Mr. Beach of Nevada, with whom he bargained for the clip from seventeen thousand sheep, amounting to about thirty thousand pounds. Two days later he sold the wool to Mr. Lovejoy of Boston at an advance of eight cents a pound, clearing over \$2,400 in the deal.

Mr. Robinson was born in Richland county, Ohio, August 14, 1835, and was third in a family of two sons and three daughters, of whom he and one sister survive. His father, George, a native of Ohio, and a pioneer farmer of Iowa, took up land from the government near Farmington and for a long period made his home there, eventually in the spring of 1883 coming to California, where he died in the home of his son. Previous to this he had lost his wife by death; she was Margaret Snellbecker, a native of Ohio, and died in Iowa. After 1838 J. R. Robinson was reared on an Iowa farm twenty-five miles northwest of Keokuk, where he attended a subscription school and learned to write by the aid of an old-fashioned quill pen. At the age of sixteen he left home and secured work on a farm and two years later he began to trade in stock. During 1861 he crossed the plains with a bull-team. The party preceding his own lost thirteen persons killed by Indians, but his company made the journey without molestation or harm. After a journey occupying exactly six months he reached the Carson river. Later he went to the Washoe valley, where for two years he was employed in logging and saw-milling with Mr. Musgrove. July 13, 1863, he arrived in Tulare county. Not only was he without any means, but he was further handicapped by the extreme drouth of that year rendering work difficult to secure and payment uncertain. To add to his difficulties his wife was suffering with consumption. However, after several years of discouragements his finances began to improve, and he was able to take up farming and stock-raising on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres which he homesteaded. Later he turned his attention to shipping stock, making his home and headquarters in Visalia. From 1883 to 1885 he was engaged in the wholesale butchering business in San Francisco and Oakland and later again turned his attention to the shipment of stock, in which he continued until 1901. Endowed with remarkable judgment, he carried to success plans and speculations that would have brought many a buyer to financial ruin. Allied with keenness of judgment was firmness of will. Indeed these two traits are his most prominent characteristics, and have been the principal factors in his success, securing for him a position of influence among the stock buyers of the west.

The first wife of Mr. Robinson was Elizabeth Denny, who was born in Clark county, Mo., and died in Tulare county, Cal., in 1873. Six children were born of their marriage, of whom the following survive: Mrs. Mary Shippy, of Santa Clara; Mrs. Alice Shively, of San Francisco; Josephine, of Sacramento; Mrs. Olive Black and Rose, both of San Francisco. At Visalia, September 4, 1883, occurred the marriage of Mr.

Robinson and Miss Mathilda Kibbler, a native of St. Johns, New Brunswick, and a daughter of James and Catherine (Burns) Kibbler, natives respectively of London, England, and New Brunswick. On crossing the ocean to New Brunswick Mr. Kibbler settled on a farm near St. Johns and continued in the same locality until he died. In his family there were thirteen children who attained mature years and seven are now living. Mrs. Robinson was the eighth in order of birth and is the only member of the family living in California. At fourteen years of age she went to Boston, Mass., where she attended the public schools. In 1869 she came to California and followed the occupation of a nurse in San Francisco, remaining there until 1883, when she moved to Visalia. In religion she is of the Methodist faith, taking a warm interest in the work of the church, as well as in all movements for the uplifting of humanity. Politically Mr. Robinson votes the Democratic ticket, but has never been an active partisan and at no time has he sought the emoluments and honors of official positions.

---

FRANK PFITZER. August 10, 1903, Frank Pfitzer succeeded through purchase to the general merchandise business of G. M. Martin, and has since taken an active part in the commercial life of Volta, attending also to the duties of postmaster. Mr. Pfitzer's reputation as a business man rests upon years of worthy effort as a sheep raiser, and upon successful dealings in lands, and the ability to accumulate several large and paying country properties. His entire active life has been spent in California, as was also the greater part of his youth, for he came here a child in the summer of 1863. He was born in Jackson county, Iowa, February 21, 1859, and is the oldest of ten children of Anthony and Theresa (Myers) Pfitzer, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, the latter a resident of Santa Cruz.

Anthony Pfitzer was a blacksmith by trade, giving to his work the thoroughness and application required of apprentices in the old world. With his trade as a guarantee of at least a fair livelihood, he came to the United States, traveled throughout the east, and finally became a pioneer farmer of Jackson county, Iowa. His land lay along the Maquoketa river, was fertile and productive, and soon placed him above indebtedness and on the road to success. In the spring of 1863 he yielded to a desire to see the far west, and with his family crossed the plains, locating in Eldorado county, where he followed freighting. In 1867 he located on land near old Los Banos, engaged in the stock-raising business, and became one of the largest stock and grain

men in the county. From a small beginning he branched out repeatedly, purchasing additional land from the settlers, until he owned over six thousand acres. During the last years of his life he leased the greater part of his property, his death occurred in Merced county in 1892, at the age of sixty-two years. He was a man of marked characteristics, liberal and public-spirited, and impressed his influence upon many departments of the county's growth. As a Democrat he was active in the interests of his party, served on the county central committee, the school board, and was instrumental in securing the building of the first school house in Volta. He was one of the founders and builders of the church at Volta. Honest and straightforward in all of his dealings, genial and considerate in his association with friends and neighbors, he commanded the respect and good-will of the community, and left a void in the hearts of many when he died. Nine of his ten children are living, and of these Joseph, the second son, is a farmer of the Cottonwood district; Mary is the wife of A. Domengine, of Fresno county; Julia is the wife of E. McCabe of Merced county; Anthony lives on the old home farm; Rose married William Bunker of Cottonwood; William is a farmer of the Cottonwood district; Clara is a resident of Santa Cruz; and Louis runs a dairy near Los Banos.

From 1867 until his twenty-first year Frank Pfitzer lived on his father's farm, after which he started out on his own responsibility in the sheep business, herding his sheep on the plains and in the valley. Eventually he purchased a farm of sixteen hundred acres in the foothills, which he still owns, and where he pastured sheep until July, 1903. Since then he has rented this property. He also owns a thousand acres of land south of Volta, which he rents for grain purposes, and two hundred and forty acres in his home ranch, all under irrigation, of which eighty acres are under alfalfa and rented out for a dairy. Mr. Pfitzer practically retired from immediate supervision of his landed interests when he embarked in the merchandise business in 1903, but his responsibilities are still great, and include active political service, and an interest in all questions of local public moment. He is at present a member of the Republican county central committee, and has been for many years a delegate to state and county conventions. The friend of education and all manner of improvement, he was formerly a member of the school board, and his contributions to church and charitable undertakings are generous. Mr. Pfitzer was united in marriage in 1881 in Merced county, to Esther A. Knight, a native of Jones county, Iowa, and they have four children, Clarence, May, Ruby and Frances. Fraternally

he is associated with the Hills Ferry Lodge No. 236, F. & A. M., of Newman, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Los Banos. His character, lifework and aims command the respect of an intelligent and discriminating commonwealth, and his rise to success is of such a nature as to furnish encouragement and hope to the industrious and ambitiously inclined.

---

DAVID M. ROUSE. The former superintendent of the San Joaquin and Kings River Canal & Irrigating Company has probably superintended the construction of more miles of waterways in the state of California than any other man. His work included first the canal and reservoir of Salt Spring valley, at Milton, Cal., the Crocker & Huffman canal in Merced county, the Modesto canal and the San Joaquin and King's river canal, built by Miller & Lux, begun in October, 1891; the latter waterway is one hundred and thirty-nine miles in length, including the main canal of seventy-four miles, fifty miles outside of the canal, and fifteen miles of Colony ditch, besides many miles of laterals. He has made a profound study of irrigation, and upon resigning his position with the San Joaquin and King River Canal & Irrigating Company, in January, 1904, was probably as well posted in his particular line as any man now interested in this department of progress. Mr. Rouse is now in the employ of James Stephenson, and is superintending the construction of that rancher's canal on the west side of Merced county. He has invested in town and country property, owning, besides his residence in Los Banos, a ranch of seventy acres adjoining the town, which is rented and devoted to dairying.

Mr. Rouse's youth was spent on the frontier of Iowa, on a farm near Ottumwa, Wapello county, near the Indian agency, upon which his father had settled. As the first white child to come into existence in the wild and uncultivated region, he was a subject of curiosity to both whites and Indians, although the family was a large one, he being the second youngest of ten children. His parents, D. J. and Eliza (Manson) Rouse, were born in Indiana, his paternal grandfather having settled in the Hoosier state during the Indian wars, in which he took a prominent part. D. J. Rouse sold his Iowa farm about 1870, removing to Olathe, Johnson county, Kans., where he lived in retirement until his death in 1874. He was a man of much ability and natural shrewdness, considerable of a politician, and at one time clerk of Wapello county on the Republican ticket. He was survived by his wife until 1894. George, his oldest son, served all through

the Civil war in the First Iowa Cavalry, and now lives in Iowa.

Reared in the Indian agency, D. M. Rouse found plenty of hard work to test his growing strength, and his opportunity for acquiring an education was limited in the extreme. At the age of twenty-two he engaged in independent farming, and shortly after removed to Olathe, Kans., and the same year to Coffey county, that state. There he pre-empted land and lived on his quarter-section until 1874. Selling out during that year he removed to Stockton, Cal., and engaged in grain raising near Lodi, moving later to Milton, where he undertook his first superintendency of a California canal. He found it sufficiently remunerative and interesting to warrant investigation and study, and so continued to work and made a name for himself as an authority on the subject of irrigation.

The first marriage of Mr. Rouse was solemnized in Ottumwa, Iowa, with India Hixson, a native of that locality, who died in California. His present wife, Sarah McCulligh, was born in the north of Ireland, whither her family had removed to avoid religious persecution. There are two children of this union, Horace Manson and David Mansfield. Mr. Rouse votes the straight Republican ticket and is a member of the school board, which is constructing the new school building of Los Banos. He is fraternally connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Rouse is a member of the Presbyterian church. Whatever success has come to Mr. Rouse has been of his own making, for his start in life was unattended by advantages of either money or influence. He illustrates the value of gift and perseverance, as well as of integrity, reliability, and personal agreeableness.

---

WALTER E. PREMIO, PH. B., supervising principal of the Tulare schools, occupies a conspicuous place among the leading educators of Tulare county, his superior ability and scholarly attainments eminently qualifying him for his important work. He is a native son of California, his birth having occurred in San Joaquin county, May 8, 1875, on the farm improved by his father, Michael Premio.

A Canadian by birth, Michael Premio was born and reared near the city of Montreal, the son of a farmer. With the love of youth for travel and adventure, he went to New York in search of work, from there coming by way of Panama to San Francisco in 1869. Subsequently locating in San Joaquin county, he took up land on the French Camp road, near Atlanta, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1882. Coming in that year to Tulare county, he bought a

ranch west of Tulare, in the artesian belt, having six hundred and forty acres, and was there employed in grain farming for nearly twenty years. In 1901 he removed to Longbeach, Los Angeles county, where he still resides. He married Magdalene Minges, who was born in California, the daughter of John Minges, a pioneer who crossed the plains with ox-teams and settled in the San Joaquin valley, spending his last years in Stockton. Eight children were born to Michael Premo and his wife, seven of whom are living, Walter E., of this review being the oldest child.

But seven years of age when his parents settled in Tulare county, Walter E. Premo here received his elementary education, being graduated from the Tulare High School in 1893. The ensuing two years he worked with his father on the home farm, after which he attended the University of Southern California for two years. In 1897 Mr. Premo entered the University of California as a junior, and in 1899 was graduated from that institution with the degree of Ph. B. After teaching mathematics and the sciences for a year in the Portersville High School, in 1900, he accepted a similar position in the Tulare High School. His services in this capacity proved so acceptable that in 1902 he was elected supervising principal of the Tulare schools, which includes the grammar and high schools. Under his regime, these are in a flourishing condition, in 1904 there being five hundred and eighty-five enrolled, and the teachers numbering fifteen. Mr. Premo is very popular in educational and social circles, and for three years was president of the Tulare High School Alumni.

In Tulare Mr. Premo married Alice McDonald, a native of Virginia City, Nev., and they have two children, Walter and Olive. Fraternal-ly he is a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M.; and of the Woodmen of the World. Politically he is a Republican. He takes a keen interest in athletic sports, and while in Portersville coached the football team, and is now coaching the Tulare team.

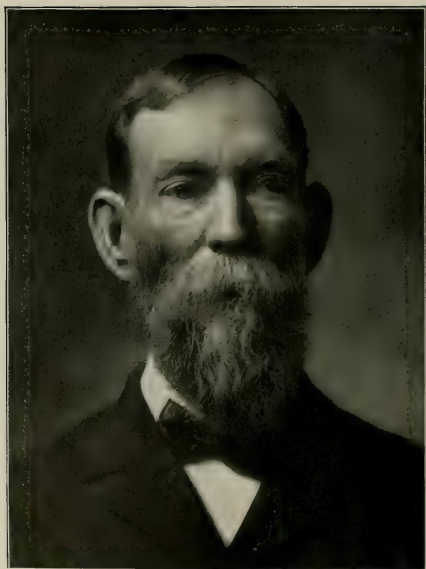
**ROBERT C. MOOREHEAD.** At an early period in the development of Stanislaus county Mr. Moorehead became identified with its agricultural possibilities and has since accomplished much in promoting the development of its lands. The influence which he wields as an old settler is heightened by his successful prosecution of various departments of farm work. Through the exercise of constant industry and sagacious judgment he has converted an unattractive area into a valuable homestead, whose fertility is enhanced by irrigation from the canal. The place is situated three and three-fourths miles southwest of

Newman, and, with its improvements, stands as a monument to the owner's unwearied efforts, continued through many years.

Remotely of English and Scotch descent, Mr. Moorehead represents a family long resident in America. His father, John, was the son of a Kentucky farmer, machinist and blacksmith, who proved as valiant in war as he was industrious in peace, and served with recognized faithfulness in the war of 1812. A native of Greenbrier county, W. Va., John Moorehead was a young man when in 1850 he resolved to seek a homestead among the undeveloped lands of what was then considered the far west. Establishing himself in Iowa, he improved a farm near Columbus City, Louisa county. Meanwhile the trend of emigration had drifted still further westward. The gold fields of California and Colorado had attracted thousands of Argonauts, who had settled permanently in the west. With a longing for larger results than could be achieved on his Iowa homestead, and impelled by the rumors of the wealth of the great gold fields of the west, he started across the plains in 1864, accompanied by his three sons, and using oxen and horses as motive power for the "prairie schooners." An experience of four years in Boise Basin mines and other camps proved less remunerative than hoped for, and he retired from the occupation, coming to California in 1868, and spending the balance of his life in this state. During his residence in Iowa he served as justice of the peace, but in the west did not identify himself with local affairs. He had attained the age of eighty-four years when, in 1887, death came to him at the home of his son, Robert C., in Stanislaus county. His wife, Nancy (McVey) Moorehead, was born in Virginia and died in St. Louis while en route to Iowa. They were the parents of five sons. The eldest, Samuel A., a pioneer of 1862 in California, resides on the West Side in Stanislaus county. The second son, J. A., who came to California in 1863, now owns and occupies a farm in Tulare county. The third son, George W., came to California, but returned to Iowa, and died there in 1902. The other sons, W. T. and R. C., are farmers in Stanislaus county.

In Greenbrier county, W. Va., Robert C. Moorehead was born July 15, 1846. While still a very small child he was taken to Iowa, and there received a district school education. With his father and two brothers he crossed the plains in 1864. After an experience of four years in the mines he came to San Francisco, and two weeks later proceeded to Eldorado county, thence going to Truckee, Nevada county, where he engaged in lumbering. When Stanislaus county was still an undeveloped region he became one of its pioneers, August of 1869 finding him a partner of his brother, Samuel A., in farming pursuits





*J. D. Waugh*



on the west side. After three years he disposed of his interests and then bought a farm adjoining his present property. The nucleus of the place which he now owns became his about 1886, since which time he has added to it by purchase, until now his landed possessions aggregate two hundred acres. All of the improvements have been made under his personal supervision. Twenty acres are under the ditch and in alfalfa, while the remainder of the land is used for the raising of grain. Though he has not made a specialty of dairying, he owns twelve milch cows and finds his dairy interests no unimportant factor in the footing of each year's profits. Attention to details and untiring industry have brought him a large measure of success, while his fair dealings with all have retained for him the confidence of his associates. Fraternally he holds membership with the Knights of Pythias. In political matters he votes the Democratic ticket, and has served as a delegate to county conventions of the party. Three children, Elvin J., Raleigh C., and Nellie May, were born of his marriage to Miss Jessie Johnson, who was born and reared in Merced county, this state, her father, Daniel B. Johnson, having come from Germany during the early settlement of the valley, where he became a well-known farmer and stockman.

J. D. WAUGH. The Waugh family came originally from England, the first emigrant being John Waugh, a native of Yorkshire and the son of William Waugh, an agriculturist, and the representative of an old and distinguished family. John Waugh came to Virginia and located on the Potomac, near Leesburg, where he became a farmer and an importer of Durham and Devon cattle from England. He became the owner of a fine farm, upon which he made his home until his death in 1844. His wife, formerly Mary Cox, was a native of Dublin, Ireland, who came with her parents to Virginia. Her death occurred when her youngest son was an infant. Born of this marriage were the following children: Thomas, who served in the Civil war in a Missouri regiment, and was killed with some comrades on his way home from the war; Ann, Mrs. Hayes, a resident of Knox county, Mo.; and J. D., the subject of this review.

Born on the Potomac, near Leesburg, Va., June 17, 1832, J. D. Waugh was reared to young manhood in Virginia, receiving his education in a private school at Leesburg and the Upperville Academy. In 1856 he came as far west as Missouri and located in Edina, Knox county, where he followed farming. In the first years of the Civil war he removed to Iowa, locating in Mount Vernon. Deciding to emigrate to the more remote west, he crossed the plains in 1864 by mule-

teams, leaving Muscatine, Iowa, May 10, 1864, and arriving in Grass valley September 17 of the same year, the trip being made via Echo canon, Salt Lake and Truckee route, under command of Captain Beach. The train comprised one hundred men, all well armed and prepared for the dangers and rigors of the tedious journey. For four years Mr. Waugh remained in Grass valley, for a part of the time engaged in prospecting, and also conducting the Ohio saw mill ranch which he purchased, raising hay and fruit. October 13, 1868, he went to San Jose and bought a small place on Stockton avenue, engaging in the dairy business there and on the Guadalupe river, until February, 1873, when he came to Tulare county. Seven miles east of Visalia, on the Kaweah, he bought a small place, where he made his home until 1876, when he sold out and bought his present property in Antelope valley, consisting of railroad land. This he improved and cultivated, and later pre-empted what is now the Sequoia Reservoir, then known as the Mill flat, a rich little basin or valley. The Sequoia Lumber Company dammed it up and made a lake of one hundred and sixty acres for fluming, having an altitude of forty-eight hundred feet. Mr. Waugh has put up ice in winter, having built an ice-house of logs and sawdust, and two seasons he hauled ice to Visalia with teams, a distance of more than fifty miles. In Santa Clara county he began to raise Jersey cattle and upon his removal here brought them to Tulare county and continued in the dairy business, having sixty cows. Deciding to devote his energies to the raising of stock, he invested in Aberdeen Polled Angus and Black Commodore Polled, imported from Scotland. He now has Forest S., brought from Iowa, at the head of his herd, and also owns Leonmaster, the second. He has about seventy-two full-blooded Aberdeen Polled Angus, his ranch being known as the Polled Angus Stock ranch. He owns seven hundred and sixty acres in Antelope valley, sixteen miles northeast of Visalia.

Mr. Waugh has been twice married, his first wife being Mrs. Eliza (Leonard) Debolt, a native of Ohio, who died October 1, 1897, leaving three children, namely: George, who became the wife of Thomas Chatten of Visalia, and died January 22, 1904; William, engaged with his father in the stock business; and Harry V., of Tulare county. His second marriage occurred in Fresno and united him with Mrs. Eveline (Collier) Strang, a native of Iowa. Her death occurred September 6, 1904. A prominent citizen in all local affairs, Mr. Waugh has served as a member of the school board for over twenty years, now acting as clerk of the Townsend district. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Friendship Lodge No. 210, and now belongs

to Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. Politically he is a staunch Democrat and has served as a member of the county central committee.

**WILBUR FISK DRAPER.** Instances of the attainment of a gratifying degree of success are of frequent occurrence in Stanislaus county, where the development of the dairy industry, the growth of the stock business and the cultivation of the farms in the valleys and foothills afford opportunities for men of wise judgment and untiring industry. Among the men of influence identified with local stock and ranching interests few have been more successful than Mr. Draper, who resides one and one-half miles west of Newman. Since making his first purchase of property in the county he has been one of its leading land owners. It was during 1879 that he bought thirty-one hundred acres of low foothill land in this county, and at the same time he purchased eight hundred acres in the valley. On the latter farm he established his home in 1880, and here he has since resided. In addition he owns fifty acres of alfalfa land at Crow's Landing, which makes a first-class hay farm. All of these various properties he personally superintends, besides acting as president of the Acme Creamery Company.

The Draper family is of English extraction, but has been identified with New York state since an early period in our country's history. Addison Draper was a lifelong farmer, and died in Akron, N. Y. His son, Alfred, father of Wilbur Fisk Draper, was a native of Genesee county, N. Y., and grew to manhood in Akron. After his marriage to Eliza Doney he removed to Michigan and settled in Rives township, Jackson county, where he acquired the ownership of two hundred and forty acres. Four brothers also settled in that county and identified themselves with pioneer influences and environments. In that day the city of Jackson contained only two grocery stores, and its population was so small as to give no evidence of future municipal importance. On his retirement from agricultural operations Mr. Draper moved into the city of Jackson, about 1884, and has since made his home there. For many years, during his earlier life, he served as justice of the peace. Since the organization of the Republican party he has supported its principles. In religion he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife was born at Black Rock, a suburb of Buffalo, Erie county, N. Y., and grew to womanhood at Clarence Hollow, same county, but was married at Black Rock. She was a daughter of Harry Doney, a native of New York, and of French ancestry. At the time of her death, which occurred at Jackson, Mich., she had attained the age of eighty-six years. Of her marriage there were born eight

sons and one daughter, namely: Edwin, who makes his home at San Jose, Cal.; Mrs. Mary Beebee, who died at Jackson, Mich.; Wilbur Fisk, of Stanislaus county; Harry, a rancher at Paso Robles, Cal.; Milton, who follows farm pursuits at Hull, Iowa; Frederick, who is living retired in Jackson, Mich.; George, a railroad man living in Chicago; Alfred, of San Jose, Cal.; and Clarence, who is a business man at Toledo, Ohio.

On the home farm in Jackson county, Mich., Wilbur Fisk Draper was born February 8, 1840. The common schools of the district afforded him all the educational advantages that he ever enjoyed. In 1862 he left home for California via Panama, sailing from New York May 1, 1862, on the steamer North Star, and after crossing the isthmus took passage on the Orozaba for San Francisco, May 26th being the date of his arrival at the Golden Gate. Selecting a location on Walnut creek, Contra Costa county, he engaged in general farming for two years, and afterward, in partnership with his brother Edwin, cultivated a farm owned by Albert Stone, where he used two four-horse teams in the tilling of the soil. After a year he went to Washoe, Nev., and for a year engaged in teaming between that town and Virginia City. During the fall of 1864 he returned to California, this time renting a farm at Livermore, where he remained until 1869. His next removal took him to the west side in Merced county, and there he farmed three sections of the Page ranch and had charge of Mr. Page's interests, during his second year acting as superintendent. In that capacity he started eight new farms and superintended the erection of eight farmhouses and accompanying barns and granaries. In addition he had four thousand sheep pasturing in the foothills. From there he came to Stanislaus county, where for sixteen years he continued to conduct an extensive sheep business in addition to raising grain. The tract of thirty-seven hundred acres that he owns is excellent grain land, besides being adapted for stock. Of his valley farm one hundred and thirty acres under the canal are in alfalfa, thus furnishing an abundance of hay for the cattle, horses and mules. In addition to his own land he tills a rented tract of two hundred and sixteen acres in the river bottom. Eight ten-mule teams are necessary in the working of his various tracts, while the harvesting is done with the aid of a combined Stockton harvester and thresher operated by thirty-two mules.

The first marriage of Mr. Draper took place at Alamo, Cal., and united him with Miss Candace Jones, a native of Missouri. Her parents, John M. and Mary (Smith) Jones, crossed the plains from Missouri in 1846. With them came the ill-fated Donner party, whose tragic end is one of the saddest chapters of western frontier

history. Fortunately the Jones family took the old Dutch flat route, and crossed the mountains one and one-half days before the others. When they landed in California they settled near Alamo, Contra Costa county, where Mr. Jones died; his widow still resides on the old homestead in that county. Mrs. Candace Draper died in Merced county, leaving three children, namely: Frederick, now in Alaska; Clarence, a resident of Oakland; and Blanche, wife of Edward Besheer, of Modesto. After the death of his first wife Mr. Draper married Miss Carrie Driskell, of Modesto, who was born at Jacksonville, Ore., and came to California with her father, James Driskell; the latter is now a dairyman near Newman. The only child of Mr. Draper's second marriage was a daughter named Lena, who died at three years of age. Fraternally Mr. Draper affiliates with the Masons. He was made a Mason in Hill's Ferry Lodge No. 236, F. & A. M., which later became the Newman Lodge. In addition he holds membership with Merced Chapter No. 12, R. A. M., and Pacific Commandery No. 3, at Sonora. Always a Republican, he has been active in promoting the local progress of the party and has voted its ticket in all elections, local and national.

**JOHN HENRY RAMM.** Though a comparatively recent settler at Dinuba, Mr. Ramm has made California his home for many years and is familiar with its growth and development during the past thirty years. When he came to Dinuba in 1902 he built the residence he now occupies and also improved with a family orchard and alfalfa the forty acres he owns at this point. In addition he owns eighty acres on section 16, one-half mile east of Dinuba, where he has twenty acres in peach trees and forty-two acres in a vineyard subdivided into the following: Twenty acres, Muscat; twelve acres, Thompson's seedless; and ten acres, Sultanias, all in excellent bearing condition and furnishing large crops of the choicest varieties of grapes.

A native of Germany, Mr. Ramm was born in Holstein, at Henstedt, near Killinghosen, April 25, 1854, and was second in a family of two sons and two daughters, all of whom are living except one son. His father, Henry, spent his entire life in Holstein, where he was a mason and contractor until his death at an early age; the mother, Abby Wagner, was also a lifelong resident of Holstein. Their son, John Henry, who was the only member of the family to settle in America, passed his boyhood years in Bergen, where he attended school and became familiar with farming. In 1871 he crossed the ocean to America and stopped at Fremont, Neb., where he worked on a farm for a time and later

bought eighty acres of railroad land. This he sold, then purchased one hundred and twenty acres, which he improved and sold. The year 1875 found him in California, but he remained only a short time in San Francisco, soon proceeding to Whatcom county, Wash., and pre-empting land at Samish Flats. Thither he brought the first reaper ever used in those parts, and with three yoke of oxen and one team of horses threshed the first crop of grain on the Flats. Though not a native-born American, he proved his patriotism by starting the first 4th of July celebration the Flats had ever witnessed, securing for this purpose a flag pole and flag.

After two years Mr. Ramm sold his farm on the Flats and removed to the Kittitas valley in Washington, where he bought and improved one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land. Settlers were few in that locality. Few attempts had been made at improvements. Produce had to be hauled one hundred and sixty miles. Indians were hostile and numerous at first, but after two years, through the strategic capture of Old Moses, the red men were quieted, and Mr. Ramm had no further trouble with them. After his marriage he engaged in raising grain and stock on his farm of three hundred and twenty acres situated on the Yakima river, and in addition for twelve years he operated a flour mill at Thorp, Kittitas county. His large farm near Ellensburg on the Yakima he still owns, but rents it to tenants, having removed from there to California in 1902 and settled on his present homestead.

At Ellensburg, Wash., in 1884, occurred the marriage of Mr. Ramm and Mrs. Sophronia Ellen (Parker) Pollington, a native of Adams county, Ill., and the next to the youngest in a family of twelve children, all but two of whom attained mature years. Two of her brothers, Lewis A. and William Jefferson, served in the Civil war and the latter was imprisoned at Andersonville. Her parents, Archibald and Anna (Combs) Parker, were natives of Ohio and Kentucky, respectively. For many years they lived on a farm in Adams county, Ill., thence removed to Kansas, later to Wyoming, going from there to Elko, Nev., and eventually going to Washington, where they died, the father April 24, 1903, at the age of eighty-eight, and the mother in July, 1888. During the Civil war Mr. Parker served in an Illinois regiment. The first marriage of Mrs. Ramm was solemnized in Cheyenne, Wyo., and united her with Shadrick Price, who was in the government employ when he was killed by the Ute Indians, in the White River Agency massacre, September 29, 1879. This was one of the most noted of the Indian outbreaks resulting from dissatisfaction with the Indian agent, N. C. Meeker. He and seven others,

among whom was Shadrick Price, were shot while working on a store building. Mrs. Price, her two children, Mrs. Meeker and daughter Josephine, aged twenty-two years, were captured by the Indians and kept prisoners twenty-three days, but were rescued by General Adams and his party. The Indians took their prisoners about three hundred miles on horseback into the mountains. The rescue took place on Plateau creek, and was effected by the head chief of the Utes, Ouray, who threatened to exterminate the tribe if they harmed the prisoners. After the rescue the women and children went to Denver, from there to Greeley, Colo., and from the latter place Mrs. Price went with her parents to Washington. By her first marriage she had two children, namely: Florence, now Mrs. Schaaf, of Sultana, Cal.; and John A. L., who resides in Washington. Afterward she was married to Horace Pollington, of Ellensburg, Wash., a native of England, and a farmer in Washington, where he was killed by a falling tree. By that union there was one daughter, Rosa, now Mrs. Weaver, of Sultana. The two children of Mr. and Mrs. Ramm are Charles Henry and Anna Pearl, who remain with their parents. In politics Mr. Ramm is independent and in religion adheres to the Lutheran faith, in which he was reared. While living in Washington he became connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Ellensburg and is now noble grand of the lodge at Dinuba, also a member of the Encampment at Ellensburg, while with his wife, who is past noble grand, he is warmly interested in the work of the Rebekahs.

---

**JASPER KOLB.** Noteworthy among the thrifty and progressive agriculturists of Tulare county is Jasper Kolb, living about four miles west of Dinuba, where he has a highly productive ranch, that in point of improvements and appointments compares favorably with the best in the vicinity. Belonging to a family noted for its patriotism, he has himself a distinguished record as a soldier, and is a fine representative of the substantial citizens of the community in which he resides. A son of William Kolb, he was born, August 9, 1836, in Rush county, Ind., of German ancestry, his great-grandfather on the paternal side having been born and bred in Germany. His grandfather, Jonathan Kolb, a native of South Carolina, settled as a farmer in Georgia when young, but subsequently became a pioneer of Indiana, where he spent the later years of his life.

William Kolb was born in Georgia in 1805, and was there reared and educated. Removing to Indiana in pioneer days, he lived for three years in Fayette county, being employed in agri-

cultural pursuits. He was afterward engaged in farming in Rush county for a number of years, from there going to Benton county, Ind., where he resided until his death at the venerable age of ninety-three years. He married Keziah Rich, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of John Rich, and died in Indiana when ninety-one years of age. Nine children were born of their union, and of these eight are living, Jasper, the fifth child, being the only California resident. He and two other sons served in the Civil war. One son, Richard Kolb, enlisted in Company E, Fortieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, was commissioned first lieutenant of his company, but after the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, in which he was wounded, he resigned his commission, and he is now living in White county, Ind. Another son, William D. Kolb, now of Marion, Ind., served as a member of Company C, Ninety-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded at the siege of Atlanta.

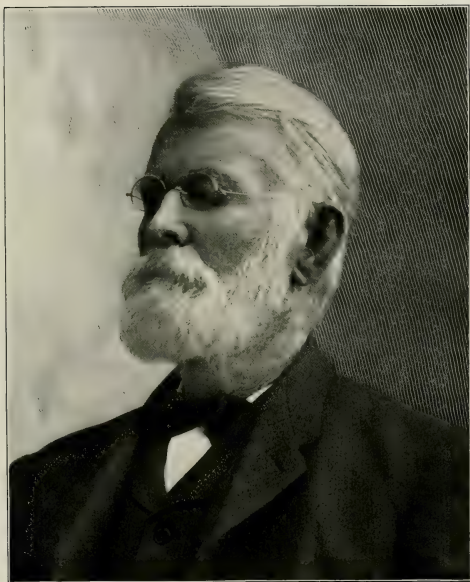
Brought up in Rush county, Ind., Jasper Kolb obtained his rudimentary education in the district schools, after which he attended the Kokomo Normal School for awhile. Removing with the family to Benton county in 1854, he taught school for two terms in Tippecanoe, subsequently remaining on the home farm, and assisting in its management until coming of age. Anxious to further advance his education, Mr. Kolb then began to work on his own account, and with the money thus earned he paid his way through one of the higher institutions of learning, being principally employed in teaching. In November, 1861, inspired by true patriotic impulses, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Fortieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and with his comrades took a very active part in many of the more important engagements of the Civil war, being in the following-named battles: Stone River; Missionary Ridge, where he received two slight wounds; Resaca, Buzzards Roost; Dallas; New Hope Church; Lost Mountain; Kenesaw Mountain, where he received a flesh wound; Peach Tree Creek; Lovejoy Station; Jonesboro; Spring Hill; Franklin, where he was twice wounded; and at Nashville. In the latter engagement, November 30, 1864, under General Thomas, Mr. Kolb was so severely wounded in the left thigh, the bone being fractured, that he was sent to the Nashville Hospital, later being transferred to the Louisville Hospital, and from there being sent home to recuperate. Able to go to the front in sixty days, he joined his regiment at Huntsville, Ala., and from there was ordered to Texas, where he was stationed until January, 1866, when he returned to Indiana, and January 23, 1866, was mustered out at Indianapolis, being then first lieutenant of his company, his promotion through the various ranks





*Emma Crow*





*B. H. Brown*



having been earned by bravery and faithful conduct.

Being married soon after receiving his discharge from the army, Mr. Kolb located in Fountain county, Ind., where he was successfully engaged as a lumber manufacturer and dealer for nearly a score of years. Migrating to the Pacific coast in 1884, he was for seven years engaged in farming and stock-raising in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo county. In 1891 he located in Tulare county, purchasing forty acres of his present farm, and putting in alfalfa for his first crop, and setting out an orchard. Succeeding well in his efforts, Mr. Kolb has since bought another forty acres of adjoining land, and on this has made great and valuable improvements. He has a fine orchard of fourteen acres, but devotes the larger part of his ranch to the growing of hay and alfalfa. He makes a specialty of dairying and stock raising, and is meeting with unquestioned success.

In Lafayette, Ind., Mr. Kolb married Maria Knight, a native of that city, and they have three children living, namely: Nellie B., at home; and Henry Clay and Jesse J., farmers. Politically Mr. Kolb is an earnest supporter of the Prohibition ticket in national affairs, but in local matters is independent, voting according to the dictates of his conscience. He is a man of high moral principles, and a member of the Christian Church at Dinuba.

**BENJAMIN HAMILTON CROW.** Another pioneer resident of Stanislaus county may be found in the person of Benjamin H. Crow, an octogenarian, who for more than half a century has been identified with the agricultural interests of California. It was in Mercer county, Ky., that Mr. Crow was born February 27, 1824. His father, Walter Crow, who was a soldier in the war of 1812, left his native state, Kentucky, in 1828, and settled in Pike county, Mo., near Bowling Green. He followed farming in that locality until 1849, when, like thousands of others, he swelled the tide of immigration toward the Pacific coast, crossing the plains with ox-teams. He and his two companions were accompanied by two negroes, named Marion and Sam. Arriving in California Mr. Crow spent some time in the mines at Hangtown, and subsequently returned to Missouri by way of the Isthmus of Panama.

Accompanied by four of his sons, William H., James A., Benjamin H. and Alfred B., Mr. Crow again crossed the plains in 1850, driving a herd of eight hundred cattle. At Junction City, in Trinity county, on the Feather river, Mr. Crow became seriously ill with typhoid fever and died. The sons took the cattle to the San

Joaquin valley, and in Stanislaus county they took a squatter's claim to one hundred and sixty acres of government land. They afterward purchased a land grant in the same county and became prominent citizens. The mother, who was known in maidenhood as Susan Pritchett, was born in Kentucky, a daughter of Abraham Pritchett, a native of Virginia, and a pioneer of Kentucky. Mrs. Susan Crow died in Pike county, Mo., in 1833, when about thirty-five years of age. She became the mother of nine children, eight sons and one daughter, as follows: Isaac, William H., James A., Benjamin H., John Bradford, Alfred McDowell, Lewis, Pike and Susan. The latter became the wife of Capt. James W. Smith, and with her family resides in Stockton, Cal. All of the sons eventually came to California.

Benjamin H. Crow was the recipient of only a limited education in his youth and this was gleaned from the common schools of Pike county, Mo., but nevertheless the results accomplished in his life challenge the admiration of all. After the death of his father, in 1850, although still retaining his interest in the cattle business in the San Joaquin valley, he followed mining during the years 1851, '52 and '53. In 1854 he located in Stanislaus county on Orestimba creek, among the foothills, and there followed ranching until 1869, in which year he removed to his present home, three miles east of Crow's Landing. At that day Crow's Landing was a place of considerable importance, as all shipping was done by boat, and the landing and postoffice were located near Mr. Crow's ranch. It was in 1870 that he built the home now occupied by himself and wife. His possessions aggregate nearly four thousand acres of land, of which about one thousand acres are under the West Side ditch. In addition to carrying on general farming, he has paid considerable attention to the raising of cattle, mules and sheep. Owing to advanced years Mr. Crow has rented his land for a number of years, which insures him a comfortable income.

By his marriage October 10, 1858, Mr. Crow was united with Miss Emma Patchett, who was born in Chester county, Pa., a daughter of John and Esther (Passmore) Patchett. John Patchett was a native of Lincolnshire, England, and in an early day immigrated to the United States. His marriage occurred in Pennsylvania, in which state he conducted a brewery for a number of years. Going to Iowa in 1836, he resided in Van Buren county on the Des Moines river, for some time. In 1850 he came to California, locating in Napa valley, near Napa, in which vicinity he acquired a large amount of land. He died in 1875, when eighty years of age, surviving his wife a quarter of a century, her death occurring in No-

vember, 1850, soon after their arrival in Eldorado county. She was a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Crow have no children. Politically Mr. Crow supports the Democratic party. Both are esteemed residents of the community in which they have made their home for so many years, and in comfort and plenty, the result of economy and good business ability, they are passing their declining years. Surrounded by hosts of friends, they are familiarly known as Uncle Ben and Aunt Emma, and by all who share their acquaintance are loved and revered. The story of their lives, with its lessons of honesty, frugality and high principles, will be read with interest by coming generations.

---

**J. WARREN ALCORN.** An enterprising, practical and thriving agriculturist, living one and one-half miles east of Traver, J. W. Alcorn holds an assured position among the prominent husbandmen of this section of Tulare county, being the leading dairyman and poultry raiser and dealer. A son of Hamlet Alcorn, he was born November 1, 1859, in Pocahontas, Randolph county, Ark. On both sides of the house he came of pioneer ancestry, both his paternal and his maternal grandfathers having been early settlers and well-to-do farmers of Arkansas. Hamlet Alcorn chose the occupation to which he was bred, and during his brief life was engaged in agricultural pursuits in his native state, carrying on general farming until his death, about 1869. Although a strong Union man, he was forced to serve in the Confederate army during the Civil war. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Ann Stubblefield, died in 1862, leaving six children, of whom J. W. was the fourth child in order of birth.

Left an orphan at the age of nine years, J. W. Alcorn was brought up by his Uncle Dalton, with whom he lived until attaining his majority. In 1881, thinking to improve his chances for making a fortune, he came to Tulare county, Cal., locating in Hanford, where his uncle, I. P. Alcorn, resided, and there he worked as a farmer for a couple of years, during the winter seasons attending school. He subsequently spent a brief time in Nevada, but returned to this county, living first in Hanford, his old home, and then in Tulare. In the spring of 1884 Mr. Alcorn settled in Traver, and being very much pleased with its many advantages decided to locate here permanently. With that end in view he purchased from Thomas Fowler, in the spring of 1885, a timber claim, from which, by close application to his chosen industry, he has improved his present valuable ranch. At first Mr. Alcorn used the land mostly for a sheep range, but he subsequently broke it up, and for many years

was prosperously engaged in raising wheat. In the spring of 1896 he started a dairy, putting in a good stock of Holstein cows, and devoting about eighty acres of his ranch, which contains one hundred and forty acres, to alfalfa. One of the foremost dairy farmers of this section, Mr. Alcorn has done much towards advancing the dairy interests of this section, and was one of the organizers of the Traver Co-operative Creamery Association, in which he is a director, and is also a shareholder in the Selma Co-operative Creamery Association. He makes somewhat a specialty of the raising of poultry, in which he has had praiseworthy success. He keeps a fine grade of hens, preferring Leghorns and Minorcas, having now over three hundred birds in his hennery. The eggs he ships to Oakland, and the sale of these in September, 1904, amounted to \$83.65, a fine profit for the labor involved and the small expense connected with it.

In Visalia, Cal., Mr. Alcorn married Cynthia Kenner, who was born and reared in Mendocino county. He has but little time to devote to public office, but is now serving as trustee of the Traver school district. He joined Traver Lodge, I. O. O. F., which he served three different times as grand, and is now a member of Dinuba Lodge, I. O. O. F. He also belongs to the Woodmen of the World.

---

**HANS HANSEN.** Noteworthy among the skillful and thriving ranchmen of Merced county is Hans Hansen, proprietor of a highly improved farm, lying in Ingomar. Born and bred on the farther side of the broad Atlantic, he became master of the various branches of agriculture when young, and since coming to this country has followed the occupation to which he was reared. Energetic and ambitious, he has never been satisfied with anything less than the highest possible results in his agricultural labors, and having added substantial improvements to his valuable farm, he is now carrying on a most successful business in general ranching, raising large crops of hay and grain, and growing some stock. He was born December 19, 1861, in Denmark, a son of Peter and Anna Christina (Johnson) Hansen. His father spent his entire life in Denmark, being engaged in farming, and his mother still resides in her native country.

Brought up on the home farm, and obtaining his education in the common schools, Hans Hansen remained at home until eighteen years of age. Seeing but little opportunity to accumulate much wealth in his native land, he immigrated to the United States in 1879, coming directly to Alameda county, Cal., where he secured work on a ranch. Going from there to Benicia, he was in the employ of Baker & Hamilton, manufac-

turers of implements, for two years. Resuming work as a ranchman, he lived at Crows Landing for awhile, and then settled in Merced county, where, from 1890 until 1892, he was employed in farming near his present home estate. Prudent and thrifty, Mr. Hansen accumulated considerable money during these years, and in 1892 bought his present farm of six hundred and forty acres, of which two hundred and twenty acres are under the ditch. Embarking in general agriculture, he has met with eminent success in his labors, his homestead property being now one of the finest and most valuable in the vicinity, well supplied with all the necessary buildings and appliances for carrying on his work after the most approved modern methods.

In San Francisco Mr. Hansen married Christina Schmidt, a native of Denmark, and into their household five children have been born, namely: Peter, Hans, Christina, Lillie and Mabel. A loyal and trusted citizen of his adopted country, Mr. Hansen is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and is a valued member of the Lutheran Church, toward the support of which he contributes generously.

---

**WILLIAM H. RICHEY.** The truth of the old maxim, "success is built on a foundation of hard work," is exemplified by Mr. Richey, who has applied himself with uncomplaining and whole-hearted industry to his duties as a general farmer and stockman, his life-long occupation. Since the early '80s, he has been a resident of the old Wheat ranch in the British colony, three miles west of Merced, Cal. Considerable attention is given to raising dairy stock and hogs upon this place, and some grain is also raised. The greater part of Mr. Richey's time is given to raising alfalfa. He has upon this place a twelve-inch, sixty-foot well, and in connection a fifteen-horse-power gasoline engine with which he irrigates one hundred acres of alfalfa, one of the most profitable products of this section of the state.

Being a native of California, born in Amador county, March 4, 1860, Mr. Richey was reared and educated in the locality of his birth, and, arriving at manhood's estate, he took up the occupation of farming, which he followed in his home locality until 1883. He is the eldest of seven children born to William C. and Minerva A. (Dillian) Richey, the former a native of Illinois. He left that state when a young man for a home in California, crossed the plains with the customary ox teams, and assisted in driving a large herd of cattle across. The party of which he was a member experienced some little trouble with the Indians and lost a part of their stock, but suffered no

fatalities among its numbers, arriving safely at their destination. In Amador county, Mr. Richey engaged in mining for a short time prior to engaging in a mercantile business. Opening a general store in proximity to the mines, he carried on a successful business there for a number of years. In looking about for a safe investment and a desirable place for a permanent home, Mr. Richey was attracted by the conditions in Merced county, whither he went in 1881. Leasing land near Snelling he carried on ranching pursuits there for fifteen years. He is now living retired from active business, a respected resident of Merced, being now seventy-four years old. In 1904 he was deprived of his beloved companion, who died, aged sixty-four years. The seven children born to them are as follows: W. H., John C., Nancy, James, Anna, Samuel and Lula.

In 1883, two years after his father left Amador county, W. H. Richey became a resident of Merced county and for a short time he followed agricultural pursuits in the vicinity of Atwater. At that time the finest land in this section could be purchased for \$5 per acre. Mr. Richey subsequently removed to the old Wheat ranch, where he still lives (so called from being first entered by the late John Wheat, who was an early settler in the valley, raising sheep quite extensively). By his marriage, Mr. Richey was united with Miss Johanna Wheat, a daughter of this worthy pioneer, who was born on the old ranch which has ever been her home. This union has been blessed by the birth of four children, named Ella M., Everett, Nellie, and William C. Politically, Mr. Richey is an adherent of the Democratic party and he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He is highly esteemed and is entitled to be classed among the progressive and practical farmers of his district.

---

**LOUIS P. RAVEN.** When Louis P. Raven arrived in Los Banos in 1889, he was thirteen years old, having been born in Cedarfalls, Blackhawk county, Iowa, October 1, 1876. His family was the first to think sufficiently well of the locality to make it their permanent home. His parents, Iver and Mary (Lorentzen) Raven, were born in Denmark, and upon arriving in Blackhawk county, Iowa, engaged in farming there, coming to Watsonville, Cal., in the fall of 1884. Mr. Raven entered the employ of Miller & Lux, on the west side of Merced county, in 1885, taking charge as foreman of the Centenella ranch until 1889. He then took his family to Los Banos, built the first house in the settlement, opened the first restaurant and served the first meals,

also engaged in carpentering and building. The Railroad house, the first hotel in town, was built and maintained by him, his wife becoming his able assistant in all his pioneer undertakings. Five children came to this worthy couple, of whom Hans is superintendent of cattle on the Santa Rita ranch; Gertrude and Annie are in San Francisco, and Carle is in business with his brother.

Louis P. Raven attended school at old Central Point, and in 1890 went to Watsonville to learn the blacksmith business with Jensen & Lorentzen. Three years later he moved to Salinas and worked at his trade for a couple of years, making a specialty of horseshoeing, then entering the employ of O'Day & Son, at 114 Geary street, San Francisco, as a horseshoer. In 1897 he came to Los Banos, built and started a small shop, and prospered so well that in 1901 he leased his present shop, known as the old Sullivan shop, in which he has since plied his trade. Here he makes a specialty of horseshoeing, but does much fine repairing, for he is a thorough mechanic, understanding everything pertaining to his line of work. Mr. Raven is frugal and enterprising, and has invested in a twenty-seven-acre ranch two miles south of Los Banos, which is devoted to alfalfa and dairying. Adjoining Los Banos he bought a fine home, surrounded by two acres of land. His wife was formerly Bertha Hardman, a native of Volta, and daughter of W. B. Hardman, a stockman and rancher of that vicinity. The home is brightened by the presence of a little daughter, Icie Gertrude. Mr. Raven is popular with his fellow townsmen, is generous and public-spirited, and is a valued member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

ELMER T. KOOKEN. Eleven miles south of Bakersfield, Kern county, in the Shafter district, is located the ranch of Elmer T. Kookan, consisting of ninety acres, for which he paid \$50 per acre in December, 1902. He is a native of Nebraska, his birth having occurred in Richardson county, near Falls City, February 10, 1870. When only four years old he removed with his parents to Kansas, locating in Crawford county, eighteen miles from Fort Scott, where the father engaged in farming and reared his family to a practical agricultural life. In 1890 Mr. Kookan decided to try his fortunes on the Pacific slope. He accordingly came to California, locating in Los Angeles county, and took up a homestead near Neenach. This property remained his home until he had proved up on his claim, when he sold out and in 1899 came to Kern county. Upon locating here he purchased two different farms in the county, but his first year's work was in the oil regions, after which he became

the owner of his present property and engaged in general ranching. The farm is located on Union avenue on the Kern Island canal. He has met with success in his agricultural ventures and has acquired a competence in the new location he sought for his home when removing from the middle west.

In 1892 Mr. Kookan was united in marriage with Miss Lulu Brown, a native of Hamptonville, Yuba county, Cal., and they are the parents of one daughter, Irva, who was born in November, 1899. Fraternally Mr. Kookan is identified with the Woodmen of the World, and politically casts his ballot with the Republican party, in the interests of which he has always been active.

SHERMAN J. SCOTT. Although a resident of Visalia but a few years Sherman J. Scott has won a place of prominence among the business men of the place, both for the ability which has distinguished his efforts and the character of his citizenship. He is identified with several of the most important industries of the city, being manager of the Valley Condensed Milk & Cream Company and Visalia Manufacturing Company, and is secretary of the Visalia Soda Works. Born in Chautauqua county, N. Y., March 29, 1865, he is a son of Calvin L. Scott, also a native of the same locality.

Calvin L. Scott is a carpenter and builder by trade and has followed this occupation throughout his entire life. He now makes his home in Westfield, N. Y., at the age of sixty-eight years. His father, Merrick Scott, was also born in New York state, where he engaged as a farmer until his death. The wife of Calvin L. Scott was in maidenhood Mary E. Porter, also a native of Chautauqua county, N. Y., where her death occurred. Out of a family of four children two sons and one daughter are living. The second child in this family, Sherman J. Scott received his preliminary education in the common school in the vicinity of his home, after which he attended business college at Mansfield, Pa. In 1885 he went to Devils Lake, N. Dak., and also to the Mouse river country, where he engaged in ranching until 1887, in which year he went to Montana and located at Great Falls. He there joined a railway surveying party and helped build the Montana Central Railway, after which, in 1888, he was associated with the Northern Pacific Railway system, receiving a promotion in his line. In December, 1888, he went to Ashland, Ore., as clerk in a men's furnishing and clothing establishment, remaining a year and a half, following which he engaged in private work in surveying in Portland, Ore. In 1891 he held the position of city engineer of Albina, now a part







Will. G. Hulen

of the city of Portland. In 1892 he was appointed to the position of deputy street superintendent and held the same until 1894, when he returned to New York and spent the following year at home. Returning west in February, 1895, he located in Visalia, Cal., engaging as a surveyor in private work for about four and a half years. In 1899 he became associated with the Visalia Manufacturing Company in the capacity of manager, he being one of the original stockholders. This company manufacture ice and maintain a cold storage plant. The business has grown to remunerative proportions in the short time it has been established and gives promise of a future success which shall place the owners among the successful business men of the San Joaquin valley. Mr. Scott discharges his duties of manager in an efficient and praiseworthy manner.

In Oregon Mr. Scott was united in marriage with May Pennebaker, a native of Visalia, and to them the following children have been born: Rodney (deceased), Fred, Richard and Mary. Fraternally Mr. Scott became an Odd Fellow in Albina, Ore., and politically he is a staunch Republican and active in his efforts to advance the cause of the party whose principles he endorses.

---

**WILLIAM YANCEY HULEN.** Occupying a substantial position among the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of Merced county is William Yancey Hulen, a dairyman, stockman and general farmer, owning six hundred and forty acres of land near Volta. His ranch is well located, receiving water from both canals, and is highly productive, yielding him rich returns for the labor expended on it, it being one of the best in point of improvements in the Pacheco Pass section. A son of Woodson Clark Hulen, he was born, July 26, 1847, in Schuyler county, Mo. His grandfather, William Hulen, was born in Boone county, Ky., and was among the pioneer farmers of Boone county, Mo., where he lived a number of years. In 1864 he removed to Bakersville, Cal., and there spent the remainder of his life.

A native of Boone county, Mo., Woodson Clark Hulen was reared to agricultural pursuits, and having purchased land in Schuyler county, was there engaged in farming until 1852, when he started for California. However, he got no further than Marion county, Iowa, where he purchased land and carried on farming until his death, February 17, 1864. He married Margaret Battern, who was born in Terre Haute, Ind., a daughter of William Battern, who removed from that place to Boone county, Mo., and died in Iowa. Her death occurred at Willows, Cal., January 26, 1896. She bore her husband five chil-

dren, all of whom are living, four of them being residents of California.

When a boy William Yancey Hulen removed with his parents to Marion county, Iowa, where he completed his early education, attending the short sessions of school held in a rude log cabin, the pioneer schoolhouse of the district. As soon as old enough to manage a team he began to assist his father in improving a homestead, breaking up the wild prairie land, using five or six yoke of oxen in plowing. During the harvest seasons he used the scythe and cradle, and binding up the shocks of grain by hand. Beginning life for himself when eighteen years old, Mr. Hulen spent a year in the vicinity of Keokuk, Iowa, and then returned to Marion county, where he continued farming another twelve months. Removing to Kansas in 1869, he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Republic county, and was there engaged in farming four years. Selling out in the fall of 1873, he returned to Iowa, remaining there a year, when, in March, 1875, he came to California, locating in Solano county.

Removing to Fall River valley, Shasta county, in 1877, Mr. Hulen was settled there as a lumberman and farmer until the big snow storm nearly ruined his business. Going thence to Colusa county, he worked on a ranch for three years, from 1880 until 1883, when he went to Los Angeles county, locating at Anaheim, which is now included within the limits of Orange county. A year later he made another removal, going to Fresno county, where he spent a year, after which he traveled through Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo counties, in each one of the changes that he made seeking to find a climate that would alleviate the sufferings of his wife, who was troubled with asthma. Locating on the west side of the San Joaquin valley, near Hills Ferry, in the fall of 1885, Mr. Hulen followed farming there until the fall of 1888, when he settled east of Cottonwood. From there he removed to the mouth of the Pacheco Pass, where he engaged in general farming and grain raising, carrying on from four to six sections of land, running six ten-mule teams, and in the gathering in of his enormous crops of wheat and barley wearing out two combined harvesters. His wife's health was excellent after locating at Pacheco Pass, and he continued his agricultural operations in that locality from the fall of 1888 until the fall of 1903. Purchasing then his present farm of six hundred and forty acres, lying in section 10, township 9, range 9, east, Mr. Hulen has since continued in his chosen occupation with eminent success. Receiving water from the two canals, he has four hundred acres of his farm under irrigation, and already has planted one hundred and seventy-five acres of alfalfa.

He sows about one hundred and sixty acres of grain annually, and also carries on a large and remunerative dairy business. His ranch, located about three and one-fourth miles from Volta, is finely improved, and bears speaking evidence of the thrift, intelligence and wise management of the owner.

In Fairfield, Cal., July 23, 1876, Mr. Hulen married Bethana E. Fairbanks, who was born March 11, 1855, in Yuba county, and reared in Grass valley. She was a daughter of Wilson Fairbanks, and a cousin of Charles Warren Fairbanks, vice-president of the United States. Her grandfather, William Fairbanks, the descendant of a New England Puritan settler, was a pioneer farmer of Indiana. Wilson Fairbanks was born on a farm near Terre Haute, Ind., and there grew to manhood. Crossing the plains with ox teams in 1854, he arrived in Marysville, Cal., in the fall of that year with a herd of cattle, which he sold at a good price. Turning his attention then to mining, Mr. Fairbanks was first located at Round Tent House, and afterward in Grass valley, where he remained until his death, March 26, 1867, in the thirty-fourth year of his age. He married Mary Ann Wayman, who was born at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, the daughter of William Wayman, who was born either in Kentucky or Virginia, and was a pioneer of Iowa. She survived her husband, dying in Reno, Nev., December 10, 1890, in the fifty-fourth year of her age. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hulen six children have been born, namely: Birdie Pearl, wife of J. E. Jeffers, of Oakland; John W., engaged in the dairy business with his father; Dock O.; Rosa C.; Lillie L.; and Henry K. Politically Mr. Hulen is identified with the Republican party, and for eleven years rendered good service as school trustee. Fraternally he belongs to Monroe Lodge No. 289, I. O. O. F., at Willows; and to Newman Lodge No. 238, K. of P. He is broad in his religious views, leaning toward the faith of the Presbyterians.

**FRANK C. BAKER.** Nine miles south of Bakersfield, Kern county, and in the Shafter district, is located the ranch which belongs to Frank C. Baker, consisting of twenty acres devoted formerly to the cultivation of prunes. This ranch, which is on the Kern Island canal, is all leveled so that every foot can be irrigated, and it is justly classed among the valuable ranches of this section of the country. A native Californian, Mr. Baker was born in Dixon, Solano county, December 22, 1867.

Roland T. Baker, the father of Frank C., was a native of Clark county, Ill., where he made his home until nineteen years old. In 1857 he came to California in the western tide

of emigration, taking up a ranch in Solano county, where he followed farming until 1900. Coming south in that year he located in Kern county, purchasing twenty acres of land in Greenfield district. The boyhood of Frank C. Baker was passed upon the paternal farm in Solano county, where he was trained in the practical life of a farmer. At the age of twenty-two years he took up the work for himself, in addition to ranching interests carrying on carpenter work, being located near Gorman Station, Los Angeles county. He then came to Kern county and rented land near Rosedale, where he remained until 1902, in that year purchasing his present ranch. Since locating upon this property he has taken up the prune trees and is now devoting the land to alfalfa and general farming.

In Solano county Mr. Baker was married to Louise Crow, also a native of that locality, and they are the parents of four children, Violet, Henry, Roland and Roy M. In national politics Mr. Baker is a Republican, but in all local affairs he reserves the right to cast his vote for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office. He is now serving efficiently as school trustee. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World.

**JULES CAIN.** The business house of Jules Cain & Co. is not only well known in Newman and the San Joaquin valley, but throughout this portion of California, where the principal member of the firm has a reputation for remarkable business sagacity. Under his capable management the firm has attained dimensions ten times as great as in former years, their connections now extending more than fifty miles on the west side of the San Joaquin among farmers, dairymen and stockmen of that region. The building occupied by their general mercantile business is a large store one hundred feet long, and is stocked with a full assortment of merchandise of every kind. In addition they carry a varied assortment of hardware and agricultural implements, also deal largely in lands, cattle and grain, for the latter purpose having warehouses in close proximity to the railroad. In a large degree the company has been and still is a contributor to the commercial prestige of Newman.

Of French nativity and lineage, Mr. Cain was born in the city of Paris, April 17, 1870, and is the son of Sincere Cain, now a retired merchant residing in the famous French city. In boyhood he was the recipient of fair advantages, and gained a good education in the Paris high school.

Three months after Mr. Cain landed in California the store was moved from Hill's Ferry to

Newman, then just founded, and a building was erected on the corner still occupied by the company. In 1892 Mr. Cain became manager of the business, but resigned four years later and returned to Paris. After a visit of three months with his parents, in the fall of 1896 he returned to California, spending the winter in San Francisco and returning to Newman in June of 1897. At that time he purchased the business which he had formerly managed and established the firm of Jules Cain & Co., which has since acquired a wide reputation for successful mercantile transactions. Besides managing the interests of the firm he owns and superintends several thousand acres of grain and stock land, with facilities for irrigation. In addition he platted seven hundred acres, known as Acme colony, situated two miles north of Newman under the canal, and a portion of this property he still owns. In business circles he commands the respect to which his success entitles him and is uniformly recognized as one of the most progressive merchants of the San Joaquin valley.

---

H. E. KINKADE. Although the period of Mr. Kinkade's residence in Stanislaus county has not been of sufficiently long duration to place him among the pioneers of this portion of California, nevertheless he has become thoroughly identified with the agricultural interests of this region, and is intimately associated with movements tending to promote the welfare of the people, particularly the farming class. The ranch which he has occupied since 1895 is situated three miles west of Newman and consists of three hundred and twenty acres of tillable land, especially adapted to the raising of grain. In addition he owns a quarter section of wheat land on Garcia creek, and tills an adjoining grain farm of eight hundred acres, thus giving him altogether the control of a large acreage of plow land.

On the paternal side Mr. Kinkade is of Virginia extraction. From the Old Dominion his grandfather, Samuel, removed to Kentucky, and settled upon a plantation in the blue grass region. The father, Christopher Ross Kinkade, was born near Lexington, Ky., and in young manhood settled in Wapello county, Iowa, where he followed the plasterer's trade at Eddyville. At the outbreak of the Civil war his sympathies were in behalf of the Union, and he enlisted in the Thirtieth Iowa Cavalry, in which he was commissioned a sergeant. While participating in a skirmish in Tennessee he was killed on the battlefield, in 1863. His widow, who survives him and resides at the old homestead, was Armilda Nosler, a native of Indiana, her father, Dr. James Nosler, having been a physician, first in Indiana and later in Iowa.

In a family consisting of two sons, of whom G. T. is engaged in the oil business at McKittrick, Kern county, Cal., H. E. Kinkade was the elder, and was born at Eddyville, Iowa, February 2, 1862. After having completed the studies at the public schools of his home town, at eighteen years of age he went to Des Moines, where he entered the employ of the United States Express Company. Later he was made express messenger on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad between Davenport and Council Bluffs, Iowa, a distance of three hundred and twenty-two miles. In 1889 he resigned that position and came to California, where the spring of 1890 found him embarking in agricultural pursuits as manager of a farm of fourteen hundred acres. Five years later he left that place and removed to the farm he still owns and operates. Since coming west he has met with success in his farming ventures and has every reason to be grateful for the influences that led him to become an agriculturist in California. Before leaving Eddyville he married Miss Lillie Totman, who was born and reared in that town, her father, S. P. Totman, a native of Ohio, having been for a considerable period engaged in farm pursuits in Iowa. During the Civil war Mr. Totman served as a member of an Iowa regiment of infantry. In 1891 he removed from Iowa to the coast country and settled on a farm near Newman, where he remained until death. Since then his widow, who was Christine Oldham, a native of Ohio, has made her home with her daughter near Newman. In her family there were five children, of whom Mrs. Kinkade was next to the youngest. In their religious affiliations Mr. and Mrs. Kinkade are associated with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Kinkade has officiated as a ruling elder in the congregation. The Republican party has always received his staunch support, both in local and national elections. Fraternally he holds membership with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Woodmen of the World and Degree of Honor.

---

PETER H. LOINAZ. One of the most popular and successful hotel men of Fresno county is P. H. Loinaz, the genial and accommodating proprietor of the Firebaugh hotel, whose services as a host are appreciated by the traveling public. A native-born son of California, his birth occurred September 9, 1873, in San Francisco, where his father, P. Loinaz, settled on coming to the Pacific coast from Spain.

Emigrating from Spain to California about 1856, P. Loinaz was associated with the installment of the first water system in San

Francisco. He subsequently removed to the San Joaquin valley, locating on the west side, where he was successfully engaged in sheep raising for a few years. Investing his money then in land in Madera county, he improved a valuable ranch, and has since been profitably employed in grain and stock raising, being one of the leading farmers of that section, and a citizen of much prominence and influence.

Spending his earlier years principally in Madera county, P. H. Loinaz was educated under a private instructor, the school system in that then sparsely settled section being primitive and limited, afterwards being graduated from the Chestnutwood Business College, in Santa Cruz. Going then to San Francisco, Mr. Loinaz was for five years bookkeeper in the Palace hotel. Returning to Madera county, he was for eight years a resident of Berendo, serving the first three years as clerk in a mercantile establishment, and the last five as proprietor of the Berendo hotel. Coming to Firebaugh in 1898, Mr. Loinaz purchased the Firebaugh hotel, which he has since conducted in a noteworthy manner, winning an extensive and lucrative patronage. The house is large, attractive, and well arranged, and under the genial management of Mr. Loinaz presents to its guests a homelike feeling that is ever appreciated.

Mr. Loinaz married, in Firebaugh, Miss Emilie C. Idiart, who was born and bred in San Francisco, and they have one child, Juanita. Politically Mr. Loinaz casts his vote in favor of the Republican party.

**JOHN WILLIAM FRASER.** Conspicuous among the successful horticulturists of Tulare county is John W. Fraser, whose finely improved fruit ranch lies four miles southeast of Dinuba. Born of Scotch ancestry, August 20, 1856, in Mansfield, Mass., he is the son of the late Robert John and Anna (Forbes) Fraser. Further history of his parents and ancestors may be found elsewhere in this historical work, in connection with the sketch of his brother, Abner Fraser.

Coming from Omaha, Neb., to California in 1870, he completed his education, which was begun in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, and continued in Omaha, in the public schools of Visalia. Beginning life for himself at the age of twenty-one years, he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 22, and took up a timber claim equally as large in the same section. Proving up on the preëmption, and homesteading the timber claim, Mr. Fraser became owner of three hundred and twenty acres of good land in the east half of the section on which he settled, and for a number of seasons was success-

fully employed in raising grain. As soon as the ditch was put through, Mr. Fraser took advantage of the irrigation furnished, and began the growing of fruit. In 1890 he set out an orchard, later improved a vineyard, sowing the remainder to alfalfa. He subsequently sold a part of his ranch, and now has one hundred and thirty acres of land, thirty of which is in orchard, eighty acres are devoted to the culture of grapes of various kinds, and twenty acres are sowed to alfalfa. On his ranch he has made excellent improvements, including the erection of a fine residence and substantial farm buildings, which, with their pleasant environments, invariably attract the attention of the passing traveler, winning from him words of praise and admiration.

In Tulare county, not far from Dinuba, Mr. Fraser married Allie Rork, who was born near Visalia, a daughter of the late Thomas Rork, a pioneer farmer of this county. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fraser two children have been born, Warren J. and Grace, both of whom are at home. Politically Mr. Fraser is identified with the Republican party, which he supports by voice and vote.

**A. E. CLARY.** The farm property occupied and operated by Mr. Clary lies near Newman, his residence being one and one-half miles west of that town, while in the immediate vicinity he superintends more than twenty-three hundred acres devoted to grain and stock-raising purposes. Mr. Clary is a California pioneer of 1864, and by birth a Missourian, descended through his paternal grandfather, a Revolutionary patriot, from Scotch forefathers. His father, Daniel, who was born near Frostburg, Md., in early life settled near Louisville, Ky., and there married Rachel Llewellyn, a native of that locality, of Welsh extraction. Accompanied by his family, in 1836 he removed to Pike county, Mo., and from virgin soil developed a fine stock and grain farm in the vicinity of Louisiana, that county. During the spring of 1852 he disposed of his landed possessions there and removed to Montgomery county, Mo., where he bought raw land and again developed a valuable farm. At a time when his neighbors held slaves he refused to follow the universal custom, believing that the institution of slavery should be abolished. It was his privilege to survive the period of the Civil war and to witness the extermination of slavery from the entire country. In religion he was a devout Baptist and in politics voted with the Democratic party. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1868, he was seventy-two years of age. His wife passed away in Montgomery county, Mo., on the last day of January, 1864. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom four sons







*J. L. Masier*

and four daughters attained mature years. One of the sons, J. A., died at Livermore, this state. At this writing one son and three daughters survive, among the latter being Mrs. Smith, a resident of Kern county, this state.

The youngest son in the family, A. E. Clary, was born in Pike county, Mo., July 22, 1842, and at ten years of age accompanied his parents to Montgomery county, where, as he grew old enough to work, he assisted in the cultivation of the home farm. Habits of industry were inculcated in him at an early age and thus became fixed in his character. Self-reliance, too, was developed by the necessity of assisting in the management of the farm. In March of 1864 he married Miss Joanna Smith, who was born in Pike county, Mo., her parents, Felix and Barbara (Dismuth) Smith, having removed to that state from Kentucky. The month after their marriage Mr. Clary and his wife started for California in a train composed of horse teams. The journey was made up the North Platte, through Wyoming, down the Humboldt river and along the Carson route to Sacramento, where they arrived September 16, 1864. With an energy characteristic of him, Mr. Clary immediately began farming, which occupation he followed in Colusa, Yolo and Sutter counties until 1871. During the latter year he was elected county assessor by a majority of forty-four. Shortly afterward the legislature passed a law extending the length of assessors' tenure of office to four years, and in accordance therewith he served until 1875. During the latter year he was elected for another term of four years, receiving a majority of seven hundred and five votes, and continuing in office until January of 1880.

On the expiration of his second term as assessor Mr. Clary removed to Nevada City, where he engaged in the mercantile business. In the fall of 1881 he settled near Sunol Glen, Alameda county, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits for four years. The year 1885 found him a resident of Stanislaus county, where he first raised stock and grain on property near Crow's Landing, and now cultivates a large tract near Newman. Since coming to this county he has for twelve years served as deputy assessor under Assessors Tullock and Campbell, and in 1900 he was elected without opposition to the board of county supervisors, whereupon he resigned as deputy assessor. In national politics he favors Democratic principles, but in local matters has never displayed a spirit of partisanship. Externally he is associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and in religion worships with the Christian Church. In his family there are four sons and three daughters. The eldest and youngest sons, C. M. and E. F., are engaged in the mercantile business at Modesto, and the

other sons, J. E. and W. E., have adopted their father's calling of agriculturist. The daughters are Mrs. Belle Hiatt, of Sutter county, Mrs. Lulu Schoaff, of Gilroy, and Pearl, who is with her parents.

**JAMES CULVER MOSIER.** A conservative yet progressive stockman, James Culver Mosier is numbered among the successful business men of Tulare county. He has been engaged in this line of work for about twenty years and has brought to bear the experience which the years have given him in his methods of today, and combined with ability and energy he has met with a success which places him among the first ranchmen of the county. He is now located upon a tract of four hundred and eighty acres, five miles south of Visalia, on the Santa Fe Railroad, where his specialties are hogs and cattle, which he sells in the local markets.

A native of Louisiana, Pike county, Mo., he was born January 25, 1851, a son of Henry Mosier, who was employed in a grist mill in that town, where his death eventually occurred. His wife, formerly Nancy Zumwalt, was a native of Missouri, in which state she died in 1862. Of her family of three sons and three daughters, one son and one daughter are now deceased. The oldest of this family, James Culver Mosier was reared in his native state, receiving a limited education in the common school in the vicinity of his home. At eleven years of age he was apprenticed to learn the trade of miller, working two years in Louisiana, after which he went to Alton, Ill., and engaged in the same occupation there for four years. Returning to his native town he spent the ensuing year, when he went to Deer Lodge, Mont., traveling by stage, as there were no railroads at that time. Upon locating in that state he at first followed the precarious life of a miner, continuing so occupied for two winters. Entering then upon the milling business he had charge of the first water-power mill in Deer Lodge. After some time he returned to Missouri and spent one year. In 1882 he came to California, locating at Grand Island, Colusa county, where he found employment on a ranch for two years. In Lassen county he had charge of a stock business for himself, remaining there for two years, when he went to Crook county, Ore., still engaged in the stock business. On a small scale he and a partner opened up a business in the same line, which increased to such proportions that in 1888 they sold out for \$30,000. Returning east to his old home in Louisiana, Mo., he married, April 18, 1888, Mary Elizabeth Suda, a native of that place, and two months later brought her to California. They located on his present property, which con-

sisted originally of three hundred and twenty acres which he had purchased just previous to returning east. This property he has cultivated and improved, adding to his original purchase until now he owns four hundred and eighty acres, upon which he engages in the raising of hogs, cattle and grain.

Mr. and Mrs. Mosier are the parents of one daughter, Katie Irene, who is at home. In his political affiliations Mr. Mosier is a Democrat, but has never desired official honors, as his life has been too full of personal duties.

LOUIS P. WERNER. The establishment of creameries and the development of dairy interests have rendered possible for the farmers of Stanislaus county the attainment of a success seldom witnessed in the early days of the county's history. Among the agriculturists who have been quick to avail themselves of this new avenue for their energetic efforts, mention should be made of Mr. Werner, who owns and manages a dairy farm four miles southwest of Newman. The original purchase made by him in this neighborhood comprised twelve acres, which he acquired by purchase in 1885, and later he bought an adjoining tract, so that at this writing he owns twenty-five acres under the canal. The land is in alfalfa, which he uses for feed for his dairy of sixteen cows. Since coming here he has made a specialty of dairying, disposing of the cream to the New Era Creamery, in which he is a stockholder.

Though of German parentage, Mr. Werner is a native of California. He was born in San Francisco July 20, 1855, and is a son of Christian and Gesina (Becker) Werner, natives respectively of Hesse-Darmstadt, and Oldenburg, Germany. His father learned the locksmith trade as an apprentice in his native land, and after crossing the ocean followed the barber's trade in New Orleans and other towns, at the same time having other interests that assisted him in earning a livelihood. In 1852 he left the south and by way of Panama came to San Francisco, where he opened a barber shop. While conducting that business he made investments in property, built business and residence structures, and by reason of advances in valuations of land became well-to-do. Though now seventy-five years of age (having been born in 1829) he still superintends his varied interests and manages his properties in San Francisco, where he makes his home. In religion both he and his wife are of the Lutheran faith.

In a family of eight children Louis P. Werner is the sole survivor. He was reared principally in San Francisco, where he attended a grammar school and Heald's Business College. For the purpose of gaining a German education his par-

ents sent him to Hesse-Darmstadt in 1869, and for some time he had the advantage to study in Schmitz Institute at Darmstadt. Returning to San Francisco after two years abroad, he continued his business studies at Heald's Business College for a time. On taking up an occupation he entered the carpenter's trade, but soon abandoned it for real estate matters in company with his father. In 1885 he left his native city and removed to Stanislaus county, where he has by reason of energy, perseverance and good management worked his way to a position among the honored dairymen in his section. To such an extent has his attention been given to personal affairs that he has not had leisure to participate in local politics, and takes no part in the same aside from voting the Republican ticket. Under the careful training of his parents, in his boyhood he became a believer in the Lutheran Church, and this religion he now supports. While a resident of San Francisco he was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Kricke, a native of Germany. In their family are three daughters, namely: Ida, wife of Peter Hansen, of Merced county; Alice, wife of William Brough, manager of the skimming station of the New Era Creamery; and Mabel, who resides with her parents.

VICTOR R. NELSON. Among the self-made men of Tulare county, and the active, energetic, go-ahead business men of Visalia is Victor R. Nelson, widely and favorably known as manager of the Visalia Steam Laundry, and one of its stockholders. Like many of California's most prosperous citizens, he was born across the seas, his birth having occurred in Smoland, Kalmar Län, near Oscarshamn, Sweden, January 23, 1871. His father, Nels Nelson, was an extensive landholder, for many years owning and managing the farming estate "Granholt," a valuable and attractive place. Retiring from agricultural pursuits in 1901, he has since been engaged in the manufacture of lumber in a nearby city, being now a hale and hearty man of sixty-five years. He is a man of great integrity, and a member of the Mission Church. His wife, Hannah Nelson, died in 1883, leaving five sons and one daughter. The sons are all residents of California, namely: Charles, a farmer near Fresno; Oscar, engaged in agricultural pursuits near Visalia; Victor; Axel, a farmer, living in San Jose; and Herman, of San Jose, interested in the National Laundry of that city.

Brought up on the old home farm, "Granholt," Victor R. Nelson obtained a practical education in the public schools of his native town. Enterprising and venturesome, he immigrated to this country when but fifteen years old, and for a year worked on a farm in Allen county, Kans. In

1887 he came from there to Visalia, Cal., where he first found employment in a lumber camp. The ensuing five winters Mr. Nelson was engaged in buying and selling lumber, and also cutting and shipping wood, carrying on an extensive business, while during the summer seasons he was employed in logging. In 1897, when the unprecedented rush to the Klondike was at its height, he started for the distant gold fields, going to Dyea, thence over the Chilkoot Pass, being but one day behind those unfortunate ones caught at Sheep Camp in the great slide. Making his own boat, Mr. Nelson proceeded down the Yukon, at White Horse running both rapids, and nearly losing his cargo and his life. Arriving safely, however, in Dawson, he gave \$1,500 for fifteen claims that proved worthless. The next two years Mr. Nelson engaged in mining, the last year running a mine as a working partner, and meeting with excellent pecuniary success.

In 1900 Mr. Nelson returned to Visalia, and in 1901 purchased an interest in the Visalia Steam Laundry, an incorporated company, and has since served as its manager. This is the only steam laundry in Tulare county, and is admirably equipped, being fitted with all the modern appliances and conveniences for operating it satisfactorily. He has built up a large and prosperous business, his patronage extending over a wide territory in either direction from its location, on Cottonwood street, near Main street.

Mr. Nelson married, in Fresno, Cal., Hannah Anderson, a native of Dolarne, Sweden, and they have one child, Edwin Nelson. Politically Mr. Nelson unhesitatingly supports the principles of the Republican party.

**UPTON DANIEL SWITZER.** Though interested in general farming of a diversified nature, Mr. Switzer has found one department of agriculture in which his success has been especially noteworthy and his reputation widespread. For years he has made a specialty of raising potatoes and plants from fifteen to thirty acres to this product. In an effort to introduce the very choicest varieties of potatoes he has paid as much as \$1 per pound for seed and then, with a generosity characteristic of him in all transactions, after finding the variety to be adapted to the climate and soil, he has in turn sold seed to neighbors at the regular price. So well known are his potatoes that in the market they bring twenty-five cents per bushel more than those from other sources. Throughout his locality he is regarded as an authority on the subject, and those wishing to plant new varieties are accustomed to consult him before making any ventures with unknown varieties.

Mr. Switzer is a descendant of German an-

cestors. His father, J. J. Switzer, was born in old Virginia in 1800 and after removing to Linnville, Licking county, Ohio, followed the blacksmith's trade, also carried on a hotel. In 1859 he removed to Peoria county, Ill., and settled on a farm near Edwards, where he also followed blacksmithing. From there he went to Missouri in 1866 and settled four miles north of Brunswick, Chariton county, where he supplemented farming with work at the blacksmith's trade. At the age of eighty-four he died on his homestead in that county. During his active years he was a leading worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church and politically gave his support to the Republican party after its organization. His wife, Mary Ellen Dawson, was a member of an old Maryland family, and was born in that state, thence removed to Ohio, and at the age of fifty-six years died in Missouri. Of her seven children all but one are still living and Upton Daniel is the youngest of the family. During the residence of his parents in Linnville, Licking county, Ohio, he was born June 25, 1856, and at three years of age accompanied the family to Missouri, where he received his education and early acquired a thorough knowledge of farming and blacksmithing.

The fact that a sister, Mrs. E. A. Laird, had taken up her residence in Visalia and wrote favorable impressions of the country to her eastern relatives, led Mr. Switzer to come to this place in 1877. For eight months he was employed in a dairy, after which he aided in the construction of a tramway and mill site on the Mineral King road, and in the fall of 1879 became an employe of L. Van Tassel, with whom he continued for three years. His next venture was the homesteading of one hundred and sixty acres of government land near Orosi, which property he utilized for grain-raising until he disposed of it in 1888. Thereupon he returned to the farm where he had been an employe in earlier days, the same being eighty acres of the old Frans homestead, and inherited by his wife from her father. The land is sub-irrigated from the St. John's river and can be flooded as occasion demands. A larger part of the property is under alfalfa, but, as already stated, a considerable acreage is devoted to potatoes and there is also a small orchard. On the place may be found a fine herd of dairy cows and good breeds of hogs. Besides taking the active management of the farm he has other interests, notably in irrigation matters, being vice president and superintendent of the Visalia and Kaweah Water Company, also president and superintendent of the Fleming Ditch Company.

On the old Frans homestead occurred the marriage of Mr. Switzer and Miss Sarah Elizabeth Frans, a native of Tulare county and a sis-

ter of Thomas H. Franz, in whose sketch the family history appears. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Switzer comprises the following children: Ada Lillian, Lelia Winnifred, Roy Daniel, John Earl, Thomas Wayne, Walter Alva and Carl Madison. Mrs. Switzer is a member of the Christian Church and a contributor to its maintenance. In political matters Mr. Switzer gives staunch allegiance to the Republican party, while fraternally he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Woodmen of the World. For more than ten years he has officiated as clerk of the Elbow school district and in that capacity has done much to promote the educational interests of this district.

---

**JAMES H. FREW.** While the period of Mr. Frew's identification with the people of Tulare county has been comparatively brief, by his successful prosecution of the creamery business he has been of great benefit to the dairymen of the county through the increase in the price of butter brought about under his energetic management. He came to this state from Iowa, where he was born near Lamotte, Jackson county, April 7, 1862, being a son of John and Eliza Ann (Gregg) Frew, natives respectively of Allegheny and Washington counties, Pa. The father, who was a son of James Frew, early acquired a thorough knowledge of agriculture, which he followed under pioneer conditions both in Iowa and Nebraska. On removing to Nebraska in 1869 he settled on a farm in Cass county, but later removed to the vicinity of York, Neb., where during his last years he lived in retirement from active cares. At the time of his death he was visiting relatives in Iowa. His wife is still living and makes her home with her children, of whom five out of the nine now survive. One of the sons, Will L., is principal of the public schools of Compton, Cal. The next to the youngest of the children was James H. Frew, who was a boy of seven years when the family settled on a tract of raw land in Nebraska. Though educational advantages were meagre, he eagerly availed himself of such as were offered, and for some terms was a student in York College.

On the completion of his collegiate course Mr. Frew took up the occupation of teaching school, and was engaged successively as principal of the Bradshaw, Benedict, Arborville and Arcadia schools, in York and Valley counties, Neb. After having taught for eleven years in all, he decided to enter another occupation and in 1900 established himself in Iowa, where he embarked in the dairy business at Shady Grove, Buchanan county. It was not long before he had an industry established upon a firm basis. With an ability that qualified him for thorough work in

any line, he yet seemed especially qualified for the dairy business, and time has proved that he made no mistake in selecting it for his occupation. In many respects he felt dissatisfied with his location in Iowa and after a few years he determined to try his fortune in the far west. During 1903 he came to California and settled at Tulare, where he engaged in the creamery business with such success that after five months the farmers formed a co-operative company and bought him out. Soon afterward he resigned the management of that creamery and December 20, 1903, he started the Good Luck creamery, putting in a new plant operated by electricity and containing modern butter-making apparatus, with the aid of which fifteen hundred pounds of butter can be made in one day. Shipments are made to Pasadena and Long Beach, where the splendid quality of the butter brings for its maker the highest market prices. Indeed, as a rule his butter commands a higher price than that from other creameries, and it may be said that he originated high prices for butter fat in Tulare, his product bringing thirty-five cents per pound in January, 1904. Good Luck creamery butter is most aptly named, for it has brought the best of luck to its maker, and its buyers are always the creamery's solicitors.

In Buchanan county, Iowa, Mr. Frew married Miss Lydia A. Houck, who was born and reared there. They became the parents of three children, of whom two are living, Myron and Bula. The family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Tulare and Mr. Frew is a regular contributor to its support. While a resident of Nebraska he was associated with the Royal Highlanders. In national politics he votes the Republican ticket, but in local affairs gives his support to the men whom he deems best qualified to promote the welfare of the people of the community. As a member of the Tulare Board of Trade, he is associated with an organization designed to advance the business interests of the city, and in its progressive enterprises he is always a staunch supporter.

---

**WALTER LEE MUNCY.** A prominent business man of Dinuba, Walter Lee Muncy is widely known and esteemed for the sterling traits of character which distinguish his citizenship. A native of California, he was born near Stockton June 1, 1863, the sixth in order of birth in a family of six sons and four daughters, all of whom are living. His father, J. S. Muncy, was born in East Tennessee of Virginian ancestors. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California, where he first engaged in mining, and afterward teamed to the southern mines from Stockton. Eventually locating on a farm in







*John C. Middleton*

San Joaquin county, he followed agricultural pursuits for a time, then purchased a farm of sixteen hundred acres in Stanislaus county, just south of Modesto, which he devoted to the raising of grain. He now makes his home in Modesto, retired from the active cares of life. In Tuolumne county, Cal., he was united in marriage with Juliette Squires, a native of St. Louis, Mo., who is still sharing with him the fruits of his years of industry and energy.

Reared to young manhood upon the paternal farm, Walter Lee Muncy attended the district school, while at the same time he received the practical training which has formed no unimportant part in his subsequent career. He remained at home until he was twenty-six years old, when he sought independent ventures, locating in 1890 in Dinuba (which then consisted of but eight houses and one store), and here established the first hardware store. He continued successfully in its management for two years, when he established a blacksmith business on Main street. This remained his chief interest until 1901, when he once more gave impetus to the business activity by establishing a plumbing and tinning business, now manufacturing everything in his line, such as tanks, towers, the Sampson windmill, gasoline engines, etc., as well as everything in a plumbing line. In December, 1902, he formed a partnership with Zenas E. Thorp, a practical plumber. Mr. Muncy has made a success of every enterprise undertaken and has proven himself an important factor in the upbuilding of the town.

Near Modesto Mr. Muncy was united in marriage with Lulu May, a native of that city, and they are the parents of two sons, Leonard Glenn and Irwin. Mr. Muncy is prominent in fraternal orders, being a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge of this place, of which he is past grand, having served two terms; Woodmen of the World, of which he was second-counselor commander, and both himself and wife are members of the Rebekahs and Women of Woodcraft. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.

---

**JOHN CHANCEY MIDDLETON.** Prominent among the most substantial and respected residents of Stanislaus county is John Chancey Middleton, a successful dairyman and stock-raiser, and an extensive landholder, residing about three miles southwest of Newman, although a large part of his real estate is within the limits of Merced county. A son of the late Robert S. Middleton, he was born May 20, 1861, at the foot of Pike's Peak, in Colorado.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Robert S. Middleton was of Scotch-Irish descent, his grandfather Stinson, who emigrated to this country,

settling first in Missouri and later in Illinois, having been born in Ireland of Scotch ancestors. Removing with his parents from St. Louis to Illinois, he was brought up in the Prairie State. Migrating to California in 1852, he intended to settle here as a miner, but being disappointed in the results of his labors with pickaxe and shovel, he returned to Illinois, settling in Hancock county, near Nauvoo, where he was employed in farming for a number of years. Coming again to the Pacific coast in 1872, he located in Santa Cruz county, where his family joined him in 1875. Coming to Stanislaus county three years later, he took up land on the western border, and was here employed in stock-raising until his death in 1892. He was an active and capable business man and a faithful supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. He married Emma Caroline Robison, who was born in Nauvoo, Ill., a daughter of James Robison, a farmer, who removed there from Pennsylvania. Eight children were born of their union, six of whom are living, namely: Mary S., wife of James Rogers, a dairyman in Merced county; James S., a hotel keeper in Fresno; John C., the special subject of this sketch; Mrs. Julia Dunningan of Cottonwood Grove; George C., a barber in Newman; and Mrs. Cibba A. Hill of Merced county, wife of a dairyman. The mother is still living, making her home with her son, John C.

Remaining in Illinois throughout his boyhood, John C. Middleton obtained a practical education in the district schools of Hancock county. Coming with his mother and the family to Santa Cruz in 1875, he worked for three years in the lumber camps and sawmills. In 1878 he removed to Stanislaus county, and was subsequently engaged in the cattle business with his father, and also raised stock to some extent on his own account. Renting a ranch below the ditch in 1900, Mr. Middleton embarked in the dairy business and has since been very successful. He is now located on the Creamery road, where he keeps a dairy consisting of forty Durham and Holstein cows, and runs his own separator, delivering the cream to the nearby creamery. He raises many Poland China hogs and is still engaged in the cattle business, his range being in the foothills. Mr. Middleton owns about one thousand two hundred and eighty acres of land on the Quinto, all of which is fenced, and has running water upon it, and is stocked with one hundred and fifty head of cattle. He likewise has thirty-three acres of land sowed with alfalfa near Dos Palos, Merced county.

In Merced Mr. Middleton married Elma E. Weaver, a native of Pennsylvania, where her father, William L. Weaver, was born and reared.

A carpenter by trade, Mr. Weaver came with his family to California in 1873, locating first in Stockton, but subsequently removing to Livingston, Merced county, where he followed farming for a few years. He is now a resident of Merced, where he is engaged in business as a dairyman and vineyardist. He married Annie Stoner, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Christian Stoner, and they became the parents of nine children, all of whom are now living, Mrs. Middleton being the second child in order of birth. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Middleton two children have been born, but neither are living, both having died in childhood. Politically Mr. Middleton is identified with the Democratic party. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and to the Woodmen of the World, of which he is past consul commander. Both Mr. and Mrs. Middleton are members of the Degree of Honor, and of the Women of Woodcraft. Mrs. Middleton belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

---

AMAZIAH W. CLARK. As far back as the records of the Clark family can be traced its members were residents of New England, where they led quiet, industrious lives as tillers of the soil. Samuel Clark, who was a native of New Hampshire and a farmer in Maine, rendered his country faithful service as a soldier in the war of 1812. Lorenzo, a son of Samuel, was born in Maine and there passed his entire life, devoting himself to the cultivation of a farm near Albion, where he died. By his marriage to Hannah Mitchell, who was born at Freedom, Waldo county, and died at Albion, he had five children, of whom a son and daughter now survive. Two sons, Samuel and James, came to California in early manhood, gave their attention to agricultural pursuits, cultivated large tracts of land, and while still in middle age died near Hanford. The youngest of the family, A. W., was born at Albion, Me., April 8, 1859, and passed his early youth upon a New England farm, where a livelihood was earned only by the most arduous effort. Not wishing to settle permanently in a land where the climate and soil were so inhospitable, in November of 1875 he came to California whither his brothers had preceded him. Immediately after his arrival he began to work on the ranch of Dewey & Applegarth in Merced county. During 1878 he removed to the vicinity of Hanford and engaged in grain and stock-raising seven miles northeast of the town, forming a partnership with his brother, James, with whom he cultivated about six thousand acres. Included in their posses-

sions was a section of land in Mussel Slough, purchased from the railroad and duly paid for, but on account of the land troubles that arose at a later date, paid for a second time. After the death of the older brother, James, the partnership was dissolved, A. W. Clark retaining the Tulare county property, and the heirs of James Clark the Kings county property. In the raising and threshing of grain they used from twelve to sixteen mule teams, and all their farm work was conducted upon an extensive scale.

Some years after coming west Mr. Clark was married in Fresno to Miss Marion Kennedy, who was born in Tulare county and died here January 10, 1901. In life she had been her husband's efficient helpmate and affectionate companion, and her death was the deepest sorrow of his life. For one term Mr. Clark officiated as a director of the Alta irrigation district, and in other movements of public benefit he has been equally interested and helpful. Politically he supports the Republican party. His farm interests are large. In addition to superintending his own estate, comprising sixteen hundred acres of choice land, he has charge of twenty-four hundred acres of land owned by his father-in-law, Robert Kennedy, the well-known and honored pioneer of the northern part of Tulare county. In the cultivating of the four thousand acres he employs about six eight-mule teams. One thousand acres of the tract are in alfalfa, a similar amount is in grain, and an equal acreage in summer fallow. The entire place is under irrigation and furnishes exceptional advantages for the raising of cattle and sheep, which are among his specialties, and there are perhaps no herds of Shorthorn Durhams in the entire county that present a finer appearance than those on his farm. When it is remembered that he came to the west a mere boy, without experience or means, the large property he now owns proves him to be a man of exceptional capabilities.

---

WALTER BILLINGSLEA. A prominent fruit grower, owning two vineyards and an orchard near Dinuba, Walter Billingslea has performed his full share in developing and promoting the horticultural interests of this part of Tulare county, and is widely known as one of the directors of the Alta Irrigation District. Liberal and public-spirited, he has always been the supporter and encourager of everything calculated to benefit the community, intellectually, socially and morally, and is greatly esteemed for his integrity and stability. The descendant of

a Maryland family of prominence, he was born July 20, 1852, in Harford county, Md., near Belair, where his father, James Billingslea, was also born and bred.

Left fatherless when a young child, James Billingslea, or Billingsley, as he always spelled the surname, served an apprenticeship at the saddler and harnessmaker's trade, which he followed west of Belair until his early death, in 1852. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary J. Brian, was born in Baltimore county, Md. Her father, Joseph Brian, emigrated from Bordeaux, France, to America and settled in Baltimore. Mrs. Mary J. Billingslea survived her husband and died in Baltimore aged about seventy years. She bore her husband six children, five of whom are living. The oldest son, Thomas Billingslea, is a merchant in San Francisco.

Brought up on a farm in Harford county, Md., Walter Billingslea attended the district school when young, completing his studies by one term's attendance at the Presbyterian Academy near his home. In 1872 he began journeying westward, going as far as Butler county, Ohio, where for three years or more he followed the occupation to which he was reared, being engaged in farming near Hamilton. Migrating still farther westward in 1876, Mr. Billingslea was engaged in agricultural pursuits in the vicinity of Atchison, Kans., for two years. Again taking up the line of march in 1878, he continued his journey to the coast, and for awhile was employed in grain raising at Wild Flower, Fresno county, Cal. He was subsequently similarly employed on land lying north of Selma for a few seasons, after which he was for two years engaged in horticultural pursuits in the Scandinavian Colony, Fresno county. Coming to Tulare county in 1890, Mr. Billingslea located near Dinuba, on his present home ranch. Buying first a grain field of thirty acres, he set out a vineyard and orchard, and in their care and management met with such satisfactory results that he bought thirty acres of adjoining land, and enlarged his operations, having now a magnificent vineyard of forty acres, in which he raises grapes of different kinds, including Muscat, Sultanas and Malaga, and a small orchard, the remainder of his ranch being alfalfa land. As a vineyardist and orchardist he is considered an expert, his crops being fine in quantity and quality, and yielding him a handsome annual income. He is intimately acquainted with fruit culture in its various phases, and for six years was raisin inspector at this point for the California Raisin Growers' Association.

In Fresno county, Mr. Billingslea married Nancy Isabelle Miller, who was born in Missouri, and came with her parents to California when six years old. She died in March, 1898,

leaving two children, James William, and Ina Lee. Mrs. Billingslea was a woman of superior character, estimable and amiable, and a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically Mr. Billingslea is one of the leading Democrats of the county, active in his party, being an influential member of the Democratic county central committee, and having served as a delegate to the state convention held at Santa Cruz. Fraternally he belongs to the Woodmen of the World. For about ten years he was a member and the clerk of the District School Board, and was also a member of the Dinuba Union High School Board. In February, 1899, he was elected a director of the Alta Irrigation District for a term of four years, and in February, 1903, was re-elected for another term of equal length.

---

FRANK ALBERT GOBIN. The thriving city of Tulare has a full quota of live, energetic and progressive business men, prominent among whom is Frank Albert Gobin, who, as a buyer and shipper of green and dried fruits of all kinds, is carrying on a large and substantial trade. A man of ability, tact and keen foresight, he is intimately associated with the industrial and commercial prosperity of Tulare county, and in the advancement of its welfare lends material assistance. A native of Indiana, and the descendant of a pioneer family of influence, he was born June 17, 1868, in Carlisle, Sullivan county, which was also the birthplace of both his father, John Lindsay Gobin, and of his grandfather, James Gobin. The latter, a farmer by occupation, served in the Civil war, belonging to an Indiana regiment.

After leaving the ancestral farm, John Lindsay Gobin engaged in mercantile pursuits, and for many years was one of the leading druggists of Carlisle, Ind. By good management and wise judgment he accumulated considerable property, and is now living in that city, retired from the activities of business. He married Margaret Hall, who was born in Carlisle, Ind., the daughter of Thomas Hall, a pioneer farmer of that place, who is now living at Hall's Corner, Erie county, N. Y., enjoying the large wealth which he has accumulated by means of industry and thrift. Of the six children born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Gobin, four are living, namely: R. D., of Fort Scott, Kans., a railroad man; James M., of Fresno, Cal.; Pauline I., wife of Dr. J. R. Whalen of Carlisle, Ind.; and Frank Albert. The mother passed to the higher life in 1874.

Frank A. Gobin was brought up and educated in Carlisle, Ind. After his graduation from the high school he learned the carpenter's trade,

which he followed for a few years in his native state. With a desire to broaden his field of action, he came to the Pacific coast in 1891, and for a year resided in Los Angeles. Taking unto himself a wife in 1892, Mr. Gobin settled in Tulare, and at once embarked in the fruit business. He buys green and dried fruits of every variety, and these he sells at local points and ships to New York City, where he has established a market. He also carries on an excellent business as a commission merchant, and is agent for the California Wine Association, for which he buys the grapes. In 1902 Mr. Gobin shipped from Tulare forty-four hundred tons of wine grapes, an immense quantity to send from one place. He also represents, in the trade of green fruits, Simpson Hack of Los Angeles.

February 6, 1892, in Pasadena, Cal., Mr. Gobin married Hattie Carpenter, who was born in Petaluma. Her father, William Carpenter, was a wheelwright and a pioneer settler of Tulare. Mr. and Mrs. Gobin have one child, Ramona Tressa. Politically Mr. Gobin is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he has served three terms as chief ranger of Court Mount Whitney No. 211, F. of A., and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is one of the board of managers.

**BENJAMIN SNOW.** A skillful and thorough-going farmer and dairyman, Benjamin Snow, residing three miles south of Dinuba, is actively identified with the advancement and development of the agricultural prosperity of this section of Tulare county, and holds high rank among the prosperous and substantial citizens of his neighborhood. A son of Edmund Snow, he was born, November 13, 1847, in Scotland county, Mo., where he lived until after his marriage. A native of North Carolina, Edmund Snow was there reared and educated. Subsequently following the tide of emigration across the Alleghanies, he came as far westward as Missouri, bringing with him his little family. He located first in Howard county, but soon removed to Scotland county, where he was engaged in tilling the soil until his death, in 1871, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Riggs, was born in North Carolina, and died in Missouri, in 1886, aged seventy-five years. Of the eight sons and three daughters born of their marriage, three sons and three daughters survive, the oldest daughter, Mrs. Louisa Wylie, residing in Nevada county, Cal.

Brought up on the home farm, near Memphis, Mo., Benjamin Snow acquired his rudimentary education in the district school, and under his father's tuition early became familiar

with the science and art of agriculture as then and there practiced. He subsequently engaged in farming on his own account, having eighty acres of land. In 1881, three years after his marriage, Mr. Snow disposed of his interests in that locality, and came with his family to the sunny state of California, locating on his present farm on July 5 of that year. Buying out a homesteader, he proved up his claim, and embarked in grain raising, in which he was quite successful. He continually added to the improvements on his estate, in 1889 getting the first ditch put through his land and that in the vicinity. That very season Mr. Snow put in his first crop of alfalfa, sowing eighteen acres, and since then he has levelled and checked ninety acres for alfalfa. In his home ranch Mr. Snow has one hundred and twenty acres, five acres of which is planted to fruit trees and vines, the remainder being alfalfa land, on forty-five acres of which he raises excellent crops by sub-irrigation only. In addition to general farming he carries on a profitable stock and dairy business, keeping about one hundred and eighty head of cattle, and a good herd of graded cows.

In 1878, in Missouri, Mr. Snow married Mary A. Hicks, who was born in that state, a daughter of William Hicks. Mr. Hicks, a native of Tennessee, settled in Missouri when a young man, and from there, in 1881, came to Hanford, Cal., where he resided until his death, in 1885. Into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Snow nine children have been born, five of whom are living, namely: Nannie, John H., Minnie, Lillie and Bryan. A man of strong convictions, Mr. Snow has taken an active part in the Democratic politics of the town and county, and is a member of its county central committee, and one of its executive board. Mrs. Snow is a valued member of the Baptist Church.

**SAMUEL MORTON BRISCOE.** Born in Missouri, where he was reared chiefly, for years a resident of Texas, Colorado and New Mexico, it is but fitting that Samuel Morton Briscoe, in his search for the best, should at last reach the goal of his ambitions by turning to Fresno county, Cal. In 1889 Mr. Briscoe moved to this county, and in 1899 purchased eighty acres one and a half miles west of Fresno, on California avenue, extending back to Kearney avenue, and here he engaged in raising the muscat or raisin grape. His place now contains many fine improvements, and fifty acres are devoted to the culture of this grape alone.

In reviewing the history of the Briscoe family, it will be found that many of its members were noted for their fighting proclivities and for their longevity. The grandfather, Walter Briscoe, was







*R. R. Fowler*

a native of the Keystone State, which he left for a home in Kentucky at an early date in the history of that section, when the country was unsettled. A farmer by occupation, he rendered valiant service to the country by participating in all of the early Indian wars throughout that state. In 1832 he removed with his family to Missouri, locating in Lewis county, where he died in 1855, aged about ninety-two years. Merritt Craig Briscoe, the father of S. M. Briscoe, was born at Elizabethtown, Ky., April 25, 1818. In his youth he accompanied his parents to Missouri, and for many years thereafter his life history is closely interwoven with the history of Lewis and Marion counties of that state, his early manhood having been spent in the former county. He was joined in marriage with Alzada Morton, a native of Owensboro, Ky., and a daughter of Samuel Morton, also a Kentuckian. In 1831 Mr. Morton moved to Missouri, locating in Marion county, and at Palmyra, the county-seat, he engaged in a general merchandise business, and for years was among the most successful merchants of that place. He was an old line Whig in his political views, and like the majority of the early settlers, he took an active part in the Indian disturbances. Mrs. Briscoe still survives her husband, and although she was born May 10, 1823, she is still hale and hearty and resides with her son, S. M., near Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Briscoe were blessed with four children, only one of whom is now living, and he was the eldest child of the family.

Samuel Morton Briscoe was born April 5, 1840, at Palmyra, Marion county, Mo., and it was in that state that his boyhood days were spent. During the gold fever of 1849, his father left the family in Missouri and crossed the plains, being en route from March 31 to August. Arriving safely in California, he followed mining near Red Bluffs for a few months, but subsequently engaged in freighting between Sacramento and the mining camps, following this somewhat hazardous occupation until 1851, when he returned home by way of the Isthmus. During the same year he moved his family to Lewis county and remained at home occupied in farm pursuits until 1854, when he again came to California with a herd of cattle, accompanied by his son, S. M., who was then but fifteen years old. From this time on the lives of father and son were closely interwoven.

Arriving in Sacramento, August 10, 1854, together the father and son engaged in the butcher business at Colusa, in Colusa county, soon after their arrival. The following year the son returned home, but the father continued in this business until 1856, when he, too, returned to Missouri. Farm pursuits occupied the attention of both in Lewis county for several years there-

after, and their next location was Dallas, Tex. In 1861 the father entered the Confederate army under General McCullough, and served as a private for three years, mostly in the Western Army Corps. The son also enlisted the same year, and for four years served as a private messenger for Gen. Kirby Smith between Dallas and New Orleans. He served throughout the war, being mustered out of service in 1865, when he returned to Dallas.

After the close of the war, in 1866, the family returned to Lewis county, Mo., and there both father and son carried on farm pursuits until 1873. At that time the son moved to Colorado Springs, Colo., where he followed both dairy farming and mining, and the next year he was joined by his parents. This continued to be their home until 1887, when a new location was sought, this time at Las Vegas, N. Mex., where dairy farming occupied their attention for a couple of years. It was not until 1889 that the family went to California to reside, and for several years thereafter they lived in Madera county, but in 1893 took up their abode in Fresno county. January 28, 1898, the father passed away, lacking but three months of being eighty years old.

The marriage of Mr. Briscoe in Marion county, Mo., April 26, 1859, united him with Elizabeth Fisher, who was born near Palmyra, Mo., April 27, 1849. Four children blessed this union—Zada Belle, Florence, Merritt C. (deceased), and Thomas M. Zada Belle married Isaac Erickson, who died in 1902. Florence married M. D. Young and resides in St. Joseph, Mo.; and Thomas M. is still at home. Politically Mr. Briscoe is an adherent of the Democratic party, but is not an office-seeker, nor can he be termed an active politician.

---

**ROYAL R. FOWLER.** A native son of the state and a prominent rancher of Merced county, Royal R. Fowler was born in San Joaquin county March 12, 1861. His father, Joseph M. Fowler, was a native of Massachusetts, born near Westfield on a farm, where he was reared to manhood. Upon leaving the paternal home he went to Northampton, where he joined the soldiers, thence to New York. In 1849 he went with the company intending to go to the southwest to enlist in the Mexican war, but as the war ended in that year they decided to come on to California. Leaving New York City they took passage on a steamer bound for Mexico, and crossing to the Pacific they completed their voyage and safely reached San Francisco. Mr. Fowler went at once to the mines at Horseshoe Bend and for the ensuing seven years followed the life of a miner in northern California. Needless to say his success justified a continuance in

the work, and during this time he made several trips back to his eastern home. Upon deciding to take up other work he came south to San Joaquin county and in company with his brother, William P. Fowler, bought six hundred and forty acres of land, which was devoted to general ranching and stock-raising. He remained so engaged until his death in 1896, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife, formerly Eliza Bromley, of Massachusetts, still survives him, and has six living children.

Reared upon his father's ranch in San Joaquin county, Royal R. Fowler remained at home until attaining manhood, when he came to Merced county, and locating near Atwater raised wheat for a short time. In 1886 he located upon his present property, which consists of fourteen hundred and forty acres of fine farming land five and a half miles east of Merced. This property is given over entirely to the cultivation of wheat and barley, while in addition to this he rents a thousand acres. Upon his own property he has erected a beautiful two-story frame house, consisting of nine rooms, finished in a modern and approved style, and provided with a telephone. In addition to his ranching interests Mr. Fowler is proprietor of the Cerealis Warehouse at Turner Station, which adjoins his ranch.

The marriage of Mr. Fowler occurred in 1885 and united him with Miss Mary McCauley, a native of Tiffin, Ohio. In his political convictions Mr. Fowler is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias, Ancient Order of Foresters and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**HON. R. LINDER.** The advancement of the San Joaquin valley and the upbuilding of the city of Tulare have had a progressive promoter in ex-Senator Linder, whose name is synonymous with many of the influences and movements tending to the development of local industries. Viewing the growth of Tulare he might truthfully say: "All of which I saw and part of which I was." The credit for the beautifying of the city belongs largely to him. In the heart of the town he laid out and since has kept up two small parks. In one of these he built a thatched pavilion where during the summer entertainments and Sunday religious services are held and band concerts are given. The other park is stocked with deer and elk and contains an aviary with an interesting collection of fine birds. All of this work he has accomplished individually without financial aid from others. Nor does this represent the limit of his work toward the permanent prosperity of Tulare. The business block which he erected in 1902 on the

corner of K and Kern streets is commodious, well-appointed and conveniently arranged, and adds much to the appearance of the business section of the place, besides providing adequate facilities for the stock carried by the Linder Hardware Company, of which he is president.

Of German birth and ancestry, Mr. Linder is the only representative of his father's family in the United States. He was born at Solingen, near Dusseldorf, Rhenish Prussia, April 25, 1854, and is a son of August Linder, a hardware merchant. After completing his gymnasium studies, at seventeen years of age he came to the United States and settled in San Francisco, where he secured employment with Treadwell & Co., wholesale hardware merchants, on Market and Fremont streets. After thirteen years with this house he became connected with D. M. Osborne & Co., dealers in agricultural implements, with whom he remained for four years. Meanwhile, in 1886, he purchased an interest in an agricultural implement business at Tulare, whither he moved in 1888, at the same time starting the firm of Linder & Grace. In 1900 the Linder Hardware Company was incorporated with himself as president, and soon after the incorporation a general stock of hardware was added. The Linder block, 75 x 150 feet, and two stories high, was erected in 1902, and afforded the company facilities for a grocery department, which is now one of the principal features of the business. Besides groceries the firm carries in stock stoves, cutlery, glassware, tin and agate ware, paints, oils, varnishes, iron, steel and pipe, sporting goods, wagons, carriages, buggies and agricultural implements.

Notwithstanding the pressure of business responsibilities Mr. Linder has contributed largely to the movements for the benefit of his town and county and has been especially prominent in irrigation matters. Individually he built for the Tulare irrigation district one hundred and twenty-five miles of canals and ditches from the Kaweah and St. Johns rivers, thus bringing under irrigation more than twenty-five thousand acres in the immediate vicinity of Tulare. While living in San Francisco he married Miss Addie L. Palmer, who was born in that city, her father, Samuel Palmer, having been an early settler there. They are the parents of three children, George, Gracie and Edyth, all at home, the son being engaged as secretary of the Linder Hardware Company.

As a member of the Tulare Board of Trade and the executive committee thereof, Mr. Linder has been identified with an organization whose aim is the advancement of the commercial prosperity of the town and surrounding country. Fraternally he is associated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks at Fresno. Ever since

becoming a voter he has supported Republican principles. In recognition of his able and faithful services for the party, in 1894 the Republican senatorial convention placed his name in nomination for the office of state senator. His popularity is proved by the fact that he was elected, in a Democratic district, by a majority of about two hundred. While serving in the sessions of 1895 and 1897 he acted as chairman of the irrigation committee and the committee on county and county boundaries, in both of which responsible positions he gained the esteem of co-workers and a reputation for ability and fine character. In the contest for the United States senatorship he gave his support to Senator Perkins, both for the short term and the long term. On his retirement from office he resumed business affairs. Both in official positions and commercial pursuits his reputation is that of a man of brilliant attainments, shrewd foresight, keen discrimination, a man who seldom makes mistakes, yet, having made them, is quick to make amends. It is to such citizens as he that Tulare county and the San Joaquin valley owe their increasing importance and growing prestige as profitable places for investment. Whatever of prosperity they may attain in the future and whatever of prominence is their good fortune to enjoy, due credit should be given to the philanthropic work and public-spirited efforts of ex-Senator Linder.

---

**PETER JORGENSEN.** Holding a good position among the prosperous agriculturists and respected citizens of Merced county is Peter Jorgensen, whose ranch is advantageously situated about four miles north of Volta. Since assuming its possession he has labored industriously, improving and beautifying the property by the erection of buildings, and the setting out of shade, ornamental and fruit trees. A native of Denmark, he was born on the Island of Fyen, near Faaborg, December 20, 1835. His father, Hans Jorgensen, a lifelong resident of Fyen, was a farmer by occupation, and died in January, 1836, while in the prime of life. His wife, Margaret Jorgensen, died in Fyen, on the old homestead.

The youngest child in a family of nine children, Peter Jorgensen obtained a practical common school education in his native town, and during his youthful days was well drilled in the various branches of agriculture as pursued in his Danish home. Entering the Fifth Battalion, Danish Infantry, in 1864, he served in the Schleswig-Holstein war, taking part in many important engagements. Returning home at the close of the conflict, Mr. Jorgensen was foreman on a large farm for two or

three years. Immigrating to America in 1868, he came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to California, and subsequently made a trip to British Columbia, where he was engaged in mining for six months. Not satisfied with the results of his labor at the mines he came back to California, and in San Francisco for a while followed the carpenter's trade, with which he had become familiar in his native country. Going thence to Inyo county, Cal., he continued there as a miner three years, and the following year worked at his trade in San Francisco.

In 1879, desirous of resuming the free and independent occupation to which he was brought up, Mr. Jorgensen came to the San Joaquin valley, locating at Hills Ferry, where for seven years he worked for J. L. Crittenden, being foreman of his large ranch, which was devoted to the raising of alfalfa and grain. Removing then to the east side of the valley, he took charge of the Stephenson ranch as foreman, remaining thus employed two years. With wise foresight and enterprise, Mr. Jorgensen had previously, in 1884, purchased his present ranch of one hundred and twenty acres, four miles north of Volta, and in 1891 he located on it, and has since been actively engaged in its care and management, adding from year to year to its improvements and value. He has erected buildings, bored an artesian well, and irrigated the land, and has forty acres of his ranch planted to alfalfa. Although he is a general farmer, he makes a specialty of raising beef cattle, in which he is very successful, his favorite breed being the Durham.

In his political affiliation Mr. Jorgensen is a true blue Republican, and though not an aspirant for official favors has served for the past ten years as school trustee in the Ingomar district. Fraternally he is past grand of Newman Lodge, I. O. O. F., and also a member of the Grand Lodge. He was brought up a Lutheran, but in his religious views is broad and liberal, following as far as possible in his every-day life the Golden Rule.

---

**FRANK H. STILES.** Upon the foundation laid by the brave and resolute pioneers of the west their sons have builded wisely and well, and it may be said with justice that the development of the present era is due not less to the enterprise of the second generation than to the courageous spirit of their predecessors. Representative of the keen and capable young farmers of the twentieth century is Frank H. Stiles, while his father, Pascal P., furnishes a typical

example of the pioneer who followed the overland trail amid dangers from Indians and innumerable perils seen and unseen. Father and son now reside a few miles from Tulare, the son energetically cultivating a farm and developing an orchard and vineyard, the father somewhat retired from active labors that once engrossed his attention and crowded his days.

From Vermont, where he was born in 1826, P. P. Stiles early followed the drift of emigration toward the Mississippi valley, and in search of a satisfactory location he experimented with farming in Illinois and Minnesota, then returned to Illinois, and in 1863 came with wagon and horses, in company with a large train, across the plains to California, settling near Stockton in the San Joaquin valley. Later he removed to Paradise, Stanislaus county, and about 1889 bought farm land in what is now Kings county, near Lemoore, but in 1892 came to his present location near Tulare. By his marriage to Caroline Brown, a native of New York state, he had five children, of whom three survive, namely: Catherine, wife of Thomas J. Mull, who occupies a farm adjoining the Stiles homestead; Myra, wife of Dr. A. M. Field; and Frank H., who was born at old Paradise, Stanislaus county, December 28, 1874, and passed his boyhood days mainly in the San Joaquin valley. Primarily educated in district schools, he later attended the schools of Modesto and Lemoore, and since leaving school has engaged in farm work. When he came to Tulare county in 1892 he set about the task of improving the home farm of eighty acres, then a raw wheat field. The irrigation facilities from the Tulare ditch were inadequate to his needs and prevented him from making the improvements necessary to the highest development of the land. In order to secure an abundance of water, he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Thomas J. Mull, in the establishment of a private irrigating plant, the same consisting of a well four hundred and thirty feet deep, from which water can be secured night and day by means of a pump operated by an electric motor. In connection with the plant is a reservoir covering one-half acre. The Mull and Stiles farms are irrigated from this plant and in addition the flow of water is sufficient to furnish irrigation facilities for a few neighbors. Since securing the needed supply of water Mr. Stiles has found no obstacle to the development of his land, and now has forty acres under alfalfa, which enables him to carry on a dairy business; seventeen acres in an orchard of peaches and plums; and seventeen acres in a vineyard of the choicest varieties of grapes, his specialties being the muscat and Thompson seedless.

The wife of Mr. Stiles was Eleanor Besse, a

native of South Dakota, but a resident of Tulare for some time prior to their marriage. Both are active members of the First Baptist Church of Tulare and Mr. Stiles holds the office of treasurer of the congregation. Politically he votes the Republican ticket in national issues, but in local matters maintains an independent spirit, supporting the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the people, irrespective of their views concerning governmental problems. The only organization of a fraternal nature to which he has given his active support is the Patrons of Husbandry No. 198, of Tulare, and of it he was master from 1900 to January, 1905, devoting meanwhile considerable thought and time to the promotion of its interests and the enlarging of its avenues of usefulness.

---

ORIGEN ABBEY WILCOX. A pioneer of the early days, Origen Abbey Wilcox recalls the foundation of the statehood of California and the years of effort and energy which have transformed the wilderness of the San Joaquin valley into its present prosperous condition. He is located on a ranch of seven hundred and eighty acres within the vicinity of Portersville, Tulare county, a portion of which he homesteaded and pre-empted, the balance he bought. A native of Erie county, N. Y., he was born December 1, 1840, a son of John Wilcox, who was born in Cattaraugus county, same state. His grandfather, Jerry Wilcox, was a native of Vermont and a patriot in the Revolutionary war, in an early day locating in the state of New York. John Wilcox came to California in 1850, crossing the plains after wintering at Council Bluffs. The train in which he traveled had considerable trouble with the Indians, he and his brother, Alfred, being taken prisoner by the Sioux. They were bound and lying on a rock ready for the torture of burning, when Mr. Wilcox made the Masonic sign. They were immediately liberated and permitted to join their friends. Arriving in California in 1852 he located at Fiddler's Green, afterward called Hangtown until it came to be known by the name of Placerville. He engaged in mining until 1854, when he went to Los Angeles and followed the stock business for two years. In 1856 he came to the place now occupied by his son, seven miles east of Portersville, where he remained for two years, then returned to the middle west and followed saw milling and stock-raising in Taylors Falls, Minn. His death occurred in that locality in 1862. His wife, formerly Fannie Manter, was a native of the Mohawk valley, and her death occurred in Erie county, N. Y. They had two children, the oldest, a daughter, being deceased.







W. J. Deelman

Origen Abbey Wilcox was reared to boyhood in his native place, receiving a very limited education through an attendance of the common schools up to the age of eight years. In 1854 he shipped from New Bedford on a whaling cruise, being absent from home for three years. The ship was wrecked on its way to the north seas, and afterward its course was changed to the south coast of Africa, in the vicinity of Cape Town. In six months the vessel was filled with oil and whale bone, after which they returned to New York. Mr. Wilcox then returned home, having run away to make his first business venture in the world. He worked on a farm until he had saved \$160, when he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama. He located with his father on his present place, homesteaded and pre-empted another tract, until at the present time he owns seven hundred and eighty acres of land, given over to general farming and stock-raising, the latter occupation claiming the greater part of his time and attention. For one year after arriving in California Mr. Wilcox owned and drove the stage from Visalia to Quartzburg, when he sold out and devoted his entire time to farming and stock-raising.

In 1868, while on a trip to New York, Mr. Wilcox married Clara J. Emerson, a native of New York state, and a daughter of William Lewis and Maria (Chase) Emerson, who were natives of Massachusetts, but who were reared in Vermont. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox: Mamie J., the wife of James Putnam, of Portersville; John A.; Fred E., of Portersville; Harry, also of Portersville; Alice; Guy F.; and Grace E., the last three and the second being still members of their parents' home. Politically Mr. Wilcox is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the Republican party, and has served in its interests as constable for two terms, and has been school director for many years.

---

**WILLIAM JAMES DECHMAN.** Closely allied with the history and growth of Dinuba during the last decade or more is the name of William James Dechman, cashier and treasurer of the Bank of Dinuba, also a member of the board of directors of this substantial institution. Since coming to this place he has built up an attractive suburban homestead, situated one and one-fourth miles south of Dinuba, where he has a commodious two-story residence, surrounded by a vineyard of thirty-five acres and a large orchard, the entire place, covering two small ranches, embracing forty-eight acres of valuable land. In selecting this community for his home he chose a climate radically different from the

bleak and stormy land of Nova Scotia, whence he came. Born near Halifax, November 6, 1864, he was a son of John and Margaret (Logan) Dechman, and a grandson of John Dechman and Robert Logan, all of whom were natives of Nova Scotia. The ancestry of the Dechman family is traced to Germany, while the Logans originally came from Scotland. During all of his active life John Dechman has engaged in farm pursuits near Halifax and he still makes that place his home; his wife died in May, 1904, and of their six children William James, the third in order of birth, is the only one to settle on the coast. Until nineteen years of age he remained on the home farm, attending school as opportunity offered. On leaving home he went to Boston and in that vicinity secured work on a farm.

After six months spent in Minneapolis, in 1886 William James Dechman came to California and secured employment on a fruit ranch near Santa Clara, where he remained less than one year. In January, 1887, he took up telegraphy with the Southern Pacific Railroad at Santa Clara, and later was appointed assistant agent and operator at Newhall, afterward serving in a similar capacity at Madera and other places as vacancies occurred. In 1888 he was transferred to the Tucson division of the Southern Pacific Railroad and became station agent at Pantano, Pima county, Ariz., where he remained for five years, and then returned to California as operator at Lathrop, San Joaquin county. After seven months at the latter place, August 10, 1893, he became station agent for the Southern Pacific at Dinuba, and that position he continued to fill until October 25, 1902, when he resigned to accept the post of cashier in the Bank of Dinuba, a flourishing concern that had been organized in the preceding February as a state institution. As a financier he has the reputation of being progressive yet conservative, keen yet tactful and accommodating yet ever regardful of the bank's interests. He is a member of the State and American Bankers' Associations and maintains a deep interest in the world of finance and investment. Besides his other work he finds time to discharge the duties of his position as treasurer of the Alta irrigation district. Though not active in politics, he is a pronounced Republican. In religion he is of the Presbyterian faith and officiates as a trustee in the Dinuba Church. While employed in Arizona he met and married Miss Jennie Carmichael, of Tucson, a native of Bocabe, New Brunswick, and of this union there is a son, Charles Stanley. Fraternally he has been associated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks at Fresno, while after coming to Dinuba he was initiated into the Independent

Order of Odd Fellows, in which he is past grand. Though business matters have engrossed his attention, he has displayed a keen interest in fruit-growing and has maintained his orchard and vineyard under the highest state of improvement, also has taken a warm interest in the work of the Raisin Growers' Association as well as in other movements for the promoting of the valuable fruit interests of this locality.

THOMAS HOUSE. An old-time agriculturist of large experience, and a successful stock-raiser of early days, Thomas House, now living with his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. John Fox, near Dinuba, is numbered among the venerable residents of that community, and by its people is held in that reverence and respect tacitly accorded to those whose lives have been distinguished by integrity and usefulness. A man of strong personality, upright and strictly honest in all of his dealings, he is a worthy representative of the pioneer element which laid the foundations for the present and future prosperity of our great and undivided country, rendering it one of the recognized powers of the world. Born and bred in Illinois, through the days of his boyhood and youth he suffered all the privations and hardships of life in a new and uncivilized country. Migrating to Missouri, then the extreme western frontier, in November, 1839, he rendered efficient service in transforming the primeval forest into tillable land, while during the Civil war he served with distinction, offering his life if need be for his country. During the quarter of a century that he has resided in California he has been an important factor in advancing its farming interests, and in the march of progress, wherever he has lived has kept in the front rank. No more pleasant hour can be passed than in listening to the reminiscences of Mr. House, who has witnessed the wonderful changes that in the last half century have been wrought in all lines of industry and science, bringing the Atlantic and Pacific shores into close contact, and placing both in touch with all parts of the earth. Within his remembrance the rude trails and foot-paths have developed into broad, well-traveled thoroughfares; dense forests and waste prairies and deserts have blossomed into large, well-tilled fields of hay and grain; modern machinery has replaced the rude implements formerly used on the farm and in the house, the combined harvester taking the place of the sickle and cradle, and the immense cotton and woolen factories rendering useless the old spinning wheel and hand loom. From the home-made candle dip to the evolution of the electric light plant has been but a few short steps, while our

superior system of railway communication, our telegraph, telephone and postal facilities have added an important impetus to the growth, population, wealth and intelligence of the country, and given us close connection with the entire nation. Of pioneer ancestry, Mr. House was born, February 2, 1823, in Edgar county, Ill., a son of John House. His grandfather, John Joseph Anderson House, a Virginian by birth, served in the Revolutionary war, after which he settled in Ohio, where he cleared and improved a farm, on which he resided until his death.

Born on the Ohio homestead, John House spent his earlier years in his native state. In 1819 he removed to Edgar county, Ill., locating eight miles from Paris. Engaging in river pursuits, he did a good deal of trading in New Orleans, taking produce down the Mississippi in flat boats. On one occasion the children remember that he brought back calico enough to make his wife a dress, paying six bits, or seventy-five cents, per yard for it, that being the first piece of calico the family had ever seen. On one of his trips, he died of cholera in New Orleans. He married Margaret Foster, who was born in Kentucky, a daughter of Thomas Foster. Mr. Foster was born of Scotch-Irish ancestors, in Pennsylvania. He settled first in Kentucky, from there removing, in 1819, to Edgar county, Ill., becoming a pioneer farmer of that place. He served in the war of 1812. In 1836 he migrated with his family to Missouri, and there spent his remaining years. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Harbaugh, was of German descent. After Mr. Foster's death, Mrs. Foster returned to Illinois, where she subsequently passed the remainder of her life. Mrs. House survived her husband, and married in due course of time Thomas Martin, of Indiana, with whom, in 1839, she removed to Missouri, where both resided until their deaths, hers occurring when she was seventy-eight years of age. Eight children, all boys, blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. John House, and of them we make the following mention: Thomas, the subject of this sketch; Joseph Anderson, a soldier in the Mexican war, died in Gilroy, Cal.; Samuel, who lost his health while in the Mexican war, died soon after its close in Edgar county, Ill.; Ezekiel is a farmer near Gilroy, Cal.; John, who served in a Missouri regiment in the Union Army during the Civil war, died in Texas; Francis Marion, now operating a small ranch near Traver, Cal., rendered the Union brave service during the Civil war as a member of the Twelfth Missouri Cavalry, in which he enlisted in spite of a lameness caused by hip disease that was brought on from abuse by the people to whom he was bound out after his father's death; Emanuel died near Gilroy, Cal.; and Arthur died in Ray county, Mo.,

in 1866. Arthur, the youngest son, served in the Union Army during the Civil war, belonging to the Eighth Kansas Volunteer Infantry. On one occasion, while he and a comrade, George Metcalf, were home on a furlough, the rebels hounded them, and finally sent for them to come out of the house. The two brave boys came out back to back, and as soon as they appeared the rebels began firing, Metcalf returning the first shot. The horses becoming frightened, turned about, thus giving Arthur House an opportunity to take better aim at his assailant, whom he killed. George Metcalf put nine buckshot into one of the rebel's shoulders. The boys fought their way through the rebel line, and in their stocking feet, reached a camp of state militia. Soon afterward the militia was attacked by Bill Anderson and his followers near Richmond, Mo., and these boys were in the thickest of the fight. Arthur was lying upon the ground when he saw Bill Anderson aim at Metcalf. Seizing his musket, Arthur House fired, and Bill Anderson, who at the time had the scalps of seventeen white men on his bridle, fell from his horse dead. Arthur never told this tale until lying on his death-bed, fearing that his mother and sister might be made to suffer for the act.

When a boy Thomas House obtained his first knowledge of the three "R's" in the rude log schoolhouse, with its dirt floor and slab benches, but acquired the greater part of his education after his marriage by reading. In November, 1839, he went with the family to Ray county, Mo., moving across the country with teams. He subsequently worked for two years at the blacksmith's trade, after which he located in Carroll county, near Norborne, where he carried on farming for many years. Possessing great physical strength and endurance, Mr. House did many a hard day's work. On the day that Lincoln was inaugurated he broke four hundred pounds of hemp, which was four times the amount expected of a slave, and he at one time mauled and split four hundred and thirty-five ten-foot rails in one day. In those pioneer times produce of all kinds was very cheap. In 1842 and 1843 bacon was hauled to the Missouri river and sold for one and one-fourth cents per pound; it took six bushels of corn to buy a yard of calico; forty bushels of wheat to purchase a pair of boots; while sheep sold for \$1.50 a dozen. Each merchant in those days had a list of all the banks, and the value of wild cat money was kept. This bank list was reviewed from time to time, and was called a detective. At one time Mr. House received several months pay for labor, but before he could get to town to purchase the clothes, boots and provisions that he really required the money was

worthless, the bank which issued it having become defunct.

An outspoken Union man, Mr. House enlisted at Chillicothe, Mo., July 17, 1861, in Company D of the famous Merrill's Horse. Later on January 8, 1864, he re-enlisted as a veteran at Brownville, in the same company and regiment. He took part in many different battles and skirmishes, and followed the bushwhackers through Missouri and Arkansas. He was in the battle at Little Rock, and at Mer de Changnes when Marmaduke and Cabell were captured. Gen. John McNeil had given the command to "trot, gallop, gallop like hell." Besides capturing Generals Marmaduke and Cabell they took nine cannons and twenty-two hundred prisoners. Mr. House served until the close of the war, when he was discharged as sergeant of his company. Prior to the breaking out of hostilities he had two hundred acres of land, and at the end he had but eighty acres, and was in debt for that. He suffered a good deal during the war from the southern sympathizers. At one time the rebels threatened to burn out his family, but Mr. House sent word in a letter to them through his family physician, who was a rebel, that if such a thing was attempted he would sweep the valley, leaving not one of their houses standing, as he had Colonel Merrill's permission to pick out fifteen men to help him do it. The rebels knowing full well that Thomas House would do as he promised left him and his family unmolested.

Leaving Missouri in 1881 Mr. House came to California, locating in Hanford, on April 1. Subsequently buying land on the San Joaquin river, in Fresno county, two and one-half miles south of the San Joaquin power house, he improved a fine ranch, which is well located, being two thousand, five hundred feet above the sea. Since 1902 Mr. House has rented this ranch, and has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Fox.

Mr. House married first, in Norborne, Mo., Hannah Coleman, who was born in Ray county, Mo., and died in Carroll county, Mo. She bore him four children, one of whom is living, Joseph A. House. September 12, 1854, in Ray county, Mo., he married for his second wife Sarah Ann Clark, a daughter of John Clark, who was born in Pennsylvania, and died in Missouri. She died on the home ranch, in Tulare county, Cal., in September, 1891, aged fifty-eight years. By this marriage Mr. House has five children, of whom we mention the following: Georgia A. married, April 17, 1873, John Fox, who was born near Norborne, Mo., a son of John and Elizabeth (Tiner) Fox, and is now employed in agricultural pursuits in Tulare county, his ranch of one hundred and thirty-



four and one-half acres lying four miles southwest of Dinuba; Mrs. Mary Beaty, lives near Sanger, Cal.; Mrs. Fannie Caesar, lives near Reedley; Mrs. Emeline Root is a resident of Sanger; and Mrs. Caroline Dailey resides in Coalinga, Cal. A man of true Christian piety and devotion, Mr. House united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in January, 1844, and has since been a consistent member, as was his wife during her life. He was a charter member of McPherson Post, G. A. R., and now belongs to the Dick Yates Post, G. A. R. Politically he was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, and has since been one of its most zealous supporters. He has cast his vote for the presidential candidates in the order named, voting first for Clay, then Taylor, Scott, Fremont, Lincoln, Lincoln, Grant, Grant, Hayes, Garfield and Arthur, Blaine, Harrison, Harrison, McKinley, McKinley and Roosevelt, and lastly for Roosevelt.

**FRANKLIN WILLIAMS.** For more than half a century a resident of California, Franklin Williams, a well-known horticulturist, living three miles southeast of Dinuba, is a worthy representative of the early pioneers of the state, and in the development and promotion of its industrial and agricultural prosperity has been active and influential. In his career he has been financially prosperous, acquiring a comfortable competency, and as an intelligent, honorable and well-disposed citizen has won the regard and respect of his neighbors and friends. A son of Jedediah Williams, he was born, February 22, 1830, in Jackson county, Mo., near Independence. His grandfather, Thomas Williams, a Virginian by birth and breeding, served in the war of 1812. He afterward farmed for a few years in Tennessee, from there removing to Missouri. In 1853 he started with the family across the plains for California, via the Carson route, going as far as Summit, where he was taken ill, and died very suddenly, being then seventy-six years old.

Born in Tennessee, Jedediah Williams went with the family to Missouri, and for several years was employed in general farming in Jackson county. In 1853 he came with a large party to California, crossing the plains with oxen, and located in Solano county, near Vacaville, where he was in business as a stock-raiser and dealer until his death. He married Mary G. Lewis, who was born in North Carolina, and died in Solano county, Cal. They became the parents of thirteen children, all of whom grew to years of maturity, became residents of California, and of these four are now living.

The third child of his parents, Franklin Williams was brought up on a farm, and while young

attended the subscription school held in the little log house with its puncheon floor and slab benches. At the age of nineteen years, he and his brother Jefferson, now a resident of Santa Ana, were seized by the gold fever then epidemic throughout the country, and started for California, joining a company in which were two of their cousins, Richard Lewis and Joshua Lewis. The wagons were drawn by oxen, four yoke to each, and there were besides three driving horses. This train, the noted Hedgepath train, well provisioned, left Missouri April 24, 1849, followed the old trail, taking the Sublette cut-off, traveling through Goose Lake country, and arriving in California on September 15, 1849. Going directly to Placerville, Mr. Williams worked in the mines until the spring of 1850, when he went to Downieville to try his luck. From there he proceeded to Nevada City, where he continued mining for awhile. In 1851, having been successful, he returned east by way of Panama, and in 1852 came back across the plains with a large drove of cattle. Disposing of these at an advantage, he made another trip to the east, going, in February, 1853, by way of Panama, and the following April piloted his father across the plains, coming by the same old route, and locating in Solano county, about four miles from Vacaville, where he had previously purchased a ranch.

In the fall of 1853 Mr. Williams journeyed eastward by way of the Isthmus of Panama for the third time, and on his return across the plains with the inevitable ox team train, in April, 1854, brought with him a bride, who for many years presided over his household with rare skill and ability. At that time Mr. Williams also drove a large herd of cattle, but many of these he lost while traveling through the alkali district. Settling on his ranch, near Vacaville, he improved the land, and for forty-one consecutive years was there prosperously engaged in general farming and stock-raising. Selling out in 1895, he bought his present home farm, near Dinuba, having fifty-five acres of choice land, which he devotes principally to the culture of vines and fruits, having a large vineyard and orchard.

Mr. Williams married first, February 17, 1854, in Jackson county, Mo., Mary Jane Morgan, who was born in Sangamon county, Ill., and died in Solano county, Cal. Six children were born of their union, namely: Oliver Cromwell, engaged in farming near Sultana; Rufus L., deceased; Cornelius E., of Vacaville; Claudius, of Dinuba; Everett, of Vacaville; and Eulalia, deceased. For his second wife Mr. Williams married, in Yolo county, Cal., Sarah Catherine Stark, who was born in Hannibal, Mo., and came across the plains with her father and family in 1853, he, Ambrose Stark, settling near Vaca-







*J. G. Rudolph*

ville. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have two children born of their marriage, Raleigh F., at Berkeley, attending the University of California; and Wert, a student in the San Francisco School of Pharmacy. Politically Mr. Williams is a staunch Democrat. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is a member of the California Pioneer Association of San Francisco. He is a prominent member of the Christian Church, in which he is an elder, and for many years was superintendent of its Sunday School.

**JAMES G. RUDDLE.** The Merced River Roller Mills, two and a half miles from Snelling, are owned and operated by James G. Ruddle, one of the popular and successful farmers and millers of this section. He was born in Merced county January 7, 1862, and represents one of the pioneer families of '49. His parents, John and Anna E. (Hardwick) Ruddle, came from Missouri during that memorable year, the father attaining to prominence as an agriculturist and stock-raiser, and accumulating a competence which enables him to live a comfortable retired life.

James G. Ruddle has spent his entire life on a farm, and has been independent of the paternal resources since completing his education in the public school of Merced county. His commodious house is located on a hill above the Merced river, from which one can gain a view of this entire part of the valley. He owns four thousand acres devoted to stock and grain, and his mill, fitted with modern roller machinery, has a daily output of one hundred barrels. Mr. Ruddle has the latest and most practical improvements on his farm, and mill and farm constitute one of the finest and most paying combinations in Merced county. He installed the electric light plant at Merced Falls, the first water power plant in the county, and was one of the organizers of the Merced Falls Electric Company. Since his boyhood days he has been a constant and hard worker, careful and conscientious in the performance of whatever tasks came his way. Generous and public-spirited, his interests have by no means been confined within the borders of his valuable property, but have extended to the political and general upbuilding of his native county, and have brought him the good-will and appreciation of his fellow townsmen.

Mr. Ruddle is an honored member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, and in politics is a Democrat. He married into another pioneer family of the coast, his wife being Annette, daughter of John Stockard, a California settler of 1852. The children of the Ruddle household are: John, Allen, Edwin, Annette and Alice.

**HENRY FURTNEY, M. D.** Since 1888 Dr. Furtney has been a resident of Tulare county and has built up a liberal patronage among the citizens. He was born in Lee county, Iowa, November 4, 1856, the youngest in a family of seven children, five of whom are living, three in California. His parents, George and Margaret (Shettler) Furtney, were both natives of Pennsylvania, who settled in Iowa in 1845, where the father engaged as a blacksmith and farmer and in which state the death of both occurred. Henry Furtney was reared to young manhood upon the paternal farm in Lee county, attending the district schools while he also engaged in farming pursuits. On deciding to take up a profession he studied medicine with Dr. C. F. Wahrer, of Mt. Hamill, Iowa. Later entering the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in Keokuk, Iowa, he was graduated from the same in March, 1888, with the degree of M. D. Starting at once for California he located first in Orosi, Tulare county, where he engaged in a practice of medicine and surgery for the period of three years. In March of 1891 he removed to Dinuba and with the exception of nine months spent in Alaska, where he prospected and mined, going there in the spring of 1898, he has made this place the scene of his labors ever since. In 1900 he went to San Francisco and in the College of Physicians and Surgeons took a seven months' course in post-graduate work, hospital, etc. He is well posted on every branch of his profession, keeping well abreast of the times, and thoroughly in touch with every advance made in the science of medicine or surgery.

Dr. Furtney has been married twice, the first ceremony being performed in Lee county, Iowa, March 4, 1885, and uniting him with Mary Brown, a native of that county. She died in Orosi, leaving two children, Lester and Edna. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was an active worker in all its branches. The doctor was married December 16, 1894, to Mrs. Mattie J. Shoemaker, a native of Iowa, and her death occurred in Dinuba June 13, 1898. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and at the time of her death was serving as noble grand of Rebekah Lodge No. 203. The doctor has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for twenty years, joining the order in Mt. Hamill Lodge, Iowa. He is now a charter member of Dinuba Lodge No. 381, of which he is past grand, having served for two terms, and has also served as district deputy grand master. He is also identified with the Rebekahs; Woodmen of the World, of which

he is examining physician; Women of Woodcraft, in which he is also examining physician; and Fraternal Brotherhood. In the line of his profession he belongs to the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society, of which he is second vice-president. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically is a staunch Republican.

---

**STEPHEN Q. SIMPSON.** Prominent in the annals of Tulare county are the representative business men, among whom Stephen Q. Simpson, a wide-awake, enterprising merchant of Monson and the postmaster of this place, holds an honored position. He is a man of worth and promise, exemplary in his habits, strictly upright in his dealings with his fellow-men, and is deservedly esteemed and respected throughout the community. A son of John Crittenden Simpson, he was born August 12, 1871, in Scotland county, Mo., near Memphis. His grandfather, James Simpson, a native of North Carolina, settled as a pioneer of Greene county, Tenn., and after farming there for a time removed with his family to Scotland county, Mo., where he spent his declining years.

Born in Greene county, Tenn., John Crittenden Simpson accompanied the family to Missouri, where, following in the footsteps of his progenitors, he engaged in agricultural pursuits, clearing and improving a farm in Scotland county. Taking advantage of the country being opened up by agriculturists in California, he came here with his family in 1875, and for five years lived at Mussel Slough, near old Grangeville. Locating on the plains in 1880, he took up a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres one-half mile south of Monson, built a residence, made valuable improvements and began raising grain. Successful in his undertakings, he has resided there since, and is now largely engaged in stock raising and dairying. Patriotic and energetic, he served in the state militia while a resident of Missouri. He married Sarah Hicks, who was born in Schuyler county, Mo., a daughter of William Hicks and a sister of Stephen Hicks, in whose sketch, which may be found on another page of this volume, further history of her parents and ancestors is given. Of the five children born of their marriage, three are living, Stephen Q. being the second in order of birth.

Passing the days of his boyhood and youth in California, principally in the northern part of Tulare county, Stephen Q. Simpson received his elementary education in the Monson district school, completing it at Washington College, in Irvington, where he was graduated in 1892. For five years thereafter he was actively employed

in agricultural pursuits in the vicinity of Monson, meeting with reasonable success. Wishing to change his occupation, he embarked in mercantile pursuits in 1897, opening a store of general merchandise in Monson, and has since built up a large and lucrative trade, his store being well stocked with a fine class of goods of all the kinds usually found in an establishment of that kind. In December, 1897, Mr. Simpson was appointed postmaster by President McKinley, and has since served most satisfactorily to all concerned.

In Delano, Cal., November 16, 1899, Mr. Simpson married Rachael Hubbard, who was born in Yolo county, Cal., a daughter of William and Nancy (McBride) Hubbard, both natives of Ohio, her mother being a daughter of the late Samuel McBride, who died in California. William Hubbard came across the plains to California in 1864, with his father, Nelson Hubbard. He engaged in farming, being first located in Stanislaus county, then in Fresno county. He subsequently bought land near Delano, Kern county, where he is carrying on general farming and grain raising. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard became the parents of six children, all of whom are living, Mrs. Simpson being the third child. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Simpson two children have been born, Bertha and Edna. Politically Mr. Simpson is a straightforward Republican, ever loyal to the interests of his party. Religiously he and his wife are active members of the Christian Church, in which he is an elder, and the superintendent of the Sunday-school.

---

**ISAAC COX.** Besides the priceless heritage of a good name, and the example of work well done, Isaac Cox left to Merced county three sturdy sons, who conduct his well-appointed dairy, and maintain the kind of character and effort which has laid the foundation of the civilization of the west. Isaac Cox, one of the up-builders of the western part of Merced county, came of rugged English ancestry, and was born October 11, 1845, in Cambridgeshire, on the farm of his father, William Cox. He was educated in the national schools of England, and came to America in 1865, locating in Wisconsin, where he succeeded at farming and stock-raising. His brother William Cox died after extended service in the Civil war. Another brother, Daniel Cox, came to California about 1860, and resides in Pacific Grove.

Shortly after arriving in California in 1871, Mr. Cox engaged in farming in Los Banos valley. He later purchased eighty acres of land now owned and occupied by his widow and sons, and until starting his dairy made a specialty of

grain and stock. His death occurred January 12, 1903, in the fifty-eighth year of his age; his passing from the field of activity which had known him so well caused profound sorrow in the hearts of his many friends. He was a man of sterling worth, of great industry and practical business shrewdness. A staunch upholder of Republicanism, he never sought or was willing to accept any office save that of school director. He was fraternally connected with the Foresters.

Mrs. Cox, who is recognized as one of the ideal women and mothers of the county, was formerly Caroline Birchall, and was born in Manchester, England, in 1849. Her father, Joseph, and her mother, Sarah Ann (Ginn) Birchall, were also born in England, the former in Northampton, and the latter in Wakefield. Joseph Birchall was a bookkeeper and expert accountant, and his services were in demand in several cities in England, his death occurring in Leeds. Abram Ginn, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Cox, was an oldtime character in Wakefield, and for many years owned and operated a flouring mill in town. Mrs. Cox is the fourth child in a family of nine children, seven of whom are living, and is the only one in California. Mr. and Mrs. Cox were married in Leeds, England, April 19, 1881, while Mr. Cox was on a visit to his home, and their married life was a particularly happy and contented one. With her sons, William, Joe Benton and George W., she manages her well tilled farm, superintends a model dairy and raises fine stock and poultry. Her white Leghorns are not only many but famous, and a considerable income is derived from her extensive poultry operations. She is a genial and sympathetic woman, and a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her sons are men of high ideals, excellent morals, and practical worth, and their standing in the community is unexcelled.

---

**WILLIAM PIKE EACHUS.** One of the intelligent, extensive and prosperous agriculturists of Merced county is Maj. William P. Eachus, who owns and occupies a valuable homestead near Ingomar. He is familiarly known as Major, a title that was bestowed upon him while he was journeying with a large company across the plains, when he was but eighteen years old, and by which he is still affectionately called. A man of ability and strong individuality, he is held in high esteem, and is in all respects a valuable citizen of the county, fulfilling his duties and obligations as such with fidelity. A son of David Eachus, he was born March 13, 1849, in Henry county, Iowa, where the earlier years of his life were passed.

Born and educated in the Shenandoah valley,

in Virginia, David Eachus learned the miller's trade in his native town, and subsequently followed his chosen occupation in Cairo, Ill., or near there, for three years. Leaving the Prairie state in 1847, he located at Deedsville, now Merrimac, Iowa, on the Skunk river, where he was employed as a miller for a number of years. Coming across the plains to Tehama county, Cal., in 1865, he operated a mill near Redbluff for four years, and was afterward engaged in agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his active life. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty-three years, dying at Brentwood, this state. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Pike, was born in Tennessee, and also died at Brentwood, at the age of eighty-two years. They were the parents of eight children, four boys and four girls, William Pike, the subject of this sketch, being the third child.

Brought up in Iowa, William Pike Eachus received a limited education in the common schools, and in 1865 came with his parents to California, following the wagon trail across the plains. Beginning the battle of life on his own account soon after coming to this state, he worked as a farm laborer on different ranches in the San Joaquin valley, at one time being employed on the ranch that he now owns. Going from there to Butte county, Major Eachus, as he was always called, leased land near Oroville, and was there successfully engaged in raising wheat and barley for more than a score of years. Returning to the San Joaquin valley in 1892, the Major continued his agricultural operations with characteristic skill and success. In 1903, with the money that he had accumulated, he purchased his present valuable ranch, lying in Ingomar, about ten miles southwest of Newman, and is pursuing his free and independent occupation with excellent results. In his home farm he has four hundred and eighty acres of fine land, which he devotes to the culture of wheat and barley, and also rents nine hundred and sixty acres on Garzos creek for the same purpose, raising large crops, which bring him in a good annual income.

In Merced county, Cal., December 25, 1870, Major Eachus married Sophia Jane Bradley, a native of Contra Costa county, being the daughter of one of its earliest pioneer settlers, Thomas Wesley Bradley. A native of Tennessee, Mr. Bradley migrated first as far westward as Missouri, from there coming overland to California in 1843. Locating first in Napa county, he engaged in general farming and cattle raising. Moving then to Contra Costa county, he erected the first hotel in Martinez, and remained as its landlord for many years. After spending a short time in Lafayette, he came from that county to the San Joaquin valley,

locating near Newman, where he was engaged in general farming until his death, which occurred while he was visiting friends in Tulare county. Of the union of Major and Mrs. Eachus nine children have been born, one of whom, a daughter, Gladys, died when young, and eight are living, namely: Albert J., of Newman; Maud, wife of R. Trefts, of Newman; Harry B., at home; Della, wife of Leonard Ball, of Oroville; Kittie, the wife of Louis Pfitzer; Edward P., at home; Nola Butte and Ray, at home. Politically Major Eachus is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and while a resident of Butte county served as school director.

---

**GEORGE HORACE RUSSELL.** During the quarter of a century that George Horace Russell has been a resident of Tulare county, he has been associated with its advancement, and has watched with pride and pleasure the onward march of progress and civilization throughout its borders. He owns a fine orange grove near Plano, his place of residence, and in the care and management of his estate is meeting with success. A son of the late Phillip James Russell, he was born, April 4, 1848, in Fremont, Ohio.

Born in New York, Phillip James Russell was brought up in Ohio, whither his parents removed when he was a child. For several years he was engaged in nautical pursuits, sailing on the Great Lakes. Migrating with his family to California in 1874, he settled in Tulare county. Buying six hundred and forty acres of land near White river, he was here engaged in cultivating the soil until his death, in 1896, at the age of three score and ten years. He married Sarah Tilton, who was born in New Jersey, and now resides in Plano, making her home with her son George H., being a bright and active woman of eighty years. Two children were born of their union, George H., and John H., of Sacramento.

After receiving a good common school education in Ohio, George Horace Russell served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade in Fremont. In 1879 he came to California, and for several years thereafter carried on a successful business as a general merchant at Plano. Selling out in 1896, Mr. Russell purchased the Portersville steam feed mill, in Portersville, and having rebuilt and refurnished the plant, operated it successfully for seven years. In the summer of 1903 he gave the entire business to his son, George E. Russell, as a wedding present, a gift that was highly appreciated. Mr. Russell owns a half-section of land along the foothills,

near Plano, and carries on general farming and fruit growing, raising oranges especially, and in his agricultural and horticultural undertakings is quite prosperous.

Mr. Russell has been twice married. His first marriage occurred in Wyandot county, Ohio, and united him with Emma Tillison, who was born in that state, and came with him to Plano. Being taken ill here she returned to her old home in Ohio, and died while visiting friends. Their only child, Frank W., died when young. In Plano, Cal., Mr. Russell married Permelia Sorrels, a native of Eldorado county, Cal., and of this union seven children have been born, namely: Ralph Ray (engaged in farming with his father), George Earl (proprietor of the Portersville Feed Mill), Rosie, John, Philip Joseph, Frank and Lillian. Politically Mr. Russell is one of the leading Republicans of Plano, where for eight years he served as postmaster, and was also school trustee of the Vandalia district. Fraternally he is a member of Portersville Camp, W. O. W. In 1900 his residence was totally destroyed by fire, but he soon rebuilt, and has now a most pleasant and attractive home, where he and his hospitable family delight in entertaining their many friends and acquaintances.

---

**WILLIAM M. MARLOW.** Among the progressive farmers and fruit-growers who have made a splendid record for successful work in agricultural lines and who are an honor alike to their county and their country as representatives of the best class of citizens, we may appropriately mention William M. Marlow, who for the past nineteen years has been a resident of Hanford district, Kings county, and one of her most successful fruit-growers. Although justly considered a pioneer of California, where he located as early as 1859, it was not until 1885 that he came to Kings county, having devoted the early part of his residence in this state to mining pursuits. In 1885 he purchased ten acres of land at Grangeville, Kings county, all planted to fruit, and until 1902 he devoted his energies to fruit culture, easily ranking among the most successful fruit-growers in his locality. Upon selling his place in that year, he removed to his present location in the Hanford district, purchasing thirty-five acres of alfalfa land. Although practically retired on account of poor health, Mr. Marlow is still able to oversee the work done on his place.

In tracing the ancestry of Mr. Marlow, we find him to be a descendant of an old southern family. His father, McKinsey Marlow, was born in Virginia and spent his entire life within the borders of that state in agricultural pursuits, dying at the advanced age of ninety years.







J. W. VAN BENSCHOTEN

It was in Pittsylvania county, Va., that William M. Marlow was born April 14, 1832, spending his boyhood days on his father's ranch, and receiving his education in the subscription schools. At the age of twenty-three he took up the occupation of his father in his native locality, where until 1859 he followed farming. In that year he left home and went to Missouri, but a few months later joined a party en route to California and arriving in this state engaged in mining pursuits in Gibsonville, Sierra county, where for a period of ten years he was fairly successful.

Returning to Missouri with the means which he had accumulated, Mr. Marlow, with a partner, built and conducted a distillery for about a year. The venture proved an unprofitable one, for, besides losing the distillery, Mr. Marlow lost nearly all the money he had invested in the business. Again turning his attention to farm pursuits, he gave his entire time to this calling for fifteen years, and once more success crowned his efforts and he retrieved his lost fortune. Selling out about 1885, he came to California, as previously mentioned, and the farm which is his home to-day is worth perhaps \$300 per acre and adjoins the city limits. By his marriage in Missouri Mr. Marlow was united with Polly Ann Gaer, who was born in Iowa, and they have one son, Claude. In his political inclinations Mr. Marlow has ever been a staunch Republican, but he has never possessed any political aspirations. Fraternally he is a valued member of Lemore Lodge No. 255, F. & A. M., and as a citizen he is highly esteemed in his community.

#### JOHN WESLEY VAN BENSCHOTEN.

The name of John Wesley Van Benschoten must ever be enrolled with the comparatively few brave men who founded towns and started communities on the western slope. As the owner of the land which he eventually laid out for the convenience of settlers in 1850, and as the erector of its first public and other buildings at great cost and personal sacrifice, he stands forth as the father of Grayson, now the center of educational, commercial and industrial promise. His services on the coast, however, antedate this historical occurrence, for he came here in 1846 with the noted explorer, general and politician, John Charles Fremont, surnamed the Pathfinder, in the capacity of meat supply for the United States troops. To do this he left a lucrative butchering business in New York City, and undoubtedly regarded his contract as a temporary one, leading to temporary association with the untutored west.

The meat tradesman was evidently a man of discernment, for he tarried when his government

task was done, and for some time operated a pick in the gold mines near Jamestown. Before Grayson was ever thought of he came here from Stockton, purchased a large ranch, and in time recognized its adaptability to community interests. After it was laid out he named it after General Grayson, a personal friend, and proceeded to erect the first hotel from materials which he had sent around the Horn from New York at great expense and inconvenience. As a farmer he was prominent and influential, retaining for his own all but the land comprising the town site, and operating extensively in grain and cattle. His death, in January, 1886, at the age of seventy, was as regrettable as it was untimely and tragic, for he was drowned in the San Joaquin river while crossing the ferry, through losing his balance. He left a wife to mourn his loss, and was followed to his last resting place by an army of friends and loyal associates. He married in San Francisco, in September, 1872, Mrs. Mary A. (Cameron) Gunn, who was born in Picton, Nova Scotia, and who came to the United States when eighteen years old, settling with a sister in Providence, R. I. While there Miss Cameron became the wife of John G. Gunn, who came to California in 1851, settling in the mining regions, where his death occurred ere he had realized a tithe of his ambitions. Mrs. Mary A. Gunn, as she was then known, came to California in 1856, to visit her brother, Daniel L. Mr. Van Benschoten was a member of the Pioneer Association, and was identified with the Masonic fraternity. With his wife he found a religious home in the Presbyterian Church. He was a man of strong convictions, of great strength of character, and of impressive and winning personality. He won the respect of all men with whom he had aught to do, and lived to realize finer expectations than his start in life would seem to suggest. By a former marriage he had one son, Charles Wesley Van Benschoten, who resides near his mother. He married Mattie Belle Cameron, a native of Ohio, and she is the mother of three children: Madeline, John Wesley, and Irene. C. W. Van Benschoten at one time owned six hundred and forty acres of land upon which the town of Grayson was laid out.

CLEMENT D. OLDERSHAW. The ranch of C. D. Oldershaw, located in the Greenfield district, ten miles south of Bakersfield, Kern county, is numbered among the model farms of this section of country, the improvements and cultivation which have made it so being entirely the result of the efforts of its enterprising owner. When he purchased the prop-

erty in 1898 there were no improvements of any kind, and though thirty acres were under the plow he has set out the fruit which since that time has brought him so large an income. Besides small fruits he is interested in bee culture, having an apiary of two hundred colonies, and in his various lines has met with a success which rarely fails to attend concentrated effort.

In London, England, Mr. Oldershaw was born October 24, 1864, and in his native city and the vicinity was reared and educated. His father, Francis P. Oldershaw, an accountant by occupation, was also a native of London, and in that location his death occurred in 1870. Until he was twenty years old Mr. Oldershaw remained at home, when he decided to emigrate, and taking passage for America he landed in New York City March 22, 1885. Coming direct to California he took up a homestead in Antelope valley, Los Angeles county, where he engaged in farming for some time. Disposing of that property he came to Kern county in 1898, and as before mentioned purchased the ranch upon which he has since made his home. Eight acres of his ranch are devoted to small fruits, and the remaining twenty-two acres are devoted to general farming. His ranch is entirely level, and being located on the Kern Island canal he can irrigate every foot of the land.

In 1898 Mr. Oldershaw married Miss Anna Long, a native of Ireland, and they are the parents of the following children: Minna, Basil and Percy. In national politics a Democrat Mr. Oldershaw reserves the right to cast his ballot for that man whom he knows to be best equipped for official service in all local affairs. Fraternally he is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Woodmen of the World.

---

EDWARD ROSCOE HOLTON. Although for more than half a century a resident of California, where he located as early as 1852, it was many years later when Mr. Holton removed to his present home in Selma, Fresno county, and during this time he has followed successively the occupation of a miner, a carpenter, a farmer and a fruit-grower, and in placing before the public a review of his life history, we but relate briefly the story of his individual success, particularly in and about Selma, with its many resources and wonderful opportunities for the newcomer. He is a descendant of a worthy Vermont family. The father of E. R. Holton was born in Brattleboro, Vt., and was by trade a carpenter and builder, being quite an expert at this business. Removing west to Illinois

in early manhood he married and his wife died there a few years later, leaving four sons. Of these sons, the youngest but one was Edward Roscoe, who was but four years old at the time of her death. He was born in Tazewell county, Ill., March 4, 1837. Some time after the death of his first wife, the father married Mrs. Lizzie Moody, and of this union two children were born, one son and one daughter. In 1852 the family became a part of Captain Barber's immigration train en route to California, the trip being made overland with ox teams. Six or eight yoke of oxen were hitched to each wagon, and after a six months' journey the party arrived safely at Marysville, Cal. After a six months' stay in this place they pushed on to Martinez, in Contra Costa county, which was their home for one year. Their next location was Wisconsin Hill, in Placer county, where the father followed mining pursuits with fair success until 1856. He then purchased land in Yolo county near Cache creek, at what is now Madison, and spent the latter years of his life there, dying in 1868.

Edward Roscoe Holton received but little schooling in his boyhood days, attending school but six months in Tazewell county, Ill. He learned the carpenter's trade of his father, and after the removal of the family to California, he followed mining for awhile, and while engaged in this manner, he had a number of thrilling experiences. Upon one occasion in 1856, in Placer county, while working in an open cut fifteen feet deep, with another man, the side caved in and Mr. Holton was buried under four feet of debris; the other man went for assistance and he was dug out, but at first was supposed to be dead, as he was unconscious. In relating his experience Mr. Holton testifies that he thinks death in this manner is singularly free from pain. In 1879 while Mr. Holton was a passenger on the steamship *The Great Republic*, bound from San Francisco to Portland, Ore., the steamer foundered on a sandbar at the mouth of the Columbia river, and in reaching land in a lifeboat he had a narrow escape from death.

Inheriting from his father one-half section of land in Yolo county, Mr. Holton removed to this place, continuing to remain there until 1879. He then went to Berkeley, Cal., and followed carpenter work there for a time. It was in 1880 that he first became interested in farming pursuits in Fresno county, purchasing a quarter section of land near Wild Flower, in the vicinity of Selma. Putting out a forty acre vineyard, he returned to Berkeley for a time but subsequently moved upon his place with his family and carried on farm pursuits for a number of years. Having purchased a thirteen acre tract,

half of which is in the town limits of Selma, Mr. Holton removed to this place March 4, 1902, and still resides here, and he has seven acres of this tract in orchards. He still retains the ownership of his farm at Wild Flower, which has been added to until it now contains three hundred and twenty acres, which he leases. Although well advanced in years, Mr. Holton, besides caring for his place, does carpenter work to some extent. By his marriage in Napa valley, Cal., he was joined in matrimony with Sarah Owsley, who was born in that vicinity in 1849. They have reared a family of three children, one son and two daughters. They are Charles Roscoe, an attorney-at-law in San Francisco; Nellie, the wife of W. E. Walker, of Selma; and Grace, who lives at home with her parents. Mr. Holton is a Republican in his political views, but not very active. Fraternally he is a valued member of the Grange society, and of the Good Templars.

**ELIJAH HENRY PERKINS.** The earliest recollections of Mr. Perkins are associated with frontier scenes in California, for he was only two years of age when in 1852 the family left their Missouri home and traveled across the plains in a wagon drawn by oxen, arriving in Contra Costa county after a tedious journey of six months. Now, by virtue of large landed possessions, high principles of honor and progressive spirit, he ranks among the leading farmers of Tulare county, where he makes his home two miles south of Dinuba, in a residence erected under his supervision in 1901 and on a farm of fifty acres largely in alfalfa. A native of Missouri, he was born April 20, 1850, being a son of S. D. and Susan E. (Asherbraner) Perkins, natives of Missouri. The Perkins family was established in Missouri by his grandfather, Jacob Perkins, a Kentuckian by birth, but for many years and until death a resident of Missouri. After his demise his widow, who was Sarah Bollinger of Kentucky, came to California and continued in this state until her death at seventy-five years.

Agricultural pursuits and merchandising occupied the attention of S. D. Perkins in his native county of Stoddard, but when the tide of emigration began to drift toward the gold-mines of California he decided to try his fortunes on the Pacific coast. Accompanied by his family, in 1852 he made the long journey across mountains and over deserts until finally he landed at Kirk's Pass, ten miles from Martinez, where he made his first stopping place. His tastes did not lie in the direction of mining and he turned to agriculture as a more congenial occupation. For a time he experimented with farm pursuits in Morgan Canon. During one winter he killed eight

large grizzly bears on Mount Diablo, and other wild animals also abounded. In 1859 he established his home in the San Ramon valley and at the same time brought his cattle to the range on the Tule river in Tulare county. In 1863 he moved to Lake county. The drought of 1864 caused the loss of his entire herd of cattle, and he then opened a general store in a brick building at Yountville, Napa county.

After a short sojourn in Los Angeles, during the fall of 1868, S. D. Perkins followed the old Soledad trail to the Tule river and bought land three miles below Portersville. In 1871 he sold his two farms there and removed to San Bernardino county, but in 1872 went to Ventura county and the next year returned to the foothills of Tulare county, and bought a farm near Auckland in Wilcox Canon. There he died in 1882 at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife survived him until 1902, dying at Visalia, aged sixty years. They were the parents of two sons and four daughters and of these one son and two daughters are now living. The eldest of the family, Elijah Henry, was, as previously stated, only two years of age when the family settled in California. Upon starting to school in Contra Costa county, he had the only book among all the pupils, this having been brought from the east by his parents. Rather from observation than from the study of text-books he has acquired a broad fund of information, which gives added value to his citizenship. In 1873 he came with his father to Tulare county and settled in Wilcox Canon, where he engaged in raising grain and stock. After the death of his father he purchased the interests of the other heirs in the estate, and by subsequent purchases has added to the original property until he now owns two thousand acres in one ranch, situated fourteen miles east of Dinuba. The land is improved with the necessary buildings and is in excellent condition under his keen supervision. For twenty-six years or more he has operated a threshing machine and during that time has worn out three separators and steam engines. Now, as in past years, a specialty is made of the stock business, although grain is also raised on a considerable acreage. While he still superintends this property, since 1901 he has made his home on his small farm near Dinuba.

The first marriage of Mr. Perkins was solemnized in Tulare county and united him with Miss Mary Rutherford, who was born in Sacramento county and died on the home farm in Wilcox Canon. Six sons and one daughter were born of this union, five of whom are living, namely: W. H., who is engaged in the real-estate business at Dinuba; E. O., who lives on the home ranch in Wilcox Canon; Forest C., a real estate agent in Visalia; Ross L. and Burt, who are with their



father. At Visalia, February 1, 1896, occurred the marriage of Mr. Perkins and Miss Mary L. Osborn, who was born in that city in December, 1868, and was next to the eldest among ten children, six of whom are now living. Her father, William T. Osborn, was born in South Carolina and reared in Georgia, where his father, Jesse, followed farm pursuits. During the eventful year 1849 he crossed the plains and settled in California. While Tulare county still had few inhabitants he engaged in the saw-mill and lumber business here, and for eight years served as a supervisor of this county. His death occurred in Isham valley, where he owned a stock farm. Surviving him, and residing at the old home in Visalia, is his widow, who was Lavenia Smith, a native of West Virginia, and an orphan from the age of seventeen years. Her father, John Smith, was born and reared in Germany, and came to America at an early age, settling in West Virginia, where he died. Mrs. Perkins was reared in Isham valley and attended the Visalia Normal, also was a student in the San Jose State Normal until the senior year. A lady of excellent education and culture, she stands high in the Woman's Club of Dinuba and in other social organizations with which she is identified. Of her marriage, there is one son, Clarence Osborn. In politics Mr. Perkins gives his support to the Democratic party. Interested in securing educational advantages for the young, he helped to organize the Elder school district, gave the land on which the schoolhouse was built, and for seventeen or more years officiated as director of the school. In other ways he has proved a valuable citizen to his county, where for so many years he has been actively and successfully connected with local agricultural interests.

---

**WILLIAM E. BURCH.** Ranking high among the energetic and substantial citizens of Merced County is W. E. Burch, who, as manager for Miller & Lux, of the Los Banos Lumber Yards, is intimately associated with the industrial and mercantile prosperity of this section of the state. Wideawake and enterprising, ever ready to take advantage of favorable opportunities for extending his operations, he has built up a large and lucrative trade as a lumber dealer and manufacturer, while as a grain merchant he is carrying on a prosperous business. A Kentuckian by birth and breeding, he was born, December 25, 1866, in Nicholasville, Jessamine county, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, R. M. Burch. He comes of Revolutionary stock, his great-grandfather Burch, a pioneer of Kentucky, having served in the grand struggle for independence. His grandfather, Ezekiel

Burch, spent his entire life in Kentucky, being engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Soon after attaining his majority, R. M. Burch settled as a merchant in Nicholasville, his native city, and was there engaged in mercantile business until 1899, for four years being government storekeeper. During the Civil war he served for a time as a soldier in the Federal army. Now a hale and hearty man of three-score years, he is engaged in farming in Nicholasville. He comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and is a consistent member of the Christian Church. He married Mattie Hill, who was born, in 1850, in Nicholasville, Ky., a daughter of W. S. Hill, who came from English ancestors. W. S. Hill, and his father, William Hill, were natives of Fayette county, Ky., and both removed to Jessamine county, that state, where they followed farming. W. S. Hill also worked as a machinist, and during the Civil war served in the Federal army, belonging to a Kentucky regiment. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Burch, two children were born, namely: Mrs. Nellie Camery, of Nicholasville, Ky., and W. E., the special subject of this sketch.

Brought up in Nicholasville, Ky., W. E. Burch acquired a practical education in the public schools of that city. Striking out for himself when but fifteen years old, his inclinations led him to try railroading, and for several years he was an employe on the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railway, serving first as fireman, and from 1886 until 1888 being stationary engineer. Giving up his position in the latter year, Mr. Burch came to California in search of more congenial pursuits. Locating in Fresno, he had charge of a vineyard in that place for one year. He subsequently was employed in the lumber business at Ben Lomond, after which he resided for twelve months in Humboldt county. Accepting a position with Miller & Lux in 1892, Mr. Burch took charge of their lumber yard at Los Banos, and in the years that have since intervened has built up an immense business for the firm. Under his judicious management the trade of the Los Banos Lumber Yards has assumed large proportions. The yards, which are the largest retail yards in the San Joaquin valley, were equipped with a new side-track in 1903, and are well stocked with lumber of all kinds. In 1902 Mr. Burch erected a planing mill, and in the shipping of its manufactures, which include everything in planing-mill goods, he has a large trade throughout the west. Mr. Burch is likewise manager of the grain business established by Miller & Lux, and in its transaction has two large warehouses, one 48x400 feet, in Los Banos, and one 48x300 feet at Volta.

By dint of thrift and able business tact, Mr. Burch has accumulated a good property. Ad-







*Joseph LaMarche*

joining the city he has a productive ranch of ten acres, which he devotes to the raising of alfalfa, and on which he has a small apiary, in the care of which he finds pleasure and profit. Here he has a pleasant residence, in which he and his family find great enjoyment, and gladly welcome their many friends.

In Lexington, Ky., Mr. Burch married Sallie Frost Dishman, who was born in that city, a daughter of Addison Dishman. They have two children, namely: Marguerite and William Addison. Politically Mr. Burch is a sound Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Rebekahs. Mrs. Burch is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**JOSEPH LA MARCHE.** The name La Marche indicates the French extraction of the family. Early in the nineteenth century they were transplanted to Canadian soil, and John, who was a son of the original immigrant, claimed Ontario as his native land, enlisting from there in 1837 as a MacKenzie supporter in the Canadian rebellion. Joseph, son of John, was born near Montreal, Canada, in 1823, and received better educational advantages than usually fall to the lot of the sons of pioneer farmers, being a graduate of a Canadian college. In early life a farmer at La Clinte Mills, he later turned his attention to merchandising and at the same time filled the office of magistrate. At the time of his death in 1900 he had attained the age of sixty-seven years. The lady whom he married bore the maiden name of Julia La Mare and, while a native of Ontario, like himself descended from French ancestors, her paternal grandfather having founded the family in Canada. Death claimed her after seventy busy years. Of her thirteen children all but three lived to maturity and still survive, the second of these being Joseph, an influential and prominent citizen of Tulare and the only representative of the family on the Pacific coast. On the home farm near Montreal, where he was born March 1, 1853, he passed the years of early boyhood. The nearest school was five miles distant, and thither he walked whenever the weather permitted and the work of the farm allowed sufficient leisure for study.

Leaving home at fourteen years of age Mr. La Marche went to Upper Canada and engaged in logging and lumbering on the Ottawa river, but after a year returned on a raft to Quebec and from there went to the Lake Superior region. For two years he was employed at teaming in the charcoal furnace region near Marquette. During 1871 he came west as far as Nevada and followed teaming in the lumbering district near Carson. The year 1874 found him a resident of California and he has since been a loyal citizen

of this state, enthusiastic in behalf of its opportunities and attributing to its openings for prosperous work the success he has here experienced. For three years he engaged as a ranch hand near Princeton, Colusa county, and thus earned an amount sufficient to enable him to undertake independent farming. His first venture was as a grain raiser on a rented farm. Upon coming to Tulare county in 1883 he began as a renter, but soon began to buy land and at this writing owns about six thousand acres situated seven miles southwest of Tulare. Of this tract five hundred or more acres are under alfalfa and the balance is utilized for grain raising and stock pasturage. The Tule and Elk bayou rivers pass through the land, and further irrigation facilities are furnished by the Elk bayou ditch, which was constructed under his supervision as president of the company. On his large ranch the baling of hay is a special feature and every year he ships hundreds of tons to the markets. In stock he makes a specialty of graded Short-horns and has altogether about eight hundred head of cattle.

The management of his large landed possessions by no means represents the limit of Mr. La Marche's activities, for in addition he acts as a director of the Bank of Tulare, the Rochdale Company, the Tulare Creamery Company and the Tulare Gas Company which furnishes the electricity used in lighting the streets and houses of Tulare. Through his membership in the Tulare Board of Trade he is connected with many enterprises for the commercial growth of the city. In politics he favors Democratic principles and at one time served on the county central committee of his party. While in Colusa county he became identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and since coming to Tulare he has transferred his membership to the lodge at this point, besides being active in the work of the encampment.

Since establishing his home in Tulare, in 1898, Mr. La Marche has owned and occupied a comfortable dwelling on West Inyo street. His family consists of his wife and their two children, Joseph (now a student in the Santa Clara College) and Bernie. Mrs. La Marche bore the maiden name of Mary Le Clert and was born at Portsmouth, England, being a daughter of Theodore and Mary (Simms) Le Clert, natives respectively of France and England, and members of old-established families of their respective countries. When Mr. Le Clert settled in England he followed the brick mason's trade at Portsmouth. Later he crossed the ocean to America and secured work at Albion, N. Y., coming from the east to California in 1856 via the Horn and following the miner's occupation at Knight's Ferry, later removing to Copperopolis, Calaveras

county, and eventually settling upon a ranch. His death occurred at Oakdale, Stanislaus county, where also his wife spent her last days. They were the parents of three daughters and two sons, all now living. Of these Mrs. La Marche was second in order of birth. In 1861 she accompanied other members of the family to California and joined her father at Knight's Ferry, where she became the wife of Melvin Howard, a native of New York state, and an orchardist at Sonora, Tuolumne county, where he died. Some time afterward she was united with John M. Creighton and in 1876 they settled on the Creighton ranch in Tulare county. A few years later Mr. Creighton died at Byron Hot Springs, and on the 7th of August, 1886, at Tipton, Tulare county, she was married to Mr. La Marche, since which time they have made their home in Tulare county. In the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union she has been warmly interested and the local organization owes much to her enthusiastic co-operation in its philanthropies. Other movements of undoubted merit have received constant and helpful support from both Mr. and Mrs. La Marche, who, having accumulated ample means by years of persevering industry and sagacious judgment, now respond generously to calls for aid, whether in behalf of the needy or in benevolences affecting the general welfare of the community.

---

LANE SCOTT HARMAN. A successful rancher, Lane Scott Harman is located upon his property of forty acres, in Kern county, Cal., having made this his home since 1890. In addition to grapes, he raises various other fruits and alfalfa, having transformed his land from a wild state into its present prosperous condition. Born near Wellsville, York county, Pa., March 24, 1854, he is a son of Ross L., also a native of that state and the representative of an old Pennsylvania family. The latter was born in 1818, and during his youth and young manhood he learned the trade of carpenter, also owning and conducting a small farm. In 1877 he removed to Ohio with a view to bettering his condition, there working at his trade for a short time, when he retired from active duties. Later he returned to Pennsylvania, but went back to Ohio, his death occurring in Mansfield at the age of eighty-one years. During the Civil war he enlisted and was made captain of Company H, Eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Regiment, serving for twenty-eight months, mostly in West Virginia, though not participating in any notable battle. He married Frances Bradford, also a native of Pennsylvania, and her death occurred at the age of seventy-eight years. Both herself and husband were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

They were the parents of three children, of whom one died in infancy.

The boyhood years of Lane Scott Harman were spent in his native state, where he received his education in the public schools and at Mt. Union College, which he attended for a short time. After his removal to Ohio in 1877 he was employed as shipping clerk in a wholesale grocery for a time, after which he traveled for a plow company for ten years, through the states of Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Subsequently he became connected with a newspaper in Mansfield, Ohio, having charge of the business department of the *Mansfield Daily News* for two years. Following this he was again employed as traveling salesman for an implement firm, handling reapers and mowers, his route being in southwestern Ohio. During the two years in which he was thus engaged he made his home at Columbus, Ohio. In 1890 he came to California and locating in Kern county, purchased forty acres of barren land. He has in the meantime brought it to a fine state of cultivation and made many valuable improvements. He has a water franchise and his place is well ditched in order that it may be thoroughly irrigated.

On the 9th of September, 1880, Mr. Harman was united in marriage with Ada E. Carpenter, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, a daughter of William B. and Emeline (Grove) Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter is also a native of Ohio, is a farmer by occupation, and at one time owned a tannery at Mansfield, where he now makes his home, at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, a native of Pennsylvania, died in Mansfield at the age of seventy-four years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as is also her husband. To Mr. and Mrs. Harman were born the following children: Emrie L.; William C., now attending high school; Jeanette E.; Frances; Jo; Helen; Ada; and Monroe. In his political convictions Mr. Harman is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Prohibition party, and has been quite active in the work, serving as clerk of the school board ever since the district was organized. Fraternally he is a member of the Good Templars. Mrs. Harman is a member of the Methodist Church.

---

MARTIN CHRISTIAN. Numbered among the successful business men and esteemed residents of Dos Palos is Martin Christian, one of the most active and enterprising citizens of Merced county. He has performed his full part in the advancement of the agricultural and mercantile interests of the county, and since becoming a resident of Dos Palos has been one of its

leading merchants, and has become generally and favorably known to the traveling public as proprietor of the Hotel Dos Palos. Beginning life as a poor boy, he has been in truth the architect of his own fortunes, by strenuous effort, ability and prudent management acquiring an honored position in financial and social circles. A native of Denmark, he was born, October 25, 1851, in Jutland, being the only child born of the union of George and Annie (David) Christian. His parents spent their entire lives in Denmark, the father dying, while yet in manhood's prime, in 1861, and the mother in 1896.

Growing to manhood in his native land, Martin Christian received such educational advantages as were afforded by the common schools, in the meantime being well drilled in agricultural pursuits. In 1871, desirous of taking advantage of the opportunities offered to young men of energy and enterprise in America, he immigrated to the United States, and after spending a year in Toledo, Ohio, came to San Francisco. Entering the employ of Hiram Scott, he drove a coach for awhile, after which he traveled extensively in the state, visiting many different places, and being variously employed. Locating at Hills Ferry in 1877, Mr. Christian kept a hotel for a short time, and then removed to the west side of Merced county, where he carried on general farming and stock raising, operating five thousand acres of land, and making a specialty of grain raising until selling out his interests in that locality.

Coming to Dos Palos in 1891, Mr. Christian purchased the Hotel Dos Palos, which had then been running but nine months, and has since been very successful in its management. As his patronage increased, he has twice enlarged the house to meet the demands upon his hospitality. In connection with his hotel, Mr. Christian also runs a livery business, and has a well-patronized stage line to Mercy Hot. Springs, which is fast becoming a popular resort. In 1894 he erected a store, and has since carried on a very successful mercantile trade, being in partnership with his son George, and for four years he was also postmaster at Dos Palos. With characteristic enterprise, he opened a store of general merchandise in Los Banos in 1900, where, as junior member of the firm of Place & Christian, he has built up an extensive and lucrative business.

In Sacramento, Cal., Mr. Christian married Caroline Kair, who was born in Denmark, and they are the parents of seven children, namely: Annie, wife of Franz Misch, foreman for Miller & Lux; George, in partnership with his father; Hedrig; Mabel; Clarence; Thomas and Alice. Politically Mr. Christian is a straightforward Republican, and active in party ranks. He is

an ex-member of the county central committee, and for many years served as school trustee and as constable. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of Druids.

---

ALLEN J. WOODY. The supervisor of Kern county, Allen J. Woody, is a man well known throughout this part of the country for the excellent qualities which have marked his citizenship, and, coupled with the ability with which he has discharged his official duties, has won for him the esteem and regard of his fellow townsmen. Although not a native son of the state, his birth having occurred in Christian county, Mo., on the Wilson Creek battle ground, December 4, 1866, Mr. Woody came to the west at so youthful an age that he has spent practically his entire life among the scenes of his adopted state, and to the advancement of every movement calculated to increase the prosperity of whatever community he chanced to make his home he has given his best efforts and strongest influence.

Mr. Woody's father, John H. Woody, was also a native of Missouri, where in manhood he engaged as a farmer and stockman. In 1859 he came to California, following the precarious fortunes of a miner for some time, but returned east upon the death of his father and settled up the latter's estate. For ten years following his return to Missouri he engaged in farming in that state, but in 1874 he came again to California, locating near Stockton, where he engaged in ranching until 1883. Going to Tulare county he engaged in farming and stock-raising until he moved into Tulare, where he now makes his home at the age of sixty-six years. He married Hester E. Wills, who was born in Tennessee and reared in Missouri, and is now sixty-two years old.

Of the six children born to his parents Allen J. Woody was the eldest, and was seven years old when he came to California with the family. His boyhood years were spent on the paternal ranch, where he combined the practical duties of a farmer with the studies which he followed in the public school in the vicinity of his home. After completing the course of the common schools he attended the University of California for one year, then entered Woodbury's Commercial College, of Los Angeles, where he fitted himself for a business career. Upon attaining his majority he became superintendent of a sawmill in Tulare county, in which he had one-fourth interest. Two years later, when the firm failed, he entered the court house at Visalia as deputy assessor and tax collector, filling these posi-

tions for one year. Subsequently he filled a clerkship in the Southern Pacific Railroad Company for eleven years. A staunch Democrat, and one always interested in the advancement of the principles he endorsed, he was chosen by his party for the nomination of supervisor in 1902. In the election that followed his popularity was attested by the large majority which brought him success, and on the 1st of January, 1903, he entered upon the duties of his position.

In San Francisco Mr. Woody was united in marriage with Rose Clarridge, a native of Rio Vista, Cal., and they have two children, Allen George and Geneva. Besides the official capacity in which Mr. Woody is now serving he acted as town clerk of Kern for four years. Fraternally he is identified with Sumner Lodge No. 143, K. P., of Kern.

**ARTEMUS J. BAKER.** In tracing the family history of this citizen of Newman we find that he is a member of an eastern family established in Ohio by his grandfather, a Pennsylvanian by birth and parentage. Survived by his wife for many years, the grandfather passed away on his Ohio farm and subsequently the widow came to California, dying near Riverside when one hundred and four years of age.

The father, Emmaus Baker, a native of Richland county, Ohio, took up agricultural work in early life and continued to earn his livelihood from the tilling of the soil until his death, which occurred in Ohio at the age of more than four score years. By his marriage to Matilda Dunlop he was united with an old Virginian family numbered among the pioneers of Ohio, where she was born in Morrow county. Her father, James, removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio, and thence to Des Moines, Iowa, where his death occurred.

In the family of Emmaus Baker there were three sons, namely: Artemus J., of Newman; Frank, who makes his home near Turlock, Cal.; and W. C., who died at Stockton, this state. The eldest son, Artemus J., was born near Mansfield, Ohio, September 24, 1849, and received a district school education. In the spring of 1864, when fourteen years of age, he enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Ohio Infantry, and was mustered into the service at Mount Gilead, Ohio. At the expiration of his time he was honorably discharged, in September, 1864, a short time before the fiftieth anniversary of his birth. After a short sojourn at his old home he went to the vicinity of Muncie, Ind., thence returned to Ohio, from there went to Missouri and settled on land near Taberville, St. Clair county, where he engaged

in ranching until 1874. During the spring of that year he came to California and settled on a ranch near Modesto, where he was employed until 1879. Later he followed the raising of grain and operating of a threshing machine.

Since 1888 Mr. Baker has been connected with the Southern Pacific Railroad, his first position with the company being that of pumper at Fresno. Next he was placed in the construction department as foreman and extra pumper, and in 1891 was given charge of the pump at Bakersfield. During July of 1893 he was given his present position at Newman, where he has charge of the pumps (operated by gasoline engine), as well as those at Firebaugh, Fresno county (run by steam engine). In this particular work he has had long experience and stands high with the company. A portion of his savings he invested in an alfalfa farm of twenty-two acres, and he also built the residence which he occupies in Newman. His first wife was Miss Maggie Dimmick, who was born in Germany and died in Merced. At Newman, August 1, 1894, Mr. Baker was united with Mrs. Maggie McGuire, who was born in Yarmouth, Ontario, being a daughter of James and Nancy J. (Minard) Dunn, natives of Ontario. By trade a builder, her father followed that occupation in addition to farming after his removal to the vicinity of Wellington, Kan. During a visit to his old home in Ontario he died, and his body was laid to rest amid scenes familiar to him in early life. His wife passed away in Kansas. She was a member of a family characterized by longevity, her mother having attained the age of more than one hundred years. Among nine children, eight of whom attained mature years, seven are now living, and all but one of these in California. Mrs. Baker was next to the eldest. Her first marriage was solemnized in Kansas, and united her with Charles Geoffroy, a native of France. Four children were born of that union, namely: Mrs. Adell Fisher, Mrs. Josie Huber and Mrs. Pearl Gray, all of Newman; and Maude, who died at four years of age. After the death of her first husband she was married to James McGuire, of Ohio, and one child, Leslie McGuire Baker, was born of that union.

Politically Mr. Baker always gives his support to the Republican party. In matters fraternal Mrs. Baker is a past officer in the Degree of Honor; Mr. Baker is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; past chancellor commander of Newman Lodge No. 139, K. of P., member of the Grand Lodge, and second lieutenant of the Uniform Rank No. 47, of the same order. At the annual inspection of pumping plants of the Southern Pacific System, Mr. Baker was awarded a medal from the company







*John A. Jordan*

for having the most perfect pump house on the Southern Pacific System of 5,833 miles. A board saying, "Premium Pump House, Pacific System, 5,833 Miles," adorns the top of the pump house.

JOHN F. JORDAN. While the abstract business has engaged the attention of Mr. Jordan during a large portion of the time since he settled in Visalia, his work as secretary and manager of this enterprise by no means represents the limits of his activities. As evidence of his varied interests it may be mentioned that he assisted in the organization of the Kaweah Lemon Company, Incorporated, of which he is now secretary and which owns two hundred and fifty acres in the foothills east of Visalia. As a director of the Encina Fruit Company he is closely connected with the development of the company's property, embracing four hundred and forty acres two miles north of Visalia. In addition he holds the office of secretary of the Lemon Cove Ditch Company and is secretary of the Queen Oil Company, in the establishment of which he took an active part. Ever since the organization of the Acme Oil Company, in which he assisted, he has been a member of its board of directors, and he was also a prominent worker in organizing the Visalia Fruit and Land Company. It will be readily understood that the management of these important interests requires a versatile mind, keen reasoning faculties, indomitable energy and force of will, all of which qualities Mr. Jordan possesses.

In the eastern part of Texas, December 10, 1850, occurred the birth of John F. Jordan, son of Frank and Alabama (McMicken) Jordan, natives respectively of Illinois and Alabama. His father removed to Texas in an early day and lived there for some time, also owned and managed a plantation near Shreveport, La. When he came to California in 1854 he made the trip overland as captain of a train comprising seventy-four families. Settling in Monterey county, in what is now San Benito county, he took up the hotel business, and began to raise and deal in stock. In 1858 he came to Tulare county and two years later brought his family to Visalia, which he afterward considered his home, although the buying and selling of stock frequently required his presence in other places for considerable periods. His death occurred in Visalia in 1878, when he was fifty-nine years of age, he having survived his wife, who passed away in San Benito county. In politics he was a Democrat, always a staunch supporter of party principles. Notwithstanding the fact that he came to California entirely without means, he accumulated considerable property and was considered one of the successful men of his day.

Among four sons and three daughters comprising the parental family (of whom three sons and one daughter are living), John F. Jordan was fifth in order of birth. The trip across the plains occurred when he was a child of four years, hence the greater part of his life has been passed in California. After completing the studies of the Visalia public school he took a commercial course in Heald's Business College at San Francisco, from which he was graduated in February of 1875. On his return to Tulare county he was appointed deputy postmaster and the following year (1876) received the appointment of deputy sheriff. In 1879 he was elected county auditor and served in that capacity during the five ensuing years. On retiring from office he turned his attention to the abstract business, which he started in 1884 and in 1892 incorporated as the Visalia Abstract Company, he being secretary, manager and a director. Under his supervision a large business has been established in the bringing down of abstracts and perfecting of titles, and no one is recognized as a more accurate judge of titles than he. The knowledge he has acquired along this line represents years of study as well as actual experience and makes his advice concerning titles of the greatest value.

After coming to Visalia and taking up active business duties, Mr. Jordan established domestic ties through his marriage to Alice L. Neil, a native of California. They are the parents of three children: Ethel V., Roy F., and Neil J., all of whom are at home. In Masonry, Mr. Jordan ranks high, being a member of Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., at Visalia; Chapter No. 44, R. A. M.; Commandery No. 26, K. T., of which he acts as recorder; Scottish Rite No. 9, of which he is treasurer; and Islam Temple, N. M. S., San Francisco. Always a pronounced Democrat, he has been a local leader of his party, at one time served on the county central committee, in 1904 acted as delegate to the state convention, and in other ways has manifested his interest in the progress of the party.

URIAH WOOD. More than fifty years have come and gone since Mr. Wood became associated with the then frontier state of California. When he crossed the plains he was a young man, full of ambition, courage and perseverance, yet so destitute of capital that he was obliged to borrow from a brother-in-law the means necessary to defray the expenses of the trip. Bravely enduring the hardships of a pioneer existence, cheerfully accepting the privations consequent to the environment, and persistently pushing his way forward in the face of discouragement and occasional reverses, he has now reached a posi-

tion where, with an abundance of means and with the record of a well-spent life, he wields the influence and commands the prestige born of material success.

Many of the traits noticeable in the character of Mr. Wood are his by inheritance from an honorable ancestry, of remote German extraction, but long identified with the United States. His grandfather, David Wood, who was a native of New York, suffered the terror of being taken captive by the Indians when a boy, but made his escape and reached home in safety. Some years afterwards, when he had grown to man's estate, he became a soldier in the Revolutionary war and fought for independence with a bravery characteristic of his race. Uriah D., son of this Revolutionary veteran, was born and reared in New York, and in early manhood engaged in lumbering in the Allegheny mountains. While the Mississippi valley was still an unknown region and its wealth of fertile soil unrealized, he took his family from New York to Illinois in 1839, making the trip with horses through Ohio and Indiana. In Chicago they stopped only long enough to visit a drug store and purchase a remedy for ague, the prevailing disease of those days. Arriving in Whiteside county, he settled near Portland, where he took up land, turned the first furrow in the soil and (being a carpenter) erected all of his buildings without aid. In 1841 he removed to LaSalle county, where he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits through the balance of his active life. In politics he was a Whig, while in religion he upheld the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church. At the time of his death he had reached the age of eighty years. His wife, Anna (Cline) Wood, was born in New York of Mohawk-Dutch ancestry, and died in Illinois. Of her marriage eight children were born. One son, David, was a pioneer of 1849 in California and continued to make this state his home until he died, at Gilroy, about 1891.

While the family were living in Cattaraugus county, N. Y., Uriah Wood was born September 5, 1829. He was ten years of age when he accompanied his parents to Illinois. In their new home schools were so uncommon that he had no opportunity to study under teachers, yet by self-culture he acquired a fund of information, of a different nature from that gained in text-books, but none the less valuable. Possessed of a robust constitution, excellent health and unusual capability, his services were eagerly sought by farmers. At the age of seventeen he received \$15 per month, this being the highest wages paid any man in all that country. Half of his wages was given to his father each month, and the remainder applied to the purchase of the necessities of life. With four yoke of oxen

and a breaking plow he turned the furrows in many acres of primitive soil, his work being always carefully and successfully done. His employer said that he was the best teamster in the entire neighborhood. Sometimes he drove to Chicago with his father, hauling wheat to the market, but he found little in that then swampy village to impress him favorably. During the fall of 1850 he began to work for a man in Arkansas and while with him made two trips to New Orleans on large flat boats, returning on a steamer. On his return to Illinois, he worked in a brickyard at Earlville, and while there began to make preparations for a trip to the coast.

There were three young men in the party that started for the west in 1852. Their ox-teams were shipped to St. Joseph, Mo., where they were taken out of the cars and hitched to wagons. However, the animals were so stiff from being inactive that they could not be used, and were put in a corral. A Missouri man, seeing the difficulty, suggested that the oxen be started without whipping and used just a little each day, until they gradually regained their normal condition. This advice was followed successfully. Soon the emigrants had left all traces of civilization behind them. In company with an expedition from Ray county, Mo., the Illinois boys pursued the difficult journey over plains and mountains, across rivers and through deserts, down the Humboldt river and on to Hangtown, where they arrived in September of 1852. The journey was much less arduous for them than for many emigrants, for the Indians did not molest them, nor were they sufferers from lack of provisions.

After a short experience as a miner in Calaveras county Mr. Wood went to Spanish Flats and in the fall of 1853 tried his luck on the middle fork of the American river. In no place, however, did he meet with the success he had anticipated. Learning that it was possible to earn \$50 per month on the ranches in the valley, he decided to change his occupation, and went to Coloma, thence to Sacramento, where he was paid \$50 a month for driving a team. In the spring of 1854 he came via San Jose to Gilroy, Santa Clara county, and buying two yoke of oxen and a wagon, he engaged in teaming in the redwoods. Money being scarce he accepted as payment horses and cattle. In this way he accumulated one hundred head of cattle, which he sold, buying about the same time eight hundred and forty-two head of sheep. For eighteen months he herded his flock in the Pacheco mountains and then moved them into Merced county, establishing a sheep ranch at Los Banos, ten miles from his nearest neighbor. After investigating land in various parts of the state and finding nothing better suited to his purpose than the land he occupied, he bought the property.

Each year his flock was almost doubled. At first he was obliged to pump all the water needed by the flock, but after some years the canal was built through his land. During the dry year (1863) he managed to keep his flock almost intact, although many sheep-raisers suffered heavy losses, but in 1864 he suffered heavy losses, losing over three thousand sheep.

Adding to his original purchase year by year, Mr. Wood finally acquired five thousand acres, the larger part of which was good land. Much of this was rented to tenants, as many as fifteen operating different parts of the ranch. When he first began to sell, he received \$30 per acre, but afterward was paid as much as \$125 an acre. In 1898 he owned thirty-five hundred acres of farm land in Merced county, operated by two tenants, and principally under grain and hay. In addition he owned the San Felipe ranch of two hundred and forty acres near Gilroy, Santa Clara county. All of his real estate is incorporated under the title of the Uriah Wood Company, he being president and each of his four sons a director in the organization. In 1885 he came to San Jose and erected the beautiful residence where he now makes his home. Various enterprises of this and other cities have engaged his attention and co-operation, included among these being the Farmers' Union, in which he is a director, the Garden City Bank and the Bank of San Jose. He is also a director of the Bank of Hollister, of which he was one of the founders, and the same can be said of the San Benito County Savings Bank. He is also a stockholder in the Salinas City Bank of Salinas, Cal. He is a member of the Santa Clara County Pioneer Association, fraternally is identified with the Odd Fellows and in politics gives his influence and vote to Republican candidates and measures. During 1862 he returned to Illinois and in Earlville married Miss Phoebe L. Smith, who was born in Ohio and grew to womanhood in Illinois. They are the parents of four sons, Chester W., Walter H., Ralph W. and Louis E., all of whom are successful land-owners and agriculturists, the last mentioned residing in San Jose.

Notwithstanding the vicissitudes which have more than once thrust discouragements upon him and notwithstanding the hardships incident to pioneer existence, Mr. Wood retains the robust constitution of his youth. With his erect carriage and fine physique he gives to a stranger the impression of being in life's prime, and subsequent companionship, exhibiting the resourcefulness and activity of his mind, but deepens the first impression. He belongs to that class of "young old" pioneers to whom the state owes a debt of gratitude, men who gave the best that was within them to aid in the development of the

state and the expansion of her interests. It is to the patient, persistent efforts of such as he that the prosperity of the state may be attributed.

DAVID J. TOOMEY. In various lines of business—farming, stock-raising and the management of a butcher shop in Visalia—Mr. Toomey has proved his ability and is numbered among the successful citizens of the place. He is a native of Richmond, Va., and was born October 16, 1867. His father, David Toomey, a resident of that state, served through the Civil war, and in 1872 came to California and located on Dry creek. Later he removed to the vicinity of Lodi and engaged in farming. In 1882 he went to Woodbridge, and in 1885 located one mile east of Visalia, Tulare county, where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. His death occurred in 1892. His wife, formerly Margaret A. Witten, a native of Virginia, survives him and now makes her home in San Francisco. The children born of this union are as follows: Richard Edward, David J., of this review; James, employed by Wells-Fargo & Co., express, of San Francisco; Elizabeth, in San Francisco; Elenore, the wife of E. D. Vogel-sang of Fresno; Charles, a butcher of San Francisco; and Thomas, also in that city.

David J. Toomey was but five years old when he accompanied his parents to California. He received a limited education in the district schools of San Joaquin county, the greater part of his training lying in the cornfields, while he graduated between plow handles, as he quaintly puts it. When seventeen years old he went to Visalia and attended school for six weeks. He remained at home and assisted in the farm work until the death of his father, after which he engaged in the stock business for himself. He was located in Old Round valley, eighteen miles southeast of Visalia, where he operated a ranch of two thousand acres, engaged in wheat raising, conducting four eight-horse teams. He was very successful in this work, in which he engaged from 1885 to 1892; a man of energy and ability, and with proper ideas of handling the men who worked under him, he made a success financially. Returning in 1892 to the home place, he engaged in the raising of hay and threshing, and in September, 1900, with G. B. Simpson, bought out the Pioneer market in Visalia and has since been engaged in the butcher business. They later took in another partner, the firm being then known as Toomey & Co. In April, 1904, Mr. Toomey bought out his partners and has since continued the business alone, in the meantime having purchased two other markets, one in Visalia and the other in Exeter. The Pioneer market, located on East Main street, has recently been built, a new



and modern plant for butchering installed, a new cold storage plant of three-ton capacity having also been built. He has a slaughter house on his ranch three miles east of Visalia, where he owns forty acres. He makes his home on the old home ranch one mile east of Visalia.

In Los Angeles Mr. Toomey married Clara C. Hinds, who was born near Exeter, Tulare county, a daughter of Archibald Y. Hinds, a pioneer of this section. They are the parents of two children, Catherine Maurine and Kenneth David. Fraternally Mr. Toomey is identified with the Woodmen of the World and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Interested in all local affairs, he has taken an interest in educational matters, having served as a trustee of the East Lynne district. Politically he is a staunch Democrat and is a member of the county central committee.

---

**FRANK ELLIOTT ANDERSON.** Prominent among the enterprising and wide-awake business men of Tulare is Frank Elliott Anderson, who through his own efforts has risen to his present position among the leading citizens of his adopted city. Endowed with good business judgment and tact, he has been uniformly successful in life, and is now carrying on a large and successful mercantile trade as head of the well known firm of Anderson & Scranton. A son of the late J. N. Anderson, he was born in Fairbury, Ill., October 17, 1867.

A native of Ohio, J. N. Anderson was born near Hillsboro, Highland county, and was there reared to agricultural pursuits. He was a lover of fine horses from his boyhood, and when a young man, about 1860, removed to Fairbury, Ill., where he embarked in business as a horse-man, importing horses, and breeding much fine stock. Settling in Holden, Johnson county, Mo., in 1870, he continued there for a few years as a horse breeder, raising draft and coach horses, making a specialty of Morgan horses. Coming from there to California in 1888, he was engaged in the same business in Tulare until his death, in 1899, being successful in his operations. He was a man of sterling worth, and a valued member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He married Columbia Morrow, who was born in Ohio, the daughter of James Morrow, a merchant, established first in Ohio, and later in McLean county, Ill. She survived her husband, and now makes her home with her son, Frank, in Tulare. Four children blessed their union, namely: James Morrow, a druggist in Tulare; Frank Elliott, the special subject of this sketch; Grace, wife of Z. S. Cather, of San Francisco; and one that died in childhood. Col. James E.

Morrow, a brother of Mrs. J. N. Anderson, served as colonel of an Illinois regiment during the Civil war, and was subsequently a banker in Pontiac, Ill., until his death.

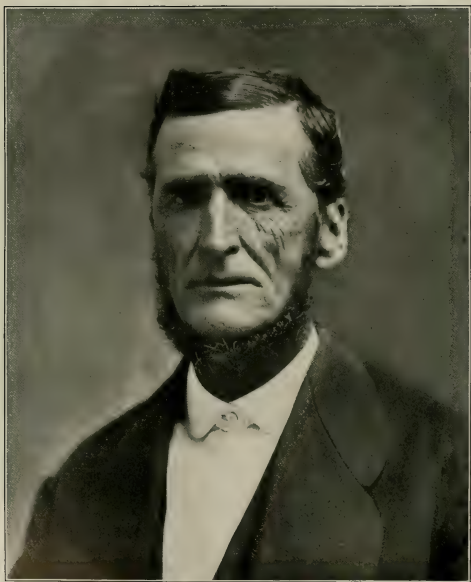
James Morrow Anderson, the eldest son of the parental household, was born in Pontiac, Ill., October 1, 1862. In March, 1886, he located in Tulare, and for nearly four years afterward worked at the carriage maker's trade with A. G. Woodward. In 1890 he purchased a half interest in R. L. Reid's pharmacy, which was established about the time that Tulare was incorporated, being one of the pioneer business houses of the place. In 1892 Frank E. Anderson bought out Mr. Reid's share of the business, which has since been continued successfully by the two brothers. James Morrow Anderson is also proprietor of the California Gypsum & Mineral Company, and manufactures the Diamond fertilizer and plaster, and is likewise president of the Tulare Oil Company. He married Lulu Schlageter, and they have one child, Morrow J. He is prominent in the Masonic fraternity, being a Knight Templar.

His parents removing to Holden, Johnson county, Mo., when he was but three years old, Frank Elliott Anderson was there brought up and educated. At the age of fifteen he began learning the dry goods business, for four years being in the employ of W. H. Etter, proprietor of a One Price Cash House. Coming to the Pacific coast in 1886, he was for four years engaged as a clerk for F. M. Schultz, in Tulare, the following ten years being similarly employed in the dry goods department of the store of J. Goldman & Co. Resigning the position in 1900, Mr. Anderson formed a co-partnership with Mr. Scranton, as senior member of the firm of Anderson & Scranton, and March 15 of that year opened a store on the corner of K and Kern streets. The business of the firm increased so rapidly that new quarters were demanded, and February 4, 1904, Messrs. Anderson & Scranton removed into their present store, which is 41x80 feet, with three floors. This enterprising firm carries a complete stock of up-to-date goods, including dry goods of all kinds, furs, and ladies' and children's shoes. As above stated, Mr. Anderson also has a half interest in the Anderson Pharmacy, owning it with his brother, James Morrow. He belongs to the Tulare Board of Trade; is a stockholder in the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank; and is a charter member and a director of the Tulare Building and Loan Association.

In Tulare, Cal., Mr. Anderson married Selina R. Belfils, who was born in Roseburg, Ore., a daughter of Lewis Belfils, a jeweler, who settled in Tulare in 1897. Politically Mr. Anderson is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he is a







*Georgehua Lindsey*

member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M.; of Tulare Chapter No. 71, R. A. M.; and belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. Anderson is a talented musician, and a clarionet player of note. For many years he was leader of the Tulare Band, and still leads the Tulare Orchestra. He formerly taught clarionet playing, but of late years has confined himself to orchestral work.

JOSHUA LINDSEY was born near South Bend, Ind., May 18, 1818, a son of John and Nancy (Shields) Lindsey, the former born in Scotland and the latter in Indiana. John Lindsey served in the war of 1812 and engaged in farming in Indiana until his death.

Joshua Lindsey, who was the eldest of five sons, was reared on a farm and educated in the pioneer subscription schools of his native state, that were held in the log houses and furnished with slab benches. As a young man he learned the blacksmith's trade, following it in Indiana and Iowa, to which latter state he removed in 1843. Settling in Muscatine county, he continued his trade until April 15, 1855, at which time he started to cross the plains to California in wagons drawn by oxen and horses, and arrived at Downieville in October of that year. In the spring of 1856 Mr. Lindsey located in Gilroy and remained until 1859. Locating then on one hundred and sixty acres of land that he entered, five miles west of Visalia, he remained there six years, then purchased a ranch at Rocky Ford, on the St. Johns river, now owned by his widow. There he engaged in the sheep business, meeting with success and acquiring a competency, and remained there until his death, which occurred September 13, 1887.

In an early day Mr. Lindsey, with two others, built the ditch known as the Moffett, Curtis and Lindsey ditch and when this was acquired by the Wutchumna Ditch Company they gave him a perpetual water right, free from assessment, for granting the company the right of way through his farm.

In 1844, at Moscow, Muscatine county, Iowa, Mr. Lindsey was united in marriage with Sarah Jane Hughes, who was born in Lawrence county, Ohio, October 30, 1826, daughter of Asa and Sarah (Smith) Hughes, both natives of Kentucky. Asa Hughes followed farming in Indiana and Michigan and he and his wife were early settlers of Moscow, Muscatine county, Iowa. From there they removed to a place near Ft. Des Moines. The Indians were hostile and it was nearly two years before they could safely locate on their farm. There the father died, and the mother came to California and spent the remainder of her life, dying in her eightieth year.

They had twelve children, eight of whom grew to maturity, Mrs. Lindsey being the eldest daughter. She was reared to frontier life and early experienced the hardships of pioneer existence. She became the mother of ten children, nine of whom are living, viz.: Asa Wayne, of Nome, Alaska; Sarah J., Mrs. Sterling, of Portland, Ore.; Amanda E., Mrs. Eledge, of Visalia; Mary D., Mrs. Baker, of Los Angeles; Clara Alice, Mrs. DeLong, of Visalia; Lucy, Mrs. Mathias, of Los Angeles; William Mark, of San Francisco; Dora, Mrs. Lee, of Mountainview; and John, of Visalia. After the death of Mr. Lindsey his widow remained on the home ranch engaged in the stock business and in the management of her six hundred and forty-acre ranch until 1901, when she located in Visalia, where she is surrounded by a host of loving friends.

In religious matters Mrs. Lindsey adheres to the doctrines of the Christian Church, and in politics, though not able to cast a vote, wields an influence with those who are, in the support of the Republican party's principles.

Mr. Lindsey was a Mason and a Republican. He met with success in his various business ventures, was much respected for his sterling qualities and did much to improve the county he selected for his home. In all matters that he thought would advance the moral, social and industrial welfare of the county, he always gave his liberal support. At his death Tulare county lost one of her progressive supporters.

HENRY S. GOLDSTEIN. Among the prominent business men of Visalia, Henry S. Goldstein occupies a place of importance, in connection with Leon Goldstein and M. E. Iseman following a mercantile line in this city. A native of Visalia, he was born June 8, 1869, the oldest in a family of six living children. His father, Isaac Goldstein, a native of Nuremberg, Bavaria, was the son of Simon Goldstein, an extensive cattle dealer, his birth having occurred November 17, 1839. Until he was twelve years old he remained a resident of his native country, at which time he removed to Connecticut and entered school. Four years later he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, in company with United States Senator John B. Weller, who later became governor of California. Upon his arrival in San Francisco, Mr. Goldstein engaged as a clerk in the mercantile establishment of Ackerman Brothers, later following the same line in the employ of Godchaux. In 1858 he went to the Fraser river mines, and three years later to the Salmon river mines, this last trip being memorable for the hardships and privations endured. Returning to San Francisco, he remained there until 1862, in which year he

located in Visalia, Tulare county, entering the general merchandise establishment of S. Sweet. Four years later, in partnership with D. R. Douglas and Marshall Johnson, he opened a general merchandise business on the corner where the Gray Horse harness shop is now located. Later he was associated with Mr. Sweet for one year on the same corner, then for a time conducted a general merchandise business alone where the Visalia hotel now stands. Returning to his first location, he was associated with S. H. Collins and S. Reinstein, under the firm name of Goldstein & Co. In 1876 the firm dissolved partnership and disposed of their business interests, when Mr. Goldstein engaged in the stock business, being located in various parts of the San Joaquin valley, from which location he shipped cattle and hogs, principally to San Francisco and Los Angeles. In Visalia he married Rebecca Abrams, a native of London, England, and they have six living children.

Reared in Visalia, Henry S. Goldstein attended the public schools in pursuit of an education, eventually entering Heald's Business College of San Francisco, from which he was graduated in 1890. Returning to Visalia, he entered the employ of Sweet & Co. in the capacity of clerk, retaining the position until his location in Santa Barbara. He remained a resident of that city for a short time, when he returned to Visalia and found employment with Wilzinsky Brothers. In 1896 he opened a grocery, queensware and crockery business in partnership with M. E. Iseman, under the firm name of Goldstein & Iseman. Later they took into partnership Leon Goldstein, and have since added hardware, now carrying a full line of groceries, stoves, agricultural implements and general hardware. They have a double store, 60 x 125 feet in dimensions, and a large warehouse on the Santa Fe Railroad, and carry on an extensive wholesale and retail business throughout Tulare county.

Mr. Goldstein is prominent in the public affairs of Visalia, being a member of the Board of Trade, and in various ways indicates his public spirit. Politically he is a Republican in national issues, and fraternally is associated with Visalia Parlor No. 19, N. S. G. W. For the past fifteen years he has been a member of the volunteer fire department of Visalia.

#### ALEXANDER WOODFALL WHEELER.

As president of the Tulare Building and Loan Association, president of the Petrolia Oil Company, owning land on the west side, and proprietor of the oldest and largest exclusive furniture establishment in Tulare, Mr. Wheeler has an influential position in the commercial circles of Tulare county. His father, William Wheeler,

was born in London, England, in April, 1824, and received superior educational advantages, being sent to Oriole College, Oxford, England, and after graduation from that institution he traveled over Europe, completing his education with Sir Montague Barnard. His step-father, Thomas Giles, was a man of prominence in London.

After his marriage to Elizabeth Ellen Brown, a native of Ross, England, during the early '50s William Wheeler came to America and for two years followed the ship-building business at Hoboken, N. J., thence went to Chicago as an employee of the McCormick Company, and about 1857 settled in Ottawa, Ill., where he was employed as a stationary engineer for many years. After coming to California in 1884 he engaged with the Southern Pacific Railroad as a stationary engineer in Tulare and later went to Bakersfield, where he died January 26, 1895. In his native land he had been a communicant of the Church of England and during his residence in America attended the Episcopal Church. On gaining citizenship in the United States he became a student of governmental policies and gave his support to Republican principles. His wife, who died in Tulare, was a daughter of William Brown, an Englishman, who for years and until his death followed the trade of a pattern-maker in Chicago.

The family of William and Elizabeth E. Wheeler consisted of four sons and one daughter, the latter now deceased. The sons are named as follows: Fred W., of Oakland, Cal.; A. W., of Tulare; M. J., of Los Angeles; and Frank H., of Los Angeles. During the residence of the family in Ottawa, Ill., A. W. Wheeler was born October 17, 1859. When only nine years of age he secured employment on a farm and ever afterward made his own way. For six years he clerked in a news store in Ottawa and then returned to farm work for a year. In 1880 he came to California and for a time was employed as an orchardist in San Leandro, Alameda county, later visiting Benicia, where he worked for Baker and Hamilton. During 1882 he came to Tulare, where, with his brother, Fred W., he embarked in the carriage manufacturing business, but after eighteen months gave up his interest in the business in order to homestead a tract of farm land twelve miles south of Tulare. During the nine years of his residence on this property he bored one of the first artesian wells in the county and by this means secured an abundance of water for the carrying on of his grain farm of three hundred and twenty acres. Eventually the land was sold and he returned to Tulare, where after a year with the Southern Pacific Railroad, in January, 1893, he bought the furniture business owned by T. C.

Carruthers, the oldest enterprise of the kind in the town, and the largest exclusive furniture business in the entire county, the stock filling two stories of a building, 50x90 feet in dimensions.

The marriage of Mr. Wheeler united him with Miss Mattie B. Holcomb, who was born at Ravenna, Ohio, and in girlhood came to Tulare with her father, Samuel Holcomb, a mason and builder in this city. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler is a daughter, Claire J. For years Mr. Wheeler has been a participant in local Republican affairs and during 1896 officiated as president of the McKinley Club. Through his connection with the Tulare Board of Trade he has fostered measures for the progress of the city and the development of its business resources. Since coming to this city he has been made a Mason in Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M.; raised to the Royal Arch degree in Tulare Chapter No. 71, and is also identified with the Order of Eastern Star. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows have the benefit of his active work as a member and past grand of Lodge No. 306, at Tulare. In the Encampment he is past chief patriarch, four times was honored by being chosen delegate to the Grand Encampment, and is also past district deputy. In his possession, a most valued relic received from his forefathers, is a Bible, bearing the date of 1700. Although the book was seriously injured in a fire, he still has the larger part of it, and from this may be seen the exquisite care with which the words were printed and pictures drawn by hand, machines not having been invented for that purpose. The family which he represents is an old English race, many of whose members in past generations attained positions of distinction. By his honorable character, commercial enterprise, progressive spirit and upright life he has added honor to an old family name.

---

REV. W. A. NEVIN. Remote from the stately missions sleeping in the shadows of the past and eloquently bespeaking the guidance of priests and prelates in the dreamy Spanish days, Stanislaus county has pursued her individual spiritual upbuilding, and at a later day reared her props for a strong religious foundation. Fifty years ago the old French miners of French Bar, temporarily forgetting the vices of the rough camps, turned in their sleep to dream again of the teachings of their priests and parents in the land beyond the sea, and awoke to give shape and tangibility to their needs, erecting the little church of St. Louis at La Grange, and assisting at the sacrifice of the mass. The chant from the windowless edifice reverberated

through the wilderness, faintly perhaps, but with persistence; and could he foresee the miner might realize the extent of his influence, and behold the near approach of the ideal community, with its many church edifices, its parochial schools, its charities arising to extend their protecting wings over the unfortunate and friendless, its homes for the aged, hospitals, houses of providence for young women, orphan and foundling asylums, and industrial training schools. All these advancements are suggested if not realized by the Catholic church in Stanislaus county to-day, and the zeal, piety and spirit of self sacrifice of her teachers and leaders fill with hope the hearts of her many hundreds of children.

Till 1899 St. Mary's Church of Oakdale was a mission of Modesto, with a small congregation and little actual stimulus for the energies of its members. In that year Rev. W. A. Nevin became the first resident priest, and the mission took on a dignity and importance hitherto impossible. A change has taken place such as one would expect from a man of great culture, learning and large heart, and the church has been added to and improved, a new parish house in mission style has been erected, and surrounding it are luxuriant vegetation, roses, palms, orange and lemon trees, which in itself is one of the crowning glories of California. Different societies have been organized to stimulate the activities of the congregation, many members have been added, and the parish is a vital center of religious and humanitarian zeal. In addition to this responsibility, Rev. Mr. Nevin has charge of St. Joseph's Church at the Twenty-six Mile House, which also has been greatly improved, and which is now one of the prettiest little churches in the county. Under the jurisdiction of Father Nevin also is the old church of St. Louis, LaGrange, which bears well the distinction of being the oldest church building in Stanislaus county, and one of the oldest in the state. Under his devotion and assiduous superintendence, new life has been infused into all of these churches, and his efforts to strengthen Catholicism within his jurisdiction has met with the happiest results. The situation demanded great energy of action and wisdom of administration, but it has been met unflinchingly, and the church's financial and spiritual interests have been directed with prudence and discretion.

The career of Father Nevin presents an unbroken chain of earnest endeavor to live according to his highest light and inspiration. He was born in Rochester, N. Y., December 1, 1856, and is the seventh of fourteen children, thirteen of whom attained maturity, but only two of whom are on the Pacific coast. Besides adorning the ministry, the family contributes to the civic usefulness of the west, and one of the sons,

James Nevin, is at present chief of detectives of Portland, Ore. At the age of fifteen he enlisted in Reynolds' Light Artillery and served until the close of the war. He took part in the second battle of Bull Run and in the decisive battle of Gettysburg he stood at one of the guns stationed in the now famous cemetery whence went many a hot and telling shot. Brian and Kate (Kilroy) Nevin, the parents of this large family, were born in County Mayo, Ireland, the former in Castlebar and the latter in Newport. The paternal grandfather, Patrick Nevin, was also born in County Mayo, and his oldest son, James, came to America in 1841, settling in New York state, while the grandfather himself came later, and died in Peterboro, Ontario. Brian learned his trade in his native land, and after his marriage came to Rochester, N. Y., in 1846, remaining there until his removal to Saginaw, Mich., in 1864. In both of these towns he plied his useful trade, and died in the latter in 1874, at the age of fifty-seven. His wife survived him until the spring of 1894, when she was sixty-six years old.

At an early age Father Nevin evidenced a predilection for the priesthood. His education in the public schools of Rochester and Saginaw was supplemented by private instruction relative to his vocation, and at eleven he began the study of the Latin classics and French. In the summer of 1872 he entered St. Mary's College in Cincinnati, Ohio, completing the classics in 1876, and thereafter studying philosophy and theology in the school of St. Francis at Milwaukee, Wis. He was ordained in Detroit, Mich., by Bishop Borgess in February, 1880, for the diocese of Detroit, and ten days later became pastor of the church at Monroe, Mich., continuing thus until his health broke down and necessitated an all around change. Rest was found in extended travel in northern and continental Europe, and upon his return he held a minor position until fully restored to health. The little church at Tawas City, Mich., proved a pleasant and not too arduous responsibility, and in 1896 he came to California as assistant of the church at Oakland. Three years of residence converted him into an ardent enthusiast of the climate and resources of this western state, and his appointment to his present charge in 1899 afforded the field for Christian work since proved of infinite possibility.

---

**ANDREW J. HARRELL.** The success which has followed the efforts of Andrew J. Harrell is the result of well-directed ability, coupled with an indomitable will which admits of no defeat. He has established his business life in the lines followed by his father, the late

Jasper Harrell, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume, being variously interested in the commercial activity of Visalia and the stock business in this state and Nevada. Upon the death of his father he assumed control of the vast family estate, bringing to bear in its management the same ability, judgment and energy which have characterized all his independent effort.

Born May 5, 1861, near Visalia, Tulare county, Andrew J. Harrell is the son of Jasper and Martha E. (Bacon) Harrell. The father was one of the foremost citizens of Tulare county, active in its development and upbuilding and the promotion of various important enterprises. Andrew J. Harrell was reared in the vicinity of Visalia, receiving his preliminary education in the public schools, after which he took a commercial course in Heald's Business College of San Francisco. Previous to this he had attended the high school in that city, completing the course with honors, after which he went to Nevada to learn stock raising, which was occupying the greater part of the attention of his father. Shortly afterward he assumed charge of the Jasper Harrell cattle ranch, a position which he held until 1883, when the property was sold to Sparks and Tinnin. Returning to California, he located in Los Angeles, where his father owned considerable property, and here he made his home in a residence built by his father, and gave his attention to the supervision of all the family interests in that city. In 1889 his father established the firm of Harrell & Son, Bankers, of Visalia, and he became manager of the same. Two years later a half-interest was purchased in the ranch, which was afterward known as the Sparks-Harrell Company, and as the attention of this vast property occupied so much time, the banking interests were sold, the Producers' Bank being incorporated to succeed them. From that time on Mr. Harrell gave his entire time and attention to the cattle business in Nevada. In 1901 the entire property was purchased, when he assumed control of the large ranch, and after the death of his father took charge of the estate for the family. They still own the Nevada ranch, consisting of one hundred and seventy thousand acres of grazing land and about three million acres of range. They also own the Harrell ranch on Cross creek in this county, consisting of ten thousand acres, where the mother still resides. Mr. Harrell is still a stockholder in the First National Bank of Visalia, in which he is a director.

In San Francisco Mr. Harrell was united in marriage with Ella Crofton, a native of Stockton, Cal., and they are the parents of two children, Andrew Jasper and Elinore Crofton Harrell. In 1899 Mr. Harrell located with his fam-







*J. E. Denny*

ily in Palo Alto, where they have a comfortable home and pleasant surroundings, although he still retains many interests in the city where his business activities lay for so long. Fraternally he is a member of Visalia Parlor No. 19, N. S. G. W.

**JAMES EDWARD DENNY.** The name of James Edward Denny is well known throughout Tulare county, where he has been identified with the business, political and social life for about forty years, and he holds a place of especial prominence among the citizens of Visalia. A native of Bond county, Ill., he was born June 1, 1838, a son of James Denny. The latter, a native of Maryland, immigrated to Illinois before its admission as a state, and in Bond county carried on farming until his death. His wife, formerly Mary White, of North Carolina, also died in the same locality. They were the parents of nine children, eight sons and one daughter.

The fifth child in the family of his parents, James Edward Denny received his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home and in McDonough College, in Macomb, Ill., attending the latter institution two terms. In April, 1854, he started for California, making the perilous trip across the plains by ox-team and being six months en route. Arriving in the state in September, he located near Forest, Sierra county, Cal., where he was employed in the mines until 1860. In partnership with W. G. Sanderson he then bought a ferry (cable power) on the King's river, San Joaquin valley, and conducted the same successfully for four years. In 1864 he came to Visalia, Tulare county, and purchased the Overland livery stables, finding profitable employment until 1866, when he removed to Milerton, then the county seat of Fresno county, where he built a store and established a general merchandise business under the firm name of J. E. Denny & Co. This prospered until 1868, when the entire town was washed away by an overflow. Returning to Visalia Mr. Denny engaged as a clerk in the dry goods establishment of R. E. Hyde for one year, when he entered the hotel business by leasing the Visalia house, under the firm name of Dincker & Denny, who remained the proprietors for about two years. Disposing of his interests Mr. Denny went to Illinois and spent some time in his home in Bond county. Returning to Visalia in the spring of 1872 he was appointed deputy assessor, which office he held until July, when he went into the employ of D. R. Douglass in charge of a general merchandise store in Portersville, Tulare county. In the fall of 1873 he was elected to the combined offices of county clerk, auditor and recorder, serving creditably for a term of two years. Fol-

lowing this he was elected county recorder and auditor for one term; in 1876 was made deputy treasurer for one term; and in 1878 was elected county recorder for one term, discharging the duties incumbent upon him in a capable and efficient manner, and winning commendation from all citizens. In 1880 he returned to the general merchandise business which was conducted under the firm name of Crowley, Denny & Co., for two years, when it was closed out on account of the death of the partner. Mr. Denny then conducted a drug business under the name of Griggs & Denny until 1884, when he bought a tract of land (eleven hundred and eighty acres) in Tulare county and engaged in farming. This, perhaps, was the one exception in the life of Mr. Denny where he did not meet with the expected success. In 1893 he was elected county recorder, and upon the expiration of his term engaged in the real estate business. This latter occupation was interrupted in 1898, when he was elected county treasurer for a term of four years. Since 1902 he has engaged exclusively in the real estate and insurance business, handling property, collecting rents, etc. He is also identified with the development of oil wells, acting as vice-president of the Diana Oil Company (incorporated), of Visalia, and is a stockholder in the Devil's Den Oil Company (incorporated), also of this city.

In Visalia Mr. Denny was united in marriage with Jennie Drouillard, a native of Iowa, whose death occurred in 1882. She left two children. Mabel married C. D. Rogers, of Monterey, Cal., and Lawrence is a freight clerk in the Southern Pacific Railway, located in San Francisco. Fraternally Mr. Denny is prominent in this section. He belongs to Blue Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., Visalia Chapter No. 44, R. A. M., and Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T., all of Visalia, and holds the office of treasurer in the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery. He is also a member of Islam Temple No. 429, N. M. S., of San Francisco. He joined this organization in Forest City in 1860, becoming a member in Forest City Lodge No. 66. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In his political convictions Mr. Denny is a staunch Republican and an active and influential member of the party's counsels. Although a resident in a Democratic county Mr. Denny has held many offices, his personal popularity winning him much support. In 1886 he was nominated on the Republican ticket for state comptroller and although defeated he still ran far ahead of his ticket, even the candidate for governor. He has taken an active and intelligent interest in all public movements and has given his support to those he considered best calculated to advance the general welfare of the community. He was one of

the assessors of the Income Tax law of the state in 1864-66. Mr. Denny is representative of the best in American citizenship and among all who know him holds a high place in their regard.

EDWARD STRACHEY PHILLIPPS. To the discernment and far-sighted judgment of Edward Strachey Phillipps is due the establishment and upbuilding of the town of Sultana, Tulare county. After a comprehensive study of the conditions of the county and particularly of this section of it, he foresaw the need of a settlement at this point (then Alta Station, a point on the Santa Fe Railroad), and also the opportunity for advancement of the interests located here. He first purchased one acre of Hugh Logan, which was planted to orange trees, and on the site of the present mercantile establishment of Sultana built the first store which he opened December 25, 1899. The town he named in honor of the Sultana grapes which grow so prolifically in this section. Shortly afterward he secured a postoffice for the town and was named its first postmaster, which office he has held continuously since. In addition to his own home he built three other residences and another store building, and in various ways has added to the improvement and upbuilding of the best interests of the place.

Born in London, Canada, January 12, 1868, he was the son of Capt. J. J. Winsloe Phillipps, a native of England. He held the office of captain in the Sixtieth Rifles (King's Corps), serving in India, and also in Canada during the Fenian excitement. On account of ill health he resigned from the army, and until his death made his home in Torquay, Devonshire, England, on his country place. His wife, formerly Margaret Strachey, was born in England, where her death also occurred. Of their three sons, Ralph K. was a civil officer in Borneo, where his death occurred; Paul W. is located in London; and Edward Strachey is the subject of this review. He was reared to young manhood in Devonshire, England, receiving his education in St. Mark's College, at Windsor. In 1891 he decided to locate in the United States and accordingly came to Iowa, and engaged in farming near Cedar Rapids. During the three years in which he was a resident of that state he made two trips back to his old home in England. In 1894 he came to California and in Auckland engaged in a mercantile enterprise, and shortly afterward secured the appointment of postmaster. He remained in that city until May, 1899, when, with his wife, he took a trip back to England. On their return to America their ship was wrecked on the rocks of Belle Island, in the Straits of Belle Isle, upon which they spent four nights

and five days before being rescued. They finally signaled a cattle boat, which took them into Montreal. Many of the passengers perished and all suffered untold horrors during that time. Upon his return to California he established Sultana, and since that time has made his home in this section. A short distance north of Sultana he owns forty acres of land devoted to alfalfa, fifteen acres east of Sultana, in vineyard and alfalfa; forty acres at Orosi, principally in vines, while the balance of his land is devoted to orchard fruits. Through his own success he has induced others to seek a home here, many being willing to profit by his efforts. In addition to all that he has done for the commercial growth of Sultana, he has given his best efforts along educational lines, assisting in securing a school for the Sultana district, and always taking an active interest in the progress and welfare of the community. In 1902 he disposed of his interest in the store to a cousin, L. G. Uniacke.

In Hanford, Kings county, Mr. Phillipps was united in marriage with Leora Campbell, who was born near Visalia, this county, a daughter of H. Campbell and Elizabeth (Bacon) Campbell. They are the parents of one child, Edward Strachey, Jr. In their religious affiliations the family are members of the Episcopal Church.

FRANK L. ALLEN. As a successful rancher Frank L. Allen is located two miles south of Sultana, Tulare county, engaged in the cultivation and improvement of his farm of sixty acres, which is devoted to alfalfa, with the exception of six acres given over to a vineyard and orchard. In addition to his ranching interests he is also engaged in the dairy business, having a herd of thirty Holstein cows, carrying on the work in a modern and up-to-date manner and with every modern equipment, being supplied with a separator, etc. He also raises stock generally, works with poultry and has a fine apiary, combining his interest in such a manner as to bring about the best results from his labor.

Born in Lincoln county, Mo., October 8, 1859, Frank L. Allen was the youngest in a family of eleven children, of whom nine attained maturity and eight are now living. His father, Robert B. Allen, was a native of West Virginia and an early settler in Missouri, becoming a farmer in Lincoln county, where his death occurred. He married Louisa J. Chambers, a native of St. Clair county, Mo. On the paternal farm Frank L. Allen grew to young manhood, attending the public schools until the fall he was eighteen years old, when he entered the Troy high school. The following year (in 1878) he went to Leadville, Colo., during the excitement at that place, and for three and a half years engaged in mining

and prospecting. Returning to his home in Missouri he remained there until 1883, when he came to California and locating at Lemoore, Kings county, became manager for the Dave Brownstones' warehouses. This position he retained until 1886, when he accepted a like position in the Jacobs warehouse. The following year he went to Kern county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres near Delano and improved and cultivated it for five years. Disposing of that property in 1892 he came to Tulare county and in the vicinity of Traver purchased a tract of forty acres. Through a defective title he subsequently lost this property, and in November, 1898, he located upon his present property two miles south of Sultana, which he has since made his home and the scene of his labors. It was formerly a wheat field, but he has since changed the crop to alfalfa and fruit, and by combining with the cultivation his various other interests he has made an unqualified success of his efforts. In 1904 he built an addition to his residence and in many other ways has added to the value of his property.

In Lincoln county, Mo., Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Lucy E. Anderson, a native of Montgomery county, that state. They have one child, Paul E. Active in all matters pertaining to the advancement of the community, Mr. Allen has acted as school trustee and in many other ways has shown his interest and ability.

JOHN C. HODGES, a successful stockman of Tulare county, is a native of the state, his birth having occurred in Tulare county, near Mountain View, April 16, 1876. His father, Charles Hodges, was a native of Virginia and the descendant of a fine southern family. He became a sailor in manhood, his first trip to California being made around the Horn. This trip was made twice before he finally located in California, which he did about 1860, seeking the mines of Eldorado and Placer county immediately after his arrival. For some years he was located in Idaho, Montana and Oregon, where he followed mining for a livelihood. Returning to California he located in Tulare county, first near Lindsay and afterward in the vicinity of Mountain View. He then went to Frazier valley and followed farming and stock-raising until his death, which occurred January 20, 1904. His wife, formerly Josephine Ballard, a native of San Jose, Cal., survives him, now making her home on the old place in Frazier valley.

Of the five sons and four daughters born to his parents, John C. Hodges was the second in order of birth. He received a limited education in the public schools in Tulare county, and in manhood he followed the training of his youth

and engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He remained in Tulare county, which place has always been his home, carrying on his operations in Pleasant valley, Frazier valley and the vicinity of Visalia, and in 1902 he located in the mountains in the vicinity of Mountain View, where he became the owner of one thousand acres. He is now engaged extensively in the raising of stock, while he also carries on agricultural pursuits to a limited extent.

In Frazier valley Mr. Hodges was united in marriage with Proda May Gill, a native of Yokohl valley, Cal., and they are the parents of one daughter, Itha Marie, who is at home. In his political convictions Mr. Hodges is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

VICTOR ELSWORTH SLOAN. The ability which Mr. Sloan has evidenced in his work as a horticulturist since locating in Tulare county has won for him the respect of his fellow citizens as well as a competence, the result of energy and industry. He is located near Orosi engaged in the cultivation of a twenty-acre vineyard, as well as having considerable land devoted to the raising of peaches. Born August 31, 1863, in Canton, Mo., he is the second child in the family of his parents, George W. and Margaret (Hodges) Sloan, the former of whom now resides in Newark, Mo., while the latter died when her son was ten years old. George W. Sloan was a native of Indianapolis, Ind., removing in manhood to Canton, Mo., where he engaged as a manufacturing cooper. During the Civil war he served as a member of the Thirteenth Illinois Regiment of Infantry. Of the four children born to himself and wife three are now living.

Victor Elsworth Sloan is the only one of this family who has sought a home in California. He was reared in his native state, receiving his education principally in the public schools of Newark. In 1882 he came west, first finding employment in Santa Clara in orchard work, remaining so occupied for one year. Following this he located in Pleasanton, Alameda county, and engaged in the same employment for seven years, in 1890 coming to Orosi, Tulare county. He purchased the twenty acres upon which he now resides, planting it to vineyard, and also engaging in the nursery business, raising fifteen thousand Muir peach trees. Since that time he has purchased other property, having a twenty-acre tract about a mile from his home given over to the cultivation of Muir peaches, while he has also improved a tract of thirty-seven acres one mile north of this place, which he has also planted to Muir peaches.

In Orosi Mr. Sloan was united in marriage with Mary Sallee, a native of Knox county, Mo., and they are now the parents of four children, namely: Myrtle, Clarence, Clifford and Arthur. In his political affiliations Mr. Sloan is a Republican and is a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has officiated as trustee, and also as superintendent of the Sunday-school. He takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the general welfare of the community and especially in educational movements, having acted for some time as school trustee. Fraternally he is quite prominent, being identified with the Woodmen of the World, and formerly with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

---

G. L. LONG, M. D., was born in Mercer county, Pa., July 31, 1858. His residence in California dates from September, 1882.

---

WILLIAM GILL. An intelligent, prosperous and enterprising stockman, William Gill, of Tulare county, enjoys a wide popularity both for his business ability and his personality. He is a native of Ringgold county, Iowa, where he was born May 14, 1870, a son of Samuel Gill. The family history will be found more at length in the biographical sketch of L. L. Gill, on another page of this volume. William Gill received his education in the common schools of Iowa and California, whither his father removed when he was a lad. He engaged in the stock business with his father until 1893, when he entered upon independent operations. Later he located in the foothills back of Portersville, Tulare county, and engaged in the buying, selling and raising of stock. In 1899 he began buying land in partnership with his brother and they now own thirty thousand acres, all given over to the raising of stock. His home, which is eleven miles east of Portersville, is presided over by his wife, formerly Josephine Adeline McKiernan, a native of the state, to whom he was united in marriage in Visalia. She is a daughter of John M. and Nancy (Dunn) McKiernan, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Arkansas, who came overland to California. Mr. and Mrs. Gill are the parents of three children, all of whom are at home, namely: Effie Inez, Ralph and Ernest.

In his political convictions Mr. Gill is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. He is a man of energy and unusual ability, inheriting the talent which has been demonstrated in his work as a stockman. Broad-minded and liberal, he is also a citizen who ranks with those upon whom the

honor of the public may safely rest, and to whom much credit is due for the force he exerts for the moral welfare of the community.

---

EDWARD STEPHEN O'BRIEN, M. D. Occupying a position of prominence among the successful and best-known physicians of Merced county is Edward S. O'Brien, M. D., who has been in almost continuous practice in the city of Merced since 1881. Bringing to his professional work a well-trained mind, enthusiastic zeal, and a sympathetic nature, he has met with rare success in his labors, and has won the respect and esteem of his numerous patrons, and of the community in which he resides. A son of the late Bernard O'Brien, he was born February 24, 1854, in Boston, Mass.

A native of Ireland, Bernard O'Brien was born in the city of Waterford, of excellent ancestry, his mother, whose maiden name was Power, belonging to one of the most noted families of county Waterford. Emigrating to this country when young, he was prosperously engaged in mercantile pursuits in Boston until the breaking out of the Civil war. In 1861, selling his store in Boston, he enlisted in Company A, First Maine Cavalry, under Captain Thaxter, and at once went to the front. During Banks' retreat, in the Shenandoah valley, he was severely wounded, receiving two saber cuts, one over the head and the other across the right side of his face, inflicting such serious wounds that he was soon honorably discharged from the army on account of physical disability. Coming by way of the Isthmus of Panama to California in 1863, he located in Mendocino county, where he engaged in stock-raising and subsequently became identified with the transportation of lumber, being financially interested in several schooners employed in the lumber trade. On retiring from business pursuits, he removed to San Francisco, where he resided until his death, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Walsh, survived him, and is now a resident of San Francisco. He was a true blue Republican in politics, and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Of the nine children born of their union, five are living, Edward Stephen being the only resident, however, of the San Joaquin valley.

At the age of eleven years Edward S. O'Brien left Boston, and came by way of Panama, on the ship Golden Gate, to San Francisco, from there joining his father in Mendocino county. After attending the Mendocino schools for awhile he completed his early education in the public schools of San Francisco. For two years thereafter he was in the employ







Alfred Hoy



*Mrs Elsie C. Fay.*



of the J. G. Jackson Company, in which his father had an interest, going as a sailor on board a schooner engaged in the coasting trade, running from Coos Bay to San Diego. Becoming interested then in the study of medicine, Mr. O'Brien spent a year in the office of Dr. W. A. McCornack, in Mendocino, after which he continued his studies under Dr. C. G. Kenyon, of San Francisco. Subsequently entering the medical department of the College of the Pacific, which was afterward merged in the Cooper Medical College, he was graduated from there in November, 1879, with the degree of M. D. During the last two years of his college course, Dr. O'Brien, with his classmates, Dr. George Adams and Dr. John F. Dillon, were internes at the United States Marine Hospital, securing the position by competitive examination, and being the first board of internes appointed in San Francisco.

After his graduation Dr. O'Brien continued his studies for a year with his former tutor, Dr. Kenyon. In 1881 he began the practice of his profession in Merced, and has been here most of the time since, being the longest-established physician in the city. He has built up an extensive practice in medicine and surgery, his office being now located in the Packer Building, on Main street, and by his professional knowledge and skill has won the respect and esteem of the medical fraternity and of the community. The doctor is now serving as county health officer, and for many years has been county physician. For four terms, from 1885 until 1893, he was county coroner. In 1897, Dr. O'Brien was appointed, by Governor Budd, superintendent of the Lone Reform School, in Amador county, but at the end of a year in that capacity resigned the position, and resumed his practice in Merced. By thrift, sound financial judgment and keen foresight, the doctor has accumulated a fine estate, and in addition to owning a valuable residence in the city has good business property. He was one of the organizers, and one of the first presidents, of the Merced Milling Company, which erected the Merced Flour Mill, with a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels a day, and a large warehouse, and is still a director, and a large stockholder in the plant. The doctor also has large mining interests in Mariposa county, owning the Mabel and Ethel quartz mines, which are rich in mineral ores.

Dr. O'Brien married, in San Francisco, Mary Ragesdale, who was born in California, a daughter of John Ragesdale, who came here in 1849, and was engaged in mining and stock-raising for many years, and was also an educator of some note. He spent his last years in Nevada. The doctor and Mrs. O'Brien have

two children, namely: Mabel Genevieve, a graduate of the high school, is now attending the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, being a member of the class of 1906; and Ethel, a pupil in the Merced high school, belonging to the class of 1906. The doctor is surgeon for the Merced district of the Santa Fe Railway, and is a member of the Pacific Coast Railroad Surgeons' Association. He is also a member of the American and State Medical associations, and of the San Joaquin Valley and the Merced County Medical societies, being also president of the latter society. He belongs to the Cooper Medical College Alumni Association, and is an active member and ex-president of the Merced Board of Trade. Politically Dr. O'Brien is a steadfast Democrat, and served as chairman of the Democratic county central committee. Fraternally the doctor is a member and past master of LaGrange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M.; of Merced Chapter No. 9, R. A. M.; a member and past grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; and of the Woodmen of the World.

---

ALFRED FAY. Not only is Mr. Fay a pioneer of California, but as a child he saw much of frontier life in different sections of the east. His experiences have been many and varied. Hardships not a few have impeded his progress. Discouragements have thwarted his plans more than once. In spite of these, however, with a courage and optimism that seem part of his nature, he pursued his way quietly and with unwearied perseverance, and now, in the twilight of a busy life, he can enjoy the fruits of his labors in the possession of a competency sufficient for all needs, and in the possession also of that which is more desirable than wealth, the esteem of associates and affectionate regard of friends.

In the town of Tully, county of Onondaga, N. Y., Mr. Fay was born May 13, 1827, being a son of David and Lucretia (Farr) Fay, natives respectively of Springfield, Mass., and Onondaga county, N. Y. His father, who throughout life followed farming as a means of livelihood, in 1843 moved by wagon to Illinois, passing through Ohio over the corduroy roads and stopping for the winter in Indiana four miles from Laporte. The spring of 1844 found the family at their new location in McHenry county, Ill., where the father entered a tract of government land and improved a farm. His wife died in Wisconsin, where he also passed away, having married again. In his family there were ten children and all attained mature years, but only four are now living. One of the sons, David, came to California in 1861, and now resides in Los Angeles. An-

other son, Alvin, who came in 1865, is also living in Los Angeles.

In order of birth Alfred Fay was the second among the ten children. When sixteen years of age he accompanied his parents by wagon to Illinois. While they were traveling through Ohio they met the family of Ichabod Paddock, who also were removing to the newer regions of the west. Mr. Fay's mother soon found that she had known Mrs. Paddock when they were girls in the same neighborhood, and the acquaintance of their childhood was gladly renewed, the two families traveling together as far as Laporte, Ind. From there the Fay family went to Illinois. The Paddocks stayed in Indiana for a time, then removed to Lafayette county, Wis. Among the children of Ichabod and Mary Ann Paddock was a daughter, Elsie, a native of Cataugaus, N. Y., and about twelve years old when the two families met. The youth of sixteen was pleasantly impressed, but the two drifted apart. Some years later, when he was peddling, he accidentally met one of her brothers and learned that the family were living near Darlington, Wis. Thus he was given an opportunity to renew his acquaintance with the young lady, and on New Year's day of 1852 they were married at her home in Wisconsin.

Prior to this Mr. Fay had experienced many of the hardships of frontier existence. When he commenced to work on an Illinois farm, in the spring of 1844, he used ten oxen in breaking the prairie, plowing a furrow of twenty-six inches. All around was open prairie, on which scarcely an attempt had been made at cultivation. For many miles in every direction not a furrow had been turned in the soil, and the country remained in the primeval condition of nature. Chicago was forty-five miles distant and there were but two houses in all the intervening space. When he was twenty-two he started a peddling wagon and traveled through Boone, Winnebago, Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties, Ill., and Rock, Green, Lafayette and Grant counties, Wis. After four years of this work he opened a general store at Darlington, where, under the firm title of A. Fay & Co., he built up the largest mercantile business in the entire county, also erected the best brick store in the county. In 1860 he sold his property there and came via New York and Panama to California, being a passenger on the North Star from New York, and on the T. C. Twichell up the Pacific ocean, landing at San Francisco November 14, 1860. During his first two years in the state he carried on farm pursuits in Napa county. From there he moved to San Mateo county, thirty miles south of San Francisco, where he bought four hundred and eighty acres of raw land and developed it into a fine farm, with substantial residence, and all

equipments for the raising of stock and grain, together with the carrying on of a large dairy business.

Meanwhile Mr. Fay had made occasional trips to the San Joaquin valley, where his wife had relatives living near Hanford. On one of these visits he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 21, four miles northwest of Tulare. November 30, 1884, he settled on this property and took up the task of making improvements. On Tuesday he began to build a barn and by Friday the structure was enclosed and roofed so that he could store his hay within. Other buildings were erected, an orchard of trees for family use was planted, the facilities for a dairy business were introduced, also the necessary equipment for raising horses, cattle and hogs. Since 1864 he has engaged in raising standard horses and few men are more familiar with the good points in horses than is he. As a judge of such stock he has few superiors. Of his quarter section he has put sixty-six acres into alfalfa, all of which can be irrigated from the People's ditch. In every respect the place is one of the best improved homesteads of Tulare county and its hospitable owner and his wife join in welcoming beneath their roof those whom business relations or the ties of friendship bring to their home. For many years Mr. Fay officiated as a school director and his interest in educational affairs has been continuous and strong. Many years ago he was made a Mason in Redwood City Lodge, and now has his membership in Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., also, with his wife, belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star, and in religious connections affiliates with the Baptist Church.

---

CARLETON JAMES SHANNON. Well and favorably known throughout Tulare county, where he has been a resident since 1889, Carleton James Shannon is prominently mentioned among the representative citizens of this section. He was born in Colborne, Ontario, June 9, 1870, the second in a family of four sons and one daughter, of whom all are living. His parents, Robert and Deborah (Richardson) Shannon, left their farm in Ontario and came to California in 1891, locating on a farm near Visalia, where Mr. Shannon's death occurred. His widow survives him and now makes her home in Farmersville.

Carleton James Shannon was reared in Ontario on the parental farm until he was sixteen years old, attending the public schools in pursuit of an education. When sixteen he became dependent upon his own resources, finding employment for three years in the vicinity of his home. At the end of that time he was making



only \$15 per month and he concluded to try his fortunes in the west. He accordingly came to California in 1889, reaching Tulare county with but \$20 left of all he had saved. He at once found employment with J. R. Robinson, remaining with him for twenty months, after which he rented a farm of John Frans and engaged in stock raising for two years. He then rented the R. H. Stevens ranch in the vicinity of his present farm, upon which he remained for five years, then returned to the ranch of Mr. Frans, with whom he worked in partnership in feeding and selling stock. Through good management he acquired sufficient means to purchase a farm of one hundred and forty acres in 1897, the nucleus of his present ranch, in 1900 purchasing two hundred and forty acres more, and in 1902 another hundred acres, making in all owned at present four hundred and eighty acres located on sections 32 and 33, of township 19, range 25, located five miles northeast of Tulare. He has improved and cultivated the property to the best advantage, taking a pride in bringing the ranch to rank with the best in the county. Seventy acres are devoted to Muscat grapes, the balance being in alfalfa, grain and pasture, all under the Farmers' ditch, of which company Mr. Shannon is a director. He also feeds cattle and hogs, while he raises a large number. The summer of 1903 he spent at Santa Cruz for recreation, and in the fall of the year engaged in general farming and stock raising on his home place.

In Fresno Mr. Shannon married Mrs. Lulu B. (Jordan) Smith, who was born near Visalia, a daughter of James B. Jordan. By her former marriage Mrs. Shannon had one son, Leslie Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Shannon have one son, Gordan. Fraternally Mr. Shannon belongs to Four Creeks Lodge No. 92, I. O. O. F., of Visalia, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

**ROBERT WEST MCFARLAND.** Self-made, in the best sense implied by the term, Robert West McFarland enjoys to an unusual degree the confidence and esteem of all who have come to know him. Both as a farmer and in his active participation in public affairs in Tulare county, Mr. McFarland has shown himself to be possessed of unusual ability, energy and foresight, and with a personality which wins him friends wherever he goes he has made a success in his life work. In 1900 he located on his present property, eight miles east of Portersville, the thousand acres of land in this tract belonging to his wife and daughter.

Born in Macoupin county, Ill., June 3, 1837, Mr. McFarland is a son of James McFarland,

who was born in Christian county, Ky., May 25, 1810. In 1835 the elder man removed to Macoupin county, Ill., and there engaged as a merchant for a time, and later conducted a drovers' market. He was located in this work at St. Louis and finally he went to Henry county, Mo., and engaged in farming and stock-raising. In Jasper county, where he afterward removed, he followed the same occupation. Upon the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted in a Kansas troop and after the close of hostilities resumed his peaceful life in Jasper county. He had become a prominent man in the county, however, and in 1865 was elected to the state legislature on the Republican ticket, having gone into the war a Democrat and come out a Republican. Until his death he remained active in this party, and was also active in the Grand Army of the Republic. His death occurred in Jasper county at the age of eighty-seven years. Previous to his enlistment for service in the Civil war, Mr. McFarland had been attacked by bushwhackers and hung, but was cut down, after which he immediately entered the army under General Blunt. He was the descendant of an old southern family, his grandfather, James, of North Carolina, having served in the Revolutionary war, entering at the age of seventeen years, and serving until the close of hostilities, after which he removed to Kentucky and died in that state. His father, Robert, was a native of Halifax county, Va., in manhood becoming a resident of Kentucky, where he also died. James McFarland married in manhood Sarah E. Maze, a native of Tennessee, who died in Missouri. They were the parents of three children, of whom Robert West McFarland was the oldest.

Mr. McFarland was educated in the primitive schools of Missouri, and began farming in Jasper county in young manhood. He bought land and continued his operations there until 1860, when he located in Henry county. There he farmed until 1879, after which he engaged in a mercantile enterprise for ten years. He became active in public affairs, taking a prominent part in the township organization of the county and holding many offices of trust and responsibility. Deciding to locate in the more remote west he came to California in 1889, settling in Portersville, where he engaged as a merchant until 1899. He then closed out his business and the following year removed to his present location, where he is engaged in carrying on farming operations.

In Missouri Mr. McFarland married Sarah E. Dunning, a native of Henry county, Mo., and a daughter of Shadrach and Adah (Morris) Dunning, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of North Carolina, but reared and married in Kentucky. They died in Henry coun-

ty, Mo. Mr. and Mrs. McFarland have five living children, namely: J. A. S., located on the home ranch; Ada B., at home; Martha, the wife of O. L. Brough, of Portersville; and Chester A. and Archie A., both at home. One son, John H., died at the age of twenty-nine years. He was associated with his father in the mercantile business at Portersville. Politically Mr. McFarland was a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, but was a member of the Populist party from 1892 to 1896. He has always taken an active interest in public affairs, and in 1900 was elected supervisor of District No. 1, by the Democratic party, and re-elected by a large majority in 1904. Fraternally he is a member of Portersville Lodge No. 303, F. & A. M., and also belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star.

N. J. WESTMAN. An important place in the community is invariably won by representatives of certain European countries, not the least of which is Sweden. From this country of sturdy citizens has come many residents of California, of whom N. J. Westman, of Orosi, Tulare county, is named as representative of the best class. He was born in Sweden, September 6, 1870, the youngest in a family of three children, two of whom are located in America. His father, N. O. Westman, was born, reared and educated in Sweden, in manhood becoming a farmer and owning today a comfortable home, known as the Knoll Farm. He still survives his wife, formerly Anna Margareta Larson, also a native of that country, who died in 1874.

The boyhood of N. J. Westman was passed upon the paternal farm, and while attending the public schools he also received the practical training which has contributed no little to his successful career. Upon attaining the age of sixteen years he left school and gave his entire attention to work on his father's farm, remaining so occupied for two years. In 1889 he came to the United States, and immediately after landing in New York City he crossed the continent to Nebraska, where, in Wahoo, Saunders county, he found employment on a farm at \$12 per month. To make this trip he had gone in debt \$152.85, and to the payment of this sum he devoted his wages. For three years he remained in that location, coming to California in 1892. In Tehama county, near Red Bluff, he found employment on a farm, in the fall of the same year finding work on an extensive ranch, helping on a thresher. In the same year he located in Oakland and there followed a prosecution of the carpenter's trade, remaining so occupied until June, 1893, after which he worked for J. W. Phillips, of that city. In 1897 he went to Mal-

aga and bought a tract of twenty acres, which he planted to vineyard and alfalfa, erecting buildings and making that his home for two years. On account of so much alkali in the ground he was not satisfied with his location, and accordingly sold out in 1899, when he came to Orosi, Tulare county, here purchasing another twenty acres. This was only slightly improved at the time of his purchase, since which time he has given his best efforts to make of it a comfortable home and a credit to the ranches of the section. For a time he conducted a vineyard of forty acres near Tulare, meeting with the same success which has characterized his entire career. Returning to his own farm he has since given his entire time and attention to its improvement and cultivation. He has put up comfortable and substantial buildings, has a five-acre orchard and an eight-acre vineyard, the rest of the property being devoted to alfalfa. He has all modern improvements, having a railroad from his drying grounds to the sulphur houses. In partnership with his brother he also owns twenty acres in Orosi, all devoted to vineyard, and also owns ten lots in the same town. Mr. Westman has proved himself one of the most substantial men of the town, giving material assistance in its upbuilding by a prosecution, to some extent, of his trade.

In Oakland Mr. Westman was united in marriage with Anne Hegstrom, a native of Westmanland, Sweden, and they have one daughter, Edith Violet. Fraternally Mr. Westman is associated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Beavers. Politically he is a staunch Republican. A member of the Baptist Church, he has been active in its support, having served as trustee for some time.

ALMOND B. CLEMENT. The extensive farming interests of Almond B. Clement justly place him among the representative men of that class in this section of Tulare county. He is now engaged in the cultivation and improvement of nine hundred and sixty acres in the vicinity of Springville, where he carries on principally the raising of stock and hay. A native of Barry county, Mich., he was born July 23, 1856, a son of Isaac Clement. The elder man was a native of New York state, who located in Barry county, Mich., in 1870, and engaged as a pioneer farmer. Later he removed to Floyd county, Iowa, and followed the same occupation in that locality; then, in 1873, settled near Lincoln, Neb., from there removing to Ada county, Idaho, in 1881, where he engaged in fruit growing and general farming. Three years later he came to California and located near Springville, Tulare county, and later near Globe, and in 1902 sold





*M. J. Nightingale*

out and now resides with his daughter in the vicinity of Springville at the age of seventy-four years. His wife, formerly Savilla M. Clark, was born in New York state and died in California, leaving a family of three sons and three daughters. One son and two daughters were by a former marriage.

The eldest in his family, Almond B. Clement was reared in the various localities where his parents lived, receiving his education in the public schools of Michigan, Iowa and Nebraska. He began farming in Nebraska but removed with his father to Idaho and also came to California with him in 1884. He located upon the place where he now lives, owning nine hundred and sixty acres, of which he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres. His property is three miles north of Springville in the mountains, and is principally devoted to stock-raising. In Idaho he married Sarah A. Wittel, a native of Shelby county, Ohio, and the daughter of John Wittel, of Pennsylvania, who came to Idaho in 1884 and to California ten years later, locating near Chico, Butte county, where he is now engaged in farming and fruit-raising. Mr. and Mrs. Clement have two children, Elzie F. and Alpha M., both at home. Politically Mr. Clement is a Democrat, and in the interests of this party has served in various offices, at present filling that of clerk of the school board of the Mountain View district.

---

MILES J. NIGHTINGALE. There is no such word as luck in the lexicon of business men, for experience has taught them most convincingly that success is the result of persistent application of intelligent methods that demand time for their development. To executive ability and organized sense must be added public confidence and a thorough knowledge of the field to be occupied, which latter can be gained only by steady approaches. Sudden acquisition of wealth is of rare occurrence and usually followed by speedy and irremediable collapse. In any event, one would never intimate that Miles J. Nightingale, the popular proprietor of the largest and finest mercantile establishment in Oakdale, owes his success to any adventitious aid. His present enviable position is due to an inheritance of English thrift, manly energy, sterling honesty, inflexible sense of justice, tireless energy and intimate acquaintance with business methods. He had the patience to wait when he started out in life, and he never spent any time in watching the clock.

Mr. Nightingale was born in Philadelphia, Pa., August 10, 1843, and is the only son in a family of three children. His parents, John and Sarah (Grime) Nightingale, and his paternal

grandfather, Miles, were born in Bolton, Lancashire, England, and both his father and grandfather were bleachers in cotton mills in England. John Nightingale followed his trade after immigrating to Philadelphia, and when Miles J. was nine years old, in 1852, came to California, walking across the Isthmus, and disembarking on the west side of San Francisco. At first his field of activity was a farm in San Joaquin county, and he later lived near Stockton, in time following teaming and farming and mining in Calaveras county. His death occurred in Stockton about 1897, when between seventy-seven and eighty years of age. When Miles J. was thirteen his mother and sister came with him to California, sailing on the steamer Illinois to Aspinwall, and from Panama to San Francisco on the steamer Sonora, being on the way twenty-four days. He was a strong and rugged lad, and immediately went to work on a farm near Linden, at the age of twenty apprenticing to a blacksmith named William P. Miller, of Stockton, for three years. Possessing mechanical ingenuity, he made an excellent workman, and after finishing his apprenticeship remained with his employer for eighteen years, making in all a business association of twenty-one years. From 1872 until 1884 he had charge of the works as superintendent, and during the latter year stepped out of the business in order to purchase his father's old farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Linden, which he operated four years, and then rented to a tenant. This farm remained in his possession until 1902.

In the meantime, in 1888, Mr. Nightingale located in Oakdale and bought an interest in a carriage shop, operating the same under the firm name of Nightingale & Stearne for six years. Disposing of his interest to J. M. Har-ray, he entered mercantile ranks by buying the small tinshop of A. S. Dingley, shortly after the election of the latter to the office of county treasurer. The small shop was soon enlarged and started on a more ambitious career, finally taking on the dignity of a hardware establishment, and eventually graduating into a general merchandising business. At the present time the concern occupies space covering 50x200 feet, and a basement, besides warehouses for the storage of heavy agricultural implements, windmills, plumbing apparatus, and all requirements which come under the head of hardware. The general merchandise includes everything which comes under that head, selected with due regard to the size and requirements of the town, the status of its citizens, and its prestige as a leading mercantile center. His rise has been gradual, steady and substantial, and backed by the confidence of men who have known him as a blacksmith and small merchant, and who repose unlimited

faith in his maintenance of the high standard established in his youth. His influence is nowhere more apparent than with the people who serve his interests as clerks and assistants, and who look to him as an example of well won and substantial success. He has the faculty of securing from them their best possible efforts, and of inducing a co-operative feeling beneficial alike to employe and employer. If he preaches the gospel of industry and application, he carries out in his own life an example of its application. He is as faithful to the best interests of his employes as he expects them to be to his interests.

In Alpine county, Cal., Mr. Nightingale married Florence Mercer, a native of Calaveras county, and daughter of William Mercer, a native of England, and a pioneer miner of Calaveras and Nevada counties, Cal. The only child of this union, John Mercer Nightingale, is a student at the University of California, and will graduate in the class of 1905. The political opinions held by Mr. Nightingale are grounded in a faith that comes of much thought and study, and he is from conviction a Republican, although taking no open or active part in election campaigns. The mercantile career of Mr. Nightingale leaves him strong and alert, with faith unshaken in humanity and with heart untainted by avarice. He is devotedly attached to his family, and the same good fellowship extends to all his relations, and is manifested in unostentatious aid to those requiring it, and affection and sympathy for all.

---

**SETH SMITH.** Among the men who have been largely instrumental in developing the rich resources of central California is Seth Smith of Visalia, a skillful civil engineer, who has, mayhap, done more surveying throughout Tulare county than any other one person. An expert in his line of industry, he has been professionally connected with the establishment of many of the leading projects of the county, working for the government, for incorporated companies and for private individuals, his knowledge, experience and judgment rendering him especially competent as a surveyor. Of good old New England stock, he was born April 19, 1846, near Chatham, Columbia county, N. Y., which was also the birthplace of his father, David Smith. His grandfather, Seth Smith, was born in Massachusetts, where his parents settled on coming to the United States from England, but died in Columbia county, N. Y., where he carried on farming for many years. He was the representative of one of the early Quaker families of New England.

Brought up in Columbia county, N. Y., David

Smith followed the free and independent calling in which he was reared, and was also actively engaged in business near Chatham. He married Lovisa Palmer, who was born in Columbia county, N. Y., the daughter of Asa P. Palmer, a farmer, who removed there from Rhode Island. The Palmers, who were of Scotch-Irish descent and prominent Baptists, came from England to America, the emigrant ancestor locating in Rhode Island. Of the union of David and Lovisa (Palmer) Smith nine children were born, all of whom grew to years of maturity, and two are still living, namely: Emma J., wife of P. H. Pultz of Chatham, N. Y., and Seth.

Having acquired a practical education in the public schools of his native town, Seth Smith remained at home until the fall of 1864, when, in the employ of the government, he went south, and at Alexandria, Va., served in the quartermaster's department until after the surrender of Richmond. Returning north to New York City, he remained in the employ of Leeds & Minor, commission merchants, for nearly two years. Going to Louisville, Pottawatomie county, Kans., Mr. Smith worked for a year, from January, 1867, until January, 1868, in the office of the county surveyor. The following year he served as deputy county surveyor under P. Y. Baker. He was subsequently elected county surveyor, and was afterward re-elected, serving in that capacity until 1874, when he resigned. Coming then to the Pacific coast, Mr. Smith began surveying with his brother George, then county surveyor of Tulare county, serving as deputy county surveyor and civil engineer. Subsequently being elected county surveyor, he held the position from March, 1879, until January, 1883. Becoming the Democratic candidate for county assessor in 1882, he was elected by a majority of six hundred and seven, and in 1886 was re-elected by an increased majority, serving from January, 1883, until January, 1891. Mr. Smith afterward continued as surveyor and civil engineer for several years, surveying canals and ditches, being during the time in the employ of nearly every ditch company in the county, his skill and knowledge rendering his services of inestimable value. In 1898 Mr. Smith was elected county surveyor, and in 1902 was re-elected to the same position by a handsome majority for another term of four years, the first term extending from January, 1899, until January, 1903, and the present term from the latter date until January, 1907. He is also deputy United States mineral surveyor. He is a man of excellent business tact and ability. He is interested in the Jennings Ditch Water Company, of which he is director and president, and owns a good ranch of thirty-five acres, all under the ditch, on which he raises alfalfa and keeps a fine herd



of full-blooded Jersey cattle. On Grove street, Visalia, Mr. Smith has a fine residence, which he and his family occupy.

In Pottawatomie county, Kans., Mr. Smith married Mary L. Anderson, a native of Washington, Ohio, by whom he has had six children, three of whom grew to years of maturity: George D., graduate of a business college, is deputy county surveyor; LeRoy G., a graduate of the University of California and of the Hastings Law School, is engaged in the practice of his profession at Dinuba, Cal.; and Oscar C., a student at the University of California, died in Oakland in August, 1904. Politically Mr. Smith is actively identified with the Democratic party, sustaining its principles by voice and vote. Externally he is a member of Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M.; of Visalia Chapter, R. A. M.; and of the Scottish Rite. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

THOMAS MARTIN came to California in 1875, and for a number of years followed various pursuits in counties along the coast. It was not until 1882 that he purchased land in Fresno county, four miles west of Selma, and the following year he took up his residence here, and has made it his home ever since. Upon his fine six hundred and sixty acre ranch Mr. Martin is engaged in stock-raising and general farm pursuits, about two hundred acres of his land being devoted to the raising of alfalfa, which yields enormous returns.

A descendant of a well-known Canadian family, and born in the city of Ontario, May 7, 1852, Mr. Martin is a son of Hugh and Margaret (Kirkwood) Martin, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Canada, where she is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years. When twelve years old, Hugh Martin accompanied his father, William Martin, from Ireland to Canada, and settled in Ontario, in which locality the whole of his after-life was spent. When grown to manhood he followed the occupation of teaching for a number of years, afterward turning his attention to farm pursuits in the neighborhood of Campbell, and it was there that he died at the age of seventy. Ten children were born to him and his wife as follows: Robert and William, deceased; John, a resident of Dakota; Mary Jane and Joseph, also deceased; Thomas; George, a contractor and builder of Yolo county, Cal.; Maggie, a resident of Canada; Hugh, also a contractor and builder, residing at Berkeley, Cal.; and Annie, deceased.

The recipient of but a limited education, gleaned from the common schools of his native place, Mr. Martin, during his youth and early manhood, assisted his father in farm pursuits, but

in 1875 he followed the tide of immigration to the westward coast of the United States, locating in Sonoma county, Cal., where he rented land and followed dairy farming for five years near Petaluma. In 1881 he discontinued this business and went into Yolo county, where he purchased a half interest in a threshing machine, but the following year (1882), in looking about for a good investment, he was attracted by the favorable outlook in Fresno county and purchased land near Selma. Returning to Yolo county, he remained there long enough to dispose of his interests to advantage, and in 1883 proceeded to his recently acquired land, which he has improved and cultivated ever since. By additional purchases made from time to time, his ranch has grown to its present proportions—six hundred and sixty acres—and to-day he has one of the finest farms in this vicinity.

The political preference of Mr. Martin is given to the Democratic party, and in 1898 he was the choice of his party for county supervisor, being re-elected to this office in 1902 from the fourth district of Fresno county. He was also chosen director of the Selma irrigation district and his interest in educational affairs is evinced by his excellent services as a member of the local school board. He is allied with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World of Selma. He married Mrs. Maud Jackson, a native of Missouri, who had two children, Clarence and Nina, by her former marriage.

CHARLES CAMPBELL. The ranch of Charles Campbell, consisting of twenty acres located in the vicinity of Orosi, Tulare county, and devoted to the cultivation of a vineyard and orchard fruits, is an evidence of the ability and energy which distinguishes this citizen. He was born in Boston, Mass., April 7, 1856, inheriting from New England ancestors the sturdy qualities which have contributed to his success. His father, W. H. Campbell, was born in Nova Scotia, of Scotch parentage, and in manhood he became a contractor and builder. He married Jessie Miller, also of Nova Scotia and of Scotch ancestry, and of this union were born nine children, of whom Charles Campbell is the eighth child.

Reared to young manhood in Boston, Charles Campbell found employment in maturity as a clerk. This position he retained until October, 1879, when he came as far west as Denver, Colo., and entered the employ of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad as baggage master. Four years later he resigned this position, and, locating in Montrose county, same state, engaged in farming and stock raising, meeting with a success which justified his continuance in the same for eight

years. Deciding to settle in California on account of his wife's health, in May, 1893, he came to Orosi, and the following year bought the twenty acres which now form his ranch. This property had but few improvements, but since his purchase he has transformed it into a comfortable home, and has cultivated the land in such a way as to make it very profitable. He has ten acres planted to vineyard, while the balance is given over to orchard and alfalfa. He has built a comfortable residence, new barns and outbuildings, and his drying ground and packing house are connected by a short railroad. In every respect his property is modern and up to date, and is a credit to the horticultural interests of the section.

In Boston, Mass., Mr. Campbell was united in marriage with Elizabeth McDonald, a native of Nova Scotia, and they are now the parents of three children, namely: Chester, a student in Ayres Business College in San Francisco; Jennie, and Frank. Both himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and also of the Order of the Eastern Star. Politically he is a staunch Republican. Fraternally Mr. Campbell is quite prominent, having been made a Mason in Montrose Lodge No. 63, and now belongs to Montrose Lodge, R. A. M., and the Montrose Commandery; is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World.

**WILLIAM FRANCIS TOOMEY.** The magnitude of the fruit industry in the San Joaquin valley has caused a number of men to devote their entire attention to the packing and shipping of the products for which this region is famous. Among those who have a thorough knowledge of the business and a wide acquaintance among fruit-growers, mention belongs to W. F. Toomey, the Fresno local manager of Guggenheim & Co., packers and shippers of dried fruits, raisins, nuts and honey. Under his supervision has been erected one of the most modern packing plants in the state, and its capacity of one hundred and fifty thousand cases enables the manager to control a large portion of the output of the vicinity. Under his supervision as manager is embraced the territory lying between Merced and Bakersfield, including the branch house at Selma. The company which he represents has its headquarters in San Francisco, with packing houses and representatives in Woodland, Fresno, Santa Ana and Selma.

By birth Mr. Toomey is a Californian. His father, Michael J. Toomey, who was a native of Limerick, Ireland, settled in San Francisco about 1869 and embarked in the dairy business, establishing the Mount View dairy with a Mr. Green, and building up a large business. In

1877, while driving a team, his wagon was hit by a train on Fourth and Townsend streets, San Francisco, and he was thrown from the wagon and killed. Before coming to California and when a resident of the south, he joined the Union army at the outbreak of the Civil war and remained at the front until seriously wounded in battle. During the same war his brother, J. J. Toomey, also fought on the Union side, while his wife, Mary J. Heartnett, a native of Ballybingen, Ireland, had one brother in the Federal army. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Toomey has continued to make her home in San Francisco. Of her five sons and one daughter all are living but one son. The third in order of birth was William Francis, who was born in San Francisco April 10, 1870. At the age of ten years he left the grammar school and began to earn his own livelihood. During September of 1886 he came to Fresno and secured employment on a ranch, where he studied the raising and curing of fruits until he was familiar with every detail, from the planting of the tree to the shipping of the fruit. During much of the time for seven years he was interested in fruit-raising, and in packing seasons worked for the Curtis Fruit Company of New York. In 1891 he was appointed superintendent of the Producers' Co-operating Company, with which he remained for two years. For the ensuing two years he acted as superintendent and buyer for Castle Brothers, and then for three seasons represented the Earl Fruit Company as manager, meanwhile establishing their interests in excellent condition. As assistant manager for Porter Brothers from 1897 to 1902 he traveled in every part of the San Joaquin valley in their interests, resigning from their employ to form his present association. Many of the seasons between 1886 and 1897 were spent, the summers in the San Joaquin valley and the winters in Southern California, where he became familiar with the handling of oranges and lemons, but since 1897 the dried fruit interests in Fresno have assumed such magnitude that he has necessarily spent the entire year in this valley. In addition to his many responsibilities as manager, he has interests in orchards and vineyards near Fresno.

The marriage of Mr. Toomey united him with Miss Callie J. Ferrel, of Fresno, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of Marion Ferrel, who was among the pioneers of Des Moines, Iowa, and is now a contractor and builder in Los Angeles. During the entire period of the Civil war he served at the front with an Iowa regiment as first lieutenant of his company and to this day he carries the ball that he received in a battle during 1863. Three of his brothers were also participants in the war. When a child





*Henry Meyer*

Mrs. Toomey accompanied her parents to Fresno, where she was reared and educated. Of her marriage there are two sons, Irving Francis and Lloyd Ferrel. Mr. Toomey is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and an enthusiastic supporter of every movement that promises to promote the material welfare of his adopted city. Although reared in the Democratic faith, he now gives his allegiance to the Republican party. On the organization of Fresno Parlor No. 25, Native Sons of the Golden West, he became a charter member and was elected one of its first officers. The Woodmen of the World and Knights of Pythias also receive his support, through his membership in local organizations of the orders. While Mr. Toomey is still a young man, scarcely yet in the prime of life, he has gained a success that entitles him to mention among the representative men of the valley, while his thorough knowledge of every detail of the packing business makes his services of value to the company with which he is associated.

---

**HENRY MEYER.** A man of broad principles, of an earnest nature and upright life, Henry Meyer is one of the substantial and progressive citizens of Tulare county and one who commands the respect and esteem of all who have come in contact with him, either in a business or social way. He owns and is operating one of the finest farms in the Yokohl valley, adding by his efforts to his competence acquired in the pioneer days of the state, and at the same time making it a part of his duty to give employment of all kinds to those who need it, his Christian motto being "Live and let live."

A native of Germany, Henry Meyer was born in Wilhelmsburg November 23, 1823, a son of Peter C. Meyer, a carpenter and millwright of Hanover, where he was born, reared and died. His mother, Catherine (Benke) Meyer, was born in Hanover, where she also died. Of the two children Henry Meyer is the only one living. He was reared in Hanover and attended school until he was fourteen years old, when he was apprenticed for five years to learn the ship carpenter's trade. He went to sea as ship carpenter on the brig *Johanna*, plying between Hamburg and Marseilles, on a nine months' trip. The following fall he was employed on the brig *Elbe*, making a trip around the Horn and putting in at Valparaiso, where the vessel was sold. This was in 1849. Imbibing the spirit of excitement which was leading so many to cast in their lot with the pioneers of California, he came to San Francisco on the brig *Aurora*, arriving October 15. Going at once to the mines he worked at Mokelumne Hill, which was the beginning of eighteen

years spent in the mines, engaging in placer, drift and quartz mining, in all of which he met with a success which justified his long continuance in the work. Receiving a letter finally from his friend, William Mehrrens, he was induced to come to Tulare county and settle down to a more peaceful if less exciting life than the one he had led so long. In 1866 he settled on the land which now forms a part of his home, "squattin'" on the land until the survey, when he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres on section 8, township 19, range 27. He immediately began improvements, adding to his property by homesteading another one hundred and sixty acres on the same section and buying railroad land adjoining on section 9, township 19, range 27, owning then six hundred and forty acres. Eventually he sold off ten acres for the granite quarry and eighty acres more to the proprietors of the quarry, now owning five hundred and twenty acres in the Yokohl valley. This property is all under fence, and is principally devoted to the raising of grain, cattle and hogs, having among his stock some very fine Durham cattle. He is now devoting some time and attention to the cultivation of figs, which trees are now about the largest in the valley, measuring over two feet in diameter. He is very successful in his work and prominent among the agriculturists and stockmen of the county.

Mr. Meyer has been twice married, his first wife being Sophia Mehrrens, of Hanover, who died in Tulare county at the age of seventy-two years. She was a Lutheran in religion. Mr. Meyer's second marriage occurred December 29, 1902, uniting him with Mary Jane (Jamison) Starnes. She was born in Indiana and came to California with her mother in 1852 and has since been a resident of the state. Mr. Meyer is a Democrat in his political affiliations.

---

**JOSEPH HENRY SNODGRASS** was born in Glade Spring, Va., February 20, 1858, a son of Joseph and Annie C. (Edmondson) Snodgrass. Glade Spring was also the birthplace of his grandfather, David, and his great-grandfather, also named David. Both of these men, as well as the father, Joseph, were farmers and all died where they had lived for so many years.

Annie C. Edmondson, the mother, was a native of Glade Spring, being a daughter of Andrew Edmondson, a farmer. Her grandfather Edmondson was a soldier and served in the Revolutionary war. As a result of her union with Joseph Snodgrass she became the mother of nine children, five of whom are living. Four of the sons were in the Confederate army, two of them being officers.

Joseph H. Snodgrass was reared on the home

farm, attending the district school when the work of the farm allowed such a luxury. At the age of fifteen years he took charge of the home place and continued to conduct the farm until 1885, when he removed to Hawkins county, Tenn., where he purchased a stock farm and continued in business until 1900. In December of the same year he came to California and located in Exeter. He soon after purchased his present ranch of forty acres, adjoining the town on the east. Many improvements were made the first year and in February, 1901, he began setting out his vineyard. His grapes are all Emperors and each year he ships his product to the eastern markets direct, not dealing with the jobbers. Each year sees some new improvement and he now has an irrigation plant with a sixty-inch capacity which is run with a fifteen-horse power electric motor.

In Washington county, Va., he was united in marriage with Miss Robinson, who was born at Glade Spring, a daughter of James and Mary (McKee) Robinson, both of whom were born at Glade Spring. Mrs. Snodgrass is the fifth in a family of six children, all of whom are living. To Mr. and Mrs. Snodgrass have been born three children, as follows: Flora, Mary, now Mrs. Irving Jordan, of Exeter, and Mabel.

Mr. Snodgrass takes a deep interest in church work, being a member and steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

In politics he is a Democrat, but never takes an active part in political matters. He belongs to the Exeter board of trade and can always be counted on to put his shoulder to the wheel when there is any movement on foot calculated to be of benefit to his town or county. With such men in a community the future of that particular locality is assured. Mr. Snodgrass has a host of warm personal friends, all of whom will be pleased to hear of his continued success. Both he and his wife are most estimable people and are very popular wherever known.

**FREDERICK J. WILLIAMS.** The Central California Planing Mill Company, of which Mr. Williams is president and manager, is one of the recent organizations established in Fresno, its mill at the Santa Fe depot, corner of Tulare and P streets, having been erected in November of 1903. The machinery is modern and substantial, and the equipment is such as to guarantee the successful manufacture of everything in the building line. Power is furnished by a seventy-five horse engine of substantial and modern pattern. The mill is large, being 80x150 feet in dimensions, with a capacity sufficient to insure the prompt filling of orders, even during the busiest seasons of the year. To facilitate the

conduct of the business the company was incorporated in October, 1903.

Referring to the history of the Williams family, we find that the subject of this narrative is a son of John J. Williams, a native of Portugal, and in boyhood an assistant on his father's farm. With a taste for adventure and a love for the sea, he shipped as a sailor and during his voyages visited almost every prominent port in the world. The rumor of discovery of gold led him to California, and after anchoring at San Francisco in 1850 he went to the mines of Placer county. For about twenty years he followed mining, meanwhile working in the principal mines throughout the northern counties of California. When weary of the occupation, he abandoned it for a more settled pursuit in life, and purchased a farm at San Leandro, Alameda county, where the latter part of his eventful career was passed in quiet. At the time of his death, in 1896, he had reached the age of eighty-two years. His wife, Mary Williams, was born in Portugal and died in San Leandro when fifty years of age. Of their three sons, Frederick J. resides in Fresno; John W. is a contractor and builder in San Leandro; and Joseph, a carpenter by trade, assists his brother in the mill at Fresno.

While the family were making their home at Auburn, Placer county, Cal., Frederick J. Williams was born April 16, 1865. At seven years of age he removed with his parents to San Leandro, where he received his education in the public school. For four years he served an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, after which he took up contracting and building in Berkeley. During the following years he had contracts for numerous business houses and private residences in Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and San Francisco. His first settlement at Fresno occurred during 1888, when he began contracting and building in that city, but after two years he purchased land fifteen miles west of the city and turned his attention to farming. Forty-four acres were placed under irrigation and set out in an orchard and vineyard, the improvement greatly enhancing the value of the property, which remained in his possession until recently. In connection with its cultivation he rented three thousand acres, on which he engaged in raising wheat and barley. About 1900 he returned to Fresno to take up the building business again, and continued thus occupied until he purchased the planing mill, meanwhile having the contract for several business houses, residences and the Catholic Church.

While residing in Berkeley Mr. Williams married Miss Mary G. Ramos, who was born in Yolo county, this state. They are the parents of three children, namely: Frederick, who as-



sists his father in the mill; Lena, who is a student in the Fresno high school; and Mary. The interest which Mr. Williams feels in the public school question was shown through his long and efficient service in the capacity of school trustee. While holding the office he did much to promote the welfare of the school under his especial charge. As a member of the Chamber of Commerce he is connected with an association largely contributory to the present progress and high standing of Fresno. In fraternal relations he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Improved Order of Red Men and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

---

JOSEPH G. MARTIN. Familiarity with the lumber business in all of its details and through a long period of years qualifies J. G. Martin successfully to discharge his duties as secretary and manager of the Fresno Lumber Company, which has its yards on I and Ventura streets, Fresno, occupying about a block of ground for the storage of lumber. Mr. Martin has been a resident of California since 1889, but is of eastern birth, a native of Waterbury, Vt. His father, Philip, who was born in Ireland, crossed the ocean to Ontario and from there removed to a farm in Vermont. The latter part of his life was spent in that state, and there also occurred the death of his wife, Mary (Tusau) Martin, who was born in Canada, of French descent. Of their six sons and six daughters, three sons and four daughters are now living. Three of the oldest sons were soldiers of the Federal army during the Civil war, namely: William H., now of Hanford, Cal.; Dennis, who died in Vermont; and Philip, who came to California and died at Stockton. All were members of a Vermont regiment.

At Waterbury, Vt., where he was born February 17, 1854, J. G. Martin grew to manhood and received a fair education. On starting out for himself he took up farm pursuits, being thus engaged in Vermont for a few years. In 1879 he settled on a farm in Monona county, Iowa, but after two years abandoned agriculture and moved to Mapleton, that county, where he engaged in the sale of hardware, agricultural implements and lumber. When he came to California in 1889 he first settled in Hanford, which then boasted of only a few shanties, giving no indication of the prosperity it has since enjoyed. Securing employment as foreman of a lumberyard, he soon proved his thorough knowledge of the business, and was then made manager of the company's yard at Lemoore. He assisted in the incorporation of the Central Lumber Company, of which he was chosen vice-president and a director, at the same time being appointed man-

ager of the company's yard at Visalia. In the latter town he remained until 1902, when he disposed of his stock in the company and resigned his office. The following year he removed to Fresno, purchased an interest in the Fresno Lumber Company's business and assumed the management. Since locating in Fresno he has identified himself with the Chamber of Commerce and Builders' Exchange.

Politically Mr. Martin is a Republican, and during his residence in Visalia was elected on that ticket to the city council. While living in Hanford he met and married Grace Turner, who was born in Illinois, but has spent her life principally in California. In religion she is associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which Mr. Martin is a contributor. Both are connected with the Order of the Eastern Star, and at Visalia Mr. Martin was honored with the office of worthy patron of Martha Washington chapter, and prior to this of Lucerne Chapter at Hanford. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World and the Masons. His connection with the latter fraternity began in Mapleton, Iowa, where he was master of Quarry Lodge. After coming to California he placed his membership in Hanford Lodge No. 279, F. & A. M., and in the latter city he was raised to the Royal Arch degree in Hanford Chapter No. 74. At Visalia he was knighted in Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T., in which he is past eminent commander. He is further connected with Perfection Lodge No. 9 at Visalia, the Council and Consistory at Oakland and Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco. Through his activity in Masonry he has been brought into contact with many of the leaders of that fraternity in California, among whom he has a number of warm friends. A believer in the lofty principles of philanthropy for which the order stands, he has never allowed his interest in its work to languish, but has contributed thereto generously of his time, means and influence, and has given his sympathy and co-operation to all of its charities.

---

JOHN FRANS. A successful stockman of Tulare county is named in the person of John Frans, who is now located at No. 609 South Court street, Visalia, while he operates his extensive ranch just north of the city, consisting of over one thousand acres. He began farming operations in 1886 independently, having previously purchased (in 1884) a small tract of land. With the passing years he has continued in the raising of stock and general farming operations and has added to his original purchase until he is now the owner of a large and valuable property. A native of the state, he was born

in Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, January 11, 1859, a son of John B. Frans, who was born in Kentucky.

Until reaching young manhood, John B. Frans made his home in Kentucky, and then removed to Missouri, becoming a farmer in the neighborhood of St. Joseph. While in that state he served as a volunteer in the Mexican war under General Price. In 1853 he crossed the plains with ox teams, and upon his arrival in California located in San Jose. Several years later he located in Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, where he engaged in farming until 1863. In the last named year he removed to Tulare county and three and a half miles east of Visalia bought a ranch of four hundred and twenty acres, where he continued in general farming operations until his death in 1870, at the age of fifty-two years. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Fulton, was a native of Indiana, and she also died in this state.

John Frans was the fourth child and the youngest son in a family of three sons and five daughters. He received his education in the common schools of California, after which in 1878 he engaged in farming on the home place in partnership with his brothers, Thomas H. and James Madison, the latter of whom died in 1880, aged twenty-five years. In 1886 John Frans entered upon farming operations alone, on property which he had purchased two years previously, and is now classed among the prominent business men of the county. In Visalia he married Miss Dora Jones, also a native of Santa Rosa, Cal., and they have one son, John B., who is at home with his parents. Politically Mr. Frans adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and is a public-spirited and enterprising citizen. Mrs. Frans is a member of the Society of Native Daughters.

---

**JAMES W. CATE.** A pioneer of California and for many years connected with the business life of Fresno county, James W. Cate is remembered throughout this part of the country as a man of ability, energy and executive force, and one who made his influence felt throughout the industrial circles of the community. A native of New Hampshire, he was born in 1828, a son of Walter and Mary P. (Wiggins) Cate, residents of Stafford county, N. H., and also natives of the same state, both descendants of old New England families of worth and prominence. In 1838 the father located in Adams county, Ill., where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. James W. Cate remained at home until he was twenty-four years of age, at which time he bought land and entered into independent operations. In 1864 he came overland to California, traveling by the customary ox-teams, at

Salt Lake deciding to enter the state by the southern route. In the fall of the same year he arrived in Los Angeles county, and after stopping a short time in El Monte leased land near Downey, where he engaged in farming for three years. Purchasing one hundred and fifty-five acres of land in the Ranchito school district, between the old and new San Gabriel rivers, he became the first white settler of that region, where he devoted his time to agricultural and horticultural pursuits for many years following. Thirty acres of his land was devoted to a fine walnut grove, the profits for one year amounting to \$200 per acre. He had also a vineyard of twelve acres, on eleven cultivating the Berger and on one the Zinfandel grape, the yield in 1888 being seventeen tons per acre. Two and a half acres were devoted to various fruits, while the remainder of the land was given over to alfalfa, corn, hay and grain. In addition to this property he became the owner of one hundred acres of grain land six miles west of Los Angeles, twenty acres of improved land at Monrovia, and eighteen hundred acres in Fresno county, ten miles northeast of Fresno. Success accompanied him in all his efforts; he became a wealthy man, a prominent and influential citizen, and a factor in the business world of his adopted state, making his influence felt in whatever line of activity his energies were directed. His death occurred in March, 1900, after a long life of usefulness among the scenes of his adopted state. He was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and for twenty years a school trustee. Politically he was a staunch adherent of the principles advocated by the Democratic party.

In 1856 Mr. Cate was united in marriage with Eliza Henderson, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of William and Anna (McConnell) Henderson, both of whom were born in the state of Pennsylvania. Of this union were born five children, of whom the following are now living: Daniel Webster, who married Emma Pierce; Dallas Mason; and James Wilbur, a sketch of whom also appears in this volume. The third child, Hayden, died in 1878, at the age of twenty years, while the fifth child, Louise Olive, died in 1888, at the age of twenty-two years. Mrs. Cate survives her husband and now makes her home in Los Angeles.

---

**HON. JOHN M. MONTGOMERY.** Numbered among the pioneers of Merced county is Hon. John M. Montgomery, whose death May 4, 1891, removed from the community a public spirited and enterprising citizen, and one whose best interests have always lain parallel with those of his adopted state. Born in Hardin county,





W. E. Green

Ky., September 18, 1816, he spent the years to manhood in his native state. On removing from the scenes of his boyhood years he located in Missouri, where he remained until the spring of 1847; following then the westward trend of civilization, he crossed the plains to California, and entered into business life in Monterey, where he was located at the time of the discovery of gold. Instead of engaging in the precarious fortunes of a miner he found profitable employment in hauling freight to the new diggings, having immediately fitted up his old ox team with which he had crossed the plains. In the fall of 1849 Mr. Montgomery, with Samuel Scott, located in probably the first settlement in what is now Merced county, being but a short distance below the present site of Snelling. He engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and continued so engaged for many years.

In 1852 Mr. Montgomery returned to his old home in Missouri, and was there united in marriage with Elizabeth Armstrong. Together they made the trip back to California and located in the home on Bear creek six miles east of Merced, which Mr. Montgomery had prepared before going east. Born of this union were the following children: Mary, the wife of I. Jay Buckley; Jennie, the wife of H. K. Huls; Ella, the widow of E. L. Smith, of Merced county; John A., deceased; Robert H., of Snelling; William S., of Merced; Katie and Lizzie, both deceased. In his political preference Mr. Montgomery was active in the counsels of the Democratic party, and was often called upon to fill positions of trust and honor. In 1861 he was elected a member of the board of supervisors, which office he filled with efficiency. In 1875 he was elected to the state senate from his district, and in the sessions that followed gave efficient and valuable service. One of the broadest acts in the life of Mr. Montgomery occurred in connection with this election to the senate: his seat was hotly contested and rather than allow the state to meet this expense he paid it himself. He was considered by all who knew him a man of splendid ability, a manly and upright character, a firm friend and a patriotic citizen, and left to his children the inheritance of an honored name.

---

**WILLIAM EDGAR GREEN.** During the past twenty years Tulare city and county have made a rapid and healthful growth, and in their upbuilding and advancement no man has taken a keener interest than William Edgar Green, a well-known business man of Tulare. Energetic, enterprising and progressive, he is actively identified with the industrial, agricultural and financial prosperity of this section of the state, and in their development has spared neither time nor

expense. A son of the late William Green, he was born in April, 1849, in Oneida county, N. Y., near Rome.

The descendant of an old and prominent New England family, William Green was born and reared in Massachusetts, his birth occurring in 1799. Following the march of civilization westward, when a young man he settled in Oneida county, N. Y., buying a farm twelve miles from the city of Rome, and was there engaged in tilling the soil until his death in 1861 at the age of sixty-two years. He married Catherine Highland, who was born in Ireland, and came with an uncle to New York state when a girl. She survived her husband many years, and died, at the advanced age of eighty-five years, in Kansas, at the home of a daughter. She bore him twelve children, of whom one son and three daughters are living, William Edgar, the youngest child, being the only California resident. One son, Benjamin, served in the Civil war, and died while in service. Judge Sanford M. Green, a brother of William Green, was for many years a prominent judge in Michigan, and in that capacity was instrumental in having the law prohibiting hanging passed, being at that time a resident of the city of Flint. He subsequently removed to Pontiac, Mich., where he engaged in business as a banker.

Brought up on the homestead, receiving his early education in the district school, William Edgar Green became familiar with the various branches of general agriculture while young. Being the only son at home when his father died, he subsequently assisted his mother in the care of the farm, remaining with her until 1868. Coming then as far west as Kansas, he settled about five miles north of Lawrence, near the home of Gov. Charles Robinson. Investing all the money he received from his father's estate, Mr. Green bought a farm and embarked in agricultural pursuits on his own account. During the next four or five years the grasshoppers entirely destroyed the Kansas crops, and he lost all of his property. Discouraged with the outlook in that section of the country, Mr. Green, in 1875, migrated to California, locating in Santa Clara county, near Alviso, where he worked eight months as a farm hand for Martin French, subsequently being employed by S. B. Emerson. Going thence to Redwood City, Mr. Green remained there four years, the first half of the time running a grocery, and the last two years keeping a hotel. His first wife dying in Redwood, Mr. Green returned to Kansas, residing there two years. Dissatisfied, however, he came back to California, and in 1884 established himself in the liquor business in Tulare. He is also extensively engaged in stock-raising, owning a ranch of five hundred and twenty acres, lying five miles southwest of

the city. In addition Mr. Green leases seven hundred and forty acres of land, operating in all more than twelve hundred acres. A large part of this is under irrigation, well adapted for stock-raising and dairying, in both of which he is especially interested. He raises large quantities of grain, and has one hundred and fifty acres sowed to alfalfa, the remainder of the land being devoted to grazing purposes. He has two artesian wells on his estate, and in the management of his dairy has the latest improvements. Taking an intelligent interest in the establishment of beneficial enterprises, Mr. Green is one of the stockholders of the Tulare Creamery Association; of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, of Tulare; and was one of the promoters of the Tulare County Live Stock Show and Race Meet, being treasurer of the association, and one of the four proprietors of the Tulare Fair Grounds; also a shareholder in the Co-operative Milling Association of Tulare and vicinity.

Mr. Green has been twice married. He married first, in Kansas, near Lawrence, Lizzie Wood, who died in Redwood, Cal. She bore him three children, of whom two are living, Oren, living at home; and Mrs. Nellie Garrish, of Alameda. Near Lawrence, Kans., he married Rose Burgan, who was born near Lawrence, Douglas county, Kans., a daughter of Samuel Burgan, now a resident of Tulare. Mr. and Mrs. Green are the parents of three children, Mabel, Ida and Alta. Politically Mr. Green is an active member of the Democratic party, and takes an intelligent interest in all things pertaining to the welfare of city and county. For three terms, from 1892 until 1904, he represented the first ward of Tulare in the city council, for ten years of the time serving as chairman of the finance committee, and for two years being president pro tem. of the board. Mrs. Green is a most estimable woman and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

THOMAS J. KEATON. Not alone in the dairy industry, which has been an important feature of the recent development of Stanislaus county, but also in the raising of grain, which for years has been a leading occupation of the people, Mr. Keaton has met with a gratifying degree of success. The dairy farm which occupies most of his time comprises eighty-seven acres, and since it came into his possession, in 1897, has been improved by a neat residence and a set of dairy buildings. The land is under alfalfa, which is used for feed for his milch cows. While the management of the home place necessitates careful attention, he finds leisure for other interests, and at this writing raises grain on about one thousand acres of rented land at

different places on the west side, using for the purpose three teams of horses.

Of southern birth and ancestry, Mr. Keaton was born in Camden county, N. C., July 27, 1852, and in a family of three sons and one daughter he alone attained mature years. His parents, Dempsey and Clarkey (Brown) Keaton, were natives of North Carolina, and spent their entire lives in that state, the father being a farmer by occupation. Owing to the limited means of the family Mr. Keaton had few advantages aside from those offered by district schools. When a mere boy he began to plan for the future, and soon decided that other states presented better opportunities for advancement than did his own. As early as 1866 he started out in the world to earn his own livelihood. In 1866 he went to Illinois and secured work in Lee county, near Dixon, where he spent a few years as a farm-hand. For a time he also worked in Ogle county.

When a young man of twenty-two years Mr. Keaton came to California for the first time, and for four months he worked at Bakersfield in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway Company. At the expiration of that time he returned to Illinois, but soon became dissatisfied, and in December of the same year (1874) he came to California as a permanent settler. After working on a ranch at Chico for a short time he secured employment in the lumbering business at Susanville, and from there went back to Chico. During June of 1876 he established himself in Merced county, where he worked as a farm-hand for three years on the west side. The savings of these years enabled him to start out independently. In 1879 he rented a grain farm of eight hundred acres near Hill's Ferry, and there he remained many years. During a part of this time he had charge of lands aggregating twenty-seven hundred acres. On leaving that property he moved to the farm he has since owned and managed. As a dairyman and grain-raiser he is quick to adopt methods calculated to increase profits and reduce expenses. Personally he is a man of firm will, self-reliance, persevering industry and excellent judgment, and in character is eminently worthy of the prosperity he is gaining.

The marriage of Mr. Keaton took place in Modesto, Cal., and united him with Mrs. E. S. Parsons, nee Weddle, a daughter of William Hall Weddle and Elizabeth Weddle, both natives of Missouri, where they were married April 4, 1852, and the next month started for California across the plains. They settled first in Napa county, Cal., Mr. Weddle died in Mariposa county, but Mrs. Weddle is still living in San Diego. Mrs. Keaton is next to the youngest of five children. Mrs. Keaton is the mother of two daughters and one



son, namely: Mrs. Mabel Wilkes, who lives in Bishop, Inyo county; and Edna and Dempsey, who reside with their parents at the homestead four miles southwest of Newman. The family are believers in the Cumberland Presbyterian doctrines, and Mr. Keaton has been a contributor to the maintenance and progress of this denomination. In fraternal connections he is identified with the United Artisans. As a citizen he is esteemed for the possession of honorable traits of character, and as a farmer he has won recognition through his progressive spirit and resourcefulness.

---

O. BURTON DOYLE, M. D. The genealogy of the Doyle family is traced back to the colonial history of the south, where its representatives bore an honorable part in public and commercial affairs. Dr. Doyle is a son of John F. Doyle, M. D., whose father for years held a leading position among the people of Dyer county, Tenn. For one term he held the office of county sheriff, for a similar period served as county clerk, owned and conducted a hotel and also had general mercantile interests, but finally settled upon a cotton plantation in Dyer county, where he remained until his death. Born and reared in Dyer county, Dr. John F. Doyle was given excellent educational advantages, and after completing his classical studies he matriculated in the McDowell Medical College of St. Louis, from which he received the degree of M. D. During all of his active professional career he had his office in Kuttawa, Lyon county, Ky. In 1898 he retired from practice and in 1902 came to California, since which time he has made his home with his son, Dr. O. B. Doyle, in Fresno. His wife, who died in 1898, was Laura Gray Rucker, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of Isaac B. Rucker, also a native Kentuckian and a lifelong farmer.

In the family of Dr. John F. Doyle there are four children, of whom O. B. was the first-born. Ernest M., a graduate of dental surgery, is engaged in practice at Fresno; Earl P. is an employe on the Southern Pacific Railroad at Fresno; and King V., an eleven-year-old boy, is a student in the Fresno schools. Dr. O. B. Doyle was born in Kuttawa, Lyon county, Ky., November 2, 1875. During boyhood years he attended the public schools of his home town. Later he was a student in the Princeton Collegiate Institute, after which he entered a drug store and studied pharmacy for two years. His next employment was as a clerk in the freight office of the Illinois Central Railroad at Paducah, Ky. It was his ambition to become a physician and his earnings were carefully saved with this object in view. The hope he had cherished found

its fruition in his matriculation, January 1, 1896, in the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, and he continued a student in that institution until he received the degree of M. D., at the time of his graduation, in June of 1898.

A month after completing his medical studies Dr. Doyle came to Fresno county. In October of the same year he was appointed physician and surgeon to the Fresno Flume & Irrigating Company at Shaver and continued in that capacity until December 1, 1902, meanwhile spending the summer months at Shaver and during winters residing in Fresno. In January, 1903, he established himself in Fresno, where he has since spent his entire time, engaging in a general practice of medicine and surgery. Everything pertaining to his profession receives his thoughtful attention. The developments constantly being made in the science of materia medica are carefully studied by him and, when feasible, adopted in his own practice. Various associations of a professional nature receive his support and encouragement. Numbered among these is the Fresno County Medical Society, of which at one time he acted as first vice-president. He is further connected with the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society, California State Medical Society and the American Medical Associations. Among organizations more strictly commercial receiving the benefit of his support may be mentioned the Chamber of Commerce. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

May 10, 1904, Dr. Doyle was united in marriage with Ruby H. Perkins, of Visalia, Cal., a daughter of Henry P. Perkins, a pioneer of Tulare county.

---

JOHN HENRY DANKER. Well known as a pioneer settler of California, and as the owner of a finely improved ranch, which is located two miles southeast of Newman, John Henry Danker is especially deserving of personal mention in this biographical volume. One of the foremost agriculturists of this part of the San Joaquin valley, he has accumulated much wealth in his chosen vocation, his homestead property, with its substantial and convenient buildings, and its large dairy, from which he derives a good annual income, giving visible evidence of his industry, good management and success. A native of Germany, he was born August 3, 1837, in Elmshorn in the Duchy of Holstein, which was also the birthplace of his parents, John and Ann (Munster) Danker, being the youngest of a family of twelve children, eleven of whom grew to years of maturity.

Brought up in his native town, John Henry

Danker began life for himself at the age of eleven years, herding cattle during the summer seasons, and attending school winters. Subsequently engaging in seafaring pursuits, he was employed in foreign trade for two years, and for one year hunted seals off the coast of Greenland. Sailing from Hamburg August 5, 1855, Mr. Danker started for America. Off Cape Horn the vessel was for six weeks and three days in a terrible gale, and driven seven hundred miles out of its course. They stopped four weeks in Valparaiso, arriving in San Francisco March 8, 1856, having been more than seven months on the ocean. Securing work on a ranch, Mr. Danker mowed hay and milked cows in that section of the city that is now built up with substantial brick houses. Subsequently removing to Contra Costa county, he worked as a farm laborer in San Ramon from 1860 until 1879. Coming then to the San Joaquin valley, he rented land on the west side, prior to the building of the canal, and engaged in farming on his own account.

Purchasing his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in 1879, he worked hard to improve it, succeeding so well that it was soon numbered among the most valuable estates in this part of the county. For many years he carried on general farming, raising large crops of hay and grain, by thrift and judicious management accumulating a large share of this world's goods. He is now living somewhat retired from active pursuits, renting his ranch, which is sowed mostly to alfalfa, for dairy purposes. Mr. Danker is a man of keen foresight and sound judgment, and occupies a secure position in the consideration and respect of his fellowmen. In his political views he is a staunch Republican, and in his religious beliefs is a Lutheran.

---

**JONATHAN WARD MAY.** The May family is descended from New England ancestry prominent in the early history of our country. The name flourished first in Massachusetts, where Philip May served in the Revolutionary war and later in the war of 1812. He located in Alabama in manhood, finally removing to Kemper county, Miss., where he became an extensive planter and slave owner. There his death occurred, removing from the midst of his adopted community a citizen of ability, patriotism and sterling worth, whose best efforts were ever given toward all movements calculated to advance the general welfare. In his family was a son, William Curtis, who was born in North Carolina, the home of the family for a time. He followed the example of his father and engaged in farming in Mississippi until some time before the

breaking out of the Mexican war. At that time he was residing near Dallas, Tex., and immediately sought service in the cause of his country. His death occurred near Dallas in 1852. His wife, formerly Mary Ann Ward of Alabama, died in Shreveport, La., in 1848, where her husband had settled on account of the hostility of the Indians. They were the parents of seven children, four sons and three daughters, of whom Jonathan Ward May, the eldest and only one now living, is the subject of this review, and was born in Kemper county, Miss., July 31, 1839.

Jonathan Ward May was reared in Shreveport, La., receiving his education in the common schools of that place. In young manhood he engaged in the stock business in Louisiana and Texas, in Shackelford county, Tex., handling as many as eighty thousand head of cattle. His stock-raising pursuits were interrupted by the breaking out of the Civil war, his enlistment in the Confederate army taking place in 1861. He served in the Trans-Mississippi army under General Maxey, of the Indian Department of Heavy Artillery. He enlisted as a private soldier and in the second year of his service was commissioned second lieutenant. He took part in the following engagements: Galveston and Yellow Bayou, Fort Smith, Sabine Creek, the scene of Bank's defeat; Mud Creek, Honey Creek, Mazard Prairie, Diamond Grove, Camden and Poison Springs, their company carrying sixty-four-pound marine guns. The ending of the war found many ruined homes and estates in the south and among them was that of Mr. May. He remained in his old home only long enough to raise a few crops of cotton, the first one following immediately upon the close of the war. Deciding to seek a home in the west, he came to California in 1871, arriving February 13, when he engaged in the San Joaquin valley in hauling lumber over the mountains with ox teams. Two years later he began farming on the Tule river at Pleasant Valley, on a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1880 he purchased another ranch near this one, and in the same year pre-empted a stock ranch on the middle fork of the Tule river. In the following year he removed to this ranch which adjoins the Indian Reservation, where he became the owner of eleven hundred acres. He held this in his possession until 1903, when he sold out and came to Springville, Tulare county, where he engaged in the livery business. This has since occupied his attention, and in the work he has met with the same success which has characterized his entire career. He owns his residence and six acres in town besides his stable, which is one of the principal business enterprises of the place.

In Texas Mr. May was united in marriage with Johanna Stanphill, a native of Missouri,

who died in 1875. They became the parents of two children, John Benjamin, located near Springville, and Mattie, the wife of H. C. Talbot of Portersville. Mr. May was again married April 13, 1903, to Mrs. Anna Brown, a native of Louisiana, and the representative of an old pioneer family of California. Fraternally Mr. May is identified with the Woodmen of the World, and politically is a Democrat.

ROBERT R. FOWLER. The district attorney of Madera county, who is one of the rising young lawyers and influential Republicans of the city of Madera, is a member of a family that early became established in the commonwealth of Virginia and later settled in the blue-grass regions of Kentucky. Genealogical records show that his ancestors were people of unquestioned integrity and genuine worth of character. His parents, William F. and Elizabeth A. (Anderson) Fowler, are natives of Indiana and, after various changes of residence, have established themselves in the city of Madera, which place is the home of their only two living children, namely: David B., supervisor of the third district of Madera county; and Robert R., district attorney. The family history appears in the sketch of the older of these sons, presented on another page of this volume.

Near Table Rock, Pawnee county, Neb., Robert R. Fowler was born August 15, 1870. At an early age he accompanied the family to California and this state has since been his home. His education was primarily secured in the district schools of Tulare and Fresno counties. He then turned his attention to newspaper work, led in that decision not only by an opening that occurred, but also by the inclination of his mind toward journalism. One of his early experiences in this occupation was gained while editor of the *Selma Irrigator*. After coming to Madera in 1890 he secured a position on the *Madera Mercury*, where he proved himself to be an able newspaper man. His tastes have always been in the direction of literature. Many of his most enjoyable hours have been spent among his books. Possessing a wide command of language, versatile mind and resourceful wit, he has written articles for the press that have attracted attention by their depth and far-seeing intelligence.

Notwithstanding his love for the journalistic field, Mr. Fowler was led to enter the profession of law for his life-work, and in the fall of 1893 he began to study under Mr. Hargrove. June, 1895, he was admitted to the supreme court and at once began to practice in Madera. From the first he has been an enthusiastic supporter of Republican principles. The party in Madera county has had in him one of its most

energetic champions. His services in behalf of the organization were fittingly recognized in 1898, when he was placed in nomination for the office of district attorney. Notwithstanding the fact that this is a Democratic county, he was elected by a majority of two hundred and sixteen. At the expiration of his term of four years, the Republicans again made him their choice for candidate, and this time he won the victory by two hundred and forty-eight majority. In his second term, as in his first, he is distinguished by faithful discharge of official duties and skill in the handling of the cases under his supervision. Fraternally he is identified with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The lady who presides over Mr. Fowler's pleasant home and who became his wife in Oakland, was formerly Blanche Butler. She was born in Hastings, Nebr., and received excellent advantages in the schools of Tulare county. Reared in the faith of the Christian Church, she is connected with that organization in Madera. The family of which she is a member holds a high rank for mental attainments and statesmanship. One of her uncles, Hon. David Butler, at one time officiated as governor of Nebraska. Her father, the late Dr. A. B. Butler, was a man of broad professional ability, splendidly educated for his profession, and ranked high among the citizens of Tulare county. He removed to Madera and died in that city in 1904, after a residence of about one year. In public affairs he held a position of influence and at one time, while a resident of Tulare county, represented his district in the state legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have a son, Robert Butler Fowler. The family ranks among the most popular in Madera and has a host of warm personal friends within the circle of its acquaintances.

H. R. McGEE. Born in Guelph, Ontario, December 22, 1864, H. R. McGee was the youngest child in a family of six children, of whom he is the only one now living. His father, Henry McGee, was a native of Northern Ireland, who settled in Canada at an early date, locating in Guelph, where he followed the work of a contractor and builder. About 1866 he located in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where he continued in the same occupation, making that location his home until 1878. In December of the last-named year he brought his family to California, locating in Tulare county nine miles north of Visalia. Until the following spring he made that place his home, when he went to Eastern Oregon and Washington, and engaged in building for one year. Returning to Tulare county he engaged in contracting and building until his death. In

the meantime he purchased and improved a piece of property in Orosi, which continued to be his home until 1895, when his death occurred. He was married twice, his first wife being Rachel Bell, a native of London, England, and after her death in Iowa he married Mary E. Ledbetter, a native of New York and the daughter of James Ledbetter, an old settler of Orosi. She died in Orosi.

In Cedar Falls, Iowa, H. R. McGee spent his boyhood until he was fourteen years of age, attending the public schools. In December, 1878, in company with his father's family he came to California, where he has remained ever since. Thrown upon his own resources at an early age he has made his own way in the world and has met with the success which is the direct result of energy, industry and perseverance. He first found employment on neighboring farms, after which he drove teams to the mountains from the mills. Deciding to engage in farming he farmed his father's property of three hundred and eighty acres in Orosi, raising grain principally. He set out an orchard and has engaged in the cultivation of fruits and vineyard since 1892. He now owns twenty acres in Orosi, devoted principally to the cultivation of Muir peaches.

In Tulare county Mr. McGee was united in marriage with Nellie Combs, a daughter of B. C. Combs, a well-known citizen of Orosi. She died in Orosi in June, 1889, aged twenty-seven years. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church and the mother of three children: Oriva Marguerite, Rihma May and Robert Henry. Mr. McGee is Democratic in his political convictions, and in the interests of his party has served as constable and also as justice of the peace of Orosi for one term. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, being past councillor of his lodge, ex-representative to the Grand Lodge, and district deputy grand chancellor; Woodmen of the World, of which he is past officer, having served for four years; and also belongs to the Women of Woodcraft.

---

**CHRISTIAN HAUSCH.** To rise from a position of obscurity to influence, to surmount the obstacles confronting one who seeks to gain independence, to live at peace with fellow-citizens, and to gain a reputation for worth of character, this is a record of which one may well be proud, and in the attaining of such an ambition Mr. Hausch has merited and won the respect of associates and acquaintances. Many of the qualities noticeable in his character come to him from a line of worthy German ancestors, and he has added to the German characteristics of thrift and economy the American qualities of energy and resourcefulness. A native of Prussia, he

was born at Hohenzollern, May 6, 1832, being the second in a family of five children, two sons and three daughters. His parents, John and Gertrude (Pflumm) Hausch, were natives of Prussia, and remained in that country until death, leading useful lives as members of a farming community. It was their aim to educate each child as well as their means permitted, and Christian was sent to the common schools until he reached the age of fourteen years, after which he assisted in the cultivation of the home farm. Believing that better opportunities awaited him in the new world than in the home land, he set sail for America in 1851, and for a year worked as an apprentice to the cooper's trade in Buffalo, N. Y., after which he labored as a journeyman at Cincinnati and Zanesville, Ohio, and Petersburg, Ky., going in 1855 to St. Joseph, Mo., where he worked at the same trade.

During the spring of 1856 Mr. Hausch came across the plains with ox teams and after a journey of six months landed at Healdsburg, Cal., in September of the same year. For a time he engaged at his trade in addition to working as a farmer, but in the spring of 1857 he went to the mines of Sierra county near Downieville and continued there for five years. No special good fortune crowned his labors in the mines, and he finally determined to seek a more certain means of livelihood. Returning to Sonoma county in 1863 he worked as a cooper at Healdsburg and later built a shop on his eight-acre farm one and one-half miles north of that town. On coming to Tulare county in 1874 Mr. Hausch settled three and one-half miles south of Goshen, where he bought six hundred and forty acres of railroad land, and began the tilling of the soil. As time passed by he gradually became interested in the stock business, and the raising of cattle became one of the special features of his farm work. The profits of his labors were invested in other lands until he had acquired, in addition to the original purchase, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres and another of eighty acres, all of which still remain in his possession. In 1903 he retired from agricultural pursuits and came to Visalia, where he now makes his home. Though retired from active labors he still superintends his lands, and takes an active interest in the improvement of the property. As a citizen he has neglected no duty falling to a public-spirited man, but he has been averse to office-holding and, aside from voting the Democratic ticket, has taken no part in politics.

The first marriage of Mr. Hausch occurred in Healdsburg, and united him with Eliza Jane Irland, who was born in Ohio and died in Healdsburg in 1873. The children of their union are as follows: Anna Belle, now Mrs. Dye, a resident of Tulare county; Hannah May, wife of



H. A. Crowell, of Los Gatos; Mrs. Flora Middleton; Mrs. Henrietta Lamb, who lives on her father's ranch; Mrs. Elsie Christina Hayes, living near Goshen; and Charles Joseph, who resides in Tulare county. The present wife of Mr. Hausch was Catherine Pfumm, a native of Prussia, but since 1882 a resident of Tulare county. The only child of this union, Catherine Gertrude, is with her parents. Fraternally Mr. Hausch for years has taken a deep interest in Masonry, holding membership in the Lodge of Perfection, of Visalia, and Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco, and is also identified with the Eastern Star.

#### STONEWALL JACKSON ALLEN.

Through his efficient service in public office Mr. Allen has gained the confidence of the people of Merced county, where he also has the good fortune to possess the warm friendship of men with whom he has associated for years before becoming a county official. Himself a lifelong resident of California and a native of Tuolumne county, he is of southern family, descended from Virginian ancestors of colonial fame. His father, James M. Allen, was born and reared in Tennessee and about 1850 came to California via the Panama route, settling in Tuolumne county and taking up the uncertain occupation of mining. During 1869 he removed to Stanislaus county and began to improve a farm on the San Joaquin river, but two years later he abandoned agriculture for the hotel business in Turlock, where he built the first hotel building in the village. At seventy-three years of age, in November, 1903, he died at the home of a daughter in Bakersfield. His wife was Eliza Ellen Bradford, a native of Missouri, whence she crossed the plains to California and settled in Tuolumne county. She is still proprietor of the old Turlock hotel, but makes her home in Modesto. In her family there are two daughters and a son, namely: Nettie, wife of C. F. Lander, of Bakersfield; Stonewall Jackson, of Merced; and Mattie, wife of Richard Wilhite, of Bakersfield.

The birth of Stonewall Jackson Allen occurred November 11, 1862, while his parents were living at Saw Mill Flat. He was seven years of age when the family removed to the San Joaquin valley, and in 1871 went with them to Turlock, where he attended the grammar school. Later he completed his education by taking a business course in a college at South San Francisco. On his return home he engaged in the hotel business for three years. Under appointment from President Cleveland he served as postmaster from 1894 to 1898. At the expiration of his term of office he removed

to Atwater, Merced county, buying in 1899 twenty acres under ditch and engaging in raising sweet potatoes. During 1901 he sold the property and now makes his home in the city of Merced, where, since January of 1903, he has filled the office of county recorder, to which he was elected on the Democratic ticket by a majority of eighty-five. In the administration of his office he has proved himself to be tactful, energetic, reliable and painstaking, reflecting credit upon the party who selected him as their standard-bearer. While his attention is given to the proper management of the office, he has not neglected the amenities of life, but has maintained a constant interest in organizations of a fraternal and social nature. Some years ago he was an active worker in the Knights of Pythias, and now is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, Beavers and Merced Parlor No. 24, N. S. G. W.

The marriage of Mr. Allen occurred in Turlock and united him with Miss Annie Mitchell, by whom he had two children, Clayton and Nellis M.; the latter died at the age of two and one-half years. Mrs. Allen is a daughter of Samuel B. and Helen (McCulloch) Mitchell, her mother being a near relative of General McCulloch. Coming from Lexington, Ky., Mr. Mitchell migrated to California at the close of the Mexican war and settled in the San Joaquin valley, where he engaged in raising stock and conducting a meat business for many years. During the Mexican war he endured the hardships incident to forced marches and sharp skirmishes, and remained at the front until peace was declared. Of all the members of his company he alone survives. Retired from business cares, he makes his home in Modesto. Of his three children Mrs. Allen was the second in order of birth and the only daughter. The older son, Samuel, at this writing holds an appointment as deputy county clerk of Stanislaus county, and the younger, Benjamin, is engaged in raising stock in Merced county.

**ANDREW F. THOMPSON.** Since 1882 Andrew F. Thompson has been located upon his present property in the vicinity of Portersville, Tulare county, during the years which have passed since his purchase of the same, devoting his time to various agricultural and horticultural pursuits. Previous to his locating here he was known in Visalia and throughout the county as the local editor of the *Visalia Delta* for one year (1877-78). A native of Peoria, Ill., he was born March 14, 1850, a son of Samuel Thompson. The latter was a native of Ayrshire, Scotland, from which country he emi-

grated to the United States when a young man. He was a pattern-maker by trade and located in Peoria, Ill., where he followed that occupation until his death in 1852, at the early age of thirty-three years. His wife, formerly Helen McCormack, a native of the same locality in Scotland, also died in Illinois. They were the parents of three children, two sons and one daughter, of whom Andrew F. was the youngest. He received his education in the common schools of Santa Cruz, Cal., to which state he came with his aunt, Mrs. Mary Fletcher. In 1873 he engaged in farming with his uncle in Pleasant valley, Tulare county, with whom he remained until 1877, when he accepted the position of book-keeper and local editor of the *Visalia Delta*. In 1882 he purchased his present property, adding by purchase until he owned considerable land, having sold off a part and now owning two hundred acres. He engaged for a time in the raising of deciduous fruits but did not meet with the desired results so now devotes his land to grain and alfalfa, while he also has three and a half acres in oranges.

In Tulare, September 4, 1884, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Priscilla Dunham, who was born in Mercer county, Pa., August 6, 1850. She was educated in Iowa, graduating from the high school of Maquoketa, after which she engaged in teaching for some years. She came to California in 1881 and taught four years in Tulare and San Luis Obispo counties. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were born the following children: William F., Clay, Mary, Helen, Walter and Ernest. Fraternal Mr. Thompson is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Portersville, and politically casts his ballot with the Republican party.

**JAMES P. DALY.** A native of California, James P. Daly has been one of the active men of the state, one who has at all times done his share toward the upbuilding of the community in which he has resided. Every movement calculated to be of material benefit to the state or county has received his support, and today he is one of the men who is honored and respected by all who know him.

Born in Lake county, near Lakeport, April 3, 1860, Mr. Daly is the son of Patrick and Mary (O'Hara) Daly. Patrick Daly was born in Ireland, where he resided until he had reached his fourteenth year. He then left his native land and finally made his way to California, reaching here in 1849, the year of the great gold excitement. Like thousands of others who came to the state at that time, he went to the mines where he engaged in the search for gold a short time. Tiring of this pursuit he located in Lake coun-

ty. Here he became engaged in farming and later began raising stock. Finally he settled four miles southeast of Lakeport, where he became the owner of two hundred and fifteen acres of fine farming land. Although considerable of his time was devoted to agricultural pursuits, he was one of the leading stock men of the county, raising cattle for the market, also dealing in hogs, shipping them to San Francisco. For thirty-five years Mr. Daly resided on this farm, and during that time became one of the largest stock men of the county, but after all these years of active life, he sold his home and removed to San Francisco. After a short time he again returned to Lakeport, where he is now living, being engaged in shipping hogs to the San Francisco market.

Mrs. Daly, who in maidenhood was Mary O'Hara, was born in New York city. After her marriage with Mr. Daly she did much to make his business ventures a success and in all ways proved a most worthy helpmeet. She died at the age of forty years, leaving eight children to mourn her loss.

The fourth of this large family was James P. Like all farmers' sons of those days he was brought up on the farm, attending the district schools when the work of the farm would allow, but most of the time was spent in learning the lessons of real life, the book learning being left for the future.

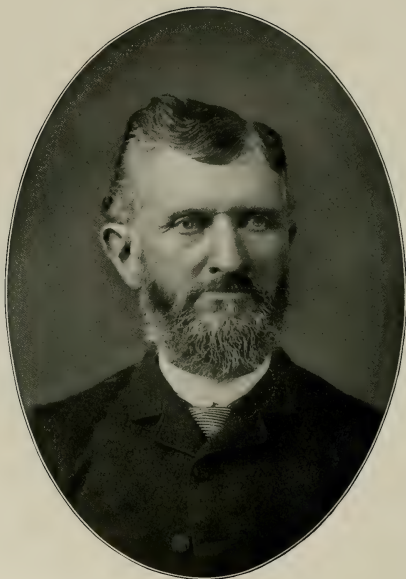
Remaining at home until he was twenty-one Mr. Daly then struck out for himself and in 1888 located in the Yokohl Valley, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land. This he at once began to improve and also engaged in stock-raising, following this for three years or until 1891, when he purchased eighty acres of section 35 and eighteen of section 26. This he devoted to grain and at times he has had as high as seven hundred acres. At the present time he devotes three hundred acres to wheat and barley each year.

In Mr. Daly this state has a man who has done much toward the building and improvements of the public highways. For several years he has devoted much of his time to that work and has constructed many miles of road. He operates a fine road machine on which he works twelve horses, and also a road plow which requires from ten to twelve horses to haul it. With this outfit he has constructed one mile of completed road in five days. This road grader and plow are the property of Tulare county.

In 1883 Mr. Daly was united in marriage with Mattie Combs, who was born in Missouri, a daughter of John Cuthbert Combs, who came to California in 1875. Mr. Combs was born in Kentucky and is a brother of Dr. F. A. Combs of Visalia. On arrival in California Mr.







*A. C. Hart*

Combs settled in Lake county, where he engaged in farming. He died while living near Exeter at the age of sixty-two years. His wife, who in maidenhood was Fanny Shortridge, was also a native of the Bluegrass state. She died in California at the age of sixty-two years. Both were active and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Daly, John, Frank and Mae.

In fraternal relations Mr. Daly is a member of the Woodmen of the World, while Mrs. Daly takes an active interest in the Women of Woodcraft. In politics, a Democrat, he has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of his party and can be depended on to do his part.

The Daly family have an assured position in this county. On every hand are scores of friends who have for them a deep and sincere affection. Mr. Daly is active in all public movements and when called upon by his neighbors he is never found lacking. Such families as this are the kind that make the social part of life so attractive. May both Mr. and Mrs. Daly live long to enjoy the pleasures of life, pleasures made possible by the keen business judgment of Mr. Daly.

---

CHARLES W. HART. Three miles southeast of Farmersville, Tulare county, is located the farm upon which Charles W. Hart is engaged in raising cattle, horses and mules, being one of the large stock dealers in this section of Tulare county. A native Californian, he was born in Gilroy, Santa Clara county, June 30, 1860, a son of Charles C. Hart, the representative of an old Connecticut family, born in Litchfield county, that state, in 1826. He married in Connecticut, and came to California by the Panama route about 1857, following a brother, John Hart, who made the trip west via the Horn in the days of '49. The brother had settled first in Gilroy, where he engaged in the dairy business, later located in Tulare county, and finally removed to Hanford, Kings county, where his death occurred. Charles C. Hart also located in Gilroy, where he followed the dairy business in old Gilroy until 1861. In January of that year he removed to Tulare county, locating three miles south of Visalia, where he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres and engaged in general farming and stock-raising. In 1865 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, the property now owned by his widow, where he made all the improvements and worked to bring the land to a high state of cultivation. Later, in partnership with his son, Charles W., he bought six hundred and forty acres of undeveloped land a half mile from his home, and also eighty acres of timber land. With his son he engaged in farming until his death,

which occurred July 18, 1891, at the age of sixty-five years. He was a man of strong principles, an advocate of progress and reform and took an active interest in all movements calculated to increase the prosperity of the country. In his political convictions he was a staunch Republican. His wife, formerly Helen Payne, of New York state, survives him, and now makes her home in Tulare county, a consistent member of the Baptist Church. They were the parents of five children, namely: Fred Miles, a resident of Kings county, Cal.; Charles Weston, of this review; John H., a farmer located near the old home; Carrie Ellen, the wife of H. T. Anderson; and Kittie A., who became the wife of J. L. Tuohy, and died in 1904.

From the age of six months Charles W. Hart was reared in Tulare county, receiving his education in the district school in the vicinity of his home. At fourteen years of age he began active farming on his father's place, exercising an ability and judgment which were the result of his early training. Upon attaining his majority he became his father's partner, engaging in the raising of grain and hogs. Together with his father he purchased six hundred and forty acres of railroad land, and they continued in partnership until the death of the elder man. Mr. Hart then purchased the farming outfit and stock and continued in the work, renting from one thousand to twenty-five hundred acres of land upon which to carry on his business. He now owns six hundred and forty acres on sections 20, 21 and 17, township 19, range 26, while he rents adjoining properties in three tracts, respectively, eight hundred and eighty acres, one hundred and twenty acres and one hundred and sixty acres, a total of eleven hundred and sixty acres for pasture and grain. He also owns six hundred and forty acres seven miles northwest of Visalia, where he runs stock, and twenty-two hundred and forty acres at Jordan Flat, on Horse and Jordan creeks, all fenced and supplied with water from running springs. He has a herd of about five hundred cattle, making a specialty of Durhams and Aberdeen Polled Angus, and he also raises hogs, making a specialty of Poland China, and has one hundred and fifty head of horses and mules. He has made a success in his efforts and is highly regarded both for his business ability and his personal integrity.

In Hanford, Cal., Mr. Hart was united in marriage with Lila Conlee, who was born in Morro, San Luis Obispo county, Cal. Her father, Frank Conlee, a native of Illinois, came to California in 1870, and engaged as a lumber manufacturer at Creston and in Tulare county. He is now located at Springville, where he follows general farming and horticulture. His wife, formerly Ella Robinson, is a native of Canada. In their

religious beliefs they are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Hart is the third in a family of nine children. She is the mother of four children, namely: Weston C., Helen, Hazel Irene and Ethel C. In his political affiliations Mr. Hart is very liberal and broad-minded, preferring to reserve the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office. Fraternally he is a member of the Fraternal Aid of Farmersville, and in his religious convictions is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his wife is also a member.

---

**IRWIN JAY BUCKLEY.** On a farm of three hundred and fifteen acres located between Snelling and Merced Falls, Merced county, resides I. Jay Buckley, a progressive, practical and successful farmer. He was born November 17, 1845, in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and represents the eleventh generation from Peter Buckley (spelled by him Bukeley), who emigrated from England in 1635. In direct line of descent Sylvanus Buckley, father of I. J. Buckley, was born in Norwich, Otsego county, N. Y., and was reared on the farm owned by his father. He married Phoebe Merriman, also a native of that county, and a descendant of Scotch-Irish ancestors, who were soldiers in the Revolutionary war. She was also closely related to the Winchesters, who were the founders of the Universalist religion. Sylvanus Buckley was ambitious and energetic, and in his early life sought a location in various localities. In 1844 he removed to Iowa, and at Mt. Pleasant engaged in the manufacture of plows. While thus engaged he heard the glowing accounts of the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast, and accordingly closed up his business and started across the plains en route to California in 1849. Arriving at his destination, he mined in Placer county for a time with fair success, which enabled him to pay a visit to his family in Iowa in 1853, from whence he moved his family to his old home in Ostego county, N. Y. He came back to the mines and remained for another period, returning to New York in 1856, when he brought his family to California by way of the Nicaragua route, arriving in San Francisco July 20 of that year. From this time he turned his attention to farming, and unfortunately invested in what proved to be a part of a Spanish grant in Alameda county, near Alvarado. In 1861 he located in Merced county, and in the vicinity of Snelling embarked in the sheep business, and at the same time was interested in some mines in Nevada. He met with a fair degree of success in his stock business and became owner of about eighteen thousand acres of land. As a public spirited

man he gave his best efforts toward the advancement of the community where he made his home. At the time of his death, 1888, he was seventy-nine years old. He was survived by his wife, who died in 1892, in her eighty-fourth year. There were six children in the family, viz: Henry A. (who died in 1872), Horace F., I. Jay, George W. (who died in 1902), S. P., and C. O. E.

I. Jay Buckley was reared under the parental roof, attended the public schools, and as soon as he was of age to be useful about the farm assisted his father with the duties incident to farm life. He was closely associated with his father's varied interests until the death of the latter. In 1887 he purchased his present ranch, made such improvements as were necessary and has followed diversified farming since that date, and has made this his residence with the exception of about three years spent in Merced.

In 1878 Mr. Buckley was united in marriage with Mary, a daughter of the late John M. Montgomery, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. Of this union was born one child, a daughter, Irma, the wife of John Jardine, of San Francisco. Mr. Buckley is a staunch Republican and has served the party in various capacities in Merced county. He is unostentatious in manner, public spirited and well read, very fond of books, and at one time was the owner of one of the largest private libraries in the county, which unfortunately was destroyed by fire. He is one of the substantial citizens of Merced county, and his long years of association with its best interests have brought good results.

---

**RICHARD HUGH OWEN.** Among the enterprising and progressive citizens of Tulare county whose efforts have been productive of the growth and upbuilding of the Exeter section, prominent mention belongs to Richard Hugh Owen, a member of the firm which owns and controls the Rocky Point Granite Works. He was born in Anglesea, Wales, May 26, 1863, the fourth in a family of five children, all of whom are living. His parents, Hugh and Mary (Evans) Owen, were natives of the same place, where they spent their entire lives, dying at advanced ages. The father was employed in the slate quarries.

Richard Hugh Owen is the only member of his father's family who is located in California. He was reared on the home place in Wales, attending the public schools in boyhood. At thirteen years of age he began to work on the various farms in the vicinity of his home, and at sixteen found employment in the slate quarries. In March, 1882, he came to America, working,

in the slate quarries in Fairhaven, Vt., until December of the following year, when he came to California. His first work in this state was at Penryn, Placer county, where he was apprenticed as a granite cutter. Three years later he began work at his trade in San Francisco, and in 1888 came to Tulare county, looking for a location which he soon found, then returned to San Francisco and interested Messrs. Hughes and Griffith in a quarry which they opened in the spring of 1889, near Exeter. After five years (during which time Mr. Hughes disposed of his interest to his partners), they bought ten acres of land and opened their present quarry, known as the Rocky Point Granite Works. They expect to have a spur of the proposed electric railway, leading from Visalia to Lemon Cove, run up to the quarry, when they can ship by car, and will also have their works operated by electricity. In addition to his interest in this business Mr. Owen also owns one hundred and six acres adjoining the Griffith property, on section 6, township 19, range 27, upon which he engages in stock-raising, while he also owns a fine pasture of forty acres near Farmersville and a farm of one hundred and sixty acres three miles southeast of Exeter, where he makes his home. He also owns a handsome residence in Exeter, and is interested in the People's Canal Ditch Company.

In Visalia Mr. Owen was united in marriage with Rose Ella Fly, who was born near Exeter, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Hugh, Leland, Oliver, Viola and Zylpha. Mr. Owen was made a Mason in Penryn and is now a member of Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias, of Exeter, of which he is past chancellor, and the Uniformed Rank, Knights of Pythias. Religiously his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while he is a Presbyterian. Politically he is a Republican.

**FRED STURM.** An upbuilder of this section and a successful orange grower, Fred Sturm is named among the representative men of this class. He was born in Illinois November 15, 1864, a son of John Sturm, a German emigrant whose biographical sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. He received his education in the common schools, after which he engaged as a painter and paper-hanger in Elgin, Ill. He became very successful in that line of work, taking big contracts and operating a large number of men in both city and country. Deciding to locate on the Pacific coast he came to California in 1896 and located on his present property, purchasing with his father two hundred acres at that time. They later added by purchase two

hundred acres more, the property having since been divided. In his home place Mr. Sturm has twenty-five acres devoted to the cultivation of oranges and lemons. He has recently purchased a tract of thirty acres just west of his home, and also has forty acres of salt grass west of Portersville, as well as owning town lots, an interest in the Rochdale store, and town lots in Elgin, Ill. With the Sturm Brothers Company he was interested in a tract of eighty acres south of Plano, forty acres being planted to oranges, while they also owned other tracts in this section. He has made a success of his work and has a fine orange orchard.

In Portersville Mr. Sturm was united in marriage with Carrie Adams, a native of Visalia, Cal., and they have two children, Esther and Edwin, both at home. Mr. Sturm is a member of the Evangelical Church, and politically is a staunch Republican.

**CHARLES W. SCHANK.** Prominent among the enterprising and successful business men of Newman is Charles W. Schank, a man of marked ability and genuine worth. He is actively identified with the mercantile and industrial interests of the place as a hardware merchant and a plumber, and is also well known throughout this section of the county as an undertaker. A son of Charles W. Schank, Sr., he was born April 16, 1859, in Louisville, Ky.

A farmer by birth and breeding, Charles W. Schank, Sr., was born in Vanderburg county, Ky., and for several years of his earlier life was a resident of Louisville, Ky. He subsequently settled in Evansville, Ind., where he resided until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Martha Robinson, spent her entire life in Kentucky, dying there in early womanhood. She bore him five children, one son and four daughters, Charles W., the special subject of this sketch, being the fourth child in succession of birth.

Removing to Evansville, Ind., with his father when a lad of seven years, Charles W. Schank there received a practical common school education. Beginning to learn the tinner's trade when fifteen years old, he served a full apprenticeship, becoming an expert tinner. Migrating to St. Louis, Mo., in 1879, he followed his trade in that city for a year, and then went to Topeka, Kan., where he was similarly employed for two years. In 1882 Mr. Schank located as a tinner in Silver City, N. M., and the following year came to California, where he worked at his trade for a year, living first in Los Angeles, and then in San Francisco and San Jose. Turning his face eastward in 1884, he was for three years located in Central City, Colo., where he was

busily employed at his trade. Returning to California in 1887, Mr. Schank took up his residence in Newman, and worked for awhile for Mr. Green. He then accepted a position at Stockton, but owing to the urgent solicitation of Mr. Green, his former employer, returned very soon to Newman. Six months later, in 1891, Mr. Schank borrowed \$600, and, with a partner, established himself in business as a dealer in hardware and tinware, and as a plumber. Succeeding well in his undertakings, Mr. Schank bought out his partner in 1893, and has since carried on the business alone, having a large and remunerative trade in his line of goods, his stock being varied and extensive, and his work always satisfactory. In 1897 he also established an undertaking establishment, which he is managing most successfully.

In Newman, Cal., Mr. Schank married Rose Mayland, a native of Germany. Politically Mr. Schank affiliates with the Democratic party. Fraternally he is identified with several of the leading secret organizations of this vicinity, including the following named: Newman Lodge, F. & A. M.; Stockton Commandery, K. T.; Order of the Eastern Star; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Ancient Order of United Workmen; and the Knights of Pythias.

**ROBERT GRACEY.** The oldest financial institution in the county of Merced is the Security Savings Bank, which was organized for the purpose of conducting a general banking business in March, 1875, and during the period that has since elapsed, through the wise investments of its directors, has gained a reputation for soundness and reliability surpassed by none. With a capital stock of \$100,000 and a surplus of \$70,000, and with an efficient corps of officers under the executive oversight of Mr. Gracey as president, it affords exceptional facilities for the investments of savings and for the transaction of business of a general banking nature.

The Gracey family is of Scotch origin, but was established in Ireland prior to settlement in America in 1799. Robert Gracey was born near Newville, Pa., December 4, 1850, a son of John and Isabelle O. (Sharpe) Gracey. He passed the first fifteen years of his life on the home place, meanwhile receiving such advantages as the district schools afforded. When fifteen years old he went to Pittsburg, where he attended a private school for three years. At the expiration of that time he became a student in the Washington and Jefferson College in Pennsylvania, where he remained until the close of the sophomore year. Next he matriculated in Westminster (Pa.)

College, from which institution he was graduated in 1871 with the degree of A. B. On the completion of his college course he went to Indiana and for one year acted as an instructor in the Richland Academy. In September, 1872, he became a teacher in the college at Garnett, Kan., but the location did not prove desirable and he decided to come to the Pacific coast.

During April of 1873 Mr. Gracey arrived in California, where his first position was that of a teacher at San Luis Obispo. From there, in August, 1875, he came to Merced, his present home, and was thereafter engaged as principal of the city schools until his retirement from the profession in 1887.

In 1887 he took up the real estate and abstract business in Merced, as a member of the firm of Wood, Simonson & Gracey, and after dissolving that partnership continued alone in the buying and selling of city and country property, at the same time acquiring stock in the Security Savings Bank, of which he was elected a director. From 1899 to 1903 he made his home in Pennsylvania, but returned to California in May of the latter year, in order to enter upon the duties of president of the bank, to which position he had been elected in April. Now, as for years past, he retains important interests in farm and city property, mainly in this locality.

Such enterprises as are calculated to promote the material prosperity of Merced, or advance its educational and religious progress receive his co-operation and support. In view of his public spirit, he justly ranks among those men whose presence in Merced has been the chief factor in the growth and commercial development of the place.

**WILLIAM WARREN GIDDINGS.** A man of liberal views and of the greatest integrity, energetic and progressive, William Warren Giddings of Newman is held in high esteem throughout the community, and is prominently identified with the promotion of the business and financial activities of the city. A son of the late Elisha Giddings, he is a fine representative of the native-born citizens of Stanislaus county, his birth having occurred August 24, 1874, in Turlock. He comes from honored colonial stock, being a lineal descendant of George Giddings, who emigrated from Ipswich, England, to Massachusetts in 1630, and settled permanently in Ipswich, Essex county, where he became influential in public affairs. Mr. Giddings' paternal grandfather, Benjamin Giddings, a life-long resident of Hartford county, Conn., was for many years one of the leading citizens of the







*Mrs. M.E. Rice.*

town of Hartland. A strong Republican, he was very active in public affairs, serving as selectman, as representative to the state legislature, as commissioner to the Superior Court, and as postmaster of Hartland.

A native of Hartland, Conn., Elisha Giddings was born September 6, 1829. A young man of great enterprise and shrewd business foresight, he early cast his lot with the brave pioneers of California, taking advantage of the great opportunities afforded the settlers of a new country. Crossing from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific in 1852, he located in Stanislaus county, opening a store of general merchandise in Turlock. In its management he was very successful, and as head of the firm of Giddings & Ward carried on an extensive business until his death, in 1879. He married Miss Cookson, who died in 1876. Two sons and one daughter were born of their union, William W., the special subject of this sketch, being the youngest child.

Left an orphan when but five years old, William Warren Giddings was brought up in the home of J. C. Green, one of the early pioneers of the county, receiving his education in the graded schools of Turlock and Newman. He was subsequently engaged in the hardware business as an employe of Mr. Green, first at Hill's Ferry, and later at Newman. From July 1, 1898, until August 1, 1903, he served as postmaster. Resigning that position, he accepted the cashiership of the Bank of Newman, in which he is a stockholder, and has since retained it, his qualifications for the office being recognized, and his services appreciated. Mr. Giddings has also other interests, being a stockholder in the Newman Realty Company, of which he is a charter member.

Mr. Giddings was married September 14, 1904, in Oakland, Cal., to Miss Julia V. Johnson, daughter of Captain James Johnson, a well-known resident of Oakland. Fraternally he is an active member of the Knights of Pythias, and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. One of the foremost members of the Republican party, he is now a member of the State Central Committee, and has served on different occasions as a delegate to state and county conventions.

---

MRS. MARTHA ELIZABETH RICE. Coming with her husband to California in pioneer days, Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Rice experienced all the privations and hardships of frontier life, bravely performing her full share in the upbuilding and maintaining of a home in a new country. Through it all she kept up the remarkable womanly courage with which nature had endowed her, and is now living in ease and comfort, en-

joying the fruits of those earlier years of toil, and feeling amply repaid for the discomforts of those darker times, the only bar to her happiness being the loss of her beloved husband, to whom she was always friend, companion and counsellor. A daughter of William Gardner, she was born, June 14, 1829, in James county, Ark., of English ancestry. Her paternal grandfather, a life-long resident of Virginia, was a large landholder, at the time of his death owning the land now occupied by the city of Richmond. He had no deed, however, to the property, and as his son William died while en route from Arkansas to Virginia to claim the land, and his son George, the next heir-at-law, was then in the Mexican war, the property was diverted from the family.

Born and reared in Virginia, William Gardner there learned the trades of carpenter and cabinet maker, which he followed in his earlier life. Turning his attention to agriculture, he migrated to Arkansas, where he followed farming for a number of years. He became a man of much influence in his new home, and was active in public life, serving as justice of the peace in Benton. While on his way to Virginia to settle his father's estate he died suddenly, his death occurring in Texas. He married Maria English, who was born in England, immigrated with her parents to Tennessee, and died in Benton county, Ark. Of the six children that blessed their union, five grew to years of maturity, and three are living, Martha Elizabeth, the special subject of this sketch, being the second child.

July 20, 1848, Martha Elizabeth Gardner became the wife of Isaac Rice, who was born in 1820, in McMinn county, Tenn., and was there brought up on a farm. His father, John Rice, born in Tennessee in 1800, married Tabitha Dodson, and settled on land from which they improved a fine homestead. Leaving his native state when twenty-eight years old, Isaac Rice went to Arkansas in pursuit of profitable employment, and after his marriage engaged in farming near Bentonville. In 1857 he started with his family across the plains, joining the ox-team train in which were the emigrants that were massacred at Mountain Meadows. Mr. and Mrs. Rice, and a few others, left the train before reaching Salt Lake, taking the northern trail, while the others kept on to Salt Lake, meeting their doom at the point mentioned. While crossing the mountains, Mr. Rice was taken ill, and Mrs. Rice assumed command of affairs and drove the stock, getting through with ninety-two head of cattle.

Settling in Suisun valley, Mr. Rice lived there a year, and was subsequently engaged in the dairy business at Clear Lake for four years. After spending eight years in Vacaville and one year in Antioch, he removed to Tulare county in 1872,

and took up a homestead claim three and one-half miles southeast of Dinuba, and from the wild plain and sheep pasture he improved a rich and valuable ranch. Erecting a dwelling house and farm buildings, he placed the land in a tillable condition, and was here profitably employed in wheat raising until his death, November 22, 1888. For twelve years after the death of her husband Mrs. Rice resided on the home farm, which has since been sold off in different lots, but since 1900 has resided in Dinuba. She is a woman of refinement and worth, and is highly esteemed and respected for her many virtues and sterling qualities. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rice ten children were born, namely: John C., of Hanford; Mrs. Laura T. Edwards, of Arizona; Mrs. Melissa J. Lawrence, of Point Richmond; Mrs. Ella S. Bacon, of Tulare county; Thomas, of Arizona; Mrs. Mamie McCracken, of this county; Mrs. Jessie B. Ryce, of Selma; Charles G., in the ice business at Dinuba; Hattie B., wife of W. G. Hunter, of this county; and Frank E., of Dinuba. A strong Prohibitionist and an earnest worker in the temperance cause, Mrs. Rice is a valued member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. She is also a faithful member of the Baptist Church, and is president of its Ladies' Aid Society.

---

JOHN STURM, JR., who was formerly a member of the firm of Sturm Brothers Company, which has recently been dissolved and the land divided among the members, is a son of John Sturm, the first of the name to settle in California. Unable to care for the land which he purchased the elder man induced his sons to come to California from the state of Illinois, where he had located the family upon his emigration from Alsace-Lorraine, his native land. John Sturm, Jr., is also a native of that country, where his birth occurred July 29, 1853. Brought to the United States in childhood he was reared in Illinois, receiving an education in the common schools. In 1873 he secured employment with Libby, McNeil & Libby Packing Company, as city salesman, being located in Chicago. After seven years he engaged in business for himself, becoming a retail coal dealer, and later engaged in the teaming business. Following his father and brother to California in 1898 he located in Portersville and purchased fifty acres which he finished planting to orchard, fourteen acres being in Washington navels and late Valencias, and also lemons. His property is located four miles east of Portersville, in which city he also owns some lots. In the same year in which he took up his work here Mr. Sturm returned to Chicago and brought his family to

his ranch, where they have since made their home.

In Chicago Mr. Sturm married Ann Loehr, a native of that city, and they are the parents of the following children: Emma Grace, the wife of A. V. Chandler, of Chicago; Anna Mabel, the wife of W. R. Hattersley, of Chicago; Edna Minnie; Ellen Pearl; John Lester; Walter Allen; Edith Philippine; and Genevieve Magdaline. Mr. Sturm is a member of the Evangelical Church, of which he is a trustee, and is also superintendent of the Sunday-school. Politically he is a staunch Republican. He is a director and president of the Campbell & Moreland Ditch Company, director of the Portersville Citrus Association, and director and vice-president of the Portersville Rochdale Company.

---

A. HAMMOND SCOFIELD. The thriving blacksmith shop and carriage manufactory conducted under the firm name of Scofield, Alvord & Co., have added considerably to the business activity of Merced, Cal., for the past twelve years. The senior member of the firm, A. H. Scofield, came to California in 1886, at which time he went to Stockton, and for one year was employed in a wheel manufactory there. His identification with Merced dates from 1887, from which time until 1890 he was in the employ of others as blacksmith and carriage-maker, trades with which he had become thoroughly familiar by intimate association with his father, who was an expert in these lines. Purchasing the carriage shop of Elgin Lewis in 1890, Mr. Scofield continued the business alone until September, 1892, at which time he took in as a partner E. R. Alvord, and in 1899 admitted his eldest son, Arthur L. Scofield. The business is now conducted under the name of Scofield, Alvord & Co., and compares favorably in both quality and scope with any like establishment to be found throughout the San Joaquin valley.

Born in Hamburg, Livingston county, Mich., August 7, 1836, Mr. Scofield is a son of Benjamin Ferris and Celestia (Wolcott) Scofield, the father born in Connecticut, and the mother a native of New York state. Her death occurred in Michigan. The Scofield family is of eastern origin, and as early as 1833 Benjamin F. located in Livingston county, Mich. His death occurred in 1863, in Howell, that county, where he had been the pioneer carriage-maker for many years. Of the nine children born to Benjamin F. and Celestia (Wolcott) Scofield, eight grew to years of maturity, and A. H. was the fifth child in order of birth. His training and edu-

cation were received in Howell, Mich., and when he had reached an age when he could make himself useful, he went into his father's carriage shop to learn his trade. With his father before him an expert carriage-maker, it was but natural that he should grasp the details of the business readily. He continued with his father until 1862, in which year he started out independently in an establishment of his own, and for the following ten years carried on a successful business in Howell. Removing to Detroit in 1872, he varied his former life somewhat by becoming foreman in the street car shops. Four years later he resumed his trade in South Lyon, Oakland county, Mich., where as a manufacturer of carriages he conducted business until 1886. It was in the latter year that Mr. Scofield first touched California soil, and that his coming has worked to his advantage in various respects is evident.

The commodious family residence recently erected on Eighteenth street is presided over by Mrs. Scofield, who, before her marriage, was known as Harriet Emma Raywalt. She was born in Watkins Glen, Schuyler county, N. Y., a daughter of Isaac Raywalt, who in his later years became a hotel-keeper in Dexter, Washtenaw county, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. Scofield were united in marriage in Howell, Mich., and they have two children, the eldest of whom, Arthur Lane, is in partnership with his father, and Flossie Emma is at home with her parents. The family attend the services of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. Scofield is a member. Politically Mr. Scofield is independent, voting for whomsoever in his opinion will best fill the position in question, irrespective of party name or creed. In Pinckney, Livingston county, Mich., Mr. Scofield was made a Mason, and is now a member of La Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M. of Merced. While residing in South Lyon, Mich., he was made an Odd Fellow, and in the local lodge at Merced he is past grand.

**JAMES GARRETT.** A successful farmer of Tulare county, James Garrett is located sixteen miles northeast of Visalia, just west of Antelope valley. He came to California in 1867, from Australia, his native land being England, and his birth having occurred in Norfolk in 1837. He was reared in Northumberland, where he followed mining in young manhood. Deciding to visit the gold fields of Australia, he went to Melbourne at the age of twenty years, thence to the mines of Castlemaine, following the various excitements in that country for some time

and engaging in both quartz and placer mining. Like all miners he had his times of success and of failure, but found a compensation in the work. In 1867 he came to California via Tahiti to San Francisco, and following his arrival found employment in the Mount Diablo coal mines, of Contra Costa county, where he remained for two and a half years. In September, 1869, he came to Kings county, and pre-empted a quarter section of land near the present site of Le-moore, then known as Mussel Slough. The country was practically a desert at that time, but with twenty-six of the settlers a company was formed, which built the Lower Kings river water ditch. Mr. Garrett's land is all under irrigation and he is engaged in general farming operations, having made many valuable improvements with the passing of the years. In 1885 he rented this farm and bought a farm in Townsend district, Tulare county, where he owns two hundred and forty acres on section 14, township 17, range 26. Here he is successfully engaged in raising grain, and is numbered among the prominent men of this section. In his religious convictions Mr. Garrett is a member of the Episcopal Church.

**CHARLES HENRY MOSHER.** A farm improved and made valuable by the energy and resource of a man who has depended solely upon his own efforts and to whom the country is both a profitable and pleasant place in which to dwell, is that of Charles Henry Mosher, who in 1890 became the owner of eighty acres five miles southeast of Visalia. Thirty-five acres of this ranch he put under peaches and prunes, and prepared them for market in a home dryer, and the balance he put in pasture and general farming, being equipped with substantial barns and buildings and needful agricultural implements.

Born in Tompkins county, N. Y., March 4, 1841, Mr. Mosher was six years old when his parents, Ambrose and Sarah (Castline) Mosher, moved to Battle Creek, Mich., then offering superior facilities for lumbering and mercantile enterprises. Ambrose Mosher, who was a native of Dutchess county, N. Y., turned his attention to both lumbering and merchandising, owning sawmills and conducting a large and flourishing business. Eleven years after arriving in Michigan, in 1858, his death occurred after a slight illness, he being then but fifty-two years old, and seemingly in the prime of a vigorous manhood. His wife also died in Michigan, leaving two sons and two daughters, the youngest of whom is Charles Henry, who was educated in the common schools of Battle Creek. At an early day he moved to Wisconsin, where he became interested in lumbering and

logging, and where he was sufficiently successful to warrant him in starting lumber yards in Minnesota and Iowa, his removal to the former state taking place in 1875. At Lanesboro, Minn., he engaged in business for two years, and upon returning to Wisconsin started a hotel at Wausau, which he operated with a partner, to whom he sold his interest at the end of two years. Locating in Centerville, Iowa, he carried on a retail lumber business for two years, and in 1888 took up his residence in Santa Cruz, Cal., and engaged in a livery business for a year and a half. In 1890 he moved to Tulare county and bought the property which he improved and which was his residence until December, 1904, when he sold out.

Since casting his first presidential vote Mr. Mosher has been loyal to the Republican party, but has never been willing to accept official honors from his fellow townsmen. His association with the Masonic fraternity dates from his residence in Wisconsin, from which lodge he was demitted. In Perry county, Ill., he married Gertrude Halsey, who was born in Vermont, and who has become the mother of the following children: William, of Visalia; Belle, at home; Charles, with the Ringling Brothers' circus; Gertrude, attending the State University at Berkeley; and Fred and Margaret, at home. The years have brought esteem and honor to Mr. Mosher, leaving him a typical representative of the substantial and successful western gentleman.

---

**WALTER E. NETHERTON.** One of the most prosperous and thriving agriculturists of either Stanislaus or Merced counties, Walter E. Netherton is conducting his ranch in keeping with the latest and most improved and approved methods, making a specialty of dairying. Residing three miles south of Newman, his land is within the limits of Merced county, and is especially adapted to the raising of alfalfa and hay, which are his staple crops. A native of Contra Costa county, he was born near Byron, September 28, 1874, a son of J. Smith Netherton.

The son of a farmer, J. Smith Netherton was born in Platte county, Mo., in 1835. In 1850 he came across the plains with an ox team train to California, being then fourteen years of age, and at first worked in the mines. He subsequently began farming in Lafayette, Cal., and afterward entered one hundred and sixty acres of land near Byron. Since that time he has been actively and prosperously engaged in farming and stock raising, being located in Merced county, where he has a valuable ranch of three hundred and twenty acres. He married Matilda Ann Estes, a native of Missouri. Her father,

Joseph Estes, emigrated from England, his native land, to the United States, and located first in Missouri, from there coming with ox teams to California in pioneer times, and spending his remaining days as a farmer in Contra Costa county. Of the nine children born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith Netherton, five survive, namely: William P., an attorney in Santa Cruz county; Edward, a printer in San Francisco; George, connected with the Oakland Street Railway; Walter E., the special subject of this sketch; and Delbert, manager of the home ranch.

Having completed his studies in the district school, Walter E. Netherton grew to manhood on the home farm, becoming familiar with the various branches of agriculture. Assuming charge of a large ranch in Merced county in 1892, he labored diligently and effectively, meeting with deserved success in its management. In 1903, Mr. Netherton located on his present farm, and has since been actively engaged in the dairy business, keeping thirty-five cows, and having eighty head of cattle, mostly Holsteins, although he has a few choice Durhams. On his home farm he has forty acres of land in alfalfa, and also owns thirty-seven and three-tenths acres below the ditch, which he devotes to the same crop. Mr. Netherton's farm in point of improvements and equipments is one of the best in the vicinity, with its neat residence and ample barns and outbuildings being a credit to his energy and activity.

In Modesto, Cal., Mr. Netherton married Mrs. Mary Petersen, who was born in Denmark, a daughter of Albert Albertsen, a farmer and dairyman, and came with her parents to California when a year old. Mr. and Mrs. Netherton have one child, a daughter, named Mabel Ruth. Fraternally Mr. Netherton is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and of the Uniformed Rank Knights of Pythias. He is a man of good business ability and judgment, and is one of the stockholders in the New Era Creamery Association.

---

**ANDRES S. RAYNOR.** Eight miles east of the town of Le Grand, on the old Raynor ranch, resides the gentleman named above, and without a doubt he is one of the most prominent and successful sheep and stock ranchers in Merced county. His home ranch contains seventeen hundred acres and in Mariposa county in partnership with his brother, W. N. Raynor, he has a two hundred and forty acre grain farm. He also rents eight thousand acres of the Raynor estate, which formerly contained fourteen thousand acres, located in Merced, Madera and Mariposa counties. It was on Long Island, New







BENJAMIN HICKS

York, that Mr. Raynor was born, January 14, 1865, and he is one of three children born to William M. and Jennie (Carmen) Raynor and grandson of Micajah and Ruth (Baldwin) Raynor. His father, born at Hempstead, N. Y., in 1831 spent his boyhood and early youth on the farm of his father and at seventeen went to Richmond county to learn the baking business. While here several years later he made up his mind to go to California and accordingly embarked on the steamer Cherokee bound for Panama. After a rough trip, Aspinwall was reached and Mr. Raynor was five days traveling up the Chagres river, after which he took the steamer McKino for San Francisco. Bad weather delayed the steamer so long that the supply of coal and provisions gave out and after waiting several months he was at last obliged to take the coast steamer at San Simeon bay, reaching San Francisco after a journey of five months.

At Jamestown in Tuolumne county, he engaged in mining pursuits for several years, afterward returning to his home in New York. In 1861 he married Miss Jennie Carmen, who was born in the Empire state, the only child of Joseph Carmen, who died at Freeport, L. I., December 26, 1904, when eighty-five years of age. His daughter, Mrs. Jennie Raynor, died at San Jose, December 21, 1904, when fifty-nine years of age. In 1868, with his family, including Andres S., Mr. Raynor again went to California by the Panama route and in Tuolumne county he engaged in raising sheep, which occupied his attention up to 1871. In Mariposa county he followed a similar business the next year, afterward spending a short time in Fresno county. In 1872 he located on the place previously mentioned, known as the old Raynor ranch, and here for many years he engaged in raising sheep on an extensive scale. About 1884 he removed to San Jose, but it was in Fresno county that he died in 1893, aged sixty-two years. His children are Mrs. Addie Daulton, of Madera county; Andres S.; and William N., who follows ranching pursuits in Merced county.

Reared in California, Andres S. Raynor was the recipient of a very good education; his common school learning was supplemented by a complete course in the Garden City Business College and after leaving school he took up the life of a rancher, to which his subsequent years have been devoted. He is assisted by his brother, William N., who married Miss Sadie Cleek, a native of Merced county, Cal. It was in Santa Clara county that Andres S. Raynor married Miss Nellie McKee, who was born in San Jose, and they have three children, Howard, Ruth and Joseph. Like his father, Mr. Raynor is a staunch Republican but has never been active in political

affairs. His father, however, while a resident of Fresno county, served as supervisor. Both brothers are public-spirited citizens, befitting their high standing in the community.

---

**BENJAMIN HICKS.** From the time of his original settlement in Tulare county until his death, a period of about twenty-five years, Mr. Hicks was intimately associated with the agricultural development of this part of California and by his judicious cultivation of the land accomplished much in assisting to place the farming interests of the locality upon a profitable basis. When he began to till the soil here little had been done in that direction and the fertility of the land was an unknown quantity, but he and other pioneers by their industrious efforts proved that grains can be raised profitably in this part of the state and likewise the stock business can be conducted on a remunerative basis.

Of Canadian birth and ancestry, Mr. Hicks was born in Toronto December 30, 1847, and grew to manhood in his home city. During 1869 he set out to seek a livelihood and at once came to the States, proceeding direct to California, where he rented farm land in Tulare county, four and one-half miles east of Visalia. After six years on that place he removed to a farm one and one-half miles north of Visalia, and from there in 1884 removed to a stock and grain farm of eight hundred acres. For nine years he cultivated that land, meanwhile accumulating considerable savings, a portion of which he invested in a tract of one hundred acres two miles north-east of Visalia, and in addition he bought an eighty-acre tract of grain land. When death came to him, June 9, 1900, he had attained a position of influence among the farmers of Tulare county and was held in the highest respect as a man of keen judgment, high honor and great energy. In all his dealings he proved honorable, doing unto others as he would be done by, and exemplifying in his life the teachings of the Christian Church, of which he was a devoted member. Loyal to his adopted country, he gave his support to all measures for the benefit of county and commonwealth. In political matters he believed the principles of the Republican party best adapted to promote the material prosperity of the nation and always supported them by voice and vote. Fraternally he was connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The free school system met with his cordial support and in his service as trustee of the Elbow creek school district he displayed a keen interest in securing for the children of the district the best advantages possible without unduly burdening the taxpayers.

Near Visalia, in 1871, occurred the marriage of Benjamin Hicks and Elizabeth A. March, a native of Merced, this state, and a daughter of Robert and Mary Jane (Holloway) March, natives of Kentucky. In an early day her parents settled in Missouri, and from there, accompanied by his young wife, Mr. March crossed the plains to California in 1849, settling in Mariposa county, later going to Merced county, and eventually locating in Tulare county, where he supplemented farm work by various mining interests. At the time of his death, which occurred in Tulare county in 1903, he had attained the age of seventy-eight years. His wife died in 1881, in Tulare county, aged fifty-six years. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Hicks consisted of seven children, but three are deceased. Those now living are Albert E., who has charge of the old home ranch; Mary Pearl and Jewel, who reside with their mother at No. 503 North Church street, Visalia; and Ruby Louise, who married A. E. Blair, and lives near Visalia. The family are identified with the Christian Church. Upon the death of Mr. Hicks his wife became administrator of the estate, which she has managed with a capability and wise judgment that mark her as a woman of unusual business talents.

---

**CARL E. KOCHER.** One of the intelligent, practical and energetic business men of the San Joaquin valley is C. E. Kocher, who is identified with the industrial interests of that section of the state. He is one of the leading hardware merchants of Merced, the president of the Merced Chamber of Commerce, one of the organizers and the secretary of the Pacific Slate Company, which is successfully operating slate mines that are located about fifteen miles from this city, across the line in Mariposa county. A son of the late Abraham Kocher, he was born in Hornitos, Mariposa county, December 9, 1867.

Born and brought up in the canton of Berne, Switzerland, Abraham Kocher, not satisfied with his future financial prospects in his native land, emigrated to the United States in 1852, and located in Mariposa county, Cal. Beginning his search for gold, he followed mining for a while, and then settled permanently in Hornitos, where he was engaged in business as a saddler and harness-maker until his death, in 1870. He was a man of irreproachable character, strictly honest in all of his dealings, and was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Catherine Hunziker, who was born in Berne, Switzerland, and now resides in Hornitos, where she is carrying on a successful dry goods and millinery business. Two chil-

dren were born of their union, namely: Emma, of Hornitos; and Carl E., the subject of this sketch.

After completing the district school course, Carl E. Kocher pursued his studies in the San Jose high school, and then entered the Garden City Business College, where he was graduated in 1887. Coming then to Merced, he entered the employ of his uncle, J. Kocher, a hardware dealer, and remained with him as bookkeeper for ten years. In 1897 Mr. Kocher began business on his own account, locating on Front street, where he occupies a two-story building, 25x150 feet, carrying a complete stock of hardware of all kinds. He also deals in agricultural implements and tools of every description, and keeps on hand a full line of paints and oils. A man of decided push and ability, he has built up a large and remunerative business, his trade equaling that of other merchants engaged in his line of business, his store and warehouse being constantly replenished to satisfy the wants of his patrons. He resides in the Bradley addition to the city, on Central avenue, where he has erected a modern residence. By good management and wise investment he has acquired a good property, and in addition to his other interests has an orchard of twenty acres, and a vineyard, in the Yosemite colony.

In Mariposa county, Mr. Kocher married Miss Fay Craighan, a native of that county, and they are the parents of three children, namely: Catherine, Viola and John Edward. Politically Mr. Kocher is identified with the Democrats, and for eight years, from 1896 until 1904, he served as city treasurer, filling the position in an able and faithful manner.

---

**HOMER DAILEY WOODARD.** A successful farmer and stockman, Homer Dailey Woodard is numbered among the representative men of Tulare county and holds a prominent place as a citizen. He is a native of Wisconsin, having been born in Waukesha November 22, 1850, a son of Myron Woodard. The elder man was born near Rochester, N. Y., June 9, 1819, where the Woodard family had flourished for generations. An ancestor on his mother's side, William Williams, signed the Declaration of Independence, while his father served in the Revolutionary war. Myron Woodard was also a staunch citizen in time of need, having served under General Scott at the time of the trouble between Canada and the United States. He became an early settler of Waukesha county, Wis., where he cleared a farm of beech and maple trees and assisted materially in the development and upbuilding of the section in which he

made his home. Deciding to become a pioneer in the more remote west, he crossed the plains in 1854 with the Hawkins boys, driving cattle, and upon his safe arrival in California he engaged in mining. Returning east in 1857 he spent one year in Wisconsin when he brought his family to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, after landing in San Francisco coming on to Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, which was then known as Knights Ferry. He there engaged in mining until 1862, when he went to Nevada and in Washoe valley occupied himself with farming and the wood business. In 1867 he returned to California, spending three months in Linden, San Joaquin county, when he went to Columbia, Tuolumne county, and followed mining. In 1870 he located at Badger, on the Mill road, where he organized the first school district and postoffice, accepting and filling the office of postmaster. He there farmed and engaged in the stock business, and also conducted a hotel. Upon his retirement he made his home with his son, H. D., where he died three years later, in 1886, at the age of sixty-seven years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and politically cast his ballot with the Republican party. His wife, formerly Eunisa Dailey, was born in Rochester, N. Y., June 8, 1822. After the death of her husband she sold the Badger property and made her home on the farm in the Townsend district until her death October 4, 1899, at the age of seventy-seven years. She left four children, namely: Marvin W., in Tehama county; Melvin C., a farmer in this section; Homer Dailey; and H. P., employed by a railroad company in Arizona.

Homer Dailey Woodard was reared in his adopted western home, receiving his education in the district schools in California and Nevada. He remained at home until he was twenty years old, when he began railroading as a brakeman on the Southern Pacific, having a run between Fresno and Sacramento. After three years of this work he returned to his early training and began farming, having previously become interested in stock-raising. In the fall of 1876 he located upon his present property, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres on section 2, township 17, range 26, entering into the work of cultivation and improvement. In the intervening years he bought property until he now owns sixteen hundred acres here, a fifteen-hundred acre ranch in the foothills, one hundred and sixty acres near Tulare, and one hundred and sixty acres in Kings county. This extensive property he now devotes to the raising of stock and general farming operations. He has met with a gratifying success and is deservedly prominent among the successful agriculturists and stockmen of the county.

In Cricketville, Tulare county, May 24, 1876, Mr. Woodard was united in marriage with Susie F. Rook, who was born near Carrollton, Ark. Her father, Thomas Rook, was a native of Tennessee, who came to California in 1859, bringing his family in a large emigrant train over the southern route. He settled near Visalia and later in the vicinity of Cricketville, where he was one of the first settlers. He engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in that locality. His wife, formerly Mary Daniel, was a native of South Carolina, and the daughter of Abner Daniel, who died in that state. Mrs. Rook died in Fresno county in 1899. Of her thirteen children eleven attained maturity and five are now living. Mrs. Woodard is a representative woman, her education being received in the Visalia Seminary, after which she engaged in educational work, teaching for five years in Tulare county. To Mr. and Mrs. Woodard were born six children, namely: Flora, a graduate of the San Jose State Normal and a teacher in the schools of the state, is the wife of H. Swank, in the vicinity of Visalia; Orvis, is a graduate of the Pacific Business College, of San Jose, and was also a student at the Kings Conservatory of Music; Forrest, a graduate of the grammar schools and resides at home; Chester is attending the Pacific Business College of San Jose; Hazel and Myrtle are at home. Mr. Woodard is one of the most prominent men in this section and one who has been called upon to occupy positions of trust and responsibility. He was a member of the first board of directors for the Townsend district, and up to within three years ago acted either as clerk or trustee. It is worthy of mention that the school building occupies an acre of ground which he donated for the purpose. Fraternally he is associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Both himself and wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Antelope. Politically he is a staunch Republican and has always taken a keen interest in local affairs, serving at the present time as a member of the county central committee.

---

THOMAS E. AWBREY. In the above-named gentleman, Exeter has a man who has, by his own efforts worked his way from the bottom of the ladder to a position in the business world that is the envy of many who had much more flattering prospects at the start. As junior member of the firm of Kirkman & Awbrey, meat dealers, Mr. Awbrey is constantly coming in contact with the public and in this daily intercourse is winning friends and affluence.

Thomas E. Awbrey was born in St. Charles, Mo., June 5, 1867, a son of John and Josephine

(Hutchinson) Awbrey. The father was also a native of Missouri, his father having migrated there from Virginia. At the outbreak of the Civil war John Awbrey was a young man and at the call for troops joined a Missouri regiment and fought on the Union side. After the close of hostilities he returned to his home near St. Charles, where he became one of the leading farmers of that section. He died on the home place in 1892. His wife, Josephine Hutchinson, was born in St. Louis, a daughter of John Hutchinson, who was also a native of the same city. He was a brick manufacturer and marble worker. Mrs. Awbrey is still living and makes her home in Exeter.

Thomas E. Awbrey was the second in a large family of children, and as soon as able was obliged to assist his father in the work of the farm. His education was limited to that afforded by a few terms in the district school. Remaining at home until he had reached his twenty-first year, he then took up the battle of life and in 1889 came to California, locating in Tulare county, where he followed farming until 1892, when he came to Exeter. At that time there was but one store in the town. Soon after arrival in this new western town, he entered the employ of T. E. Fridley, who at the time was conducting the meat market, now partly owned by our subject. Under the direction of Mr. Fridley he learned the meat business, continuing with him seven years and when Mr. Fridley sold the market to John Bernard, he continued with the successor until September, 1903, when in partnership with G. W. Kirkman he purchased a half interest in the business, since which time the market has been conducted under the firm name of Kirkman & Awbrey.

This firm, in addition to engaging in a general meat business, also raises and buys and sells cattle quite extensively. The market is modern in all its appointments and in the country there is a slaughter house where the meat is prepared for the market. Kirkman & Awbrey have met with success, and although but a few years have passed since Mr. Awbrey came to Exeter, he has improved the opportunities and today is considered one of the substantial men of the town.

In 1894 he married Lulu Barlow, a native of Saline county, Mo. Three children are the result of this union, as follows: Grace, Edward and Zayda.

Politically, Mr. Awbrey is an active Democrat and is now a member of the county central committee. He is also a member of the board of trustees, and although most of his time is devoted to his business, he still finds an opportunity to look after other matters, and may at all times be depended on to do his share toward

the upbuilding of his town and county. In fraternal relations he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World.

Mr. Awbrey has reason to feel proud over the success he has made in life, and while a young man he has attained that for which many an older man has striven in vain. Success be with him is the hearty wish of his large circle of friends.

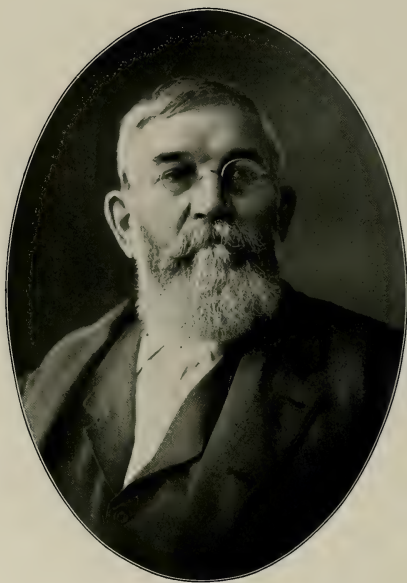
---

HARLAND E. WRIGHT. Among the enterprising men of the younger generation in Kings county is Harland E. Wright, one of the organizers of the Hanford National Bank, and its present cashier and manager. Born in Wisconsin, Lincoln county, Me., May 22, 1863, he is the son of Sullivan Wright, also a native of that state and a jeweler by occupation. Sullivan Wright came of an old New England family, strong in patriotism and courage, and at the breaking out of the Civil war he endeavored to enlist as a soldier in the cause of the Union, but was rejected on account of physical disability. He lived to be only fifty-five years old. His wife, Maria L. Bailey, also born in Maine, of an old New England family, survives her husband and still makes her home in her native state.

The boyhood of Harland E. Wright was spent in the parental home, during which years he attended the public schools in the pursuit of an education. He lost his father at the age of nine years, and at thirteen, with the self-reliance inculcated into the character of the sons of New England, he became dependent upon his own resources. Learning telegraphy, he followed this pursuit for a number of years, working for the Western Union Telegraph Company in Boston and different parts of Maine until October, 1882, in which year the great strike occurred. With a natural taste and inclination for the work he became an expert operator. During the same year, 1882, he came to California, securing employment with George P. McNear, banker and grain dealer of Petaluma, as bookkeeper, remaining in that position until the fall of 1892, when he resigned and removed to Hanford, becoming assistant cashier in the Farmers & Merchants Bank. Eighteen months later he was made cashier, which position he retained until March, 1903. In the last named year he sold out his interest in this bank (being at the time the largest stockholder in the same), and in May organized the Hanford National Bank, opening for business on the 28th of July. This bank has a paid-up capital of \$50,000, and a \$5,000 surplus. November 1, 1903, a savings department was organized. Besides his interest in the bank Mr. Wright is the owner of a stock and dairy ranch of three hundred and twenty acres in







*L. M. Howell.*



*Mrs L. M. Howell.*



Kings county, and also a fruit ranch of eighty acres six miles from Hanford. The success which has marked the career of Mr. Wright is due entirely to his own efforts, his native ability and inherited characteristics, supplemented by a practical training in the school of experience, where he early learned the lessons of self reliance, independence, honesty and earnestness.

November 15, 1888, Mr. Wright married Etta Ranard, a native of Sonoma county, Cal., and they have one child, Fae. Mr. Wright is a Republican in his political preference and gives his influence toward the advancement of the principles he endorses. He has never, however, accepted official recognition nor is desirous of a public career. Fraternally he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World.

LEWIS MORGAN HOWELL. Adjoining the town of Visalia on the west and included within the city limits lies the homestead of thirty-five acres where Mr. Howell resides, engaged in raising stock and such farm products as the size of the farm justifies. Long familiar with western scenes, not alone through his residence in California, but also by reason of previously making his home in Montana, he is a Missourian by birth and education, and was born in St. Charles county, August 19, 1831. His father, Thomas Howell, a native of North Carolina, settled in St. Louis, Mo., in early life, and from there went to St. Charles county, same state, where he remained until death, meanwhile not only engaging in farming, but also finding enjoyment and profit in hunting the wild game so plentiful in that region in those days. By marriage to Susanna Calloway, a native of Kentucky, he became connected with the famous pioneer and hunter, Daniel Boone, for Miss Calloway was a daughter of Boone's child, Jemima. Family history relates how, when Jemima was a young girl, she went rowing one afternoon on a Kentucky river with Elizabeth and Frances Calloway, girls about her own age, and to whose brother she was betrothed. After a pleasant afternoon on the river they started to get out of the boat when Indians sprang from the bushes and took them captive, hastily carrying them away on their horses. Knowing that friends would try to follow their trail the girls tore bits of cloth from their dresses and dropped them on the ground. Detected at this, they tried the plan of breaking branches of trees as they rode beneath the swaying boughs. The fathers and lovers of the girls were able to follow their course by reason of their ingenuity in marking their path, and they were soon rescued and borne back to their homes in great joy.

In a family consisting of seven sons and seven daughters, L. M. Howell was next to the youngest and is now the sole survivor. Under the supervision of an uncle he was educated in a private school in Missouri. For ten years he was a pilot on Missouri river steamboats, his route being between St. Louis and Omaha, and many of his happiest memories are associated with the care-free days when steamboating was the delight of the aristocratic classes and the popular mode of travel with all. On leaving the river, in 1864, he went to Montana and engaged in freighting in Gallatin county, where he purchased and operated the finest grist mill in the entire territory. During 1878 he came to California, and after six months spent in San Jose, removed to Healdsburg, remaining there three years, then returned to San Jose, and in 1885 moved to Visalia, where he engaged in farming. Of his first purchase of two hundred and forty acres he sold sixty-seven acres to the city of Visalia, but still retains one hundred and seventy-three acres, in addition to which he owns a timber claim of two hundred and forty acres in the mountains back from town.

While living in Missouri Mr. Howell married Elizabeth Jane Wallace, a native of that state. The children born of their union are named as follows: Maggie Susan, who is married and lives in Montana; James W., a miner making his home in Butte, Mont.; Lizzie L., wife of James M. Cann, of Sultana; Lewis Morgan, Jr., who is living at Sanger, Fresno county; Eliza Ann, who resides with her parents; Mary E., wife of Will Luce of Kern, and Charles R., who is still at home. In fraternal relations Mr. Howell is a Mason, in religion he supports the doctrines of the Church of Christ, and politically gives his influence and ballot to support the candidates of the Democratic party.

CHARLES F. FLEMMING. When Mr. Flemming came to Hanford in 1880 for the purpose of opening a blacksmith and wagon repairing shop he was master of the situation, as no one with like intentions had preceded him hither. With an anvil and a few tools which he brought from Stockton he opened an unpretentious little shop, the nucleus of what is to-day not only the leading establishment of the kind in Hanford, but which is not exceeded in size or quality of work turned out by any like establishment in Kings county. As the demands of the business made it necessary Mr. Flemming enlarged the original structure from time to time, and his present quarters measure 65 x 125 feet. He not only does repairing of all kinds, but also manufactures vehicles of all descriptions, and furnishes employment to from five to ten men.

Mr. Flemming is a native of California, born

in Sonoma, Sonoma county, October 10, 1859, a son of William Flemming, who was born in Ireland in 1817. In 1825, when eight years old, he was brought to the United States, and was reared in New York City. When a young man he went to Rochester, N. Y., and learned the carriage maker's trade, which he followed until January, 1850, when he opened a shop at Sonoma. About 1861 he went to San Francisco and established a carriage and wagon factory, but after running this for several years he laid the business aside to work for the quicksilver mining company, becoming head boss of their shops as a millwright. About 1872 he removed to San Jose and began in business for himself once more, owning and conducting a shop up to the time of his death in 1900, when eighty-three years of age. His wife, Celia Doherty, was also a native of the Emerald Isle, and died when sixty years old.

There were two children in the parental family, the eldest of whom, Thomas, is now in San Jose, where he is successfully conducting two fruit ranches, carrying on an extensive business. The early boyhood years of Charles F. Flemming were spent in San Jose, where he attended the public schools until reaching his fifteenth year. At that age he went into his father's shop and learned the blacksmith's trade, applying himself diligently for the following six years in mastering the details of the business. In 1877 he went to Stockton and found employment in the Henderson carriage factory and later in William P. Miller's factory. Upon leaving the latter's employ three years later Mr. Flemming came to Hanford, and in the intervening years has built up a trade of no small proportions, which comes from all parts of the county.

The marriage of Mr. Flemming occurred in 1889 and united him with Mary E. Corum, whose birth occurred in Portland, Ore. Politically Mr. Flemming is a Democrat, voting for the candidates of that party upon all occasions, but he has steadily refused to accept any office at the hands of his party. His fraternal relations bind him to the Foresters, Woodmen of the World and Ancient Order of United Workmen, in all of which he is a valued member.

---

**WILLIAM B. NICHOLS.** The Nichols family, represented in Tulare county, Cal., by William B. Nichols, proprietor of the Sunset Ranch, has been prominent in the history of Vermont for generations. In Revolutionary days Ebenezer Nichols and his son, William, fought for American independence, giving up the peaceful pursuits of a New England farm to follow the martial fortunes of Washington. William Nichols, born in Braintree, Orange county, Vt.,

married Betsey White, a daughter of Ebenezer White, also a patriot in the Revolutionary war. Their son, William H., also born in Braintree, grew to manhood and married Ann Eliza Bates, a native of Salisbury, Vt. Her father, William Atwell Bates, was a New England farmer, who became a pioneer of Tabor, Iowa. William H. Nichols still owns the old homestead in Vermont, making his home in Randolph, although he became a resident of Cedar Falls, Iowa, after his admission to the bar in 1860, practicing law until the first call for volunteers. Responding at once he served as a brevet captain throughout the entire war. He was wounded twice during his service, the first time at the battle of Shiloh and the second time at Corinth. Upon the close of the war he returned to Randolph and there began a successful practice of his profession. In 1870 he was elected to the state legislature, serving one term, and two years later was a member of the Constitutional Convention. In 1874 he was elected probate judge, which office he has held by re-election ever since. He is a Republican in his political convictions, and fraternally is identified with the Masons. He is a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His wife died in Vermont in 1886, leaving a family of four children, three sons and one daughter, namely: Benito, in London, England; William B., of this review; Edward H., located on the old homestead in Vermont; and Anna, the wife of David R. Bosworth, of Bristol, Vt.

Born in Braintree, Orange county, Vt., December 4, 1858, William B. Nichols received his education in the Randolph Academy and the state Normal School, located in Randolph, graduating from the latter institution in 1878. For one year following he read law in his father's office, after which, in 1880, he went to Jamestown (now in North Dakota), where he was admitted to the bar and began the practice of his profession. He also engaged in the real estate business and met with success in his work, being a resident of that place when the Northern Pacific Railroad was completed about 1885. Later he removed to Duluth, Minn., and engaged in silver mining on the north shore, after two years locating in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, where he became superintendent of mines, assisting materially in the upbuilding of the Brookfield Company. Afterward he accepted the position of superintendent of the Malaga Lake Mining Company, with whom he remained connected for a period of two years. Going to South America he became interested in placer mining in the interior of Dutch Guiana, after one year returning to Nova Scotia to accept again the position of superintendent. After seven months he went to Mexico, and in Jalisco was associated



with the La Cumbria Mining Company. In July, 1892, he came to California, stopping first in Fresno, but in November of the same year coming to Tulare county and purchasing the ranch upon which he is now located. This consists of two hundred and forty acres three and a half miles southeast of Dinuba. At the time of his purchase but twenty acres was planted to fruit, since which time he has set out ten acres additional, devoted principally to the cultivation of peaches and olives; one hundred and twenty acres is in vineyard; ten acres in alfalfa; and of the eighty-acre piece across the road from the main ranch, forty acres is devoted to alfalfa and forty is in the process of setting to vineyard. Besides this Mr. Nichols has set out eighty acres additional of vineyard, which he has sold. His chief interest is in the olive cultivation, raising it both for pickling and the making of olive oil, having put up a pickling plant and an oil mill, the output for a year being thirteen thousand gallons of olives and fifteen hundred gallons of pure olive oil, sold under the Sunset Brand, which has won for itself a recognition based upon its quality. Mr. Nichols has made of his property, which is known as the Sunset Ranch, one of the finest farms in this section, both as to production and appearance, erecting modern buildings in keeping with the times of progress.

In Duluth, Minn., Mr. Nichols married Emma Heimbach, a native of Walworth county, Wis., and the daughter of Daniel Heimbach, a farmer in that section. They are the parents of one child, Gretchen. By a former marriage Mr. Nichols has a daughter, Josephine Mattie Nichols, who resides in Vermont.

Fraternally Mr. Nichols was made a Mason in Randolph, Vt., and politically is a staunch Republican, having served as a member of the county central committee.

---

**CHARLES H. COE.** In the management of his warehouse and in the business ability displayed in the conduct of his hay, grain and general produce establishment in Hanford Mr. Coe shows inborn tact and a thorough understanding of his calling. Mr. Coe is of eastern birth and the first fourteen years of his life were spent amid his native surroundings in Jefferson county, N. Y., where his birth occurred June 21, 1860. His grandfather, Henry Coe, who claimed Holland-Dutch antecedents, was also a native of New York state. His father, Julius T., was born in Fulton county, N. Y., where he carried on farming during his early life, and subsequently engaged in the manufacture of gloves. In 1874 he was attracted to California as offering a field for larger opportunity, and with his

family located on a farm near Vacaville, Solano county. Two years later he came to what is now Kings county and settled on government land two miles south of Hanford, although at that time the town was not in existence. His government claim consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of land, but he continually added to it until he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres, in the cultivation and management of which he was fairly successful, making it his home until his death in 1884, when sixty-four years of age. Politically he allied himself with the Republican party, and in religious belief he was a Presbyterian. His wife, formerly Catherine Simpson, was also born in Fulton county, N. Y., and now makes her home in Hanford at the age of seventy-five years.

At the time of the removal of the family to California Charles H. Coe was fourteen years old, so the greater part of his life has been spent in the Golden state. Brought up on a farm, it was but natural that he should assist in the duties that fall to the farmer's lot, and until twenty-one years old worked side by side with his father. Branching out for himself at that age, he purchased eighty acres adjoining his father's home, and in addition to managing his own farm, also had charge of the home place until 1891, when it was cut up into five and ten acre tracts and sold, and was afterwards known as the Coe Colony. The next year Mr. Coe was employed in a warehouse for a short time, and for the following seven years was engaged in the same line of industry in Hanford, Armona and Lemoore. In 1903 he erected a warehouse, 56 x 200 feet, which he occupies to-day and which is one of the finest brick structures in Hanford. In addition to his other business Mr. Coe writes fire insurance, doing considerable business in this line.

In 1884 Mr. Coe was married to Lizzie Manning, who was born in Oakland, Cal., and they have become the parents of four children, named as follows: Adaline, Myra, Bernard and Bernice, all at home with their parents. As an interested ally of the Republican party Mr. Coe has been chosen to represent his party in the county conventions of that body and has also assisted at elections, but he has at no time had aspirations for public office, finding private life more suited to his tastes. But one fraternal organization claims Mr. Coe's membership, that being Hanford Court, I. O. F.

---

**HENRY EICHHOFF.** The fact that Henry Eichhoff inherited the ranch upon which he now lives, two miles from Ripon, and which, according to popular belief, is one of the best managed and most valuable in San Joaquin coun-

ty, in no way detracts from the credit due him as a thoroughly intelligent and up-to-date young farmer. He is a native of this county, having been born on a ranch near Ripon, October 31, 1872, and as his name indicates, he is of German extraction. His father, Gustave Eichhoff, was born in Germany April 10, 1830, and after several years on the paternal farm became dissatisfied with his prospects and determined to immigrate to the United States. The step was taken after mature reflection, for he was a man of thirty when he arrived in New York, and was perfectly capable of judging for himself. Coming at once to San Joaquin county, he soon afterward married Melinda Winacia, a native of Germany, who is now deceased. Mr. Eichhoff settled on the farm now owned by his son in 1888, remaining here until his death, February 23, 1893. He was progressive and resourceful, and in time had fifteen hundred and fifty-four acres under grain, at the same time raising large numbers of stock. He was successful and prominent and was one of the best illustrations of Teutonic perseverance and pluck vouchsafed the earlier years of this county.

Henry Eichhoff came to his present farm with his father in 1888, and now owns a one-half interest in nine hundred and fourteen acres of land, chiefly under grain and alfalfa. His place is under a high state of cultivation, and under his ownership improvements have been made of which the original owner never dreamed, so persistent and rapid have been the advances along agricultural lines during the past few years. Mr. Eichhoff is a large, strong man, with a sunny nature, and the ability to make and retain steadfast friends. He is well posted on current events, and believes in surrounding himself and family with all the comforts and diversions possible to those who live beyond the borders of cities, and who, by their toil, lay the foundation for almost every line of occupation known to civilized man. Mr. Eichhoff married Emma Wille, a native of this county, and daughter of Joseph Wille, a prominent rancher near Ripon. Mr. Eichhoff is a Republican in politics, and is fraternally connected with the Woodmen of America. He is popular and influential, and stands high in the business and social life of the community.

**HENRY GRIES.** Descended from a line of rugged and upright ancestry, Henry Gries represents that class of citizens who gives strength and stability to the community. For many years he followed the life of a sailor, and has made the trip from his native country, Germany, around Cape Horn, five times. Born August 10, 1846, a son of Claus Gries, he spent his early boyhood

days in his native land and received the best school training available to the citizens of the moderate class in those days, remaining at home until he attained the age of sixteen years. He then chose a sea-faring life and became a sailor, and on one of his trips around Cape Horn went north as far as San Francisco, landing on California soil in 1868. During the following two years he served in the capacity of a sailor on the revenue cutter *Reliance*, which plied along the Pacific coast.

Discontinuing sea life in 1870, Mr. Gries made his home in San Francisco until 1886, and during that time was engaged in various pursuits, in the meantime saving enough to warrant an investment in land. Being attracted by the special inducements offered to settlers in the San Joaquin valley, he purchased land in Fresno county in 1887, and has been a resident of the county ever since. His productive farm contains eighty acres in Bethel school district, near Del Rey, thirty-five acres of this being in vineyards, eight acres in orchards, the balance being utilized for general farming.

Mr. Gries attributes his success in a large measure to his untiring efforts, as the property he has acquired is the fruit of his own exertions and sacrifices. He is unmarried. In his political convictions he is a follower of the precepts of the Republican party.

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TEAGUE.** Prominent among the successful business men of Exeter is Benjamin Franklin Teague, the owner of the Exeter water works and through his real estate operations one of the material up-builders of this section of the county. He was born in Fort Scott, Kans., December 1, 1864, a son of Joab Teague. The latter was a native of Lincoln county, N. C., from which place his father, William, took his family as far west as Morgan county, Ind., in the pioneer days of the state. William Teague was a soldier in the war of 1812 and a substantial citizen of the community which knew him as a resident. Joab Teague taught school in Indiana until his removal to Osage, Mo., where he followed farming for some years. In 1857 he located in Fort Scott, Kans., and was a farmer and pioneer stockman of that section. He became a prominent man in the community, holding various public offices, among them that of justice of the peace, serving also as county treasurer of Bourbon county for one term. In 1888 Mr. Teague came to California, locating near Farmersville, Tulare county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death in 1891, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was a member of the Baptist Church. His wife, formerly Mary Re-





*E. H. Baldwin*

becca Wood, was born in Clarksburg, W. Va., a daughter of William Wood, a native of the same place, and a descendant of English ancestry. He died in Virginia. Mrs. Teague died in Exeter in 1902 at the age of seventy-eight years. In her religious convictions she was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Teague was married twice, by his first wife having five sons and one daughter, of whom five children are now living: John, a resident of Exeter; Calvin, a resident of southern California; Monroe, now located near Fort Scott, Kans.; Jesse, who died in California; Logan, residing near Lemoore, Kings county, Cal.; and Eliza, the wife of A. B. Gardner, of Idaho. The four sons first mentioned were soldiers in the Civil war. By his second marriage Mr. Teague had two children: Benjamin Franklin, of this review, and Sherman, a farmer near Exeter.

Benjamin Franklin Teague was reared on a farm in the vicinity of Fort Scott, Kans., receiving his education in the public schools and the Kansas Normal College at Fort Scott. He taught school until he was twenty-four years of age, when he became a clerk in a general merchandise establishment in Uniontown, Kans. In 1889 he came to California and purchased a farm located one mile south of Farmersville, Tulare county, and in conjunction with his brother Sherman, farmed for several years, at the same time clerking in a store in Farmersville. In 1892 he removed to Exeter and engaged as a clerk for H. R. Stephens. Two years later he established a general merchandise store on the west side. Purchasing the stock of G. W. Kirkman, he continued alone in the business until 1897, when he removed to the east side, and a year later the firm became known as that of Teague & Miles. Continuing in the business until 1902, he then sold out to Charles Fitzsimons, when he engaged in the real estate and insurance business. Later, in partnership with Mr. Miles, Mr. Teague bought the old water plant of Exeter. He subsequently became sole owner of the plant, since which time he has rebuilt the works, putting down a new well which produces fine water, and installing a pumping plant with an electric motor and a capacity of one hundred and fifty thousand gallons per day.

Mr. Teague is also interested in horticultural pursuits, owning sixty-two and a half acres adjoining Exeter on the south, thirty acres of which are given over to vines, two and a half acres to apricots, and ten acres to alfalfa. Twenty-five acres which he formerly owned he set out to oranges and later sold the same profitably. He was also interested with C. H. Congdon and G. B. Landers of Bakersfield in the location of the talc mines, about ten miles from Exeter, in the Yokohl valley. This is now in-

corporated as the California Talc and Soapstone Company, with a capitalization of \$100,000, Mr. Teague acting as secretary. They have opened quarries and have erected a mill for manufacture and grinding. Their deposit is large and shows exceptionally fine specimens.

Mr. Teague was united in marriage with Nannie Fife, a native of Cambridge, Ohio. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Teague is associated fraternally with Exeter Lodge No. 308, I. O. O. F., in which he has served as noble grand two terms, and also belongs to the Encampment, of Visalia. He is also associated with the Woodmen of the World, the Modern Woodmen of America and Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Unitarian Club, and politically is a staunch Republican, for six years having served as a member of the county central committee. He is a member of the Board of Trade of Exeter, and gives of his best efforts to the upbuilding of the city and the promotion of all worthy enterprises.

---

ELMER H. BALDWIN. With him to the coast in historic '49 R. O. Baldwin brought well-formulated ideas, and the grit and determination to overcome whatever obstacles fate might place in his way. Transmitting these desirable traits to his son, Elmer H., the latter has become one of the leading agriculturists and grain raisers of Stanislaus county, and one of its enterprising and influential promoters. The elder Baldwin was living on a farm near Des Moines, Iowa, when the gold excitement broke out, and he gladly added his contribution of physical and moral strength to a band of emigrants bound for the coast, equipped with ox teams and the wherewithal to start housekeeping on a small scale. In the mines of Placerville he experienced fair success, and with the proceeds of his labor came to Contra Costa county in 1852, investing in a small body of land which formed the nucleus of his present large possessions. The years have dealt kindly with him and left him hale and hearty at the age of seventy-six, while around him is stretched for his enjoyment and comfort a farm of one thousand acres, one and a half miles south of Danville, made profitable and valuable by his unremitting industry. Surviving the trials of her position as a pioneer woman of the west, his wife is still a sharer of his home, having reared to maturity four sons and two daughters, the oldest of whom is Elmer H.

Educated in the public schools, and for the years preceding his majority a resident of the farm upon which he was born near Danville, September 16, 1861, Elmer H. Baldwin had also the advantage of a two years' course in the McClure Academy of Oakland, after which he worked the

home place with his father. Embarking on an independent career, he located near Grayson, Stanislaus county, on a farm of four hundred and eighty acres, devoting it to grain and general produce, and succeeded as became a youth richly endowed with ambition and practical common sense. In time his farm proved too small for his operations, and he leased three hundred and twenty acres near by, and this also is largely under wheat and other grains. He has a fine home, substantial barns and outhouses, well kept fences, and the method and system, without which farming degenerates into hard and unremunerative work. In Cambria, Cal., he married Zoe A. Kemp, a native of Missouri, and the mother of two daughters, Wenona and Helen. Mrs. Baldwin has been interested in educational matters for many years, and at present is a trustee of her home district. Mr. Baldwin is a Republican, and in religion finds a home in the Presbyterian Church, in which he has held office, and toward the support of which he is a liberal contributor.

---

WILLIAM WILLSHIER HENRY. In the death of W. W. Henry, which occurred November 3, 1902, Tulare county lost from her list of representative men a citizen whose best efforts had always been given toward the advancement and upbuilding of this section. A native of South Milford, La Grange county, Ind., he was born in 1858, the eldest child and only son in the family of his parents. His father, Oliver O. Henry (of whom an extended mention is made elsewhere in this work), was one of the pioneers of Tulare county. Until he was seventeen years old W. Willshier Henry made his home in his native state, largely by his own efforts receiving an education, which enabled him to teach in the public schools at the age of sixteen years. Deciding to locate in California, he came west, arriving in Santa Cruz with only seventy-five cents as the nucleus of the fortune which he hoped to make in this western state, rich in promises of prosperity. For two years he remained in Santa Cruz, engaged in work of various kinds, when he came to Portersville, Tulare county, where an uncle, Albert Henry, had previously located. Later he went to Kern county and found employment in the Long Tom mine, remaining so engaged until he returned to Portersville and became interested in horticultural pursuits. For a time he engaged in the nursery business for his father (who, in the meantime had come to California and located in Tulare county), and in 1889 set out an orange grove upon the place now owned by his widow. He continued to improve and cultivate his property, meeting with a success in his efforts and

becoming widely known as one of the prominent horticulturists of the county. This property consists of thirty-seven acres a half mile east of Portersville, while he also owned fifteen acres at Westfield, both properties being now in the possession of his widow. He died November 3, 1902, in his home near Portersville. Politically he was a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party on national issues, and locally gave his support to the candidate whom he considered best qualified for public office.

Mrs. Henry was formerly Lana B. Taylor, a native of Kendallville, Ind. She is the adopted daughter of the Hon. O. B. Taylor, a farmer and merchant of Wolcottville, La Grange county, and for several terms a member of the state legislature. In 1884 he came to California and bought a ranch near Tulare, where he lived retired. He eventually returned to Indiana, where he now makes his home. Mrs. Henry's father was Dr. Leonard Barber, a native of Stark county, Ohio. He graduated in medicine from Jefferson Medical College, practicing his profession in Kendallville and later in Wolcottville, where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Adeline Alleman, a native of Waterloo, N. Y., survives him, making her home in Indiana. There were nine children in the Barber family, of whom S. A. Barber, M. D., of Portersville, is a member. Mrs. Henry grew to young womanhood in her home in the middle west and Tulare county, and in addition to a classic education received the best of training in the Ft. Wayne Conservatory of Music, where she was graduated. She was married in Portersville April 22, 1891, and ever since that time has been a resident of this locality. After her husband's death she continued to engage in the work of horticulture, which had engrossed his attention for so long a time, meeting with a success which has given her no little prestige among the horticulturists of Tulare county. She is a woman suffragist, giving her adherence to the principles of the Republican party, and is a prominent member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She is the mother of four children, namely: Helen Lucile, Leonard Willshier, Schuyler Barber and Anne Mitchell.

---

JOHN L. McFARLANE. Fifty years have brought a more than average realization of expectations to John L. McFarlane, a pioneer of 1849, and the owner of twelve hundred and forty acres six miles northeast of Snelling. With the satisfaction resulting from ownership of a fine property has come an appreciation of his integrity and industry on the part of his fellow-townsmen, and of his ability to fittingly repre-



sent the broad-minded and progressive farmers of the west.

Mr. McFarlane was born in Jackson county, Ala., December 25, 1826, but previous to the establishment of his family in that state his parents, Robert and Mary C. (Hobbs) McFarlane, had lived in Tennessee, to which state they removed from their native state of Virginia. His father, a planter, died at the age of fifty, and in 1843 John L. and his mother moved overland to Arkansas, where the latter died at an advanced age. His life was uneventful until men began to forsake their farms and industries for the quicker road to fortune pictured by returned emigrants from the west, and in the spring of 1849 he joined an ox train and crossed the plains by way of the southern route, reaching Los Angeles in October, 1849. Remaining in San Francisco until the spring of 1850, he went to Stanislaus county and afterward to Merced county, in 1854 purchasing his present ranch of twelve hundred and forty acres. For years he tilled its soil and rejoiced at his abundant harvests, and as the mile posts of his life grew more numerous determined to lay aside the cares of the farm, and hand its governing over to the younger members of his household. Today his sons, John and Nathan, attend to all affairs around the place, although the genial owner is still hale and bright, and takes a keen interest in everything around him. Mr. McFarlane has three hundred head of cattle, three hundred head of hogs, and besides general produce, raises wheat and barley in large quantities.

In California Mr. McFarlane married Hannah Peeler, who was born in Randolph county, Mo., in 1830. She crossed the plains with her parents in 1854, settling in Merced county. Mr. and Mrs. McFarlane became the parents of five children, namely: John, Nathan, Robert L., George L. (the latter a resident of Fresno), and Laura, the wife of William Duncan, of San Francisco. Mr. McFarlane is independent in politics, and at no time in his life has he been an office-seeker. He is a straight-forward, earnest and high-minded man, fair in all of his business dealings, and popular among his fellow-citizens.

---

HON. JOSEPH TALBERT McJUNKIN, of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., was born in Centreville, Washington county, Pa., March 6, 1832, and died in Hanford Cal., November 15, 1901. He was widely known as one of the most prominent and successful growers of raisin grapes, other fruits and alfalfa in Kings county, where he had resided since 1873, with the exception of eight years. Removing in that year to what is known as the

Mussel Slough district of Tulare county, but which has since become a part of Kings county, he purchased land two miles northwest of Hanford. This he devoted to the raising of sheep, having brought a large band of sheep with him from Yolo county with that idea in view. For twenty-five years he devoted himself to this industry, but sold his sheep in 1883, and from that time forward was engaged chiefly in the cultivation of raisin grapes. In 1882 he removed to Oakland, two and a half years later removed to San Jose, and in 1890 returned to Hanford, where the remainder of his life was spent.

The need of irrigation for the Mussel Slough district had early impressed itself upon Mr. McJunkin's mind, and he took advantage of every means possible to have ditches constructed throughout the territory. In educational matters he also took advanced steps, and in the matter of good government firmly believed in the enforcement of law. He took an active interest in politics, and at one time received the Republican nomination for the office of member of the assembly, and although he was defeated, the returns were gratifying, coming as they did from a purely Democratic locality. In 1898 he was elected supervisor for the Fifth district, and at the time of his death had served but little more than half of his term. His work on the board was characterized by careful attention to the public welfare, and by honest intention according to his own best judgment.

Mr. McJunkin was a son of James and Maria (Rogers) McJunkin, both of whom were born in Washington county, Pa. His father, who was a surveyor by occupation, became a man of note in his community. His father's parents came from Ireland in 1795, while his mother's parents emigrated from Wales in their youth. At the age of five years Mr. McJunkin was taken to Ohio, and in that state received his early education and training. The death of his father made it necessary for him to look about for means of self-support, and his first attempt in this direction was as a clerk in the store of his uncle at Brownsville, Fayette county, Pa. Subsequently he served an apprenticeship at the ship-builder's trade at Brownsville, a business which he mastered in every detail in four years' time. In 1854 he came to California, and in Sacramento saw an opportunity to turn his knowledge of mechanics to good account by engaging in the manufacture of sash and doors. At the time of the Fraser river gold excitement in 1857 he joined the emigration thither and found profitable occupation in the manufacture of rockers used by the miners. In this work he met with unusual success, due no doubt to his thorough understanding of mechanics, as well as

to his determination to succeed, no matter what discouraging circumstances might arise. After leaving the mining districts sheep-raising appealed to him as affording profitable returns, and for many years this industry was followed with most gratifying results. During the later years of his life he became deeply interested in the cultivation of the vine, and at the time of his death his ranch of three hundred and twenty acres contained one of the finest raisin vineyards in Kings county, about eighty acres being devoted to that purpose.

In Yolo county, September 5, 1867, Mr. McJunkin was united in marriage with Nancy A. Duncan, who was born in Missouri, but after the age of two years was reared in Illinois. Her parents, Charles and Dorcas (Coffman) Duncan, made the trip to California overland in 1864, locating near Woodland, Yolo county, where the young people became acquainted. Mr. and Mrs. McJunkin became the parents of four children, Ella L., Mrs. Alice M. Biddle, Ida B. and Frank T., who have been given excellent educational advantages in Oakland and San Jose.

Mr. McJunkin was a self-made man in the truest sense of the term. He was compelled to leave school at the age of fourteen years, when he began the struggle of life alone and unaided. He won his position in the world by unvarying industry and honest effort, and became recognized as a man of influence and unquestioned probity. Politically a strong Republican, he always took a deep interest in the welfare of that party, and at various times was honored by election to public office at its hands. Fraternally he was identified with the Masons, and it was with Masonic rites that his remains were laid to rest. In his death the community lost a useful, practical and public-spirited citizen, who was always willing to lend his assistance toward the promotion of well-considered efforts to advance the best interests of the people.

---

**HON. VITAL E. BANGS.** A man of culture and scholarly attainments, Hon. Vital E. Bangs, of Modesto, holds an honored position among the pioneer settlers of Stanislaus county, which has been his home for almost a half century. In the educational progress of this section of California he has been a potent force. In the establishment and management of beneficial enterprises he has borne a conspicuous part, and as an office holder has shown good judgment and excellent administrative abilities in his manner of discharging his duties to the public. A son of Samuel Bangs, he was born, August 26, 1834, in the city of Victoria, Mexico, of old colonial ancestry on both the paternal

and maternal side, the emigrant ancestors of both his father and mother having emigrated from England to the United States at an early period of its settlement.

A native of Boston, Mass., Samuel Bangs remained in the east until failing health demanded a change of climate. Going then to Mexico, he resided there with his family until his death. He married Susan Payne, who was born in Virginia. She survived him, after his death returning to the United States. She subsequently married Henry Brees, a wholesale merchant of Matamoras, Mexico, and they located in Kalamazoo, Mich., where her death occurred, March 20, 1884.

The fifth child in order of birth of a family of seven children, Vital E. Bangs laid a substantial foundation for his future education in the public schools of Kalamazoo, Mich., after which he continued his studies at Cedar Park Seminary, and then entered Kalamazoo College. Leaving home in 1855, he crossed the plains to California, locating in El Dorado county, where he was engaged for a few months in teaching school and mining. Returning east, he completed his education at the Kalamazoo College, remaining in Michigan until 1858. Moving in that year to Vernon county, Mo., Mr. Bangs taught school there for two years, and then returned to Michigan, from there going to Douglas county, Kans., where he was married. The next year, in 1864, Mr. Bangs and his bride crossed the plains to Stanislaus county, Cal., where he resumed his professional career, for many years thereafter teaching school in this and in Tulare, Placer and Sacramento counties.

Locating in Modesto in 1873, Mr. Bangs became connected with the Modesto schools as vice-principal, and has since then been prominently identified with the advancement of the educational welfare of this part of the county. For twelve years he was a member of the county board of education, and was a popular contributor to the "California Teacher" and other educational journals. His services were appreciated and recognized by the state of California, which, through its Department of Public Instruction, presented him with a teacher's Life Diploma.

Mr. Bangs was appointed by Governor Markham a director of the Twenty-eighth Agricultural District, in which he served most acceptably, and he was also the first assessor of the Modesto Irrigation District. Being elected by the Democratic party to the state legislature, he served in the session of 1888 and 1889, and in 1892 was re-elected without opposition, receiving the support of both parties, and polling the largest vote of any man in the assembly.





John D. Lee

Mr. Bangs owns a fine ranch of four hundred and eighty acres, lying three and one-half miles north of Modesto, where he has a very pleasant and attractive residence, surrounded by a magnificent grove of trees. He devotes forty acres of his farm to alfalfa, the rest being planted to grain, and keeps a dairy of fifteen cows.

In 1863, in Douglas county, Kans., Mr. Bangs married Mary G. Moore, who was born and reared in Illinois, and into their household four children were born: Henry T., Susan, Victoria, and Vital E.

---

**JOHN DUNLAP COX.** Looking back over his sixty-six years of life, John Dunlap Cox must needs find abundant cause for gratitude, not only because he has been endowed with sterling traits of a worthy ancestry, and a constitution which responded to the working of his active brain, but for the perseverance and determination which have enabled him to make the best of his opportunities, resulting in such substantial assets as extensive land ownership in Stanislaus county, the comfort and inspiration of a family which reflects his example and ambition, and a good name and universal esteem which rewards his integrity and uprightness. Coming to the state a few months after attaining his majority, in the fall of 1859, he found hundreds who sympathized with him in his effort at advancement, and who also were struggling to combine the climate and soil and glories of air and vegetation to their own and the state's perpetual good. The fifth of four sons and four daughters in a family dependent upon the resources of William Cox, and the maternal guidance of Sarah (Dunlap) Cox, he was born in Colchester county, Nova Scotia, March 22, 1838, his parents being natives of the same northern country. William Cox was a man of varied gifts, in early life making his living by teaching navigation and the studies in the common schools, and later on devoting himself entirely to farming and stock-raising.

John Dunlap came west on the steamer John L. Stevens, of pioneer fame, and upon arriving at his destination in the San Joaquin valley worked by the month on farms, first for Ben Holliday, and after a short trip to Oregon, entered the employ of Mr. Ovenheiser of San Joaquin county. For a time he drove cattle from Stockton to the mines, and from 1864 until 1870 owned and operated a ranch in connection with his freighting business. He then took up one hundred and sixty acres near Grayson, where he farmed for three years, removing then to Tulare county and engaging in the sheep business near Tipton for three years. Returning to Grayson in 1877, he bought his present home farm of two hundred and forty acres adjoining Grayson on the south,

to which he has since added one hundred and sixty acres on the east, and seven hundred and sixty-four acres adjoining his first purchase, making in all eleven hundred and sixty-four acres in one neighborhood. He also owns a mountain ranch of five hundred acres, devoted chiefly to stock, and in connection with his home ranch leases and operates twenty-six hundred acres of the Patterson estate for wheat and barley. His enlightened methods and practical business sagacity have done much to elevate the grain-raising industry in this section, and his career is yet another proof of what may be accomplished by sheer force of will power and wise disposal of advantages. In his grain-raising he is ably seconded by his stalwart son, W. W. Cox, who shares with him the use of the Patterson land and also assists him in the management of the home farm. Mr. Cox married Rebecca Curry, a native of Iowa, and besides William, the oldest of his children, there are four others: Sadie, Frank A., Mabel and John D., Jr. Mr. Cox cast his first presidential vote for the great emancipator, Abraham Lincoln, and has ever since espoused the cause of the party he represented. He is not an office seeker, but is a staunch supporter of his party, as he is of education, and the various up-building institutions which tend to the lasting good of the community.

---

**CHARLES SPENKER.** Among the younger generation of grain raisers of Stanislaus county none holds out greater promise of continued success than Charles Spenker, now the manager and lessee of five thousand acres of land near Oakdale. Mr. Spenker has known no other home than the county in which he lives, and in which he was born September 20, 1875. As his name indicates he is of German ancestry, and his parents, Joseph and Julia (Stelling) Spenker, were born and reared in the Fatherland. The father came to America as a single man in 1864, and the mother came with her uncle in 1872, meeting and marrying in California after Joseph Spenker had made a start in life. Mr. Spenker was sixteen years old when he arrived in the state with his paternal uncle, Fred Spenker, having journeyed by way of Panama, and settled near Stockton. In 1868 they moved to eighty acres of land upon a portion of which Modesto has since been built, Mr. Spenker entering this in his own name, at the time little thinking that residences and institutions and the hum of general industry would some time be heard on his land. Still regarding his possession as nothing out of the ordinary, he traded his farm for his present place in 1882, and now owns nine hundred and sixty acres, of which four hundred are in the river bot-

tom. He has a rich and productive property, and is one of the representative men of his section, having reared a large family of children and taken part in the general affairs of the community. In the order of their birth his children are: Mrs. Ida Reinhart, Charles, Millie, Joseph, Nellie, Harry (deceased), Leonard and Donald.

As a youth, Charles Spenker attended the public schools of Stanislaus county, and took readily to farming, profiting by the careful agricultural training of his able father. At the age of twenty-one he started out on his own responsibility, and when twenty-five rented nine hundred and sixty acres of land, which he devoted to grain, and two years later, in 1902, rented the Leach ranch for five years. At present he is farming five thousand acres of land, all in Stanislaus county, and is making a special study of grain, upon which he has become an authority. He is a careful and painstaking farmer, methodical in his habits, and progressive in his methods. He has an incentive to labor in a helpful and sympathetic wife, who was formerly Freda Cook, a native of Germany, and daughter of Nicholas Cook, a pioneer of Stanislaus county. Mr. Spenker is a Democrat in politics, and fraternally is connected with the Woodmen of the World. He has the typical German's thrift and enterprise, and also his large heartedness and hospitality, and among his neighbors and friends is noted for his honorable and upright dealings.

---

**JOHN R. MCKAY.** One of the most enterprising and popular liverymen of the San Joaquin valley is John R. McKay of Fresno, proprietor of the Dexter livery stables. Endowed with good business qualifications, accommodating and trustworthy, he has built up an extensive and lucrative patronage in the city, and has won the respect and esteem of the community. He was born December 17, 1867, in Riverton, Pictou county, Nova Scotia, which was also the birthplace of his father, Isaac McKay, and of his grandfather, John McKay. His great-grandfather, D. McKay, a native of Scotland, emigrated to Nova Scotia at an early day, and, according to historical records, blazed the first trail across the province. Settling in Pictou county, he took up a tract of forest-covered land, and from the dense wilderness cleared and improved a homestead, on which he spent his remaining days. His son, John, the next in line of descent, was a blacksmith and farmer, and spent his entire life of ninety-four years in his native county, dying in 1902.

Learning the trade of a blacksmith when young, Isaac McKay followed it first in Riv-

erton, Nova Scotia, then in Churchville, later in Sunnybrae, and is now engaged in his chosen occupation in Bridgeville, Nova Scotia. For more than sixty years he has worked at his trade, and is without doubt the oldest-established blacksmith of his community. He is a man of sterling character and worth and a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church. He married Mary Robertson, who was born in Churchville, Nova Scotia, a daughter of Colin Robertson. Mr. Robertson was a lifelong farmer, and was also employed in the milling business for many years, owning a saw mill and a grist mill. He was of thrifty Scotch stock, and lived to a venerable age, dying in 1899, aged ninety-three years. Of the union of Isaac and Mary (Robertson) McKay, nine children were born, and all are living, five of them being residents of California.

The second child in succession of birth of the parental household, John R. McKay, acquired his early education in the common schools of his native county. At the age of fourteen, under his father's instruction, he began learning the blacksmith's trade in Sunnybrae, where he completed his apprenticeship. Going to Boston, Mass., in 1884, he there followed blacksmithing for four years. In 1888 he came to Fresno, and for the first two months after locating here worked in a vineyard. Turning his attention then to horse-shoeing, Mr. McKay was first employed by the Fresno Agricultural Works, and subsequently by D. W. Cutten.

Embarking in business on his own account in 1890, Mr. McKay bought a shop on I street of Creba & Son, and made horseshoeing a specialty. Subsequently buying a livery business on I street, he ran both the livery and the shop for a while. Selling the latter, he formed a co-partnership with H. W. Wilbur, and was head of the firm of McKay & Wilbur until December, 1901, when the partnership was dissolved, the I street stables being sold. In October, 1903, Mr. McKay bought his old stable, on I street, corner of Kern street, and now carries on a substantial business, keeping one of the finest livery, boarding and sale stables in the county, his large brick barn being 75x150 feet and well equipped with horses and vehicles of all kinds. He is also financially interested in an orchard of forty acres at Kingsburg, Fresno county.

In Fresno, Cal., November, 1891, Mr. McKay married Belle E. McDonald, who was born in Sunnybrae, Pictou county, Nova Scotia, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Clarence R. and Wilbur R. Mr. McKay is a staunch adherent of the Republican



party, sustaining its principles by voice and vote. In his religious faith he is a Congregationalist. He belongs to the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and of the Woodmen of the World, of which he is a past officer.

---

**GEORGE KIRKHAM HOSTETTER.** Since a boy of but five years, Mr. Hostetter has been without father or mother, and while he has succeeded it is the result of his own well-directed efforts. His father, Francis Hostetter, was a native of Kentucky, but finally migrated to Missouri where he followed farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1844. He married Catherine Lankard, who died two years later.

G. K. Hostetter was born in St. Charles county, Mo., January 14, 1841, and after the death of his mother he and two sisters made their home with Alden Farnsworth near St. Charles until 1854, when the family crossed the plains to the Pacific coast. The trip was made with ox-teams, the party following the old Carson route. After a weary journey they arrived in California in October, 1854, and settled in the beautiful Santa Clara valley where one of the party, O. W. Farnsworth, had previously lived. On arriving in the valley Mr. Farnsworth settled on a one hundred and sixty-acre ranch four miles from San Jose and Mr. Hostetter remained with him until 1864, when he went into the mines of Idaho. This trip proved a failure and after a few months he went to Oregon, locating in the Grand Ronde valley, where he found employment for one year. In 1865 a return was made to California and farming was resumed in the Santa Clara valley. A year later, on December 11, 1866, Mr. Hostetter married Margaret Rea, who was born in Illinois. She is a daughter of James Rea, who was born in the western part of Virginia, March 9, 1799, of Irish and Scotch parentage. He made his home in the vicinity of his birth until early manhood, when he accompanied his parents to Ohio, locating in Gallia county, and there he married Hannah Hudson-pillar. The latter, also a native of Virginia, was born the same year as her husband and with her parents removed to Ohio about the same years the Reas did, both families settling in Gallia county. James Rea engaged in farming for some time after their marriage, being located near Gallipolis, Ohio. In 1833 he took his family to Hancock county, residing at Fort Findlay until the fall of 1838, when they removed to the vicinity of Decatur, Macon county, Ill. In 1854 he crossed the plains to California and located near San Jose, Santa Clara county, where

his death occurred, at the age of eighty-three years.

From 1865 until 1891 Mr. Hostetter was engaged in farming and horticultural pursuits near Berryessa. While there he improved an orchard of fifty-three acres, meeting with marked success in his business ventures. In 1891 he disposed of his interests and located in San Jose where he resided until March, 1899, when he located in Lindsay, Tulare county, having purchased his present ranch in 1893. Upon his locating on his ranch in 1899 he set out an orange grove of fifteen acres. He also owns two hundred and sixty-four acres a quarter of a mile north of Lindsay.

While Mr. Hostetter has resided in Lindsay but a few years he has taken a prominent position in the affairs of the town, and aside from his own personal interests is now vice-president of the Rochdale Company and is a director in the Lindsay Orange Growers' Association. In both of these concerns he is a valued member, his advice being freely asked on all important questions. He has made a success of his life work and has overcome obstacles that would have discouraged many, being determined to win for himself a position of prominence. That he has accomplished his aims all will admit, but in this battle for a competency he has never neglected the duties of a citizen, and when called upon to assist he has always been willing to respond, both with his advice and his means.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hostetter have been born five children, as follows: Frank F., George F., Alvin M., Rea H. and Mary A. They have been reared amid the comforts of life and all have been given the advantages of a good common school education. The family is liked by all and both Mr. Hostetter and his estimable wife are welcomed into the best homes in the state. In Santa Clara county where they lived for many years they have scores of friends who sincerely regretted their departure.

---

**WILLIAM B. WAUGH.** A young man of worth and ability, William B. Waugh is named among the successful stockmen in this section of Tulare county, where he is associated with his father, J. D. Waugh, an old settler and early pioneer, whose sketch also appears on another page of this work. A native of the state, William B. Waugh was born in Grass Valley, Cal., November 28, 1864, where he spent the first nine years of his life. In 1873 he accompanied his parents to Tulare county, and received his education in the public schools and the Visalia Normal. Following the precept and example of his father he began an independent life at the

age of twenty years, renting his father's dairy and pasturing the cattle on the present site of Millwood, Fresno county, which land his father homesteaded. It was then known as Mill flat, and was later sold to Smith Comstock, and later to the Millwood Company, which dammed it up for fluming lumber. He now takes his cattle to the Roaring river, the head-waters of the Kings river, where he has a permit from the government. He took the first cattle into that section and built the first trail into the mountains. He is also engaged in general farming on the old home place of seven hundred and sixty acres in the Antelope valley, combining this with his stock-raising industry. His brand is an anchor on the left hip. He has made a success of his work and has won the esteem and respect of all who know him, both for his business ability as well as the integrity which has marked his entire life.

In Visalia, December 12, 1886, Mr. Waugh was united in marriage with Fannie Kirkland, a native of San Francisco. Her father, W. P. Kirkland, was born in Mississippi, and in manhood conducted a steamboat on the Mississippi river. He took his family first to Central America, where he owned a coconut grove, and later brought them to San Francisco, where he engaged as a merchant. Removing to Visalia he filled many important public offices, among them that of county superintendent of schools and county auditor. He died in Visalia in January, 1900, at the age of eighty-one years. His wife, Louise, died early in life. They were the parents of ten children, seven of whom are now living, namely: Mrs. Howard, of Goshen; Alonzo, of Auckland; Mrs. Perzian, of Auckland; Mrs. McClure, of San Francisco; Walter, of Auckland; Mrs. Cason, of Visalia; and Mrs. Waugh, the youngest, who received her education in the schools of Visalia. To Mr. and Mrs. Waugh were born three children, namely: Harry, Earl and Lawrence. In his political affiliations Mr. Waugh is a staunch Democrat.

BONNIE BRAE RANCH, owned by the Merryman Fruit, Land & Lumber Company, and planted by George T. Frost in 1896, was under his management until 1904, when he was taken sick and died at his home in Riverside, Cal. Three hundred acres are in navel oranges, and two hundred acres are devoted to lemons, pears, olives, figs, vines, etc. The ranch comprises two thousand acres, divided into two parts, Badger Hill and Bonnie Brae ranches. The property is owned by A. C. Merryman and family, incorporated, with R. C. Merryman as manager, and in its management and care about thirty-five people are employed in the various departments.

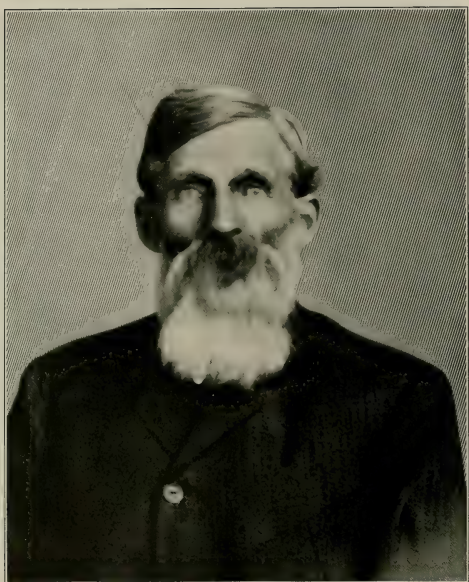
Badger Hill tract is irrigated by three large wells, there being at the foot of the hill a pumping plant to carry the water to a reservoir of about two acres. From this reservoir, by means of a seventy-five horse-power electric motor, it is forced to the top of the hill, a distance of five hundred and eighty-six feet.

JOHN STURM. For the past forty years Rev. John Sturm has been active in the ministry of the Evangelical Church, and is also well known for his success as a horticulturist. A native of Alsace-Lorraine, France, his birth occurred June 16, 1824. His father, Jacob Sturm, was born in the same place, where he followed farming until his death. His wife, formerly Sarah Fröhle, was also a native of the same locality, where she died. Of their eleven children, six sons and five daughters, John Sturm was the third in order of birth. He received a preliminary education in the common schools of Germany and France, after which he worked for his father on the home farm until he was twenty-two years old. At the age of twenty-nine he married, and after remaining in his native locality for a time, came to America in 1854 and located in Chicago, Ill., near which city he engaged as a gardener until his removal to Nebraska in 1857, to Weeping Water, Cass county, engaging in trade for a livelihood. After remaining there eight years he located for a time in Oregon, Mo., where he was likewise occupied, returning in 1870 to the vicinity of Chicago. For the ensuing twelve years he was located in Wheeling, when he located in St. James, Minn., remaining there until 1896, when he sought a home on the Pacific coast, locating one mile northeast of Portersville, Tulare county, where he cultivated ten acres devoted to various kinds of fruits—oranges, prunes, apples, etc. In 1900 he located in Portersville, where he has a residence and two lots, with the cultivation of fruit to occupy his time.

In 1855 Mr. Sturm was ordained a minister in the German Methodist Episcopal Church, preaching in all the localities in which he has made his home. In 1875, in Barrington, Ill., he became identified with the Evangelical Church, in which faith he has since remained. He has a charge in Portersville, and delivers a sermon every second Sunday, remaining actively interested in the work although he is past eighty years of age. He is a regular attendant of the Annual Conference and Annual Camp-Meeting held at Santa Ana, Cal.

In Alsace-Lorraine, Mr. Sturm married Madeline Herschberger, a native of that place, and they became the parents of eight sons and one daughter, of whom all but two sons are





*John Kehls*

living, namely: John, Jacob, Fred, Andrew, George, Daniel, and Lena, the wife of Chris Sturm, of Tulare county. The sons are all located in the vicinity of Portersville, and have ranches of their own with the exception of Andrew and George, who are interested in lands in North Dakota. Mr. Sturm has divided his property, which consisted of two hundred acres (one hundred acres of orange land) besides other ranches which he afterward purchased, giving his sons the land. The first four sons are married. Politically Mr. Sturm is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

---

JOHN NEHLS, an influential fruit-grower of Hanford township, Kings county, may with justice be termed a self-made man, as he was thrown upon his own resources at an early age, and his present position of independence has been reached solely as a result of his own unaided efforts. Born in Prussia, February 17, 1850, he was reared in his native surroundings, attending the public schools, until he was thirteen years of age. He was then brought to the United States by his mother, his father having died when he was a small child. After four weeks and five days on a sailing vessel Mr. Nehls and his mother landed in New York City in May, 1863, later going to Racine county, Wis. When fourteen years old he began to work as a farm hand, for a time receiving \$4 a month. For several succeeding years he worked on various farms during the summers and went to school during the winters, working for his board. Being economical, he saved his money and continued to follow farm work until he was twenty-one years old, in time accumulating \$1,000. Being obliged to seek a change of climate on account of asthma, he wisely determined to come to California.

On the first day of January, 1877, Mr. Nehls arrived at Hanford. Being well pleased with the outlook, he invested his savings in real estate, purchasing the forty-acre farm which is still his home and which is located two miles west of Hanford. Planting part of his land in vines he raised wheat on the remainder. In 1881 he returned to Wisconsin and married Miss Lucy Johncox, a native of that state, her parents being natives of England. Returning to California with his bride, Mr. Nehls continued farming along the same lines until 1886, that year planting five more acres in vines and seven in orchards of assorted fruits. These yielded such fair returns that he subsequently planted his entire farm to fruit, with the exception of a few acres reserved for pasture, and his place now contains many select varieties of peaches,

apricots and prunes, in addition to several fine vineyards of raisin grapes.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nehls, of whom one died in infancy and the others are: George, aged twenty; Mazy, eighteen; Jennie, fourteen, and Alta, nine. In their religious inclinations the family favor the doctrine of the Christian Church, of which both Mr. and Mrs. Nehls are active members, the former officiating at the present time as elder. In his political views he is a staunch Republican, but has never sought office, and is a strong adherent of the cause of temperance. He has improved and beautified his place in many ways, having built a substantial two-story residence and other buildings. His land has not only increased in productiveness with the lapse of years, but also in value, being now worth from \$250 to \$300 per acre. As a citizen worthy of the fullest recognition in the early history of Kings county, whose services in various fields of labor for the advancement of the interests of his section will not soon be forgotten, Mr. Nehls has made an enviable record.

---

JOHN E. BAILEY. Well known among the most industrious, respected and prosperous men of Bakersfield, Cal., is John E. Bailey, an extensive land and property owner, and a stock raiser and dealer of note. In the achievement of his great material and financial success he has had no assistance, but has been the sole architect of his fortunes. Inheriting from his parents a good constitution, a sound mind and great energy, he began earning his livelihood when young, and from the start has met with encouragement and success. A native of Ireland, he was born November 28, 1852, in County Down, where his parents, James and Lusana Bailey, are both living, well advanced in years.

Reared in the Emerald Isle, John E. Bailey worked as a farm laborer until twenty years old, when he turned his face toward the New World. Crossing the Atlantic on a Cunard liner, he arrived in Boston, Mass., in November, 1872. Three months later he sailed from that city for California, coming by way of Panama. For about a month after arriving in San Francisco he drove a street car, and then went to Sonoma county, where he worked with a threshing machine gang for one summer. Mr. Bailey then tried to obtain work in the lumber camps at Duncans Mills, but failing in the attempt he came to Bakersfield in 1873, and the following year worked on the railway then being constructed between Lathrop, Bakersfield and Los Angeles. He subsequently found employment on ranches or canals for four years. Embarking in business on his own account in

1877, Mr. Bailey started a livery and hotel business in Bakersfield, opening the Cosmopolitan hotel, which he managed for twenty years. He was also engaged in the cattle business on a small scale at the same time. In 1893, however, he formed a partnership with T. L. Briggs, and has since been extensively engaged in ranching and stock dealing. He owns a ranch of six hundred acres lying about seven miles from Bakersfield, the land being subject to irrigation; on section 32, nine miles from Bakersfield, he has two hundred acres of good land, and also owns fourteen hundred acres of mountain land in Kern county. Mr. Bailey buys cattle in Mexico and Arizona, fattens them, and sells to different markets, shipping to various parts of the northwest. He has made considerable money in buying and selling town property, and still has title to several houses and building lots of value. In 1889 he sold fifty-five acres of land in Bakersfield, receiving \$200 per acre for it, a price far below its present value.

In January, 1884, Mr. Bailey married Carrie Vokes, who was born in New Orleans, and came with her sister to California in 1875, and to Bakersfield in 1877. In his political affiliations Mr. Bailey is an independent Democrat. He takes great interest in the general welfare of town and county, and is now serving his second term as town trustee.

---

**JOSEPH HALFORD.** Numbered among the active and prosperous business men of Fresno is Joseph Halford, proprietor of the Novelty Iron Works, which are located at No. 1826 Mono street, corner of I street. Skillful, industrious and enterprising, he has made excellent use of his mechanical genius, and by his business ability and tact has commanded success in his various undertakings. A native of England, he was born April 26, 1848, in Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, which was also the birthplace of his father, Charles Halford. His grandfather, Edward Halford, was born in the same place, and for many years was there employed as a millwright.

A moulder by trade, Charles Halford was employed in a foundry for many years in his native land, being an expert workman. Some time after his marriage, he emigrated to America, and joined his son Joseph in San Francisco, and as a co-partner with him was employed as a moulder in that city and in Stockton. Now, at the age of fourscore years, he is living, retired from active pursuits, in San Francisco. He married Elizabeth Hitchen, who was born in Chester, England, and died in Alameda, Cal. Four children were born of their union, two sons and daughters. Joseph, the oldest child,

is the subject of this sketch, while Thomas E., the other son, is a well-known resident of San Francisco; Harriet, the widow of Henry Holm, and Clara, the widow of LeGrand Morehouse, both reside in San Francisco.

Brought up and educated in the city of Wolverhampton, Joseph Halford began learning the trade of a moulder when fourteen years old, serving an apprenticeship of five years with his father, and afterward working as a journeyman in Liverpool until attaining his majority. Emigrating to New York City in 1869, he was in the employ of McKinley & Smach for two and one-half years. Going then to Chicago, Ill., Mr. Halford worked at his trade, and as a foundryman, for nearly three years. In 1874 he came to the Pacific coast, and for eight years was employed as a moulder in the Risdon Iron Works, in San Francisco. Starting in business for himself in 1882, Mr. Halford established a foundry at the San Leandro Agricultural Works, in which he was a stockholder, operating it successfully for four years. Locating in Stockton in 1886, he worked at his trade for a short time, and then opened the Eagle Iron Works, which he subsequently named the Novelty Iron Works. Disposing of that property in 1894, he came to Fresno as foreman of the Fresno Agricultural Works, and three years later established his present plant and foundry, the Novelty Iron Works, of which he is sole proprietor. Mr. Halford has built up the foundry from the ground, and is carrying on a very extensive and lucrative business, manufacturing machinery of all kinds and iron and brass castings.

In San Francisco, Mr. Halford married Harriet M. Bradley, a native of England. Mr. Halford is a member of the Fresno Merchants' Association. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the Republican party, and fraternally he is a member, and past master, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, which he has served as district deputy. Mrs. Halford is a member of the Episcopal Church.

---

**WILLIAM GANN.** A resident of Lindsay, Tulare county, William Gann is engaged as a blacksmith, in which trade he has met with a gratifying success. He was born in Santa Cruz, Cal., November 13, 1866, a member of a family of six sons and five daughters, of whom all but one daughter are living. His father, John Gann, was a native of Tennessee, as was his grandfather, John, also. The elder man crossed the plains to California and located near Stockton, where he made his home until his death. In 1850 John Gann, Jr., crossed the plains with ox-teams, and upon his arrival in the state followed mining for a time. He finally located in



Santa Cruz county and engaged as a farmer until 1881, when he went to Kern county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres near Glennville. Since his settlement there he has engaged in the raising of stock. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Hitchcock, was a native of Missouri and the daughter of Silas Hitchcock, who crossed the plains in 1846. He went first to Oregon, the following year, however, coming to California, where he became a farmer in the San Joaquin valley, later in Los Gatos, in which place his death occurred.

William Gann remained in Santa Cruz county until he was seven years old, then accompanied his parents to San Joaquin county, thence to Inyo county, and in 1881 to Kern county. He attended the district schools in these various places, acquiring a substantial foundation for the practical knowledge which has since given him success in his life-work. He learned the trade of blacksmith in Glennville and Bakersfield, completing his apprenticeship in the latter city. Until 1896 he remained in Bakersfield, when he came to Tulare and worked at his trade two years. Locating in Lindsay, in 1898, he bought out the shop of Charles Kirkham and continued his work here for a time. In 1904 he purchased two lots and put up a large, roomy shop, where he carries on an extensive trade in his line of general blacksmith. He has also built a comfortable residence here, and in many ways takes an active interest in the growth and upbuilding of the town.

In Lindsay Mr. Gann was united in marriage with Maude Denton, a native of Kentucky. Mr. Gann is a member of the Woodmen of the World, having been made a member of Lindsay Camp No. 334, of which he is past council commander, and also belongs to Women of Woodcraft. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

---

**ROY CHASE TRABER.** Among the younger generation in California, as well as elsewhere, we find men who have disclosed both tact and capacity for business and have met with gratifying success, and of this class we mention Mr. Traber, who for a few years past has given his attention to the raisin culture in the vicinity of Parlier, Fresno county. A native of the same county, which has ever been his home, Mr. Traber was born near Mendocino school house December 30, 1877, and he is the youngest but one of four sons born to John Wesley and Anna (Kane) Traber; the latter, although a native of the state of Vermont, was reared in Michigan and her marriage took place in Missouri.

The father of Mr. Traber was born in 1849, in Albany county, in the state of New York, but afterward became a resident of Wisconsin. In

1866 he went to Missouri, which was his home for a few years, removing to California in 1872. The first three years of his residence in this state were spent teaching school in Mendocino county. In 1874 he first went into Fresno county and took up a homestead claim on government land, being one of the original twenty-five settlers who developed the Long ditch, commonly known as the Church ditch, which brought the first water on those plains. This was the beginning of the great system of irrigation in that section. Mr. Traber improved one hundred and sixty acres of land in the vicinity of Parlier. To him belongs the distinction of being the first teacher of the Mendocino and the Kingsburg schools, and with the exception of two years he has followed teaching continuously ever since, being at the present time one of the most successful educators of Fresno county. The four sons who blessed the union of this couple are: J. Orra, Charles H., Roy Chase and C. B., the latter a resident of the home place; Charles H. is also a teacher by profession.

Having every advantage in the way of education, it is not strange that Mr. Traber should be competent to manage his affairs successfully. His common school education was increased by a complete course in the Selma high school, from which he graduated in the class of 1894. He became a student at the Fresno Business College in the fall of 1896, and the following spring was graduated from that institution, having completed a full commercial course. Having a desire to take up the study of law, he entered the law office of Lewis H. Smith of Fresno in 1898, and after pursuing his studies there for one year, he went into the office of Judge Carter, continuing his legal studies there for a while. In the meantime, while attending school, Mr. Traber had not been idle in vacation time, as in 1891-93 he served as deputy assessor, being also appointed in 1892 deputy in the tax collector's office.

His subsequent return to his father's ranch was matter of surprise to some of his friends, no doubt; but in this, as in other matters, he substantiated his claim to good judgment, as his present prosperity will testify. He not only owns an interest in the home place, but has a clear title to twenty acres of adjacent land, which he utilizes in raising raisins and other dried fruits. By his marriage, December 27, 1903, he wedded Esther Becker, who was born in San Francisco and is a daughter of H. J. Becker, a native of Germany. Mrs. Traber's father was brought to San Francisco when but a child of four years. He is now superintendent of a Pacific coast tannery. Being politically an active and earnest Democrat, Mr. Traber has proved himself a useful member of his party; he is a

member of the county central committee, has at all times been a zealous worker, exercising an important influence in the affairs of the county. He is allied with the Modern Woodmen of America of Kingsburg and the Knights of Pythias of Selma.

---

**JAMES H. BLAIR.** Probably no name in the northern part of California is better known than that of Blair, as the father of our subject was one of the pioneer ministers of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. For many years he continued in the ministry in addition to farming and stock-raising. Rev. Jonathan Blair was a native of Tennessee, but on reaching manhood migrated westward and for a time lived in Arkansas and Missouri. In 1857 he crossed the plains, coming in the customary way, as in those days ox-teams were the only means of transportation across the continent. He was one of the few to bring a drove of cattle to California. After living in Sonoma county for a short time he located in Little Lake valley, Mendocino county, where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising, devoting most of his time to the latter industry. During the winter of 1861-62 he lost nearly all his cattle, as that winter was an extremely cold one and the stock was frozen to death. In 1862, with the few head that were saved, Rev. Blair located in Tulare county and here engaged in stock-raising near Visalia. Two years later misfortune again overtook him and he lost nearly everything he owned, that being the year of the great drought. In 1874 he purchased the ranch now owned by his son which he improved and placed under a high state of cultivation. From time to time he added to his first purchase until at the time of his death he was the possessor of one thousand one hundred acres of fine land. While most of his attention was given to the raising of cattle he was for ten years interested quite extensively in the sheep business.

Soon after coming to California Rev. Blair began preaching in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and during his long residence here he continued an active worker, organizing and establishing churches at many different places. The territory he covered was large, preaching in the towns between the Tule and Kings rivers. Sincere in his work he refused to give up the ministry until forced to do so by old age, but his voice was heard up to within three years of his death, which occurred in 1886 at the age of eighty-one years. He married Mrs. Nancy Moffett nee Mayfield, who died in 1897. By her union with Mr. Blair she became the mother of ten children, eight of whom reached maturity.

James H. Blair was born in Mendocino county, February 28, 1860. When but a small child his parents removed to Tulare county where he was reared on his father's farm. His education was obtained in the public schools and when young he began learning the ins and outs of the stock business. When old enough he took charge of the ranch which has since been his home. He now owns one thousand one hundred and twenty-four acres of land, and is engaged in an extensive stock business, making a specialty of the Aberdeen Polled Angus cattle, of which he has over two hundred head. This industry has proved a decided success and he is now considered one of the leading cattle men of the county. In 1904 he erected for himself a handsome residence of ten rooms which is modern in every way. Running water is piped into the house from a two thousand gallon tank which is filled by a windmill.

Mr. Blair married Miss Susan Brotherton, who was born in Missouri, a daughter of William Brotherton, who came to California in 1875 and here became an extensive stock man. By this marriage six children have been born, as follows: Edith, Ewell, Elsie, Edgar, Ruth and Lulu. Both Mr. and Mrs. Blair are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the former being the ruling elder. Fraternally he holds membership with the Modern Woodmen of the World and in politics is a Democrat.

---

**CHARLES M. ABBOTT.** Probably no man near Mountainview has made his influence felt in greater degree as an establisher of beautiful home places than Charles M. Abbott, at present owning an ideal cottage surrounded by ideal grounds on the corner of Allice avenue and Front street. Mr. Abbott has three acres in his place, and all that the landscape artist has at his command has been utilized to produce a representative California retreat. A true lover of nature, and appreciative of its beautiful influences, this honored citizen has improved his opportunities in a rare way, understanding well his materials and offering an example of what may be accomplished when ability is combined with judgment and good taste.

Born on a farm near Boscawen, Merrimack county, N. H., May 11, 1843, Mr. Abbott passed his childhood and youth in a neighborhood rich in memories of his paternal grandfather, Joseph, who enlisted in the Revolutionary war when sixteen years old in Colonel Peabody's regiment, and in return for services rendered received the soldier's warrant with which he purchased the land near Boscawen. On this same farm Joseph, the father of Charles M., was born, also three of his older sons, and lived there until the fam-





*J. L. Gillette*

ily was dispersed by their various ambitions. Joseph and his wife, formerly Mary Elkins, also of New Hampshire, were the last to leave the old place, coming to California in 1875, and settling in Oakland, where both died, the former in 1877, at the age of eighty years. The four sons of this couple were educated primarily in the public schools of New Hampshire, and Charles M. outlined his future by serving an apprenticeship to a carpenter near the home place. In Concord, N. H., he married Emma Bailey, a native of Franklin, N. H., and daughter of Siméon and Nancy (Bachelder) Bailey. Mr. Bailey was a cabinet maker by trade, and learned to do fine finishing work on pianos and other expensive furniture, but his promising career was cut short at the early age of thirty.

In the fall of 1861 Mr. Abbott gave vent to a long-thought-out project and embarked on a sailer with prow turned toward the south seas, and, going around Cape Horn, arrived in San Francisco April 28, 1862, after an adventurous journey upon the deep. Beginning in a small way he followed his trade in San Francisco, and gradually worked up a large business as builder and contractor in the vicinity, extending his operations to Oakland and other near-by towns. He remained a resident of the metropolis until 1885, meanwhile making five trips back east, during one of which he brought his wife to the coast. Locating in Mountainview in the fall of 1885, Mr. Abbott engaged in carpentering and building and also bought a small place and set out an orchard. This place was improved and cultivated and sold, and since then four others have come under his capable management, each passing to some one desirous of profit by his taste and skill in improving upon and developing natural resources. His methods have been stimulating to others settling in the community, and his example of thrift and enterprise has been reflected in the homes of many of his fellow townsmen. Besides his home place, he is the owner of other properties in the town, both residence and business, from which he derives a substantial income. Mr. Abbott is a staunch Republican, but aside from the formality of casting his vote has never been identified with the local undertakings of his party. He is highly respected for his success and public spirit and for the integrity which has made his word as good as his bond.

J. LOTUS GILLETTE. In one of the beautiful modern residences erected in 1902, in the vicinity of Le Grand, Merced county, resides J. L. Gillette, one of the prosperous and successful ranchers of the county. He was born in Onondaga county, N. Y., March 12, 1852, a

son of Jason and Margaret (Fancher) Gillette, both of whom were descended from prominent and old families of that state. The latter died in 1860. At the age of eighty-eight years, Jason Gillette is living retired in the state of his birth.

J. L. Gillette was reared on his father's farm, remaining at home until twenty, when he went to Emporia, Kans., but a few weeks later went to Michigan, where he spent the summer. In 1879 he made the trip to California, locating at once in Merced county. Three years later he purchased four hundred and forty acres of land, two miles west of Le Grand, which is a part of his home place, adding to the original tract until he now owns five hundred and sixty acres. Returning to New York in 1883, he was married October 31 of that year to Carrie Newman, who was born and reared in Onondaga county. They have three children, Florence M., Hazel and Glenn H. The family stands high socially, and politically Mr. Gillette is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. As prosperity has come his way he has added to the value of his property, erecting a modern country home and substantial outbuildings. In all matters pertaining to the public welfare he has given such assistance as his means would allow, and by his public spirit and energy has become recognized as one of the representative men of the county.

ANNIE LAURIE BOND, M. D. A woman of rare and admirable qualities, Dr. Bond is widely known and highly appreciated for her work as a physician and surgeon, which has brought her into prominence in Lindsay, Tulare county, and its vicinity. She was born near Woodbine, Harrison county, Iowa, the daughter of Charles Krepps. He was a native of Ohio and an early settler of Iowa, where he improved and cultivated a farm. He remained in that location until 1873, when he brought his family to California and located them at Lemoore, Kings county, in the Mussel Slough country, about six miles south of Grangeville. There he improved a farm upon which he lived until his retirement from the active cares of life, when he located in Lemoore. His death occurred in 1902, in Lemoore, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was a man of strong, earnest character and deeply imbued with the principles of right. From 1862 until the close of the war, he served as a volunteer in an Iowa regiment, taking part in the Atlanta campaign as well as many engagements where courage and endurance were the requisites of the soldiers who brought victory to the Union. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and in religion was identified with the United Brethren Church. His wife, formerly Melinda Scovel, was a na-

tive of New York state and the daughter of Loomis Scovel, who came from the Empire state to Illinois, thence to Iowa, where he was a pioneer farmer. Mr. Scovel still makes his home in that state, at the venerable age of eighty-five years. Mrs. Krepps survives her husband and makes her home with Dr. Bond. Mr. Krepps was married twice, having four daughters and two sons by his first wife, of whom one son and one daughter are deceased. By his second marriage he had four daughters and two sons, all of whom are living.

The eldest of this family of children, Annie Laurie Bond, came to California with her parents in 1873, where she received her education in the public schools of the state. In womanhood she took up the study of medicine, entering the California Medical College of San Francisco, from which institution she was graduated in 1897 with the degree of M. D. Immediately following her graduation she began a practice in Stockton, which continued but six months, when she was taken ill. In December, 1898, she located in Lindsay and has since continued the practice of medicine and surgery here. She has made a success of her work and has won the confidence of those with whom she has had professional intercourse as well as those who have witnessed her success.

In Visalia, in 1886, she married Seth H. Bond, a native of Iowa. He is an educator, having taught for many years in Oregon and California. They are the parents of one child, Ruth. Dr. Bond is a member of the Fraternal Aid and Women of Woodcraft, and is examining physician for both. In religion she is a Seventh Day Adventist.

---

HARRY HILL NEWMAN, who is known as one of the prominent and successful farmers of Tulare county, was born in Booneville, Mo., February 21, 1867, a son of Judge Jesse G. Newman, whose biographical record appears at length in the sketch of Robert O. Newman, which appears in another part of this volume. He was reared to manhood on the home farm, three miles southwest of Booneville, receiving his education in the district school. His father died in 1873, leaving him a half-orphan, at the tender age of six years. He remained at home until 1884, when he came to California, and located in Tulare county and farmed with his brothers, Robert O. and Jesse H. Newman. Afterward he formed a partnership with Jesse H. Newman, which has continued ever since. They are now engaged in grain farming, for the first four years of their partnership conducting four hundred acres southeast of Visalia, when they removed to the Fielding Bacon place of two thousand

acres. In 1900 they rented the old Curtis ranch of a thousand acres, which now belongs to the Bank of Visalia, and in addition to this also operate six hundred and forty acres, which is devoted to grain. They engage in general farming and dairying, having their own separator; run four eight-mule teams, and conduct a Houser combined harvester, which requires thirty-two mules. They also have a fine place on the Cottonwood, about eleven miles northeast of Visalia, where they have a prune orchard of forty acres; a peach orchard of thirty acres, and ten acres in Simona prunes. They are very successful farmers and are numbered among the representative agriculturists of Tulare county.

In Visalia Mr. Newman married Elizabeth A. Grove, a native of Astoria, Fulton county, Ill., and a daughter of Matthew Hamilton Grove, now of Bowling Green, Mo. They have two children, Elsie Catherine and Claude Hugh. Mrs. Newman is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Politically Mr. Newman is a stanch Democrat, and in the interests of his party has served as clerk of the board and school trustee for the Stone Corral district. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.

---

CHARLES FORSYTHE. Among the enterprising fruit and vine growers of Selma there is probably no one more energetic or persevering than Charles Forsythe, whose name appears at the head of this sketch. By birth and breeding, as well as by choice, he is a farmer, and, notwithstanding a few reverses, has made substantial progress along the highway to success, being the owner of a fruit ranch that in its appointments, equipments and productions compares well with any in this section of Fresno county. He was born September 25, 1861, in Perry county, Ohio, which was also the birthplace of his father, the late John Forsythe.

An extensive and prosperous agriculturist, John Forsythe owned a farm of six hundred acres in Perry county, Ohio, where he spent his entire life. He was a man of excellent business capacity, and a citizen of considerable prominence and influence. He died in 1896, aged eighty years. He married Hannah Gobel, who was born in New Jersey and died in Ohio on the home farm. Of the eleven children, seven boys and four girls, born of their union, Charles was the ninth child.

Until he was seventeen years old, Charles Forsythe remained at home, attending the district schools and assisting in the work incidental to life on a large farm. Starting then in life on his own account, he went to Colo-



rado, at first locating in Silverton, San Juan county, where he was employed in freighting and in a feed stable. Subsequently removing to Durango, Colo., he was for a few years employed in the grocery and queensware business. Desirous of investing in land, Mr. Forsythe came to California in 1890, locating in Fresno county, seven miles north of Selma, where he bought forty acres of land. He spent much time and money in improving the property, setting out a large vineyard, but in the season of unusual depression that followed soon after he lost the entire estate. Nothing daunted, Mr. Forsythe, with characteristic courage, in 1896 bought his present ranch, which consists of sixty acres of land lying two and one-half miles northeast of Selma, on the line of the Centerville and Kingsburg ditch. He pays especial attention to the culture of the raisin grape, having a fine vineyard of forty acres of bearing vines. He also raises alfalfa on twenty acres of his ranch, this crop being profitable and useful. Mr. Forsythe is also a stockholder in the Co-operative Winery of Parlier and in the Selma Co-operative Packing House.

In Fresno county, Cal., Mr. Forsythe married Ina May Fine, a native of Oregon, and they have one child, Ora. In his political affiliations Mr. Forsythe is a staunch Republican, sustaining the principles of his party by voice and vote.

**MATTHEW W. GRACE.** A son of George W. and Elizabeth (Keller) Grace, Matthew W. was born in Newton county, Mo., January 12, 1860. His father was a farmer and during the Civil war enlisted in a Missouri regiment and died during his term of service. Elizabeth Keller was a native of Missouri and a daughter of David Keller, who was born in Pennsylvania and became an early settler in Missouri.

When Matthew W. Grace was eight years of age he accompanied his mother on her removal to St. Charles county. Here he was brought up on a farm and attended the district schools, remaining there until 1893 when he came to California, first locating in Exeter, Tulare county. Entering the employ of the Giant Oak Fruit ranch, he continued with this company two years and then formed a partnership with Charles Kirkman and engaged in the butcher business in Exeter. The following year they opened a meat market in Lindsay, Mr. Grace coming to the latter place in 1896 to take charge of the market which he continued to conduct until 1898. In January of that year he received his appointment as postmaster of Lindsay, having filled that position up to the present time. Mr. Grace has

found time to engage in other lines and now deals in drugs, books and stationery, and has met with success. Aside from his duties as postmaster and merchant, Mr. Grace is also the local manager for the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Fraternally Mr. Grace is a member of the Woodmen of the World, the Fraternal Aid and the Women of Woodcraft. Since coming to California he has taken a keen interest in politics. Being a firm believer in the principles promulgated by the Republican party, he is ever ready to work for the success of the party candidates. He has met with success as the result of his own efforts. Since reaching young manhood he has had to make his own way in the world, and in making a success of his life he has gained position and respect.

**MARION KINMON HENDERSON.** Among the enterprising and substantial business men of Lindsay, Tulare county, mention belongs to Marion K. Henderson, of the firm of Henderson & McGregor, merchants of this place. Mr. Henderson was born in Modesto, Cal., July 31, 1871, a son of William G. Henderson, who was a native of Harlan county, Ky., in which state his parents lived and died, and where he engaged in farming in young manhood. Deciding to emigrate to the more remote west, he crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1858. After his safe arrival in the west he lived in various places, among them Sonoma county and other places north of the center. For a time he located near Modesto. In 1873 he came to Tulare county and located in the Mussel Slough country, near Grangeville, and followed farming. Later he removed to Upper North Tule river at what is now Milo, and there his wife's death occurred. For a time thereafter he removed to the coast, when he returned to Tulare county and now makes his home in Lindsay. His wife was in maidenhood Nancy Ainsworth, a native of Cedar county, Mo., whose father, Alfred Ainsworth, crossed the plains with his family in 1857, locating in Sonoma county, where his death eventually occurred. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, Marion K. of this review, and Ruby, the wife of Henry Dillon, of Lindsay.

After the death of his mother, when he was only four years old, Marion K. Henderson went to live with an uncle, F. M. Ainsworth, and was reared to manhood on the latter's farm on the Tule river. At the age of eighteen years he began clerking at Daunt, when he also became assistant postmaster. He then engaged in the mercantile business for one year independently. Coming to Lindsay in October, 1895, he was

one of the first business men of the place. It was then only a small town, with no orange shippers nor any enterprises worthy of mention. He formed a partnership with W. I. Hodge, under the firm name of Hodge & Henderson, and they erected a store on the west side of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks and began a mercantile business. Later they moved to the East Side when they shortly afterward dissolved partnership. Mr. Henderson continued the business alone for one year, when, in 1900, the firm of Henderson & McGregor was formed. They have continued successfully to the present time, now carrying agricultural implements in addition to a line of general merchandise. Mr. Henderson has also taken a strong interest in the growth of oranges in this section, setting out an orchard of fifteen acres of Washington navel.

In Oakland Mr. Henderson married Nellie J. Seybolt, a native of Omaha, Neb., and they are the parents of one daughter, Helen, and an infant son. Politically Mr. Henderson is a Democrat. He was made a Mason in Portersville, is now a member of Portersville Lodge No. 303, F. & A. M., and Portersville Chapter No. 85, R. A. M., also a member of the Woodmen of the World.

**JASPER NEWTON CROW**, a rancher of the Sycamore valley, Contra Costa county, was born in central Missouri, January 22, 1833, the second son of his parents, Lewis and Nancy (Zumalt) Crow, both of whom were natives of the same state. The father eventually located in Lee county, Iowa, from which place the entire family crossed the plains with ox-teams, arriving in California in September, 1853. The first winter was spent in the Santa Clara valley, after which they located in what has since been known as Crow canyon, where the father and his five sons each took up a quarter section of land. The father became the owner of two hundred and ninety acres, which is now in the possession of John Lewis. Mr. Crow died at the age of sixty-two years, while his wife lived to the ripe age of eighty-seven. Besides Jasper N. they were the parents of the following children: William C., John J., Armilda J., Francis M., Lewis A. and Olivia A.

Jasper N. Crow pre-empted a quarter section of land at the same time that the rest of the family located in Crow canyon. This he improved and cultivated for some time, but finally sold out. Since then he has rented property in various locations, among them being Haywards, Livermore, San Ramon, Tassajara, Pleasanton, and in Sycamore valley, where he is now conducting the Owens ranch. Mr. Crow has been married twice, his first wife being Adelaide

Cline, a native of Oregon, who died at the age of twenty-one years. In 1868 he married Josephine Williams, who was born in Oregon, the daughter of David Williams. She died at the age of forty-six years, leaving six children, namely: Lewis D., a farmer, who married Nellie Babbitts, by whom he has two children; Irving Lewis, and Earl; Nancy Jane, who married Henry Christmann, by whom he has two children, Gertrude and Henry; William, who married Maggie Jones, and lives in Oakland; Leonard, who married Lewis Eddy, and has one child, Lola Evelyn, and two other children who died in youth.

**WILLIAM ANTONE YOST.** One of the many capable, trustworthy and respected citizens of Fresno county is William Antone Yost, a resident of Selma. He is actively associated with the advancement of the agricultural and horticultural interests of this locality as a vineyardist and fruit-grower, and as a contractor and builder is identified with its industrial prosperity. Of German ancestry, he was born January 21, 1854, in Pettis county, Mo., a son of the late John Philip Yost.

A native of Germany, John Philip Yost was bred and educated in the Fatherland, and there learned the baker's trade. On attaining his majority he emigrated to this country, locating in Morgan county, Mo., where he took up wild land, from which he improved a farm. In 1850 he came with an ox team train across the plains to California, paying his traveling expenses by cooking for the party. Locating near a mining camp, he worked in the mines three days, and then opened a bakery, which he operated for a year, in that time clearing three thousand dollars. Returning to Missouri in 1851, he resumed farming, and continued in that occupation the ensuing twenty-five years. He married Elizabeth Giles, a native of Kentucky, and they spent the most of their married life in Pettis county, where their eight children were born. In 1877 he and his wife came to Contra Costa county, Cal., to visit their son, William Antone, and both died within two weeks' time, his death occurring thirty-six hours after that of his good wife.

The oldest child of his parents, William Antone Yost received such educational advantages as were afforded by the district schools of his native county, and was well trained in agricultural pursuits by his father. Migrating to California in 1876, he settled first near Kingsburg, Fresno county, where he worked as a farm laborer for a while, and afterward as shareholder. Going to Contra Costa county in the fall of 1877, he rented land, which he carried on two years.





*Milton M. Dale*

Returning to Fresno county in 1880, Mr. Yost rented a ranch for two years, conducting it with profitable results. In 1882 he bought, in Shaw's colony, one and one-fourth miles northeast of Selma, twenty-three and seven-tenths acres of land lying on the Centreville and Kingsburg ditch. He has made practical improvements on his estate, setting out a vineyard and an orchard, and on the remainder of the ranch raising alfalfa. A natural mechanic, he is an expert in the use of tools of all kinds, and in addition to looking after his ranch carries on a substantial business as a contractor and builder, having learned the carpenter's trade by himself.

In Tulare county, Cal., Mr. Yost married Phoebe Purves, who was born in this state, and they have five children, namely: Philip Morse, living near Selma; William Henry of the United States navy; Albert Melvin, at home; George E.; and Alice Marie. Politically Mr. Yost affiliates with the Republican party, and has served as school director. Fraternally he is a member of Selma Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M.; the Eastern Star, the Fraternal Aid, and Woodmen of the World.

---

MILTON M. DALE. One of the largest individual dairymen in Tulare county, Milton M. Dale is carrying on a successful business in the vicinity of Poplar, and ranks socially with the representative citizens of this section. A native of Georgia, he was born near Carrollton, Carroll county, September 16, 1866, a son of Valentine B. and a grandson of John M. Dale, for further information regarding whom refer to the sketch of S. E. Dale, which appears elsewhere in this volume. Valentine B. Dale is still living, making his home on a farm near Modesto, Stanislaus county. He was also a resident of Georgia and served in Cobb's Legion, in a Georgia regiment, during the Civil war. In 1869 he came to California and located near Modesto, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, which still forms a part of the old home. His wife, Susan Hinden in maidenhood, was a native of Georgia, and the daughter of Benjamin Hinden, a farmer of that state. She is also living and enjoying the fruits of their early industry. They were the parents of five sons and four daughters, of whom one daughter is now deceased.

Milton M. Dale was the fifth in order of birth in the family of his parents, practically his entire life having been spent in California, where he accompanied his parents when only three years old. He was reared to young manhood in the vicinity of Modesto, receiving his education in the public schools and in Lytton Springs College, of Sonoma county. He remained at home until attaining his majority, when he came to

Tulare county, and in the vicinity of Poplar began grain-raising. For several years he conducted this business, at times having as many as twelve hundred acres in grain. Realizing the risk he ran each year he soon discontinued his efforts in the farming line and began to devote his attention to stock-raising, having now a herd made up largely of full-blooded and high-grade stock, of Holstein-Friesian cattle. In 1901 he started his dairy, beginning with eighteen milch cows, since which time he has increased the number to fifty-five, and now has one of the most extensive dairies in the county, owning his own separator. His property, which consists of one hundred and sixty acres, the northwest quarter of section 4, township 22, range 26, one mile and a half west of Poplar, is under irrigation from the Poplar Irrigation Company ditch. Ninety acres of the place are in alfalfa. Mr. Dale pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, the northwest quarter of section 24, township 22, range 26, which he afterward sold.

In Poplar, May 5, 1896, Mr. Dale was united in marriage with Mary Jones, a native of Stanislaus county, Cal. Her father, W. J. Jones, a native of Tennessee, crossed the plains in 1850 and became a farmer in Stanislaus county. He is now located near Poplar, engaged in the raising of grain. His wife, formerly Lucy Bailey, was a native of Georgia. They became the parents of seven children, of whom three are living. Mrs. Dale was next to the oldest and was reared to young womanhood in Tulare county. Fraternally Mr. Dale is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Modern Woodmen of America, and politically is a staunch Democrat, being an ex-member of the county central committee.

---

JOHN W. VAUGHN. A sturdy and industrious tiller of the soil and one who is practical in his methods, John W. Vaughn is recognized as a prominent dairy farmer, residing in the British colony, in Merced county, Cal., four and a half miles west of Merced. His productive farm contains sixty acres of choice land and he keeps from sixteen to twenty-five dairy cows, has five acres in orchards, forty-five in alfalfa, and the balance in pasturage. His place is well improved and provided with excellent buildings, adequate for the needs of the farm. Not least among the improvements is the substantial two-story residence surrounded by well-kept lawns, ornamented with shrubs and choice rose bushes, and in 1904 he erected a silo, the second to be erected in his community.

Mr. Vaughn was born June 20, 1854, in Greene county, Mo., a son of Thomas and Charity (Denny) Vaughn, the former a native of North

Carolina. He was a farmer by occupation and in his boyhood days he left the south for a home in Missouri, removing afterward to Tennessee, but subsequently returning to Missouri, where he spent three years. In 1851 he crossed overland to California behind ox teams and at Rough-and-Ready Camp, near Marysville, followed mining pursuits for a year. He came to California with a brother, Wilson Vaughn, and before leaving home they had agreed not to part, so when the latter was called home by his wife's illness, Thomas accompanied him, and he remained in Missouri until 1874, during this time following farming and stock-raising. In 1874, accompanied by his family, including John W., Thomas Vaughn went to Colorado and a short time afterward located for a time in Prescott, Ariz., pushing on to California in September, 1875. The family took up their abode in Santa Ana, where the father died at the age of sixty-six years.

Some time after the death of his father, John W. Vaughn engaged in the livery business at Pomona, Los Angeles county, where he continued to do a profitable business until 1893. January 11, of that year, he came to Merced county and purchased the farm where he now lives and which has since been his home. While visiting in Missouri, Mr. Vaughn was joined in marriage with Miss Mary J. Ray, a native of that state, and they have seven children, namely, Effie M., Essie, Ray W., Percy H., William A., Freda J. and Fay G. In politics Mr. Vaughn has always affiliated with the Republican party, and has ever been faithful and reliable. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and as a man and a citizen he is of that class which represents good government and stability.

---

ROBERT OSCAR NEWMAN. The Newman family is one well represented in Tulare county, the name standing for strong business ability, keen and far-sighted discernment, as well as a personal integrity which has won the confidence and esteem of all those who have had either business or social relations with the members of the family. The family came originally from the south, Jacob Newman being born in North Carolina, the son of a patriot in the war of 1812. Jacob Newman located in Booneville, Mo., in 1821, where he became a farmer and conducted a distillery, located one mile back from the Missouri river. In 1854 he went to Texas and located at Port Sullivan, where his death occurred. In his family was a son named Jesse G., who was born in Booneville, where he grew to manhood, married and began farming in the vicinity of the town. In 1849 he crossed the

plains with ox teams and mined at Feather river, but returned east in 1852. His death occurred at Booneville, Mo., at the age of fifty-two years. He was a prominent man in his community, becoming county judge of Cooper county, which office he filled for eight years, and during the Civil war (although he was a Democrat politically) he served for a time as captain of a company of Missouri Home Guards of the Federal troops. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Hill, was a native of Kentucky, her father, James Hill, being a native of Mississippi, and an early settler in the vicinity of Booneville, Mo., where he engaged as a farmer. He was also prominent in public affairs in Cooper county, where he served as the first sheriff. His death occurred in the state of his adoption. Mrs. Newman survived her husband and died in Tulare county, Cal. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom four sons and two daughters are now living, namely: Robert Oscar, of this review; Jesse H.; Harry Hill; Frank; Fannie, the wife of George P. Robinson of Nevada; and Maggie, the widow of Marion Grove, late of Visalia.

On July 4, 1848, occurred the birth of Robert Oscar Newman, in Booneville, Mo. He was reared on the paternal farm in the vicinity of that place, receiving his education in the district school, the Booneville school, and Allison's Academy for boys in Booneville. For a time during the Civil war he served as a member of his father's company in the Home Guards, being called out during Shelby's raid of 1863, and Price's raid of 1864. In this latter raid Price came to Booneville with thirty thousand men, and as there were only one hundred and fifty men in the Home Guards they were taken prisoners. Three days later they were paroled, while this same raid proved the time of defeat for Price, who was driven from Newton, Kans., to Texas. After the war Mr. Newman engaged in work on the home farm until he was twenty-three years of age. In that year he went to Elko, Nev., where he engaged in teaming into the mountains for two years. After his father's death he returned to Missouri to take charge of the home farm, conducting the interests of the place for his mother until 1882. He then bought a farm adjoining the home place and kept it for two years, when he sold out and came to Tulare county, Cal. He first rented land on the Cottonwood, where he engaged in wheat farming, having charge of four thousand acres of the extensive property owned by Fielding Bacon. He ran a large farming outfit, having seven eight-mule teams. In the fall of 1892 his assets amounted to \$25,000. Following his successful career came the panic of 1893 and several dry



years, and with these reverses he once more found himself at the beginning. Undaunted, he began again, in 1898 locating upon the property which he now makes his home, the old Morgan Beard ranch. He now conducts three hundred and twenty acres devoted to grain and alfalfa, and also runs six hundred and forty acres of the old Fielding Bacon ranch. His principal occupation now is the raising of fine trotting stock, he being the only dealer in Tulare county who has the regular Standard horses. In the past few years in which he has engaged in this business he has produced more record horses than any other man in the San Joaquin valley, among them being the following: Robert Basler, record 2.20, by Antevolo, 2.19, son of Electioneer, his dam being Elizabeth Basler; De Bernardi Basler, 2.16 $\frac{1}{4}$ , by Robert Basler; Ida May, by Grosvenor, the dam of Homeward, 2.13 $\frac{1}{4}$ , by Strathway, sired George G., record 2.06 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Dr. W., 2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ , by Robert Basler; Jonesa Basler, 2.11, by Robert Basler; Stoneway, record 2.22, by Strathway, 2.19, whose dam was Elizabeth Basler; sired Myway, record 2.22; Stoneleta, record 2.20 at two years old. He owns at present Robert Direct, three years old, by Direct, record 2.05 $\frac{1}{2}$ , dam Daisy Basler, by Robert Basler, one of the finest bred horses in the United States; Dew Drop Basler, by Robert Basler; Ida May, by Grosvenor; Daisy Basler, by Robert Basler; Wedding Bells, by Robert Basler; all fine Standard bred mares. Mr. Newman is universally conceded to be one of the best judges of equine flesh in California, or indeed in the United States. He has given the subject able thought and has brought about the best results to be obtained in this line of work. For a time he also dealt in cattle, having a fine herd of Jersey cows, which, however, he sold recently.

In Booneville Mr. Newman was united in marriage with Frances Ziegel, a native of Rochester, N. Y., and the daughter of Andrew Ziegel, an early settler of Missouri, where he farmed and conducted a tannery. Born of this union were seven children, namely: Grace, the wife of Henry J. Lyman of Hilo, Hawaiian Islands; Walter, attending the University of California, class of 1906; Tracy, engaged in merchandising in Portland, Ore.; Elizabeth, a trained nurse located in Honolulu; Nellie, a member of the class of 1905 of the Visalia high school; Robert O., Jr., attending the University of California, in the class of 1908; and Lola, a member of the class of 1908 of the Visalia high school.

In his political affiliations Mr. Newman is a staunch Democrat and has always taken an active interest in the support of the principles he endorses. For the past eight years he has served as a member of the county central committee and has rendered efficient service. Progressive

and enterprising, Mr. Newman advocates all movements calculated to advance the general welfare, and is regarded as one of the most substantial and prominent citizens of Tulare county.

**JOHN HOLMES HUNTLEY.** A pioneer of California since 1852, J. H. Huntley has been a factor in the upbuilding of the state and of Tulare county since 1865. He was born September 7, 1829, in Canajoharie, Montgomery county, N. Y., a son of Oliver D. and Mary (Stark) Huntley, the former born in Stonington, R. I., and the latter in Connecticut, a daughter of Joshua Stark, a farmer, who died in New York. Mrs. Huntley died in New York when her son, John H., was but six years of age. Oliver D. Huntley learned the mercantile business when a boy and followed that career for many years. He was twice married; by each union six children were born. His second wife was a sister of his first wife. He died at the age of sixty-five years. The Huntley family is of Scotch ancestry.

John Holmes Huntley was the third child by the first marriage; was reared and educated in the public schools of his native county and Ames Academy, and for two years found employment in a law-book store in Albany. In 1852 he started for California via the Nicaragua route, and arrived in San Francisco in November of that year. He went at once to the Sonora mines in Tuolumne county, and then turned his attention to buying and selling stock until he enlisted for service during the Civil war. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Second California Cavalry, being mustered in at San Francisco. He served for a time against the Indians on the northern border, and then was transferred to Tulare county, where he served in the outbreak on Owens river, acting as sergeant-major of a division of his regiment. He was mustered out in 1864, after serving three years and four days.

After the war he spent one year in the mines in Nevada, then went to Tulare county and engaged in money loaning in Tulare, Kern and Fresno counties. He purchased land from time to time, until his holdings amount to eight hundred and forty acres in the San Joaquin valley, devoted principally to stock-raising. His residence is located on the Mineral King road, two miles east of Visalia.

August 23, 1879, Mr. Huntley was united in marriage at San Rafael with Nina R. Willford, a native of Southampton, England. They are the parents of two children, Willard H., attending Heald's Business College, and Chester S., a student in the Oakland Polytechnic. In 1900 he

moved his family to Berkeley to give better educational advantages to his children.

In politics a Republican, Mr. Huntley has served the party in various offices of trust, being deputy internal revenue collector for Tulare, Kern, Inyo and Fresno counties for five years, or until the office was abolished, and was gauger of liquors and surveyor of stills, holding that office until he resigned. He is a member of General Wright Post, G. A. R., of Visalia.

In all matters that have advanced the social and educational welfare of Tulare county, Mr. Huntley has been an important factor. He is a man of public spirit and strict integrity, and is one of the best known men in the county.

---

JAMES R. ROGERS, a valued citizen of Merced county, Cal., and one of the successful fig-growers of the state, of which he is a pioneer of 1850, was born November 14, 1826, in Oldham county, Ky. In tracing the ancestry of Mr. Rogers it is found that he is a descendant of distinguished families of Virginia on both paternal and maternal sides. His father, Thomas Rogers, was born in Spottsylvania county, of that state, and his mother, Priscilla Chancellor, was a Virginian and a sister of Sanford Chancellor, a wealthy miner and a member of a prominent family of Virginia. Thomas Rogers followed farming for a livelihood and as early as 1812 moved to Kentucky, and in that state the family made their home until James R. was sixteen years old. In 1842 they removed to Missouri, the father becoming prominently identified with that community, remaining there until his death at the age of seventy-eight years. Four of his children are still living, namely: Winslow, a resident of Missouri, now eighty-eight years of age; William, a retired rancher of Santa Rosa, Cal.; George, a resident of Solano county; and James R.

The boyhood days of Mr. Rogers were spent on a farm and at sixteen he accompanied his parents to Missouri, where he lived until his twenty-fifth year. In 1850 he came overland to California, the train of which he was a member consisting of about forty people. His first month in California was spent in the mines; he then went to the entrance to Grass valley and conducted a hotel for a year and a half, after which he spent some time in both the northern and southern mines. Before the close of 1852 he was homeward bound and while crossing the Isthmus of Panama saw for the first time a railroad. The following year he again left Missouri with the Williams party for California, and upon his arrival, was married in Sacramento to Polly Ann Williams and took up his residence in So-

noma county, near Santa Rosa. He afterward bought four hundred acres of land in Solano county near Vacaville, which he put out in orchard and lived upon it for forty years.

In 1866 Mr. Rogers came to Merced county and August 15 of that year he purchased his home place of fifty acres four and a half miles northeast of Merced, in partnership with his son, S. M. Rogers. Mr. Rogers has his entire place planted in figs, having six hundred and fifty-two trees which are now thirteen years old. These trees yielded in 1902 twenty tons and the fruit was sold on the trees for \$750. In 1903 the yield was the same, but \$100 additional was realized for the sale of the fruit in the same way. Mr. Rogers has upon this place a comfortable residence containing eleven rooms, and fitted throughout with all modern improvements. His wife died in 1865, leaving three children, Commodore P., Seldan M., and Zilla, deceased. By his second marriage, in 1866, he was united with Laura Church, a native of Pontiac, Mich., who was born in 1844, and came to California in 1865. Two children were born of this union, namely: Celia May and Bertie Agnes, the latter the wife of Bert Hatch. The family unite in worshipping at the Christian Church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are active members. Mr. Rogers is a member of Merced Lodge No. 97, F. & A. M., having been made a Mason in Vacaville Lodge No. 133, F. & A. M.

---

JOHN B. OSBORN. A successful business man and influential citizen of Atwater, Merced county, is John B. Osborn, since 1892 a resident of this place and a participant in all movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community. A native Californian, he was born in San Joaquin county, October 10, 1858, a son of Henry A. Osborn, who came to this state in 1852. The latter was a native of Woodbury, Conn., where he was born February 13, 1828. He remained in the east until attaining manhood, when he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, on his arrival engaging in freighting out of Stockton. After some years he found employment in ranching, which occupied his attention for some time, after which he entered upon a mercantile life in Turlock, Stanislaus county, where he has since remained, meeting with success in his work and establishing himself in the business life of that section. His wife, formerly Minerva J. Baker, is a native of Pennsylvania and the daughter of W. J. Baker, an early settler of California. The children born of their union are named in order of birth as follows: William, of San Francisco; John B., of this review; Ellen, who married





*R. Porter Putnam*

Clark Coulthard, of Fresno county; Edward, who is in business with his father; and Mary, the wife of Albert Owen, of Atwater.

After spending his youth in Turlock, John B. Osborn came to Atwater in 1892, accepting a position as agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad at this place, and retaining the same with credit to himself until April 15, 1904. In the same year he also engaged in the mercantile business here, purchasing a small store, and building up in the passing years a custom which has justified him in the erection of his present commodious building, which he put up in 1902. He carries a large and complete stock of general merchandise and caters to a large trade throughout this part of the county, his conservative methods and unswerving integrity having won for him many friends. In addition to his mercantile interests Mr. Osborn owns a seventy-five acre peach orchard, and four hundred and eighty acres of stock range, located four miles from Atwater, and well stocked with cattle. He also deals largely in sweet potatoes, shipping in a single season over two hundred carloads.

In Stanislaus county Mr. Osborn was united in marriage with Mattie B. Legallee, a native of Iowa, and they have one son, Charles A. In his political convictions Mr. Osborn is a Republican, and is a popular and progressive man. Fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias.

**R. PORTER PUTNAM.** Conspicuous among the early pioneers of Tulare county was the late R. Porter Putnam, who settled near Portersville when the town was in its infancy, and resided here until his death. With pleasure and gratification he watched its rapid and healthful development, in the meantime taking an active part in the work necessary to accomplish such an achievement. He became identified with the agricultural interests of this part of the county, and was the pioneer merchant of the young town, which in his honor was named Portersville. He came of distinguished New England ancestry, being a kinsman of Gen. Israel Putnam, a hero of the Revolutionary war. His parents, Thomas and Zilpha (Porter) Putnam, were life-long residents of Pennsylvania, and there reared their five children, of whom R. Porter was the youngest, his birth occurring August 5, 1837, in Covington, Pa.

At the age of eighteen years, having acquired an excellent common school education, R. Porter Putnam took charge of his father's store, in Covington, Pa., remaining thus employed for two years. In 1857 he started with a train of government wagons for California, and while crossing the plains did guard duty. Being taken ill

while on the way, the party continued the journey without him, leaving him lying under a tree. The Indians were very kind, bringing him water, and watching him carefully, but not offering to molest him. Being picked up by the next train that came along, Mr. Putnam went with that party to Fort Yuma, at the junction of the Gila and Colorado rivers, and as soon as he was able, made his way to Los Angeles, Cal., arriving October 14, 1858. For a few weeks he worked on Colonel Banning's ranch as a day laborer. On December 3 he started with the Overland Stage Company for the Kern river, coming to Tulare county, and locating about ten miles from Visalia. Unable on account of ill health to do any hard manual labor, Mr. Putnam entered the employ of the stage company, receiving \$30 a month. Locating in what is now Portersville in 1859, he built a small store and hotel, which became a meeting place for the cowboys, who invariably spoke of going up to "Porter's," and the name thus became so familiar that when the town was laid out and incorporated it was called Portersville in his honor. Mr. Putnam also erected a blacksmith's shop, and was engaged in general ranching, owning some land in his vicinity. As a merchant he was very popular and successful, and carried on an extensive dry goods business until his death, in 1889.

In Bainbridge, Chenango county, N. Y., Mr. Putnam married Mary J. Packard, a native of that state, and the daughter of Anson Packard, a blacksmith and a life-long resident of the Empire State. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Putnam two children were born, namely: William Porter, of Portersville; and Frank O., a general merchant in Campbell, Cal. Identified with the Democratic party, Mr. Putnam was one of the most faithful supporters of its principles, and though not an aspirant for political honors served one term as associate judge.

**WARNER I. HODGE.** Horatio Hodge, the father of Warner I., was a native of New York state, and on reaching his majority he became a pioneer settler of Jackson county, Mich., and here Warner I. Hodge was born, November 7, 1851. In the same year his father started for the gold fields of California, coming by way of the Isthmus of Panama. While crossing the isthmus he contracted the yellow fever and died there. His wife, who was Savilla Clark, a native of Vermont, came to California in 1885 and died here.

Senator H. C. Hodge, a brother of Horatio and a farmer near Concord, Mich., took charge of Warner after his father's death. His mother married the second time, a Mr. Clement becoming her husband. They then lived in Iowa

and at Lincoln, Neb., on Goat Island, where Warner I. remained until he was twenty years of age, when he went to live with his uncle, the senator, who was residing at Concord.

In 1876 he returned to Nebraska and secured employment as a clerk at Firth. Later he went to Oregon and Idaho where three years were spent. In 1884 Mr. Hodge came to Tulare county, first living at Visalia, where he was engaged in clerking. A year later he secured a position with the Coburn Lumber Company, on the Tule river and here he remained for eight years, acting as general superintendent and manager of the store and mill.

In 1895 another change was made, this time coming to Lindsay, where he formed a partnership with M. K. Henderson under the firm name of Hodge & Henderson. Continuing here until 1897, he disposed of his interest in the firm and became interested in the real estate business. He is now dealing quite extensively in colony lands, farms, etc., meeting with good success in his operations.

In Tulare county, March, 1886, Mr. Hodge married Eva M. Coburn, a native of Maine and a sister of A. M. Coburn of Springville. They have three children, namely: J. Herbert, Dora Mae and Allen.

Mr. Hodge takes an active interest in the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Ever since starting out in life he has had to make his own way in the world. His efforts have been well rewarded as the result of his ability to make the best of opportunities. Since engaging in the real estate business he has demonstrated his adaptability for this line of business. Both he and his wife have a large circle of friends.

---

**WILLIAM THORNTON.** This well-known rancher, now practically a retired resident of Merced county, Cal., was born in county Kerry, Ireland, November 15, 1840, and is a son of John Thornton, a prosperous farmer of that country. Reared on his father's farm and educated in the land of his nativity, Mr. Thornton, at the age of twenty-four, in 1864, left Ireland for a home in the United States, and upon his arrival came direct to California and took up his residence in Napa county, Cal., where he worked five years on a ranch as hired man, and having been economical, he accumulated some capital. With this, in 1868 he purchased two hundred and thirteen acres of land in Merced county, a part of the place upon which he now resides. By additional purchases from time to time he has acquired a farm of seven hundred and forty-two acres.

The intervening years of Mr. Thornton's life have been spent in the active cultivation of the soil, raising grain and stock. His ranch is located four miles southwest of Merced. In 1904 his land was divided as follows, this being an average, three hundred and fifty acres in barley, sixty-five in wheat, six in alfalfa and the rest in pasture; having also one hundred and ten head of high-grade cattle, a small number being choice dairy cows, and forty head of sheep. Although he is in poor health, he manages the work on his farm. He wedded Julia Whalen, also a native of county Kerry, Ireland, and they have eight children, as follows: Patrick, Mary, Maggie, John, Anna, Rose, William and Joseph. In politics Mr. Thornton is a conscientious Democrat and votes to uphold the principles of that party with the convictions of a man who believes he is right and dares to maintain his position. He is a member of the Catholic Church.

---

**SAMUEL H. FERRIL.** An only child, Mr. Ferril was born in Saline county, Mo., near Marshall, April 13, 1872, a son of David and Cynthia (Wheeler) Ferril. The father was also a native of Missouri, being a son of Henry Ferril, who migrated to that state from Kentucky, settling at Miami, where he lived the remainder of his life, dying at a ripe old age.

David Ferril passed his boyhood on his father's farm and in early manhood learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in connection with farming. In the early '50s he crossed the plains with ox-teams, coming to California, where he lived a few years, when he returned to Missouri. He engaged in farming and contracting and building until 1881, when he again came to California, locating in Fresno county, where he purchased land upon which part of the town of Sanger now stands. Here he lived until his death in 1887. During the Civil war he was in General Shelby's brigade. His wife, who in maidenhood was Cynthia Wheeler, was born in Slater, Mo., a daughter of Samuel Wheeler. The year after her husband's death, Mrs. Ferril sold the farm at Sanger and purchased the property now owned by her son. Here she lived until her death, September 3, 1894, past the age of sixty years.

Samuel H. Ferril was reared on a farm in Saline county, Mo., where he lived until his parents came to California. While he was compelled to assist his father who was in poor health, he was permitted to attend the district schools, and in this way received a good common school education. At the age of nineteen he began farming his mother's place. From the first he made a success of the business and now owns two hundred and forty acres adjoining the town



of Exeter. Here he has one of the finest ranches in Tulare county, devoting the whole to grain and stock-raising. In Farmersville he was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Mades, a daughter of Philip Mades and a native of Missouri. She is the mother of one child, Virgie.

Mr. Ferril takes a prominent part in lodge work, being one of the enthusiastic members of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias. He also belongs to the Uniform Rank and has done much to further the interests of the order in this section of the county. He also holds membership in the Woodmen of the World. In politics he supports the men and measures of the Democratic party, but has neither the time nor inclination to take an active part in political matters. Socially he and his wife are popular and have a bright future.

---

**JAMES KIRK.** As proprietor of the Kirk hotel, James Kirk is represented among the prominent and successful business men of Exeter. In connection with his son, he has just completed the finest business building in Exeter, a two-story brick block, known as the Kirk building, given over entirely to the interests of the hotel with the exception of a large room designed for a general merchandise establishment. It is universally conceded by the traveling public that there is no finer hotel for its size in the San Joaquin valley, with its well-arranged rooms, large, light and airy, complete in all appointments, and always presenting a gratifying appearance of neatness and cleanliness. Born in Marshfield, Webster county, Mo., April 26, 1856, James Kirk is the son of Isaiah Kirk, a native of Alabama.

The Kirk family came originally from Scotland and located in the southern part of the United States. John Kirk, a native of Alabama, married into a German family prominent in the state, and after some years removed to Missouri, where he engaged as a farmer and stockman until his death at an advanced age in 1890. His son, Isaiah Kirk, followed the same occupation in Greene county (now Webster county), at the breaking out of the Civil war enlisting in Company K, Twenty-fourth Missouri Volunteer Infantry and serving as corporal until the close of hostilities. Returning to civil life he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death in 1899, at the age of seventy-five years. He was very prominent man in his community, serving as justice of the peace and school officer for many years, while he held the office of postmaster at Mornington for twenty years. He was always a staunch Republican in his political convictions and was active in local affairs. His wife, formerly Minerva Atkisson, was born in middle

Tennessee, a daughter of Benjamin Atkisson, also of that state, who settled in Missouri as a farmer and died during the Civil war. Mrs. Kirk died on the old home place, leaving a family of three sons and eight daughters, of whom ten children are now living.

The fourth in his father's family, James Kirk was reared on the paternal farm. He received excellent educational advantages, attending the district schools and Mountindale Seminary, and later the Henderson Academy, graduating from the last named at an early age. He began teaching at the age of nineteen years, continuing in the work in Greene and Webster counties for a period of fourteen years. Coming to California in 1890 he located in Exeter, which had then but one store and a postoffice. The following year he built his home, the first two-story residence in Exeter, and engaged in the insurance business, representing different insurance companies. In 1891 he was appointed justice of the peace, and since then has been elected three different times, serving seven years. In connection with insurance he dealt in real estate, in which he met with success. In 1896 he established a general merchandise store, in which business he has continued up to the present time, this interest now being conducted by his son. In 1904 he planned and built the Kirk hotel block, a two-story brick building, 60x88 feet in dimensions, while the store on the corner has a dimension of 32x60 feet, with an addition 16x24 feet. The merchandise business is conducted under the firm name of James Kirk & Son. On Sunday, October 30, 1904, the Kirk hotel was opened for business, and bids fair to prove one of the most important enterprises of the city. Mr. Kirk owns a ranch of forty acres near Exeter.

In Webster county, Mo., August 25, 1881, James Kirk was united in marriage with Alabama Thomas, a native of Missouri, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Edgar, manager of the store; Ethel; Elbert and Ezeta, all at home. In national politics Mr. Kirk is a Republican, while locally he gives his support to the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

---

**FRED GILL.** A successful stockman of Tulare county, Fred Gill is located in Yokohl and Frazier valleys and Epperson Flat, where he has large herds of cattle, roaming over fifteen thousand acres of land, which he and his brother own in partnership. He is a native of Iowa, where he was born April 13, 1869, the third in a family of five sons and four daughters, all of whom are living except one daughter and one son. His parents, L. L. and Eliza Gill, were both natives of Iowa, the father being a stock-

man. He brought his family to California in 1874, locating in Yokohl valley, where he bought a farm. Later he removed to Frazier valley, where he now makes his home on a well-tended and improved ranch, still engaged in the raising of cattle.

But five years old when he came to California, Fred Gill has spent practically his entire life within the confines of this state. He was educated in the district schools of Yokohl and Frazier valleys, after which he engaged with his father in the stock business until he was twenty-six years old. Entering the business for himself in 1895, he located in the Frazier valley and with his brother, William Gill, conducted the business for a time. Later they located in Yokohl valley and increased their stock with Durham and Hereford cattle. They now own three thousand acres in the Frazier valley, upon which is located a number of springs, which furnish an ample supply of water the year around. They have two ranches in the Yokohl valley of five thousand and six thousand acres, the former being the home property of Mr. Gill, while the latter is located two miles east. A ranch in Eperson Flat contains one thousand acres. In addition to devoting much time to cattle they also deal largely in horses, raising from seventy-five to one hundred head, among which are draft horses and roadsters, while their cattle number over a thousand. They are extensively interested in the business and have met with uniform success in their operations, holding the esteem and respect of all for the business qualities, the executive ability and the energy which have distinguished them in their efforts.

In Visalia Mr. Gill was married to Carrie Hickman, a native of Tulare county, and the daughter of Alexander Hickman, a pioneer stockman who resides in Mountain View, this state. They are the parents of two children, Roy and Emmet. Politically Mr. Gill is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**MCLEES BROTHERS.** George W. and Martin C. McLees are sons of J. H. McLees and were born in Ontario, Canada, Oxford county, near Norwich. J. H. McLees was also a native of the same place and a son of James McLees, a sketch of whom will be found in connection with that of Edmund McLees. J. H. McLees now makes his home in Lindsay, where he is living in the enjoyment of a good old age. He married Elma Cornwell, who was born in Norwich, Ontario.

George W. McLees was the second in a family of three children. Both he and his younger brother, Martin C., were brought up on a farm

in Ontario, receiving their education in the district schools. In 1899 the father purchased a young orange grove near Lindsay, and in 1900 both the brothers came to California, becoming interested in the orange industry. The year after their arrival here George W. purchased ten acres which adjoins the old place. In all the brothers now own some twenty acres, three-quarters of a mile west of Lindsay, and during the season of 1904 the McLees orchard was one of the banner ones of the county.

In 1904 the brothers, with others, erected the Independent Packing House in Lindsay and organized the Independent Packing Company, of which George W. is the secretary. Mr. McLees has also become interested with other parties, and in company with McIndoo bought one hundred and sixty acres of land two miles west of Lindsay. This has been subdivided into ten-acre tracts, and all has been sold to people who have converted the land into bearing orange groves.

Fraternally both gentlemen are members of the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Aid, and both are Republicans. They are meeting with excellent success in their business undertakings.

**SCHUYLER A. BARBER, M. D.** The success achieved by Dr. Barber has been entirely the result of his own efforts, directed by the energy and ambition which are distinguishing characteristics of the members of this family. In Portersville, where he is located, and the surrounding country, he is held in the highest esteem for the ability he has evinced in his profession, the earnestness and thought he gives to his work, and the spirit in which he ministers to the needs of suffering humanity. A native of Wolcottville, La Grange county, Ind., he was born September 20, 1872, and was next to the youngest in a family of seven daughters and two sons. His father, Leonard Barber, was born in Ohio, in which state the paternal grandfather had become an early settler from New York. In young manhood Leonard Barber entered Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. He located in Kendallville, Noble county, Ind., where he engaged in the practice of medicine, and later in Wolcottville, where his death occurred. He was a Knight Templar, and politically was a staunch Republican. His wife, formerly Adeline Alleman, a native of New York state, survives him, now making her residence in the old home in Indiana.

In Wolcottville Schuyler A. Barber was reared until 1888, receiving his education in the public and high schools of that place, graduating from the latter when sixteen years of age. After his





*Joe King*

father's death he came west to California and in Tulare City found employment as a clerk in a lawyer's office, where he remained eighteen months. He then came to Portersville and with his brother-in-law, W. W. Henry, established a nursery, raising orange and lemon trees principally, and succeeded in building up a lucrative business. His business career, however, was only a means toward an end, for it enabled him to take up the study which had been the ambition of his life. Disposing of his interest in the nursery in 1896, he entered Cooper Medical College of San Francisco, from which he was graduated in the fall of 1899, after a four years' course, with the degree of M. D. He immediately returned to Portersville, where his ability in business lines had won him recognition, and has since demonstrated the talent which inspired his love for his chosen profession. He has met with success as a physician and surgeon, and holds high rank among professional men of the vicinity of Portersville. He has built up an extended practice, which has brought him satisfactory returns. In addition to his profession he is also interested in orange growing to some extent and gives some time and attention to this work.

In San Francisco Dr. Barber was united in marriage with Edith F. Henry, a native of La Grange county, Ind., and the daughter of Oliver O. Henry, who is represented on another page in this volume. Born to the doctor and his wife is one son, Philip Schuyler. Dr. Barber is city health officer and examining physician for six of the old line life insurance companies, as well as the Woodmen of the World, Modern Woodmen of America and Independent Order of Foresters, being a member of these three orders. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

**JOSEPH KING.** One of Merced county's substantial citizens and up-to-date farmers near LeGrand, Cal., is Joseph King, who owns a two-thousand-acre ranch four miles east of the city, upon which he is successfully engaged in the raising of grain. Prior to his occupancy of the land in 1892 it was used as a sheep ranch. Mr. King was born in the Azores Islands, Portugal, in December, 1851, a son of Frank and Isabel King, honored residents of his native country.

Leaving home at the age of nineteen years, Joseph King first followed the sea, cruising for three years on the South Pacific ocean and on the coast of Africa. In 1873 he came to the United States, locating first in Pennsylvania, where he again took up a sea-faring life, sailing on Lake Erie for a short time. He later went to Texas, but returned to Pennsylvania the same year. In 1874 he came to California, spending

the winter of 1874-75 in Sonoma county, and in the spring of 1875 settled in Stanislaus county. Remaining there until 1892 he then located in Merced county, upon the ranch which has since been his home. Upon locating in Stanislaus county Mr. King was united in marriage with Miss Mary Mendonca, also born in the Azores, the ceremony being performed in Bedford, Mass.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. King seven children have been born, namely: Emma (the wife of Manuel Ray, of Merced county), Frank, William, Julia, Mamie, Joseph, Jr., and Bessie. The family are highly esteemed in the community in which they make their home. Fraternally Mr. King is an Odd Fellow, having been identified with the order for over nineteen years, and is a member of the Encampment. In his political opinions he is a Republican.

**CHARLES ORTON COWLES** holds a place in the esteem of his fellow citizens which has been won by the rare qualities and sterling traits of his character. Broad-minded, liberal and enterprising, he has proved a potent factor in the development and upbuilding of this section of Tulare county, being numbered among the most successful orange growers in the vicinity of Lindsay. Born in Rochester, N. Y., February 16, 1867, he is the third in a family of five sons and one daughter, of whom four sons are now living. His father, Norman Benjamin Cowles, was also a native of the same place, his grandfather, Joseph Cowles, having located near that city from his birthplace in Massachusetts. The elder man engaged as a farmer until his death. Norman B. Cowles became a farmer on property at Brighton, East Rochester. This he sold in 1884 and moved near Jefferson, Ohio, locating on an extensive farm, which he occupied for a number of years, then retired from active life, making his home in Jefferson. He is a prominent man in his community, a staunch Republican, as such serving as supervisor for several terms. He volunteered for service in the Civil war but was rejected. His wife, formerly Frances Green, born in Massachusetts, a daughter of Daniel Green, who settled near Rochester, N. Y., as a farmer, is still living at the age of sixty-nine years, being three years the senior of Mr. Cowles.

Until 1884 Charles Orton Cowles remained in New York, where he attended the public schools, and after the removal to Jefferson, Ohio, he became a student in the high school of that place. Following this he attended the Williams & Rogers Business College, of Rochester, N. Y. In 1890 he came as far west as Colorado, locating at Boulder, where he engaged in clerking. Deciding to locate on the coast, he came to Cali-

fornia in January, 1892, and in Butte county found employment in a nursery and orange orchard. Having become interested in Tulare county, he bought a five-acre tract at Lindsay and in the spring of 1893 set it to fruit. In 1900 he bought another tract of five acres just across the road from his first purchase, and in 1903 followed this with the purchase of sixteen and a half acres a half mile from Lindsay, having now twenty-six and a half acres of Washington navels in full bearing. He purchased seventy-seven acres of unimproved land in 1905, which he intends putting in oranges. His places are equipped with two pumping plants, operated by eight and a half horse power, irrigating the entire ranch. In June, 1900, he built his handsome residence, which is located a quarter of a mile from the Lindsay depot.

Mr. Cowles is also associated with the Rochdale Association, in which he is a stockholder. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and fraternally affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, and also the Fraternal Aid. He is a member of the Baptist Church, in which he officiates as a deacon, being chairman of the board, and for ten years has held the office of superintendent of the Sunday-school.

**JOHN P. BERGER.** A resident of Lindsay since 1893, Mr. Berger has improved his time and is now the owner of as fine a ranch as can be found in this section of Tulare county. He is what America is proud to call a self-made man. Ever since reaching man's estate he has made his own way in the world, and while he is not a wealthy man, he has accumulated a comfortable competency. Born in Iowa, he is a son of Enos Berger, a native of Richmond, Va. In early life his father removed to Indianapolis, Ind., where he was one of the first to engage in the lumber manufacturing business. Later he migrated to Iowa where he entered land and again engaged in the lumber and milling business. He was the founder of the town of Winterset. After several years spent in Iowa he settled in Nebraska, at Rock Bluff, Cass county. There he became a large land owner and was also interested in the milling business until he came to California in 1886. Settling in San Jose, he lived a retired life until his death at the age of eighty-three years. While in Iowa he took an active part in political matters and for three terms was treasurer of Madison county. Enos Berger was united in marriage with Elizabeth Wallace, a native of Delaware. Her death occurred in San Jose at the age of seventy-seven years. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Berger, are as follows: Josephine, wife of S. S. Alley, of Cass

county, Neb.; Mary, wife of G. L. Seybolt, of Alameda; Annie, who became the wife of S. R. Johnson, of San Jose; James, a resident of Cass county, Neb.; George, in San Jose; and John P., the youngest of the family.

John P. Berger was born January 15, 1857, in Cass county, Neb., where he attended the district schools, the only educational advantages offered boys in those early days. Remaining at home with his father until reaching his twenty-first year he then struck out to make an independent living, first engaging in farming, but in a short time he became interested in the drug business at Beaver City, Neb., where he continued a short time. His next location was at Hay Springs, Neb., where he entered into a general merchandise business, and after carrying on a successful business at this place for some time he sold out. Removing to Boxbutte county he became a large land owner and laid out the town of Berea, where he again engaged in the general merchandise business. He also served as postmaster of the town for a time. In 1892 he arrived in California, and for a year was in charge of a fruit ranch near the city of San Jose, and then, as stated before, he came to Lindsay in 1893 and purchased twenty acres of land, ten now being devoted to oranges while he expects to have the balance planted in a short time. This place is improved with modern appliances, including a pumping plant equipped with a five horse power electric motor which has a capacity of four thousand gallons per hour.

Since locating in Lindsay Mr. Berger married Minnie E. Halliburton, who was born in Tulare county, a daughter of William Halliburton, who up to the time of his death was engaged in ranching near Lindsay. One child, Thurston Wallace, has been born to them.

Fraternally Mr. Berger is a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Knights of Pythias. In political belief he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, but he has never had time to take an active part in public affairs. Still, no man in the county is more ready to perform the duties devolving upon him.

**J. E. FENLEY.** As a farmer and stockman, J. E. Fenley occupies a place among the representative men of Tulare county, where he has been located since 1888. A native of Missouri, he was born in Callaway county November 9, 1866, his father, T. H. Fenley, also being a native of the same locality. The elder man was a farmer and stockman in Missouri until he came to California, locating near Winters, Yolo county, where he is now retired at the age of



eighty years. His wife, formerly Carrie Jane Baker, was born in Missouri and died in California. Of the eleven children born of this union eight attained maturity and seven are now living.

The ninth in the family of his parents, J. E. Fenley was reared to young manhood on the paternal farm in Missouri, receiving his education at the district school in the vicinity of his home. He remained at home until 1884, in which year he came to California and located at Winters, Yolo county, where a brother had previously settled. He found employment on a farm during the summer months, following which he engaged as a clerk in the town of Winters for a period of three years. In 1888 he came to Tulare county and located on the plains, where he has since improved and cultivated a farm of six hundred and forty acres on section 22, township 17, range 25. He has devoted his time and attention principally to the raising of grain and stock, while he also raises some alfalfa. He has a pumping plant on his property, equipped with a five-inch pump, a thousand gallons an hour being supplied for irrigation purposes. He has erected ample and substantial buildings for all purposes, among them a handsome and comfortable residence.

In Tulare county Mr. Fenley was united in marriage with Etta Calcote, a native of the county, and a daughter of Allen Calcote and sister of William Calcote, whose sketch appears upon another page of this volume. They are now the parents of two children, Arlie and Carl. In his political affiliations a Democrat, Mr. Fenley has been and is one of the staunch supporters of these principles in this section. In the interests of educational lines, he has served as school trustee for three years.

---

**WILLIAM HOWARD.** Probably no man in Tulare county has had a more roving or adventurous life than the one whose name introduces this review. Since early manhood he has traveled much of the time, and while it is only possible for us to give an outline of his career, his life, if fully written, would be of intense interest to the reader.

A native of the Keystone state, Mr. Howard was born in what is now Wyoming county, July 11, 1833. His father, Charles, was also a native of Pennsylvania, and was the first white male child born in the vicinity of Wilkesbarre. By trade he was a cabinet maker, but in later life was employed as a lock keeper on the Lehigh canal. His last days were spent in Luzerne county, where he worked for a coal mining concern. He married Sarah Blakslee, a native of Connecticut, who became the mother of seven

children, our subject being the eldest and the only one living in this state. Two sons lost their lives in the Civil war, one being killed and the other dying of small-pox.

William Howard was reared and educated in the country about Wilkesbarre. At the age of seventeen he was apprenticed to learn the marble cutter's trade. In 1854 he was married to Miss Rosalia Peck, after which they migrated to the westward, Mr. Howard following his trade in different states. At the time of the breaking out of the Civil war he was living in Tennessee, being overseer of a plantation. Later he received a government appointment as assistant assessor of the internal revenue department at Nashville, where he lived until the close of the war. Soon after he went to Alabama to engage in growing cotton, the product at the time being worth \$1.25 per pound, but a year later the price went down to six and nine cents, and after one year devoted to this industry he sold out and started for Texas, but before reaching his destination changed his mind and went to Venezuela. There he joined a colony that had received a grant of land from the government. A year was spent on the Orinoco river, when he returned to the United States, finally locating in Michigan, where he was employed by the United States Government Coast Survey. His first wife having died two years after their marriage, Mr. Howard was again married while in Michigan and shortly after he engaged in farming and stock-raising, continuing in this until the Wash railroad cut his farm up, when he sold and engaged in a mercantile business, which he conducted for eight years. At this time his wife died, so he disposed of his store and next located in Ocean Springs, Miss., where he followed farming, and where he was again married, but four years later his wife died, and he then came to California, arriving in Tulare county in December, 1890. Locating in Goshen he purchased a small store, which he conducted for three years, when he enlarged his store and has since carried on a general merchandising business.

In January, 1892, Mr. Howard married Mrs. Cora (Kirkland) Halstead, who was born in Mississippi and is a daughter of William Pitt Kirkland, a native of Baton Rouge, and by profession an attorney and newspaper man. Later in life Mr. Kirkland removed to the Isthmus of Panama, where he conducted a hotel until 1864, when he came to San Francisco and engaged in the restaurant business. In 1870 he took up his residence in Tulare county, engaging in the grocery business at Visalia. He finally removed to Auckland, where he lived at the time of his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Louisa Wilson and was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her father, William, was a merchant there, where he

lived at the time of his death. Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland were the parents of ten children, seven of whom are now living, Mrs. Howard being the eldest. Much of her earlier life was spent on the Isthmus, although two years were devoted to schooling in Brooklyn, N. Y. She remained at home until 1866, when she was united in marriage with James Halstead, who crossed the plains in 1854. After leaving home he engaged in farming and stock-raising, which vocation he was following near Visalia at the time of his death in 1888, at the age of forty-six years. By this union Mrs. Howard became the mother of four children: Erminie, now Mrs. Morrow of Visalia; William Franklin, residing near Layton; Robert Edward, who is a contractor and builder in Los Angeles, and Harry D. at home. Mrs. Howard and her children own one hundred and twenty acres of land three miles southeast of Goshen and one hundred and sixty acres in the Isham valley.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Howard have many friends, and while the former has lived in Goshen but a few years and is a man well advanced in years, he is still very active and one who can be relied upon to do his duty as a citizen.

---

**ALPHONSE WEILL.** The distinction of being the longest-established merchant in Bakersfield, Kern county, belongs to Alphonse Weill, who has been engaged in mercantile pursuits here for upward of thirty years. Beginning business in a small way, he built up a good patronage, and as the demand for his goods increased he, from time to time, enlarged both stock and store, and is now carrying on a thriving trade. Since the completion of the Weill block, which he erected on Nineteenth street, between Chester avenue and K street, he has occupied the whole of the first floor, devoting one room to hardware, one to groceries, and one to dry goods, managing, in fact, a department store.

Born December 21, 1852, in Alsace-Lorraine, then in France, Alphonse Weill was brought up and educated in his native country, and was there employed as a clerk for a short time. Immigrating to the United States at the age of eighteen years, he disembarked in New York City in June, 1870. Two weeks later he came to California and located first in Havilah, then the county seat of Kern county. This section of the state was then but sparsely populated, there being no railroads in the valley, and but little to invite the attention of the new-comer. For a year he engaged in clerking there, and was afterward similarly employed in San Francisco for another year. Settling in Bakersfield in Septem-

ber, 1872, Mr. Weill worked for about a year as a clerk, and then started in business on his own account. Putting in a small stock of general merchandise, he devoted his entire attention and energy to the details of his business, which has grown to a large proportion, and is now one of the most extensive and lucrative in this part of the county. A man of much enterprise, public-spirited and progressive, Mr. Weill has been the encourager and promoter of different beneficial projects, and was one of the original stockholders of the Southern hotel and of the Bakersfield water works, although not now a shareholder in either. He is one of the principal owners and incorporators of the Jewett Oil Company, which has valuable producing oil property in Kern county. In 1889 Mr. Weill sustained a great loss by the burning of his first block, which he built in 1887, but he has rebuilt it, and now occupies the entire first floor. His residence is pleasantly located at the corner of Seventeenth and H streets, and is ever open to his large circle of friends and acquaintances.

October 15, 1882, Mr. Weill married Henrietta Levy, of San Francisco, and they have four children, namely Blanche, who was graduated from the University of California in 1900; Irma, a student in the same institution; Adele, and Lawrence, attending the Bakersfield high school. Politically Mr. Weill is a stanch Republican, but has never been an aspirant for official honors. Fraternally he belongs to Bakersfield Lodge, F. & A. M., which he joined in 1873 or 1874; to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and to the Eagles.

---

**ALFRED EDWIN PRUNER.** A native of Lodi, Washington county, Va., Alfred Edwin Pruner was born October 30, 1852. His father, James M., was also a native of Virginia, where he engaged in farming and also worked at the wagon maker's trade. He took an active part in county affairs, and at the time of his death was the treasurer of Smith county, Va. James M. Pruner married Fanny Sever, a native of Wythe county, Va. She is still living and makes her home in her native state. By this marriage eight children were born. Two of the sons served in a Virginia regiment during the Civil war.

Alfred Edwin Pruner was brought up on his father's farm and remained at home until reaching his nineteenth year. Leaving home he went to Wytheville, where he served an apprenticeship at the cabinet maker's trade. After three years he removed to Jefferson, N. C., where he continued working at his trade. At the expira-





Mrs. Mary E. Lay



Dr. H. Say.





tion of his stay in Jefferson he took up his residence in Washington county, where he lived seven years, working at his trade all the time. Hearing much of the splendid opportunities offered the ambitious in California, he came to the coast in 1901 and located in Exeter, where he secured employment as a carpenter. The same summer of his arrival he purchased sixty acres of land adjoining Exeter on the northeast. At the time of purchase the land was a wheat field, but with characteristic energy Mr. Pruner at once began the improvement of his land, and now has one of the finest vineyards in this section of the county. In partnership with a friend he has installed a pumping plant which has a capacity of irrigating one hundred and forty acres of land, the water being secured from a well one hundred and twenty-eight feet deep. In addition to his vineyard, Mr. Pruner also owns land in Exeter, where he lives.

In Washington county, Va., Mr. Pruner was united in marriage with Pattie Rosenbaum, who is a native of the same state. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pruner, namely: J. Otis M., Charles D., Pearle, Emma, Myrtle and Edwin, all of whom are living at home.

Fraternally Mr. Pruner is a member of the Odd Fellows, having united with the order while still a resident of Virginia. In politics he votes the Republican ticket, but has never had the time to take an active part in public affairs. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and take a deep interest in religious work.

Mr. Pruner has made his own way in the world since leaving home. He has made the most of his opportunities and is now in a position to enjoy the latter years of his life. Surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries, he can look back upon the past and feel that he has no regrets. In his battle with life he has been fortunate in having the assistance of a most estimable wife, who has never failed him. To her he owes much.

**WILLIAM HENRY SAY.** Enterprising, ambitious, and of keen perceptions, William Henry Say, of Selma, is a prominent agriculturist, and one of the most successful business men of Fresno county. He is a man of untiring effort and indomitable courage, and in his various undertakings has had the encouragement and support of his wife, who is equally as brave and unflinching as he. One of California's native sons, he was born August 2, 1864, in Mendocino county, of pioneer stock.

James H. Say, father of William H., was born and brought up in Venango county, Pa. In 1853, sailing by way of the Isthmus, he came to

California, and for ten years or more was successfully engaged in mining in Placerville. The following ten years he was employed in general ranching in Mendocino county, and then, in 1874, located in Fresno county. He pre-empted and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land lying five miles northeast of Selma, and also bought other tracts of land, becoming quite a holder of real estate. A part of the time he resided in Selma, where he erected the Renfro hotel, which was burned in 1890, and a part of the time lived on his home ranch. He died October 14, 1902. His wife, whose maiden name was Laura Jane Coats, was born in Wisconsin in 1855, and now owns and occupies the home ranch. She bore her husband six children, four sons and two daughters, William Henry being the firstborn of the household.

Having completed his early education in the district schools, William Henry Say was well trained in agricultural and horticultural pursuits by his father. Beginning life for himself at the age of eighteen years, he bought a vineyard of sixty acres lying north of the town, and subsequently purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land lying south of Selma, eighty acres of which he devoted to the culture of grapes, and eighty acres to the raising of alfalfa. In the management of his ranches, Mr. Say met with most satisfactory results, reaping bountiful harvests each season. His home ranch, adjoining the city of Selma on the northeast, contains thirty-seven acres of rich and arable land, ten acres of which he devotes to the raising of fruit, while on the remainder he sows alfalfa, which he finds a profitable crop.

In 1898, with characteristic enterprise, Mr. Say went with the crowd of gold-seekers to Dawson City, Alaska. Locating in the town of Grand Forks, he bought claim No. 6, on the Bonanza creek, and claim No. 48 on the Eldorado, and was there employed in mining until October, 1901. Coming back to California in that month, he remained here until the following spring, when he returned to Alaska. On May 24, 1902, he sold his claims for a snug sum, clearing from \$50,000 to \$75,000, and on June 2, 1902, was again back in Fresno county. Very soon after he bought his home ranch, alluded to above, and has since resided in Selma.

In 1884, in Fresno county, near Selma, Mr. Say was united in marriage with Mary E. De Witt, who was born in Missouri, a daughter of T. B. DeWitt. Mr. DeWitt, a native of old Virginia, was a pioneer settler of Missouri, living first in Sullivan and later in Adair county. In 1883, on account of ill health, he, accompanied by his daughter Mary, came to California, and was so pleased with the climate that in 1884 he returned to Missouri for the remaining mem-

bers of his family. Locating on a ranch five miles northeast of Selma, he was there engaged in the raising of fruit, grapes and alfalfa until his death, in 1891, at the age of fifty-seven years. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Say two children have been born, namely: DeWitt H., who died at the age of four years, and Harry Lyle. Mrs. Say has made three trips to Alaska, making her first trip in 1899, and taking her baby with her. In the fall of 1900, she came back to California to put her young son in school here, and November 29 of that year started north across the ice, arriving at Dawson December 30. In October, 1901, she came with her husband to Selma, and subsequently accompanied him on his trip to and from Alaska in the spring of 1902. Politically Mr. Say is a Republican. Fraternally he is a member of Selma Lodge No. 309, I. O. O. F.; of Selma Encampment No. 176; of the Rebekahs and of Selma Circle, and of the Woodmen of the World. Mrs. Say is a member and secretary of Selma Lodge No. 178, Daughters of Rebekah, and of Selma Lodge No. 191, Women of Woodcraft.

**JAMES WILLIAM CENTER POGUE.** It is especially pleasing for the biographer to write a sketch of a man who is as deserving as Mr. Pogue. A son of John Pogue, he was born in Greene county, Tenn., June 1, 1839. The father was also a native of the same state and was a son of another John, who was born in Virginia of Scotch-Irish descent. The first of the family to come to America were three brothers, who landed on the James river in 1740. All owned plantations below Richmond and were very wealthy people. The grandfather of our subject was a first lieutenant in a Virginia Light Horse Cavalry and served with distinction during the Revolutionary war. The father, John, was a farmer and stock-raiser in Tennessee, where he died at the age of about fifty years. He married Sarah McConnell, who was born in Tennessee, and whose father immigrated to this country from the north of Ireland. She died in her native state on the same day as her husband, and they were buried in the same grave. Of this union but one child was born, James William Center, although he had several half brothers and sisters, two of whom came to California, but are now deceased.

Left an orphan at the tender age of three months, James William Center Pogue lived with his grandmother Pogue until her death, when he was but two years old. After this he went to live with a brother and sister, who moved to Missouri, where he was given the advantages of a subscription school education. At the age of seventeen he, accompanied by his brother and

sister, started for the Pacific coast. The trip was made overland with ox teams, the start being made on April 15, 1857. From Missouri the old trail to Fort Bridger was followed, and from there the Dawson route was taken as far as Humboldt. Then the party took the Honey Lake trail to Red Bluff, arriving at the latter place late in September. After a short stop at Red Bluff, the journey was continued to Santa Rosa, where the brother, John, purchased land and engaged in farming, Mr. Pogue remaining with him until 1859. In that year he was united in marriage with Nancy M. Blair, whose father, Rev. Jonathan, was a pioneer Presbyterian minister of California. Soon after marriage Mr. Pogue removed to Little Lake valley, Mendocino county, where he took up a government claim of eighty acres and engaged in the stock business until 1862. In that year he came to Tulare county, where he has since made his home. The first location Mr. Pogue made was at Venice, on the St. John's river, where he followed farming and teaming. In 1864, with the money he had saved from his earnings, he purchased two hundred and forty acres on Bravo lake. This tract he improved, and after a time engaged in the stock business, but the flood of 1868 proved very disastrous, washing away much of his land. It was a hard blow, but with an energy that has made for him his present position of affluence, he again started in, this time locating at Limekiln, on the Kaweah, where he was soon the owner of five hundred acres of land, on which he resumed general farming and stock-raising. As time passed he continued to add to his first purchase, and later became interested in the sheep business with two partners, C. W. Crocker and W. H. Wallace. This combination continued for several years, and at one time they owned ten thousand acres, which was known as the Cove ranch. Mr. Pogue being the superintendent. Mr. Wallace died in 1881, and after the division was made with the estate, Mr. Pogue purchased the interest of the other partner, becoming the sole owner of six thousand acres. On this he carried on an extensive stock business for several years, much of the land still remaining in his possession.

In 1877 Mr. Pogue began experimenting with the growing of oranges and lemons. Up to this time it was thought impossible to grow this fruit in this section on account of the frosts. Twenty orange and lemon trees were set out in his orchard, the irrigation being done the first year with buckets, but the following year a ditch was made, and as the trees grew they showed great vitality and were not injured by the frost. In 1885 George Patten examined the fruit and advised Mr. Pogue to send sample boxes to the Los Angeles fair. This was done and as a re-

sult the fruit received a high award and created quite an excitement among horticulturists, which was responsible for the starting of the citrus fruit industry in Tulare county. A demand for land was at once made and Mr. Pogue disposed of four hundred acres at \$75 per acre. Since then he has sold to various people, in all disposing of over one thousand acres, all of which is devoted to the growing of oranges and lemons. Thus the name, "Lemon Cove," came in a perfectly natural manner. Under great disadvantages Mr. Pogue dug the Lemon Cove ditch, which is now owned by a company, but at the time it was constructed no one would invest in the enterprise, as the plan was not considered feasible. Every one knows the result, as this whole country is now irrigated with ditches.

As a result of the marriage of Mr. Pogue and Nancy Blair the following children were born: Martha L., who became the wife of W. H. Moffett of Visalia; Nancy E., now Mrs. Crookshank of Dinuba; J. Earl, postmaster and head of Pogue Bros., Lemon Cove; Thomas A., of Pogue Bros.; Sarah Eva, who is a professional nurse, having graduated from the Hollenbrock Sanitarium, now lives in San Francisco; Olive, now Mrs. F. M. Mixer of San Francisco, and Nora Alice, the wife of Dr. D. V. Montgomery of Lemon Cove. The mother of this large family is now deceased, dying in 1891.

In politics Mr. Pogue is a Democrat, and at different times has been very active in county affairs, having served two terms as supervisor. He was also school trustee for eight years, and during this time did much to assist in building up the schools of his district. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason and also belongs to the Visalia Commandery K. T. In religious matters he is a Presbyterian. In all these various organizations he has taken an active interest, helping in every way possible to further their welfare. By industry and economy he has attained a position which he is well qualified to fill. Throughout the county he is well known, and in all sections has hosts of friends. By developing and experimenting with the citrus fruit industry he has done more than the ordinary man for this county. It is now one of the greatest sources of income for thousands, and places Tulare county well up as one of the leading counties of the state.

---

ELIAS JACOB holds a place in the memory of the citizens of Tulare county which will not be effaced with the passing years. So much of energy he gave to the upbuilding of his personal fortunes, so much of success he won, that his achievements are pointed out with pride by those who worked with him, side by side, in the pio-

neer days of the state. Parallel with his own interests he gave his efforts toward the upbuilding of the country, its development, improvement and cultivation, taking a strong interest in all movements which tended toward the general advancement of the community. Unlike many citizens whose efforts have won success, his personal success meant the upbuilding of the country's best interests, and the broadening of commercial, political and social affairs.

Born in Germany in 1841, Elias Jacob was the son of German parents, his father being a merchant in his native country. With the sturdy independence characteristic of the German lad, he came to California when only twelve years old. In Stockton he found employment in a dry-goods store, which position he retained until 1856. Deciding to see a little more of the country before locating permanently, he started southward, spending one year at Millerton, then the county seat of Fresno county, after which he came to Visalia and took charge of his brother-in-law's store in this city. After the death of his brother-in-law, H. Mitchell, in 1859, he became his successor, whereupon he enlarged the store and continued the business until 1876. During these years he opened several stores in Fresno and Tulare counties, and met with the same success. On account of declining health he retired from a mercantile life in 1876, and gave himself up entirely to that occupation which ever afterward engrossed his attention. In the years following he became the owner of land in Tulare county, estimated at forty-five thousand acres; the largest tract in one body is eight thousand acres, and in some years the entire acreage was sowed to wheat. An improvement of incalculable benefit to his property has been the artesian wells which he has made, on some tracts having as many as eight wells, which average a flow of two hundred and eighty thousand gallons of water in twenty-four hours, the water being used both for irrigation and stock purposes. During his mercantile employment Mr. Jacob was one of the strongest supporters in the opening up of irrigation ditches, and this brought him manifold returns, as the lands he then acquired have become very valuable by reason of the water supply. The stock upon this vast estate up to the present time, has remained intact. He erected many residences in Visalia, all of which still belong to the estate.

In his political affiliations Mr. Jacob always gave his support to the Democratic party, and was one of its most influential adherents in Tulare county. Personally undesirous of the honors of public office, he repeatedly declined to accept such as his party wished to bestow upon him, but at the same time gave his strongest efforts to promote the principles he endorsed and

add to the power of the party in the county. For many years he served as a member of both the county and state Democratic committees and was looked upon as a man of broad influence, progressive views, as a Democrat loyal to his party, and a citizen loyal to the best interests of the country. Fraternally he was a Royal Arch Mason, an honor conferred upon him by this organization being his appointment as orator at the laying of the corner-stone of the Tulare county court house by the grand master of the state.

The death of Mr. Jacob occurred October 1, 1902, removing from the old associations of worth and work a man known and appreciated for his personal characteristics, and a citizen whose best efforts were ever given toward public advancement. His name is honored and will be remembered as long as Tulare county continues to be a prosperous agricultural center and Visalia a city of financial and commercial importance. He made many friends who mourn his loss.

---

**JAMES ROBERT BAXTER.** Among the reliable citizens of Merced county, Cal., mention should be made of James Robert Baxter, who is engaged in farming, having spent his entire life in this occupation. A native of San Joaquin county, born April 23, 1872, when two years of age he was brought to Merced county, and upon his father's farm in the vicinity of LeGrand received his early training. Supplementing his education in the local district schools by a course in the San Francisco Business College, he then turned his attention to farm work and has since followed a life of consistent industry. He has attained success in a business way, and in private life is esteemed by all who know him.

The Baxter family is of Scotch origin, the paternal grandfather, David Baxter, a native of Scotland, immigrating as a young man to America and settling in the Dominion of Canada. Some time afterward he married Helen Waugh, a native of Canada, and they lived on a farm in that section of the country, where Mr. Baxter died in 1849. Their son, James C. Baxter, father of James R., was born in Nova Scotia, Canada, March 19, 1841, and grew to manhood upon his father's farm, remaining at home until he had attained the age of twenty-seven years. In 1868 he came to California by way of the Panama route. He landed at San Francisco, going from there to San Joaquin county, where he rented land for five years.

In 1871 he visited Merced county with a view to locating here, and being favorably impressed with the outlook he purchased land in 1873, six miles east of LeGrand, near the Madera county line. Here in time he acquired twenty-seven hun-

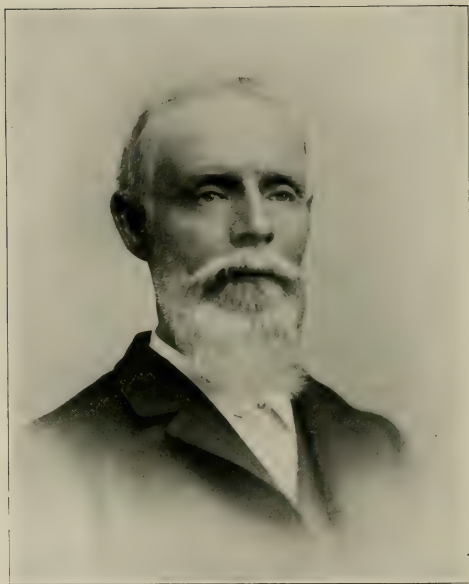
dred acres of land and raised grain on an extensive scale. He is now living retired, the ranch being conducted by his sons, to each of whom he has given a half section of land. While a resident of Canada he married Agnes Miller, a native of that country, and they have six children living, namely: George W.; Maggie E., the wife of E. D. Kahl; James R.; David A.; Mabel A., and John J. The eldest son has a ranch near the home place, owning three-quarters of a section of land and renting other farms. John J. is a resident of Oakland, Cal. The elder Mr. Baxter is a Republican in his political convictions, and fraternally is allied with the Ancient Order of Workmen. The religious views of the family incline toward the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The home ranch of twenty-seven hundred acres is well cared for by James R. and David A., and in addition the former purchased another section of land adjoining the home ranch. The brothers raise barley and wheat, and some attention is paid to raising fine graded horses and mules. The marriage of James R. Baxter united him with Jessie Frances Brandon, who was also born in the San Joaquin valley, the daughter of A. Brandon, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter, Robert Brandon and James Harold. Like his father, an unswerving Republican, Mr. Baxter has contributed much toward the success of his party in this community, and fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. A man of marked ability and an ideal farmer, it is needless to add that Mr. Baxter stands foremost among the representative men of his locality, and his popularity among his fellow-citizens was attested when, November 8, 1904, he was elected supervisor of District No. 2, of Merced county.

---

**MRS. AMELIA (SIMPSON) CAVANAGH.** Among the many women who are prominent in the horticultural life of California Mrs. Amelia (Simpson) Cavanagh is deserving of mention, for the ranch upon which she has been located for the past five years in Merced county evidences her ability along these lines. She is a native of Toronto, Canada, and a daughter of William Simpson. He was born in the northern part of Ireland, where his people had settled upon their emigration from Scotland, where they had flourished for generations. He came to Canada when a young man and became a farmer, remaining so engaged until his death at the age of fifty-seven years. His wife was in maidenhood Sarah McCoy, also a native of Ireland.





*Abner Monroe*



Amelia Simpson was married in Canada to James O. Patterson, who was also a native of that country, and in 1867 they crossed the line into the United States, and coming west, located in Salem, Ore. He shipped the first carload of lumber from that city. Their home remained in that locality until 1873, when they removed to Idaho and engaged in ranching and stock-raising for two years. The climate being less agreeable than that of their Oregon home they then returned to Salem, where Mr. Patterson secured employment with the Pioneer Oil Company at a good salary. He was the first to introduce the culture of flax in Washington and Idaho. He was a successful farmer and met with financial returns adequate to the efforts he put forth in his years of active life. He died in 1884. They were the parents of two children, namely: Joseph A. and Robert J. These young men are now both numbered among the prominent ranchers of Merced county, farming about one hundred and fifty acres of land. They make their home with their mother. In 1885 Mrs. Patterson was again married, the ceremony being performed in Placer county, Cal., and uniting her with James H. Cavanagh. He was a real estate and grain broker of San Francisco and died in that city December 24, 1891. The year following Mrs. Cavanagh came to Merced county, both on account of her health and to look after property which belonged to her. This consisted of fifteen hundred and forty-six acres located on Bear creek, which she has since sold. She made her home near Athalone for five years. She then removed to her present location, five miles northeast of Merced, an eighty-acre place, thirty five acres being devoted to figs, while the balance is given over to assorted fruits and pasture. Mrs. Cavanagh, with the aid of her sons, has made a success of her work, proving herself a woman of rare business judgment and tact, as well as a cultured and entertaining lady. She is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Merced.

---

**ISHMAEL MONROE.** Prominent among the longest-established and most intelligent and prosperous agriculturists of San Joaquin county is Ishmael Monroe, an extensive land owner, living on the river road, about nine and one-half miles from Oakdale. During the half century that he has resided in this vicinity he has won for himself an enviable reputation as an honest man and a valuable citizen, and as one who has contributed his full quota toward the advancement and development of one of the finest counties in the state of California. A son of David Monroe, he was born May 29, 1836, in

Huron county, Ohio, near Norwalk. His paternal grandfather, Joel Monroe, was born near Boston, Mass., and when a young man settled as a mechanic in New Hampshire. He subsequently removed to Cayuga county, N. Y., and from there to Ohio, where he lived a few years, although he died in Massachusetts.

Born and reared in Cheshire county, N. H., David Monroe moved with his parents to Cayuga county, N. Y., and subsequently located in Huron county, Ohio. Having in the meantime learned the carpenter's trade, he settled as a carpenter and contractor in Elkhart county, Ind., removing from there in 1848 to Illinois. In that state he followed farming until 1853, when, with his wife and three children, he started for the Pacific coast. On April 13 he crossed the Mississippi river at Albany, Ill., and on May 20, at Kaneshville, he crossed the Missouri and began his tedious journey across the plains. Keeping on the north side of the Platte river, he came by way of Devil's Gate, north of Salt Lake, following the Walker trail to Tuolumne county, Cal., arriving in Sonora October 4, 1853, having been almost six months en route. The following six years he kept hotel in Sonora, being quite popular as a landlord. In 1860, joining his son Ishmael, the subject of this sketch, he located in San Joaquin county, buying six hundred acres of land on the Stanislaus river, and began the improvement of the present homestead farm. In 1862 he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of adjoining land, and soon afterward erected a substantial residence. Here he was successfully engaged in farming until 1877, when he sold his share to his sons, Ishmael and Euphrates, and removed to Modesto, where, as a carpenter, he built seven different residences. He continued a resident of that place until his death, in 1883, at the age of seventy-two years. He was a man of great integrity and worth, and a member of the Christian Church. He married Maria Butler, who was born in Delaware county, Ohio, a daughter of David Butler. Her father, a native of Massachusetts, served in the war of 1812, and afterwards settled as a farmer in Ohio, living first in Delaware county and later in Huron county. His wife, a Miss Barr, was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, who served throughout the war, taking part in many engagements. He was not wounded while in the service, but had several narrow escapes. At the battle of Bunker Hill his cartridge box was shot off, and in another battle a bullet pierced his hat. Of the union of David and Maria (Butler) Monroe three children were born, namely: Ishmael, the subject of this sketch, with whom the mother spent her closing years, dying at the age of seventy-one years; Euphrates, living in Contra Costa county; and Abigail,

who was drowned in the Stockton Slough, in 1860, at the age of twenty years.

Obtaining his early education in the district schools of Indiana and Illinois, Ishmael Monroe remained at home throughout the days of his boyhood and youth. Starting with the family for California in 1853, he drove a team across the plains, and took his turn regularly in standing guard, once in a while, when necessity demanded it, taking a double turn. In Sonora he assisted in the management of the hotel until 1859, when he made a visit to his old home in Illinois, traveling a part of the way by stage. During the journey, while he was in Texas, Mr. Monroe wrote to his father to stay in California, as he should soon be back. After spending a short time with his former companions and friends Mr. Monroe was married in Chicago, and with his fair young bride came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to the Pacific coast, being thirty-eight days on the journey from New York to San Francisco. The ship in which they traveled, the *Aerial*, was wrecked on a barren island on a fair day. It was commanded by Captain Jones, who later bonded it to Captain Semmes of the Confederate navy. Looking about for a favorable place in which to locate permanently, Mr. Monroe and his father selected this land, and as previously mentioned they carried on general farming and stock raising together for a number of years, improving a good ranch. Dividing the property between his two sons, Ishmael Monroe came into possession of one-half of the old home farm, which contains four hundred and seventy-six acres of bottom land, and he also has five hundred acres of upland. He has since continued in business as a general farmer, raising hay, grain, stock and alfalfa, and meeting with undisputed success in his operations. He has a commodious and conveniently arranged residence, fine barns and outbuildings, and a well-equipped blacksmith's shop, in which he does much of the repairing necessary where machinery is used. Mr. Monroe also owns other property of value, having a grain farm of four hundred and sixty acres near Sanger, Fresno county, which he rents, and an eighty-acre ranch, which he rents, in Tulare county. Prior to the opening of the Santa Fe railroad he was for thirty-two years postmaster at Burwood, the office being in his house.

In Chicago, Ill., in 1859, Mr. Monroe married Anna E. Slaymaker, a native of Lancaster county, Pa., and a daughter of George Slaymaker, an early settler of Illinois. Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe, namely: George David, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Charles Thomas, who died when nine years old; Mrs. Abbie B. Keeley of Stanislaus county; and Henry E., a prominent

attorney of San Francisco. Henry E. Monroe is a young man of noteworthy attainments and of great legal ability. At his graduation from the Stockton high school he stood at the head of his class. In 1888 he was graduated from the University of California, and the following two years was a student at the Columbia Law College. The required six months of law office work was completed in the office of Secretary Elihu Root, in New York City, and he was admitted to the New York bar in the supreme court, standing third in a class of ninety. Returning to California, his admission to the bar was recognized and he has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession in San Francisco, being head of the firm of Monroe & Cornwall. Mr. Monroe has ever evinced a genuine interest in local progress and improvements, and as school trustee has been influential in advancing the educational status of the district. In national politics he is a straightforward, uncompromising Republican. His estimable wife is a faithful member of the Methodist Church.

---

A. CLIFFORD DUNGAN. Although a young man, Mr. Dungan has attained a position in the fruit industry of which he may feel proud. He has made his way in the world alone, and while his efforts have been rewarded with success, it is the result of perseverance and industry. A native of Virginia, he was born at Glade Spring September 10, 1875, a son of Thomas N. Dungan, whose sketch will be found in that of Dr. J. F. Dungan, of Exeter.

Mr. Dungan is the youngest son in a large family of children. He came to California in 1894 and for a time was at Three Rivers, Tulare county, where he labored in a sawmill owned by his brother. In 1895 he entered the employ of the Kaweah Lemon Company, and continued with them for three years, having the care of a lemon orchard. At the expiration of that time he secured a position with the Ohio Lemon Company, with whom he remained one year. During these years he had been very saving, and with the money thus secured he purchased seven acres of land five miles southeast of Exeter. When this property came into the possession of Mr. Dungan it was rough and unimproved, but with the energy that had made him popular with his employers, he began the improvement of the place. He set out orange trees, erected a pumping plant, and now has five acres of fine bearing navel trees, which are proving very profitable.

After he had improved his place he again sought employment and entered the services of

George T. Frost, who at the time had charge of the Bonnie Brae orchards. Mr. Dungan was placed in charge of the vineyards belonging to the Merryman Fruit, Land and Lumber Company. Here he remained for two years when Mr. Frost placed him in full charge of the orange grove on Badger Hill. All this time he was improving his spare time studying the fruit business, and in 1903 he began taking care of groves in the Bonnie Brae district on contract. He now has control of one hundred and seventy-five acres of bearing trees, and for the past ten years he has met with success in this line of business. In addition to the acreage previously mentioned, he, in partnership with his brother, owns a block in the town of Exeter which is set out with fine bearing orange trees.

In Fresno Mr. Dungan was united in marriage with Nellie Tuohy, who was born in Oakland, a daughter of A. V. Tuohy, of Vacaville, and a niece of John Tuohy, of Tulare. Mrs. Dungan is a graduate of the San Francisco Normal, and for a time was a student in the Johns Hopkins Art Institute. By her union with Mr. Dungan she has become the mother of one child, Mary Virginia.

Politically Mr. Dungan is a Democrat, and in fraternal relations is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World. He has been a resident of California since 1894. He came to the state without a dollar, but by hard work and the exercise of a keen business foresight he has accumulated a good property.

EDWIN S. BALAAM. A merchant of Exeter, where he is one of the oldest settlers, E. S. Balaam is carrying on an extensive business and assisting materially in the growth and upbuilding of this section. Born in Johnson county, Ark., December 19, 1841, he is a son of George Balaam, who was a native of England, born in London, in 1805, attaining maturity in that location where he was also married. Eventually he brought his wife and three children to the United States, settling in Louisville, Ky., where he engaged as a plumber and painter. Three children were born there during his residence. He later located in Cincinnati, Ohio, finally removing to Johnson county, Ark., where he followed farming. During his residence in that section his family was increased by the birth of three more children. In 1851 he emigrated to Denton, Tex., and two years later brought his family across the plains by ox-teams, via El Paso, Tucson and Fort Yuma, the journey occupying six months. From Warner's ranch they went on to Los Angeles, the trip having been made in safety beyond a few adventures with the Apache Indians, who stole a small amount of their supplies. They

located in El Monte, about twelve miles east of Los Angeles and began stock-raising, having brought through with him from the south between forty and fifty head of cattle. He remained in that location for five years, when, in January, 1858, he drove through to Tulare county, settling one mile west of Farmersville, purchased a farm and engaged in the raising of grain and stock. Afterward he sold out and went to Cambria, Cal., where his death occurred, when over ninety years of age. His wife, formerly Sarah Swain, a native of Leicestershire, England, died in the old home in Tulare county at the age of sixty-eight years. They were earnest Christian people, and members of the Presbyterian Church. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Balaam, seven were brought to California, two being left in the south when the trip was made overland to the Golden State. Five are now living, four sons and one daughter, all in California.

Next to the youngest of the living children, E. S. Balaam was but twelve years old when he came across the plains, his duty being to ride a big brown mule and drive cattle. In the early days educational advantages were limited in the new state, and the knowledge which today makes of him an intelligent, practical and helpful citizen has been gleaned in his years of manhood in a patient and indefatigable effort to acquire what his youth had failed to supply him. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years old, when he married and settled on a farm located two miles west of Exeter. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, putting up adequate buildings, and improving a farm he engaged in grain raising. For many years he remained a substantial farmer of this section when, in 1891, he located in Exeter, and built a small store, the third in the town, preparatory to a mercantile career. He has since remained so occupied, enlarging the store at four different times, the dimensions of the building now being 40x120 feet. He has since taken into partnership his two sons, and the firm is now known as that of E. S. Balaam & Co. He built a residence and improved an orange grove, and in various ways has added to the material upbuilding of the place.

Near Farmersville Mr. Balaam married Medora M. Glass, a native of Texas, whose father, Robert Glass, brought his family across the plains in 1853. He became a farmer and teamster, freighting from Stockton to Visalia, until his death, which occurred in Tulare county. Mr. and Mrs. Balaam are the parents of the following children: Emma, the wife of W. G. Davis, of Exeter; Albert S., a teamster, of Exeter; Walter J. and Charles F., partners in the mercantile enterprise. In his religious convic-

tions Mr. Balaam affiliates with the Baptist Church, and politically is independent, reserving the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for office. He is a charter member of the Exeter Board of Trade and is on the executive committee. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in Visalia, and now belongs to Exeter Lodge No. 308, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand.

**HARVEY A. FRAME.** Although a resident of Tulare county for comparatively a brief time, Harvey A. Frame has won a recognition as a citizen of worth and ability through the sterling qualities which distinguish him. A native of Wisconsin, he was born in Monroe December 20, 1869, the oldest in a family of three sons and four daughters, all of whom are living. His father, Elias Frame, was a farmer in Wisconsin, to which state the grandfather, Silas, had removed from his birthplace in Illinois. The latter, who was a farmer, later in life removed from Wisconsin to Johnstown, Neb., where his death occurred. Elias Frame also removed to Nebraska, locating first near Lincoln, then on a farm near Valparaiso, where he remained for eight years. Locating in Johnstown, Brown county, that state, he engaged as a general farmer and stockman for the ensuing eleven years. In 1892 he came to California, locating in Portersville, and set out five acres of oranges, where he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred in Green county, Wis., in 1901, while there on a visit. He is buried at Martintown, near Monroe, the place of his residence for so many years. In addition to his farming interests he was also a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, having taken up that work in Nebraska, serving as pastor of the church at Seward and Johnstown. This he was forced to give up on account of ill health, when he came to California. Politically he was a staunch Republican and was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, having served in Company A, Forty-sixth Wisconsin Regiment, during the Civil war. His wife, formerly Mary Catherine Trickle, was born near Monroe, Wis., and now resides in Portersville. Her father, Andrew J. Trickle, was a native of Michigan, who settled as a farmer near Monroe, where his death occurred.

Harvey A. Frame received his education in the common schools of Johnstown, Neb., where the greater part of his boyhood was spent. On attaining manhood he engaged in farming and the stock business with his father until he was twenty-one years old, when he came to California. In February, 1891, he located in Portersville and entered the employ of the Pioneer

Company, under R. H. McDonald and E. Newman, with whom he remained for two years.

Benefiting by his previous business experience Mr. Frame felt justified in establishing a produce business on his own responsibility in 1894 and has continued the same successfully to the present time. He handles all kinds of farm produce, grain, seeds and live stock, shipping by the carload. His business has grown to such proportions that he has the largest establishment of the kind in the county and is second only to those of Fresno. Mr. Frame is also interested in horticulture with his brother, Jesse E. Frame, having set out a twenty-acre orchard two miles from Portersville, in navel oranges, the entire property irrigated by an electric pumping plant.

In Tulare Mr. Frame was united in marriage with Maggie McDonald, a native of Placer county, and the daughter of George McDonald, an early and esteemed settler of California. They are the parents of four children, Laura Lurine, Lloyd Harvey, Alton Harley and Paul Donald. Fraternally Mr. Frame was made an Odd Fellow in Portersville Lodge No. 359, of which he is past grand, and also belongs to Encampment No. 99, of which he is past chief patriarch. He is also identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of which he is financier, and the Woodmen of the World. Politically he is a staunch Republican and in the interests of the party holds various positions of trust and responsibility. He is now a member of the county central committee, and is also serving as councilman from the second ward, elected to the office in April, 1903. In addition to his other duties he is acting as chairman of the street committee, and is a member of the Board of Trade, of which he is a director.

**WILLIAM ALEXANDER BROTHERTON.** A veteran of the Civil war and a resident of California since 1875, Mr. Brotherton is now one of Tulare county's most highly respected citizens. A native of Tennessee, he was born February 23, 1837. His father, Henry R. Brotherton, was born in North Carolina and later settled in Tennessee, from which state he removed in 1851 to Missouri, locating in Carroll county, three miles from Carrollton, where he engaged in farming for the remainder of his life. He was united in marriage with Miss Susan James, a daughter of Thomas James and a native of North Carolina. Of this union there were born thirteen children, eleven of whom reached maturity and three are now living.

William A. Brotherton attended the district schools in his native state and in 1851 accompanied his parents to Missouri, remaining under the parental roof until reaching his twenty-third





*James Miller*



year. He then married and began farming near Carrollton. March 18, 1861, he enlisted in the Third Missouri Cavalry, Company K, and served until 1865, when, on April 16, he was mustered out of the United States service at St. Louis. During the war he was wounded by bushwhackers in the left shoulder and he was also accidentally shot in the left leg by the premature discharge of his own revolver.

Returning to Carroll county after the war, he again engaged in farming, remaining there until 1875, when he sold out and came to California, locating in Tulare county. In 1877 he purchased his present place, which he has improved extensively and where he is now engaged in raising grain, cattle, hogs and horses. For eighteen years he made a specialty of raising turkeys, marketing each year from three to six hundred.

In 1860, while still a resident of Missouri, he married Miss Margaret Coop, who was born in Rutherford county, Tenn., and as a result of this union he has become the father of two children now living: Susan, now Mrs. J. H. Blair, and Elmer, who is a merchant and postmaster at Naranjo. For many years he has been an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, serving for a long time as the ruling elder. Independent in politics, he believes in voting for the man he thinks best qualified for the office, regardless of party lines. While practically all of Mr. Brotherton's time has been devoted to his own business, he has ever been found ready to do his duty as a citizen, and while he has never cared for the emoluments of office he has nevertheless been active in promoting any plan that was calculated to be of material benefit to his county. Both he and his wife are earnest Christian people who have hosts of friends wherever they are known.

**JAMES MILLER.** A resume of the industrious and self-made men who are identified with ranching interests in Kings county would be incomplete without due mention of James Miller, owner of a ranch of eighty acres six miles southwest of Hanford, and of a two-hundred-acre ranch in the immediate vicinity of Portersville. Mr. Miller owes much of his success to the possession of conservative and reliable Teutonic traits, and to an early training in a home where frugality and industry were paramount. Born in Prussia, Germany, in 1840, he recalls nothing of his native land, for he was two years old when his parents brought him to America in a sailing vessel, settling on a farm in the state of Wisconsin. At the age of sixteen he struck out from the occupation in which his forefathers had engaged for generations and found employment in the copper mines on the shores of Lake Superior, during

two years in the mines saving enough money to place him above want for some time to come.

With comparative ease Mr. Miller learned the language of his adopted country, and found out enough about its resources to determine him in locating in the far west, to which he came in 1859, by way of the Isthmus of Panama. For a time he worked on a ranch, and then devoted a few weeks to placer mining, not experiencing the success he had expected, however. Next he turned his attention to working in the copper mines at Copperopolis, also operated a quartz mill in Salt Spring valley, Calaveras county, for four years, altogether spending about sixteen years in these occupations, and acquiring a comfortable competence. By this time he was keenly anxious to possess a home of his own, and so bought a ranch in the Salt Spring valley, which he sold after two years and removed to Stockton. There he started a draying business, but shortly afterward removed to Modesto, where for seven years he followed the same calling. Disposing of his business he came to Hanford in 1877, and when the town was laid out he bought two lots, upon one of which he erected the second house upon the town site. For a time he operated a dray in the town and county, a business which increased as the locality became more settled, and he assisted in building the mill at Lemoore. He then bought eighty acres of land three miles west of his present home, and later had to pay the railroad company for the same land. He lived thereon for about seven years, and then bought a squatter's right to his home ranch, purchasing the same when the land came into the market. Adding eighty acres adjoining, his home farm now consists of eighty acres, of which eight acres are under orchard, twenty-two acres under vines, and the balance under alfalfa. He has a dryer on the ranch, and every facility for caring for and preparing for the market the various products of his farm. For the past two years Mr. Miller has rented his fruit lands for \$1,500 a year, and he also rents his ranch near Portersville. His health at the present time hardly warrants the assumption of large responsibilities, and he is enjoying comparative immunity from active labor of any kind. Mr. Miller has an enviable reputation as a business man and neighbor, and enjoys the fullest confidence of all with whom he has to do. He has brought success from a small start in life, and furnishes a worthy example of the advantages of integrity, industry and perseverance.

**WILLIAM C. STELLING.** Among the prominent citizens of Tulare county mention belongs to William C. Stelling, whose home is located one mile southwest of Lindsay. A man of

ability and shrewd judgment, energy and perseverance, Mr. Stelling has made his influence felt along various lines conducive to the growth and upbuilding of the community, being now a director and president of the Lindsay Improvement Company and is also prominent as one of the successful horticulturists of Tulare county. Born in San Jose, Santa Clara county, Cal., November 27, 1864, he is the eldest of six children, all of whom are living, his father, John Stelling, being a native of Hanover, Germany.

John Stelling emigrated from the fatherland in young manhood, locating first in New Orleans. Deciding to come to California he made the trip in a sailing vessel around Cape Horn in 1849, arriving in San Francisco in 1850. Thence he went to the mines and followed that occupation until 1856, when he located in San Jose. He was one of the first orchardists of that section, purchasing property on Julian street, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth, and setting out an orchard of six and a half acres. Later this land was subdivided and became known as the Stelling Addition, and is now entirely built up. Mr. Stelling afterward conducted a ranch ten miles from San Jose in the vicinity of Cupertino, and there set out an eighty-acre orchard, consisting principally of prunes and apricots. In the passing years he has made a gratifying success of his work, acquiring a handsome competency and at the same time winning by his sterling qualities of manhood the esteem and respect of all with whom he came in contact. He is now living at the age of eighty years, his health and strength the result of temperate living. He owns a beautiful home on Magnolia avenue, San Jose, and also a summer residence in Capitola. His wife, formerly Louise Stephens, a native of Germany, has also been spared to enjoy the comforts and luxuries which the years have brought to this pioneer couple. On her trip to California Mrs. Stelling came via the Isthmus of Panama.

The education of William C. Stelling was received in the public schools, while he was also trained in the practical duties which have meant so much to him in his career. He remained at home until he was twenty-three years old, when he removed to Los Gatos and was employed for three years by C. M. Meriam. In 1891 he went to Santa Maria and bought eighty acres of land which he set to fruit, it being the first orchard in that locality. Not meeting with the success which he had hoped for, Mr. Stelling sold out in 1900, when he located in Lindsay, purchasing an orange orchard of forty-three acres, all Washington navels, and in splendid condition. On his place he also has a pumping plant, operated by an electric motor.

On October 31, 1888, in Los Gatos, Mr. Stelling

was united in marriage with Gertrude Meriam, a native of Quincy, Ill. The family is of New England extraction, the grandfather, Daniel Dodge Meriam being a native of Brandon, Vt. Daniel D. Meriam became an early settler in Quincy, where he entered the lumber business, continuing so employed until his death. The father, C. M. Meriam, also followed this occupation until 1883, when he came to California, and in 1886 located on a fruit ranch one mile from Saratoga. This property of thirty-six acres he later sold, when he retired from the active cares of life and made his home in Los Gatos until his death, at the age of fifty-four years. He was a Mason. His wife, formerly Emma Osborn, was a native of Quincy, Ill., and a daughter of William Osborn, a builder, who located there from his native country of England. Mrs. Meriam died in Los Gatos April 19, 1896. Mrs. Stelling is the second in a family of three children, and received her education in the schools of Quincy and also of California. She is a woman of rare culture and refinement, and many admirable traits of character. To Mr. and Mrs. Stelling were born four children, namely: Carl Meriam, John Lloyd, Emma Gladys and William Raymond. Mrs. Stelling is a member of the Baptist Church, and belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star. Fraternally Mr. Stelling affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, the Fraternal Aid, and the Independent Order of Foresters. Politically he is a staunch Republican. He is interested in the Rochdale Association, and also the Lindsay Improvement Company, serving as president and director of the latter, which built the fraternal hall, the finest building in Lindsay, a two-story brick building whose dimensions are 50x65 feet. They also built the postoffice annex and in many ways have added to the prestige which belongs to Lindsay as one of the progressive and up-to-date towns in Tulare county.

---

SUSMAN MITCHELL. The sterling traits of character which have won for Susman Mitchell the confidence and esteem of business associates as well as of those who know him socially, are an inheritance from sturdy German stock. His father, Hyman Mitchell, was a native of Prussia, from which country he emigrated to California in the early '50s. He first located in Stockton, where he engaged in a mercantile enterprise until 1858. Removing to Visalia, Tulare county, in the last-named year, he followed the same line until his death, which occurred a year later, at the comparatively early age of forty-seven years. His wife, whom he married in Stockton, was formerly Dora Jacob, also a

native of Prussia. She survived her husband and has since become the wife of Julius Levy, making Visalia her home.

The only child of his parents, Susman Mitchell was born in Stockton, Cal., February 7, 1859. He was reared in Visalia, attending the public schools of this city, after which he attended the Stockton schools. Entering Gates Business College, of San Jose, he completed a commercial course, graduating from that institution in 1873. Returning to Visalia in the same year he found employment as clerk for his uncle, Elias Jacob, with whom he remained until the death of the latter October 1, 1902. During a large part of this time he acted as manager of his uncle's business, always in the capacity of confidential man. In the meantime he had taken up other interests, in 1886 entering upon the duties of postmaster of Visalia, to which office he received appointment from President Cleveland. Three years later he resigned from this position to accept that of cashier in the bank of Harrell & Son, retaining the latter until 1893, when he assisted materially in the organization of the Producers' Bank, with a capital of \$45,000, successors to the firm of Harrell & Son. For ten years he filled the position of cashier in the Producers' Bank, winning a reputation for his conservative yet progressive methods in the banking business, and a constantly increasing popularity for his business ability, as well as the strong integrity and fidelity which marked his every operation. In 1903 the First National Bank of Visalia was organized with a capital of \$100,000, and of this institution he became cashier, and still holds the position. Throughout the San Joaquin valley he enjoys an appreciation for his unusual ability as demonstrated in his present line of work, universally conceded to be one of the best bankers in this section of the state. He is as well a leader in other circles, wielding a broad influence in the development and settlement of lands throughout this section, in which he is quite liberally interested. He is associated with the Kaweah Lemon Company that has done much to build up the citrus industry in Lemon Cove. He is also treasurer of the Visalia Steam Laundry Association, and occupies the same position in relation to the Visalia Armory Hall Association, which recently erected the armory hall, a building measuring 66x132 feet. In the municipal life of the city, Mr. Mitchell has been a most important factor, having held the office of city treasurer for fourteen years, the time of his service at each election being for two years until 1902, when the term was changed to four years.

In Stockton Mr. Mitchell was united in marriage with Eva Rosenthal, a native of that city, and the daughter of Louis Rosenthal, a pioneer

of California. Fraternally Mr. Mitchell is very prominent, having been made an Odd Fellow in the lodge of Visalia, and served as noble grand for two terms in Four Creek Lodge, I. O. O. F. Of the encampment he is past chief patriarch and also belongs to the Canton. Of the Visalia Parlor No. 19, Native Sons of the Golden West, he has served as secretary since its organization eighteen years ago. He is a prominent member of both the State Bankers' Association and the American Bankers' Association. Politically he is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, on national issues giving his vote to that party, but reserving the right to cast his vote locally for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office. Always enterprising, liberal and public-spirited, Mr. Mitchell commands the respect of thoughtful citizens, who best appreciate him for his qualities as a business man (and through this his association as an upbuilding factor in the community), as well as for the sterling integrity of his life and the manhood which has made him a representative citizen.

**JOSEPH AKERS.** A man of marked ability and enterprise, possessing great mechanical ingenuity and skill, Joseph Akers occupies a substantial position in the industrial and business circles of Tulare county, being the leading blacksmith of Dinuba, and one of the foremost dealers in agricultural implements. The owner of a snug little ranch in this vicinity, he is actively identified with the advancement of the agricultural prosperity of this place, and as a stockholder in the Bank of Dinuba is intimately associated with its financial interests. A native of Wayne county, Pa., he was born December 26, 1855, a son of John and Mary (Nevins) Akers, life-long residents of the Keystone state. His father settled as a blacksmith in Newfoundland, Wayne county, Pa., where he became a citizen of prominence and influence, for two terms serving as supervisor of the township. To him and his wife eleven children were born, eight of whom are living, namely: Warren, of Wayne county, Pa.; T. J., living near Visalia, Cal.; C. W., of Wayne county, Pa.; Richard, residing near Visalia; Mrs. Eliza Bird, of Wayne county, Pa.; Joseph, the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Mary A. Heberling, of Visalia; and Eber, of Scranton, Pa.

Educated in the district school and brought up on the home farm, Joseph Akers early developed a talent for mechanical pursuits, and while yet a boy learned the blacksmith's trade. Settling in Potter county, Pa., in 1879, he worked first at his trade, afterwards being there employed in tilling the soil. Coming to California

with his family in 1888, Mr. Akers worked for a short time in Visalia, and then opened a smithy in Monson, which, on account of the extensive teaming of lumber and grain, was a very desirable location for him, and he found it profitable from a financial point of view. Coming to Dinuba in 1898, he bought out White & Son, pioneer blacksmiths, and has since been here prosperously employed at his trade. His shop is finely located on a corner tract of land containing ten lots, and adjoining this property he has erected a fine residence. Mr. Akers also owns forty acres of land lying one-half mile east of Dinuba, and on this he has made improvements of much value, having a productive vineyard of fifteen acres, and a five-acre orchard, the remainder of his ranch being devoted to the raising of alfalfa. In 1901 Mr. Akers embarked in the agricultural implement business, and has built up a large and remunerative trade, handling Studebaker wagons and buggies, the old Hickory wagons, Emerson plows, and such other implements as are demanded by the modern, up-to-date agriculturist and horticulturist.

In Wayne county, Pa., Mr. Akers married Mahala Kelley, a native of that county, and they are the parents of seven children, namely: Walter (engaged in farming and teaming in Dinuba), George (a wagon maker in Dinuba), Mrs. Grace Whittington of Dinuba, Dick, Fern, Ruby and Clayton. Fraternally Mr. Akers was made an Odd Fellow in Wayne county, Pa., and is now a member and the treasurer of Dinuba Lodge, I. O. O. F.; and belongs to the Beavers also. Politically he is a staunch Republican. Mrs. Akers belongs to the Rebekahs, and is a member of the Christian Church.

---

**JAMES ALLEN BACON.** The trials and dangers of pioneer life have been widely experienced by James Allen Bacon, who came to the state in 1858 in young manhood, ready for the burden of hewing out a home in a new country. He is located upon property in the vicinity of Orosi, Tulare county, which he purchased in 1889, consisting then of a stubble-field, which he has since transformed into a well-cultivated, well-developed ranch, thirty acres being devoted exclusively to a vineyard. He has made a success in his efforts since engaging in independent work, winning a competence and building up a comfortable home, and at the same time making for himself a place in the esteem and respect of his fellow citizens.

Born in St. Louis county, Mo., November 19, 1838, James Allen Bacon was the oldest in a family of eight children, of whom seven are now living. His father, William Bacon, was a native of Kentucky, and the son of Nathaniel

Bacon, of that state, who located in St. Louis county, Mo., some time after the war of 1812. William Bacon engaged as a farmer in St. Louis county for some years, but in 1849 he started with his family to Texas. On account of illness they stopped in Crawford county, Ark., and he there purchased a farm and made it their home until 1858. In that year he started with ox-teams for California, setting out in April with his wife, four daughters and three sons. They came west by way of El Paso as far as Tucson, Ariz., and there they stopped for a time. Later they came on to California, traveling via Yuma to Los Angeles and over the Tejon Pass to Tulare county. Ten miles northeast of Visalia, on the Kaweah, he bought a farm, and in 1868 homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, which is now the site of Orosi. He was one of the first settlers in the town, James A. Bacon hauling lumber from the mountains and with the help of hired men building the first house in Orosi, which is still standing. Mr. Bacon afterward located in Visalia, where his death occurred at the age of eighty-one years. His wife, Permelia, a native of St. Louis county, Mo., died in Fresno county, at the age of seventy-eight years. Besides James Allen the sons of the family are as follows: Thomas, of Fresno; Charles F., of Hollister; and William, of Phoenix, Ariz.

When ten years of age James Allen Bacon was taken by his parents to Arkansas, where he grew to young manhood. In childhood he attended school in a building of primitive make. Upon the second emigration of the family he drove a team to Tucson, Ariz. As the family remained there for a time he spent a year in that section, securing employment as the driver of a stage for Butterfield, the route lying east for about eighty miles. He had to change horses every ten hours, a distance of twenty miles. While in this occupation he was twice attacked by Indians, once in war paint, but through the swiftness of his team he managed to escape. At another time by his presence of mind he saved not only his own life but the lives of the passengers in the overland stage. In 1858 the family came on to California, and for a time he found employment with an uncle, Fielding Bacon, who was engaged in the stock business. Later he went to the mines in Mariposa county, at Marysville and other points, continuing so employed for about five years, when he returned to Tulare county and locating in Orosi built his father's house. Once more he engaged with his uncle in the raising of sheep and hogs, remaining so occupied for many years, and meeting with a success which justified his continuance in the work. He also found lucrative employment by driving stock to the southern mines.





P. F. CHAPMAN



In Tulare county, October 17, 1880, Mr. Bacon married Sarah Edmiston, a native of Calaveras county, and the daughter of N. B. Edmiston, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. In January, 1889, he located upon his present property, where he has since made his home. His wife died March 17, 1901, at the age of forty-six years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She left a family of five children, namely: Alice Maud, now the wife of William Mackersie, of Dinuba; Thomas Allen; Edith Theodate; Jessie Ethel; and Elsie Viola. Mr. Bacon is a Democrat in his political affiliations, and in the interests of his party has served as school trustee for two terms as well as assisting materially in the erection of the school building. He has served efficiently as a member of the county central committee. Since the organization of the California Raisin Growers' Association he has been an active member and has given no little aid toward its development. He is universally recognized as one of the landmarks of Tulare county, connecting the present prosperity with the days when hardy men and women were required to give the best of their lives for the formation of a new statehood.

---

**PLEASANT FAIR CHAPMAN, M. D.** Prominent among the most highly respected and esteemed citizens of Portersville was the late Dr. P. F. Chapman, who was for several years one of the leading physicians of this section of Tulare county, but for several years, on account of ill health, lived retired from his professional labors. His death occurred October 10, 1904, at his home in Portersville. A man of strong mental attainments, he was endowed with business ability and tact, and during his active career accumulated a fine property. A native of Illinois, he was born June 27, 1831, in Fulton county, a son of Wilson and Sarah (Steward) Chapman, both of whom were born in Tennessee, and died in Arkansas. His father was a farmer by occupation, and after moving from his native state to Illinois lived there but a few years, going thence to Washington county, Ark.

The eldest child of a family consisting of two sons and three daughters, P. F. Chapman was brought up in Arkansas, receiving his early education in the public schools. He subsequently began to read medicine with Dr. Pollard, of Lafayette, Ark., and was afterward graduated from a medical college with the degree of M. D. He began the practice of his profession in Washington county, Ark., and at the time of the breaking out of the Civil war was conscripted into the southern army, but was left at home to look after the women and children. He was subsequently again conscripted, sent to the front, and being

taken prisoner, was confined at Fort Smith, where he resumed the practice of his profession, remaining there several years after the close of the conflict. Coming to California in 1874, Dr. Chapman resided for a short time in Sacramento before locating in Portersville as a physician. He also established a drug store in the village, and for many years carried on a substantial business as a druggist, besides having an extensive and lucrative patronage as a general practitioner. His health failing, the doctor was forced to relinquish his practice, and very soon afterward, in 1897, his store was burned, entailing a heavy loss. He then retired from active pursuits, honored and respected by all. In 1898 Dr. Chapman erected the Chapman block, a fine brick building, situated in the central part of the town, and he also owned a valuable ranch of four hundred and eighty acres, located on the Tule river, about twenty-five miles from Portersville.

In Fayetteville, Ark., Dr. Chapman married Sarah House, who was born in Raleigh, N. C., a daughter of Warren House. Mr. House was born and reared in North Carolina, but removed from there to Tennessee, locating on a farm near Nashville. He subsequently became a pioneer of Arkansas, and having improved a ranch in the vicinity of Fayetteville, resided there until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Delilia Carroll, was born in North Carolina and died in Arkansas. Dr. and Mrs. Chapman became the parents of three children, namely: Mrs. Elizabeth Wallace, living near Portersville; Mrs. Melissa Jane Logston, of San Bernardino, Cal.; and Mrs. Tennessee Treefry, of Portersville. In his political affiliations the doctor was a stanch Republican. He belonged to the Knights of Pythias, and was an active member of the Christian Church.

---

**ARTHUR HILL.** The work which Arthur Hill is accomplishing as a grower of grain in Merced county is such as to properly place him among the representative agriculturists of this community. His ranch is very extensive, consisting of twelve hundred and thirty-four acres of fine farming land, and this is given over entirely to the cultivation of barley and wheat. His crops are among the best produced in the county and are an evidence of the value of the property, as well as the care and thought given to the cultivation of the land. A native son of the state, Mr. Hill was born in San Joaquin county, August 27, 1857.

Thomas B. Hill, the father, was a native of Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood's estate. Dissatisfied with the limitations by which he was surrounded he early sought a change of location, going first to the southern states, after which he came to California, in 1850, making

the trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama. On his arrival in the state he located at Stockton, where he remained about five years, removing then to Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, a distance of ten miles from the former city, and becoming the owner of two ranches of three hundred and twenty and one hundred and sixty acres, respectively. This property he devoted to the cultivation of grain and stock-raising. In 1861 he removed to Calaveras county and conducted a saw-mill there until 1869, when he brought his family to Merced county and located on Bear Creek, where he engaged in ranching until his death, January 1, 1869.

Arthur Hill remained on the paternal farm until 1878, assisting in the home duties and the cultivation of the ranch. He then located upon his present ranch of twelve hundred and thirty-four acres and has since been engaged in grain-raising. He is located seven miles northeast of Merced and in a good farming section of the county. In his political preferment Mr. Hill is independent in his views, reserving his right to vote for the man whom he considers best qualified to serve the people officially. Fraternally he is identified with the Native Sons of the Golden West and Knights of Pythias.

---

**FRED ACKERMAN.** The sterling traits of character which have distinguished the citizenship of Fred Ackerman during his residence in Portersville, Tulare county, are a direct inheritance from a long line of sturdy German ancestors. He was born near Freiburg, Baden, Germany, November 25, 1857, the fifth in a family of thirteen children, of whom nine are living; three are in America and only one is in California. His father, Andrew Ackerman, was a native of the same locality in Germany, where he earned a livelihood as a farmer. He was a man of patriotism and loyalty, and during the revolution of 1848 he served in the German army. His death occurred August 8, 1903, at the age of eighty-five years, removing from the community a helpful and earnest citizen and one whose best efforts were always given for the betterment of the general welfare. Until his retirement on account of advanced age, he gave effective service as city trustee, and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He was a devout member of the Lutheran Church. His wife, Anna Maria Ackerman, was also born in Baden, Germany, where her death occurred in July, 1902, at the age of eighty-three years.

Fred Ackerman was reared on the paternal farm to the age of fifteen years, receiving a practical education in the common schools of his native land. When fifteen he was sent to Stuttgart, where he was offered a place as a barber

with Fritz Schaentzel, having been apprenticed to learn this trade when fourteen years old. He also learned hair-dressing under Mr. Schaentzel, with whom he remained until 1874, when he came to America and located in Brooklyn, N. Y. He followed his trade in that city, and later in Hoboken, N. J., remaining until 1878, when he returned to Germany and spent the ensuing six months at home. Deciding again to locate in the United States, he returned to New York and remained there until 1880, when he went to Providence, R. I., then Manhattan Beach, thence to St. Louis, Chicago and Cincinnati, finally returning to New York in the same year. In 1881 he went to Chicago again, and from there to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he spent six months, thence to Butte, Mont., and in December of the same year to Helena. In the spring of 1882 he went to Cook City, National Park, and Bozeman, Mont., where he remained one year, then during the Coeur d'Alene gold excitement went to Spokane Falls, Wash. Returning to Helena, he remained until the fall of 1887, when he came to California and attended Barnard's Business College in San Francisco. In February of the following year he opened a barber shop in Portersville, which he conducted for eighteen months, when he returned to Cook City to settle up his affairs. For a time thereafter he was located in Whatcom, Wash., where he still owns property, conducting a successful business until 1891, when he returned to Portersville and opened a restaurant, bakery and lodging house, which brought him large returns for the period of three years that he was interested in it. He then sold the restaurant and bakery, and in 1900 sold the building, continuing the lodging house until 1901, when he finally disposed of that. In the meantime he purchased the Putnam block, containing two stores, the dimensions of which are 75 x 126 feet, holding it intact until January, 1905, when he sold thirty-five feet. He also owns other valuable business, residence and farm properties in this section, among which is a thirteen-acre orange tract adjoining the city, and three acres adjoining the high school building. Mr. Ackerman has had many experiences in his business career, but has met with success in his efforts which have given him a competence, and at the same time has won for himself the respect of those with whom he has had business dealings.

In Portersville, September 2, 1897, Mr. Ackerman was united in marriage with Catherine Sturm, a native of Alsace-Lorraine, and a daughter of Christian Sturm, a farmer of that locality. He came to America in 1892, locating first in Elgin, Ill., thence to St. James, Minn., where he remained four years, in October, 1897, coming to Portersville. In 1901 he returned to his

old home in Alsace-Lorraine. His wife, Madeleine, is also living and enjoying the fruits of his early industry. They are devout members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Ackerman was the youngest child in her father's family. She is the mother of the following children: Ulrich, who died when one year old; Martha; and Rebecca.

Fraternally Mr. Ackerman is identified with the Woodmen of the World and Knights of Pythias, while his wife belongs to the Ladies of the Maccabees. He is a member of the Evangelical Association, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. Interested in the progress and development of the city, Mr. Ackerman takes an active interest in every movement that pertains to the general welfare, acting as a volunteer fireman and holding the office of secretary of the fire department. Upon the incorporation of Portersville as a city he was elected one of the trustees.

**ABNER FRASER.** In promoting the agricultural and horticultural prosperity of Tulare county within the past few years the ranchmen, individually and collectively, have labored with diligence and perseverance, taking advantage of every feasible method offered by men of science and thought, and putting into their work as much brain power as physical exertion. The result is everywhere visible in the large orchards, productive vineyards and extensive fields of alfalfa that are in evidence on every hand, adding richness and beauty to the sunny landscape. Prominent among the enterprising and progressive men who have generously assisted in bringing about this grand evolution is Abner Fraser, a successful vineyardist and orchardist, living two miles southeast of Dinuba. A son of the late Robert John Fraser, he was born September 15, 1863, in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. His grandfather, John Fraser, whose father emigrated from Scotland to Nova Scotia, was a lumberman by occupation, owning and operating a sawmill on East river, New Glasgow, where he was accidentally killed by a splinter which penetrated his abdomen.

Born and brought up in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, Robert John Fraser learned the trades of a stone mason and plasterer, and also became an expert cooper. Moving to Massachusetts shortly after his marriage, he lived for a short time in Mansfield, where his oldest son was born. Returning from there to his native town, he lived in New Glasgow several years, following his trade. In 1868 he took his family to Omaha, Neb., where he worked as a stone mason for two years. Coming to California in 1870, he

took up land in Visalia, on the Tule river, and for a year carried on farming in connection with his trade. The following five years he was employed as a grain raiser on the west half of section 11. Homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, two miles east of Dinuba, in 1878, he changed it from a sheep range to one of the finest-improved ranches of this part of the county, setting out orchards and vineyards, and bringing the land to a high state of cultivation. On the ranch that he so improved he lived and labored successfully until his death, in 1898, at the age of sixty-nine years. He married Anna Forbes, who was born in Nova Scotia, which was also the birthplace of her father, William Forbes, a manufacturing cooper and prosperous business man, inheriting the industry and thrift characteristic of his Scotch ancestors. She survived her husband, and now resides near Dinuba, an active and esteemed woman of seventy-five years. Three children blessed their union, each of whom is represented in this volume: John W., Larkens K. and Abner, all of whom reside near Dinuba, and are actively identified with the agricultural and horticultural interests of the place.

But five years old when his parents removed to Omaha, Neb., Abner Fraser there began his study of books. Coming to Visalia with the family in 1870, he completed his early education in the district schools, and as soon as old enough learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for several years, in the meantime becoming interested to some extent in fruit culture. In 1884 Mr. Fraser purchased his present home ranch near Dinuba, and has since devoted his time and attention to its improvement, sparing neither labor nor expense in his efforts to transform the wild range into a valuable and productive farming estate. When the ditch was completed in this locality, he set out his first vineyard, and has since bought adjoining land, having now one hundred and forty acres of rich and fertile land in his ranch. Here he has a peach orchard of fifteen acres and a vineyard of fifty acres, eighteen acres being planted to Muscat raisins, twenty to the Thompson Seedless, and twelve to Sultan, the remainder of his land being sowed to alfalfa, which yields him rich and bountiful harvests.

Mr. Fraser married, in this part of Tulare county, Luana Hildreth, who was born in Sandyville, Iowa, and came to California with her father, James Hildreth, a well known photographer. Seven children have been born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fraser, namely: Clarence (attending the Dinuba Union high school, a member of the class of 1906), Violet (a pupil in the same school, belonging to the class of 1908), Rowena, Lucille, Ione, Robert and Aileen.

Mr. Fraser is a trustee of both the Dinuba public school and the Dinuba Union high school, and for one term was a director in the Alta irrigation district. Politically he is a zealous supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and a member and past officer of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**EDMUND McLEES.** Among the successful orange growers in the vicinity of Lindsay, Tulare county, is Edmund McLees, a native of Ontario, his birth having occurred in Norwich, October 27, 1845. His father, James McLees, was a native of Dutchess county, N. Y., from whence the grandfather, Peter, removed to the vicinity of Norwich in 1811. He became a farmer and made that location his home until his death. James McLees followed farming on the old home place located by his father three miles from Norwich, the barn which was built in 1811 still standing and in good condition. In 1894 Mr. McLees retired from active life and in December of that year he came to California and made his home with his son, Edmund, until his death, which occurred August 24, 1904, at the age of ninety-four years six months and five days. Although so advanced in years, he yet remained hale and hearty up to the very last, retaining his faculties in a remarkable manner. For over sixty years he was a constant member of the Baptist Church. He was prominent in the affairs of his adopted country, during the Canadian rebellion in 1837 being a strong Mackenzie man and for his principles suffering imprisonment for a time. His wife, formerly Rachel Dennis, was also a native of Dutchess county, N. Y., and a daughter of John Dennis, who settled in Norwich as a pioneer farmer. Mrs. McLees died in Ontario at the age of seventy-three years, leaving a family of two sons and two daughters, of whom one daughter is now deceased.

On the old homestead in Ontario Edmund McLees was reared to young manhood, attending the common schools for a time. At an early age he became an active worker on his father's farm, where he remained until 1868, when he came to California via New York City and the Isthmus of Panama. Immediately after his arrival in San Francisco, May 28, 1868, he went at once to Solano county, where he found employment on a ranch near Vallejo. Later he was located in Napa county, then purchased a farm near Milpitas, Santa Clara county, where he raised fruit and vegetables for three years. In March, 1898, he removed to Lindsay and bought an orange orchard of sixteen acres, all Washington navels, about ten or eleven years old,

since which time he has continued in orange growing. In 1904 he put up a new residence in Lindsay and has made improvements in various ways on his property.

In Norwich, Ontario, May 21, 1873, Mr. McLees was united in marriage with Juliette Cornwell, who was born near that city. Her father, Martin Cornwell, was born in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess county, N. Y., a son of Samuel, who came from England to New York and in 1819 settled in Norwich, Ontario, as a pioneer. Fraternally he was a Mason and was also a prominent man in all local affairs. Martin Cornwell became a farmer in Ontario, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-six years and six months. He married Phoebe Young, who was born in New York, a daughter of William Young, the representative of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and an early settler of Norwich. He was an Orangeman politically, and fraternally affiliated with the Masons. Mr. McLees was made a Mason and is still a member of Naval Lodge No. 87, of Vallejo, of which he is past master; is a member of Naval Chapter, R. A. M., of the same city, and now belongs to Visalia Commandery, K. T., and also Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He is also identified with the Odd Fellows, and both himself and wife are demitted from the Order of the Eastern Star, of which he is a past officer. Mrs. McLees is a member of the Baptist Church. Politically Mr. McLees adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**OSCAR AMOS COLLINS.** A skillful and enterprising agriculturist and a man of sterling worth and integrity, Oscar A. Collins, whose well-cultivated and highly improved ranch joins Dinuba on the southeast, has been exceedingly prosperous in his chosen vocation, his practical and systematic methods, excellent judgment and marked ability in the prosecution of his calling being conducive to success. He possesses great natural mechanical genius, is handy with tools of all kinds, and makes good use of his talent, saving himself many a penny in the way of manufacturing or repairing machinery and farm implements. A New Englander by birth and ancestry, he was born October 5, 1856, in Irasburg, Orleans county, Vt., a son of A. P. Collins. His grandfather, Charles Collins, a life-long farmer and stockman in Vermont, served in the war of 1812.

A native of Orange county, Vt., A. P. Collins pursued the independent occupation of a farmer in his native state for many years, living there until forty years of age. Then, in the prime of a vigorous manhood, he migrated westward, locating in Dane county, Wis., near Black Earth,





GEORGE M. CALDWELL



where he carried on farming two years. Going then to Bremer county, Iowa, he settled on a farm near Waverly, and was there a resident until 1884. Returning east, he lived in his old home for two years, and in 1886 came to California, and here he lived a few years. Not quite content, however, he went back to Iowa, and until 1904 resided in Plainfield, but he is now in Tulare county, making his home with his son, Oscar A. He comes of a family noted for its longevity, his mother, whose maiden name was Susan Currier, having lived to be ninety-nine years of age, while her mother and her grandmother both passed the century mark. He married Lucinda Sawyer, who was born in Orange county, Vt., and died in Bremer county, Iowa. She bore him six children, five of whom are living, three being residents of this state.

Brought up on the home farm in Iowa, Oscar A. Collins acquired the rudiments of his education in the district school, after which he attended the Bradford Academy, then the Waverly high school. At the age of twenty years he began farming on his own account, continuing three years. Going to Colorado in 1879, he remained there a year, and then went back to Iowa. In 1881 Mr. Collins came to the extreme western coast, locating in Chico, Cal., where he resumed his former occupation on the Bidwell ranch, remaining there three years. From 1884 until 1885 he lived in Salinas, Monterey county, from there coming, in 1885, to Tulare county. Locating near Traver, Mr. Collins purchased forty acres of land, and on that, and a large tract which he rented, he was employed as a grain raiser for six years. Hoping to better his financial condition, he migrated to Oregon, but his stay in that state was very brief. Returning to California, he was for a while engaged in the milk business in San Francisco, after which he rented land near Dinuba, and for two years raised grain, meeting with satisfactory results in the operation. In 1893 he took a pleasure trip east, visiting the Columbian exposition, held in Chicago. Returning to this county, Mr. Collins located, in February, 1894, on his former ranch, near Dinuba, and remained there about a year. In 1895 he bought his present home ranch of sixty acres, adjoining Dinuba, and has since been profitably employed in farming, fruit growing and stock raising. Fifteen acres of his land is devoted to the culture of grapes, but on the rest he raises principally alfalfa.

June 8, 1884, in Chico, Cal., Mr. Collins married Sarah E. Parsons, who was born near Horseshoe Bend, W. Va., which was likewise the birthplace of her father, Andrew Parsons. Her grandfather, James Parsons, a native of old Virginia and for many years a farmer and stockman in West Virginia, was a son of one Miles

Parsons, who emigrated from England with three of his brothers, and settled in the old Dominion state. Andrew Parsons came from his native state to California with his family in 1871, and lived first in Salinas, subsequently settling in San Miguel, where his death occurred in 1893. He married Phoebe Ann Howe, who was born in New York state, and died in California. Of the nine children born of their union, eight are living, seven being residents of this state. Mrs. Collins came to California in October, 1875, joining her two brothers in Salinas. Politically Mr. Collins is a steadfast Republican, and Mrs. Collins is an ardent suffragist, and a member of the Dinuba Woman's Club, of which she was formerly vice president and secretary.

**GEORGE MARION CALDWELL.** As a prominent ranchman of Tulare county George Marion Caldwell is remembered by his many friends as a man of energy and industry, and a progressive and enterprising citizen. He was a native of Indiana, where his birth occurred March 30, 1850. His father, George Caldwell, a native of Virginia, located as a pioneer in Indiana, and in 1852 crossed the plains to California. Here he engaged in mining in the vicinity of Shaws Flat, later going to San Juan, and eventually locating in Tulare county, near Visalia, where he followed farming and stock raising. His death occurred in Tulare, December 16, 1881. His wife, formerly Lydia Williams, a native of Indiana, died in Portersville, Tulare county.

The entire life of George Marion Caldwell, with the exception of two years, was spent in the state of California. In boyhood he attended the common schools in the vicinity of his home. In manhood he followed the example of his father and engaged in stock raising, in partnership with his brothers purchasing the Elk Bayou ranch, which they operated for some time. In 1875 the property was divided and Mr. Caldwell took that which now forms the home place of his family, its location being two and a half miles southwest of Visalia and consisting of one hundred and seventy acres. Upon this property he successfully engaged in farming and the cattle business until his death April 29, 1892. He was esteemed for his spirit of progression and liberality, his interest always being given to movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community. Politically he was an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and was always active in the interests he endorsed.

In Visalia, July 1, 1875, Mr. Caldwell married Matilda Louisa Kelly, a native of this city and the daughter of Greenbury M. Kelly, whose

sketch is found on another page of this work. She survives her husband and is located on the home place, acting as manager in the cattle and dairy business which is now carried on. A part of the property is also given over to the cultivation of alfalfa. Eight children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell, namely: William L.; Jasper C.; George L.; Edward E.; twins, who died in infancy; Etta May and Ernest M., all of whom are at home.

**JOHN F. FIREBAUGH.** Once the owner of all the land upon which the town of Exeter is built, John F. Firebaugh is rightly designated as the founder of the place and a citizen whose efforts have been most productive of material good, growth and prosperity. Of southern ancestry, he was born near Lexington, Rockbridge county, Va., December 12, 1846, a son of Benjamin Firebaugh, a native of the same locality. The grandfather, John Firebaugh, went south from his native state of Pennsylvania, where the family had been founded by German ancestors, and became a farmer and stockman in Virginia. Benjamin Firebaugh also followed the same occupation in his native state until his emigration to California, when he became a farmer in Tulare county, making it his home until his death. He was a Presbyterian in his religious faith and a man of strong and earnest character. His wife was in maidenhood Rebecca Horn, a native of Rockbridge county, Va., and a daughter of Jacob Horn, a farmer, who was also born in the Old Dominion, the descendant of German ancestry. Mrs. Firebaugh died on the old home place, two miles from Exeter. She was the mother of seven children, four of whom attained maturity, namely: James, who died during the Civil war; John F., of this review; N. B., of Exeter; and Cornelia, who became the wife of H. H. Harlow of Fresno.

Although a Virginian, the elder Firebaugh owned no slaves, nor did he believe in the traffic, but under the weight of southern influence and prejudice the sons were forced into the army. After the war John F. Firebaugh came to California with the family, following an uncle, Andrew Firebaugh, who crossed the plains in 1849 and established the town of Firebaugh, Fresno county; and also established and conducted the ferry at that place and built the road over the Pacheco Pass. He became and remained a prominent citizen throughout his residence in Fresno county, his death occurring near Fresno. John F. Firebaugh went from San Francisco in February, 1868, to San Jose, and afterward engaged in farming near Watsonville. In the fall of 1869 he came to Tulare county, remaining at home, as his father had just bought

a farm of eighty acres and he was needed to help in its cultivation. In 1873 he married and located first on the railroad lands on the northeast quarter of section 3, township 19, range 26, but as these lands were not in the market he removed in 1875 to the northeast quarter of section 10, township 19, range 26, where he preempted one hundred and sixty acres, paying out on eighty acres and homesteading the remainder. He put up a small house which formed the home of the family for some time, and broke the land and sowed it to grain. Later on he bought railroad land, the southeast quarter of section 3, and afterward the southwest quarter of the same section, and in addition to his homestead took another eighty acres, in the north half of the northwest quarter of section 10, making five hundred and sixty acres in one body. This extensive property he devoted to general farming and stock-raising until the founding of the town of Exeter. Through his inducements the Southern Pacific Railroad Company located a station here, and in connection with D. W. Parkhurst, Mr. Firebaugh began the laying out of Exeter. The town is laid out on sections 3 and 10, a portion of two hundred and forty acres, half of which was given to the Pacific Improvement Company, which built the railroad.

The West Villa addition to Exeter, consisting of forty acres, was laid out by Mr. Firebaugh and Mr. Parkhurst in 1890. About ten years ago the town began a rapid growth, which has not ceased with the passing of the years, but continues to the present day, the population now being over eight hundred. Mr. Firebaugh still owns one hundred and sixty acres of the original property, and a half-interest in one hundred and twenty acres adjoining the city and in town lots. He also owns one hundred acres located three miles east of Exeter, on section 14, which is devoted to general farming. He also has a pumping plant, the well being one hundred and thirteen feet deep, the electric motor, fifteen horsepower, bringing up fifty-eight inches of water continuously. This will irrigate two hundred and fifty acres of orchard and is designed to reach every piece of land owned by Mr. Firebaugh. He has also planned to put in one hundred acres of Rocky Ford canteloupes, having already made a contract with a firm in New York to dispose of the product. Another of Mr. Firebaugh's extensive interests was the building of a mill on the site of the old Dillon mill, three and a half miles west of Exeter, the roller process being introduced and many modern improvements adding to the value of the enterprise. It was known as the San Joaquin Roller Mill, and was first owned by Mr. Firebaugh and H. J. Ottson, the former eventually purchasing the entire interest and conducting it successfully for

a period of ten years, when he sold out. His business interests, horticultural, farming and stock-raising, as well as the executive ability exercised in the establishment and upbuilding of Exeter, have made him a potent factor in the development and growth of this part of Tulare county, and justly places him in the front rank of representative citizens.

In Tulare county, in the vicinity of Exeter, Mr. Firebaugh was united in marriage with Mary E. Davis, who was born in Amador county, Cal. Her father, Edwin Davis, came across the plains in 1852 to California, engaging first as a miner, but eventually locating as a stockman in Tulare county until his retirement, now making his home in Exeter, in his seventy-first year. His marriage was romantic, occurring on the plains on the trip to California and uniting him with Sarah Ann Spier, a native of Missouri, who died in 1901. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Firebaugh: Minnie B., the wife of M. D. Twiehaus of Exeter; Luther W., a rancher near Exeter; Edna E., the wife of George Hinds of Exeter; Elmer J., located in Bakersfield, in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad; Clarence E. and Lorena D., at home. Mrs. Firebaugh is a member of the Baptist Church and supports all its interests generously. Politically Mr. Firebaugh is a staunch Democrat. For many years he has acted as a member of the school board, being one of the first school directors in his district.

MOSES DUDLEY, a pioneer of the state, and a man of fine business qualities, was born in Bath, N. Y., July 13, 1833, a son of Moses Dudley. The elder man was a native of Maine, and became a farmer in Bath, N. Y., where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Mary Atwood, is also deceased. Two of their children came to California, a son, John, locating here in the early days, making his home in San Jose, Santa Clara county, at the time of his death. Moses Dudley, Jr., was reared in his home in New York state, in young manhood following the example of his father in seeking his livelihood along agricultural lines. He finally removed to Hennepin county, Minn., and engaged in farming and stock raising, later locating in Kansas, where he took an active part in the border troubles in the army of that state. Returning to Minnesota, he was married October 16, 1868, to Sarah Bristol, a native of Delaware county, N. Y. In 1870 they decided to locate in California, and accordingly settled in San Jose, where they made their home until March of the following year, when they removed to the home now occupied by Mrs. Dudley. Here Mr. Dudley improved a ranch and also purchased other prop-

erty, taking an active part in the material upbuilding of this section of Tulare county. The home ranch is located twenty miles northeast of Visalia and is devoted to stock-raising. His death occurred July 27, 1897, at Campbell, Santa Clara county. He was a man of strong religious nature, an earnest and faithful Christian, and a practical citizen. Politically he cast his ballot with the Republican party.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Dudley are the following children: John Guilford, in the stock business on the home ranch; Edmund R., associated with the Golden West Real Estate business in Visalia, Cal.; Benjamin B., in the same work at the same place; and Frances E., the wife of J. K. Yoakum of Visalia.

GEORGE WALTER KIRKMAN. A wide-awake, enterprising man, ever ready to take advantage of any offered opportunity for improvement, George Walter Kirkman is one of Tulare county's most substantial business men, and an important factor in promoting its industrial interests. He owns and occupies a ranch, lying nine miles east of Visalia, and in its care and management spares neither time nor expense. He is likewise interested in other pursuits, handling contracts, and being identified with two meat markets, one at Exeter, and one at Lindsay. A son of John Kirkman, he was born, December 4, 1853, in Wayne county, Ind., where his grandfather, George Kirkman, settled as a pioneer, removing there from North Carolina.

A native of North Carolina, John Kirkman moved from there to Indiana with his parents when seven years old, and was brought up on a farm, which he helped to clear from the wilderness. Early in the '70s he migrated to Missouri, locating in St. Charles county, where he was employed in tilling the soil for about ten years. In the fall of 1881 he came with his son George to California, and subsequently made his home with him. He is now seventy-seven years old and is a remarkable hunter. In the last five years he has killed eleven deer in eleven shots. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Thornburg, was born in Wayne county, Ind., and died in Missouri. She bore him eight children, six boys and two girls, George Walter, the subject of this sketch, being the second child.

At the age of seventeen years George Walter Kirkman went with his parents to Missouri, where he assisted his father in the pioneer labor of clearing a homestead. Coming to California in the fall of 1881, he bought land near Exeter and began the improvement of a ranch. In 1889, the railroad being extended to Exeter, Mr. Kirkman and his brother, foreseeing its mercantile possibilities, built the first store established in

the town, and became the pioneer merchants of the place. As the town grew and developed, their trade increased, and for four years they carried on a substantial business in general merchandise. In 1893 Mr. Kirkman accepted a contract to furnish the provisions for the Sanger Lumber Company, and to haul the same to the mountains, in Millwood. This business he has continued since, going each summer into the mountains to fill the contracts. In 1900 Mr. Kirkman bought his present home ranch of three hundred and fifteen acres, which he devotes to general farming and stock-raising. He also has meat markets in Exeter and Lindsay, both of which he supplies with meat from his own farm. He is also interested in breeding and raising race horses, having a string of fine trotters and pacers, including Rockaway, one year old; Frank B., two years old, with a record of 2:30, and Myway, three years old.

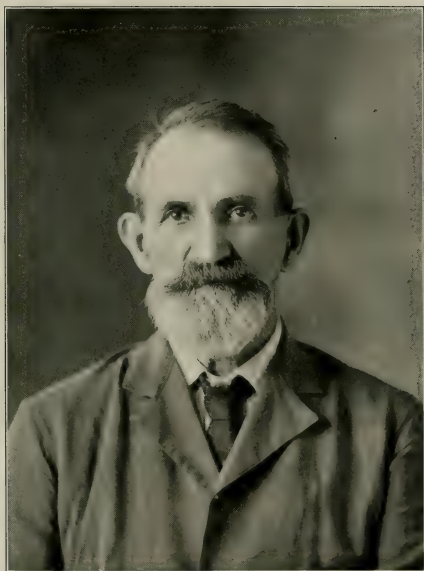
In Missouri Mr. Kirkman married Mary Delilah Yarnall, a native of that state, and they are the parents of four children, namely: John Montreville, Maud, Carrie Minerva and Bertie Erwin. Politically Mr. Kirkman is a steadfast Republican, and fraternally he is a member of Exeter Lodge, K. of P.

**ORVILLE CAUGHEY GOODIN.** One of the oldest settlers and one who, as a pioneer, has endured the privations and hardships incident to the upbuilding of a new statehood, is Orville Caughey Goodin, well known throughout Tulare county, where all but five years of his life have been spent. He was born near Pineville, McDonald county, Mo., September 5, 1856. His father, William Severe Goodin, was born in East Tennessee, from which state his father, Benjamin, removed to Missouri, where his death occurred. William S. Goodin engaged as a farmer in McDonald county until 1857, when he brought his wife and son across the plains with ox-teams. He first located in Sonoma county, where he remained until 1861 and then located near Visalia, Tulare county, engaging in agricultural pursuits on a farm seven miles east of the city. He was later located on another farm and also owned a farm near Lovell, which he devoted to grain-raising. His death occurred at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, formerly Eliza Blair, was a native of Missouri, and the daughter of Jonathan Blair, who emigrated from his birthplace in Tennessee to Missouri, thence to California across the plains in 1857. He located as a farmer east of Visalia, where his death occurred. Mrs. Goodin died in Farmersville, leaving a family of three children, namely: Orville Caughey, of this review; W. L., a farmer and horticulturist near Oroquieta; and Sarah L., a resident of Fresno.

But one year old when the trip across the plains was made, Orville Caughey Goodin knows no other associations than those of a California home. From the age of five years he was reared in Tulare county, attending the public schools while receiving the practical training of a farmer's son. When only ten years old his mother died. He remained at home until he was eighteen years old, when he sought employment on neighboring farms and also engaged in teaming. In 1878 he came to Oroquieta, then nothing but barren plains, his first employment in this location being the hauling of lumber to Visalia from the Wagy, Thomas, Comstock and Turbine mills, during which long drives he saw many animals, among them antelopes, which have long since disappeared from the plains. One week was consumed in making the round trip, and on account of bad roads from six to eight horses were required to draw the loads. Until 1890 he remained in this employment, ten years earlier, however, purchasing a half section of railroad land where Oroquieta now stands, for which he paid \$4.50 an acre. The land was wild and uncultivated and without improvements of any kind. He built a house and began improving his property, cultivating it to grain. In 1890 he gave up teaming and since that time has given his attention entirely to the cultivation and improvement of his property. The same year he set out considerable fruit, keeping in his possession about ten acres of the original tract, while he sold in ten and twenty acre lots the larger part of the remainder. A part of the town of Oroquieta is laid out on what was once his farm, his first residence being on the corner now occupied by the Beinhorn Bros. store. He has since built a handsome residence, barns and outbuildings and has made his property to rank with the best in this section. He now owns a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres near Lovell, devoted to stock and alfalfa, one hundred and sixty acres near Traver, a stock ranch, and eighteen hundred acres in the foothills, ten miles from this place, up Sand creek, this large property being entirely fenced. This ranch is devoted to the cultivation of hay and stock-raising, Polled Angus and Hereford cattle, and draft horses forming no small part of the live-stock cared for by Mr. Goodin. He has made a success of his work as rancher, stockman and horticulturist, and is numbered among the progressive and enterprising citizens of this part of Tulare county.

Near Lemon Cove, Mr. Goodin was united in marriage with Nannie Ragle, a native of Sonoma county, the daughter of William Ragle, who came from Tennessee, his native state, to California as a pioneer, locating eventually in Tulare county and whose history appears in an-





*G. W. Cameron*



other part of this volume. In his political convictions Mr. Goodin is a Democrat and in the interests of his party has served as school trustee. Through his efforts a postoffice was first secured for Orosi and he served as the first postmaster, the office being in his house. He held the position for two years, when he resigned. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, being past officer and ex-representative; Woodmen of the World; Women of Woodcraft; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and Rebekahs. Mr. and Mrs. Goodin are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he officiates as trustee and treasurer.

**GEORGE W. CAMERON.** The substantial and progressive citizens of Fresno have no better representative than G. W. Cameron, a successful agriculturist and horticulturist, who is now serving with eminent satisfaction as county assessor of Fresno county. A son of Elisha Cameron, he was born May 5, 1836, in Sparta, White county, Tenn. His grandfather, William Cameron, was born and reared in Scotland. Emigrating to America when a young man, he located first in North Carolina, from there removing to Sparta, Tenn., where he carried on general farming for several years. Migrating then to northern Alabama, he lived there until his death at the age of eighty years. He was a deeply religious man, and, like his Scotch ancestors, was a stanch Presbyterian.

A native of Tennessee, Elisha Cameron spent his entire life in White county, dying at the age of seventy-two years. He was a farmer by occupation, and was also a successful tanner, owning a large tannery near Sparta. As a man and a citizen he was held in high respect. In politics he was a Whig, and in religion a Presbyterian. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Hudson, was born in South Carolina, a daughter of James Hudson. Mr. Hudson was a native of Wales, but came to this country when young, and for a number of years resided in South Carolina. From there he removed with his family to Tennessee, performing the journey with packhorses, and cutting his way through the cane brakes. Taking up a tract of unbroken land, he improved a good farm from the wilderness, and in his new home spent his remaining years. He, too, was a faithful Presbyterian in his religious affiliations. Of his family of eight boys and four girls all grew to years of maturity, and all but one reared families of their own. Three of his sons served in the war of 1812. Of the union of Elisha and Mary (Hudson) Cameron fourteen children were born, eleven daughters and three sons, and of these two sons and two daughters survive. Two

of the sons served in the Confederate army during the Civil war, both being in the same regiment and the same company, namely: George W., of this review, and William Newton, who is now a prosperous banker of Coleman, Tex. The latter was an officer, serving as second lieutenant of his company.

The oldest son, and the seventh child in order of birth, George W. Cameron grew to manhood in Sparta, obtaining his early education at a subscription school. Under his father's instruction he learned the trade of a tanner and currier at Cameron's tanyard, which still retains its original name, working in the yard until the breaking out of the Civil war, when his father, being left without help, had to give up the business. At the first call for troops in the spring of 1861, Mr. Cameron enlisted as a private in Company A, Twenty-fifth Tennessee Confederate Volunteer Infantry, and took part in several engagements of importance, including those at Fishing Creek, Stone River and Chickamauga. At the battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863, Mr. Cameron received a minie-ball in the left hand, and was taken to Georgia for treatment. At the hospital gangrene set in, an infected patient spreading the disease through the ward in which he was confined, and October 18, 1863, Mr. Cameron's forearm had to be amputated. Honorably discharged from service in February, 1864, Mr. Cameron soon afterward returned home, arriving in Sparta April 24, 1864. He found his former home a desolate ruin, the house being demolished, and not an animal left on the place. Going to work as best he could with his one hand, he managed the farm for five years, making a living. Disposing of the property in 1869, Mr. Cameron came to California on one of the first railroad trains that crossed the continent. Locating at Modesto, Stanislaus county, he put in a crop, but not being pleased with the results of his labors he turned his face eastward. Arriving in Buchanan county, Mo., he engaged in farming there for a year, and then removed to Arkansas, where he was similarly employed for two years.

Returning to California in 1874, Mr. Cameron, who had sent his wife and their two children back to Tennessee, arrived in Modesto one Saturday evening with just \$1.75 in his pockets. Walking out into the country about seven miles, he found employment on a ranch, on which he remained until after harvest, receiving \$30 per month and board. Renting a ranch in the fall, he put in a crop, sent for his family, and lived on the place five years. In 1879 he bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, about two and one-half miles north of Modesto, paying \$16 per acre. Erecting a house, barns and all necessary outbuildings, he carried on gen-

eral farming, making a specialty of grain raising. In 1882 Mr. Cameron was elected county assessor of Stanislaus county on the Democratic ticket, and served for four years. He subsequently bought a ranch of six hundred and forty acres in San Luis Obispo county, and managed that in addition to carrying on his home farm. Selling his Modesto farm in 1894, Mr. Cameron located in Fresno and engaged in the business of a vineyardist, renting twenty acres of land, which he devoted to the culture of grapes of various kinds, making a specialty of the raisin grape. In 1902 he was elected county assessor of Fresno county on the Democratic ticket, receiving a majority of two hundred and ninety votes, and in January, 1903, took the oath of office.

While living in Tennessee, Mr. Cameron married Mary Stone, a native of that state, and the descendant of an old and honored family. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Cameron four children were born, namely: Jennie, wife of E. Shepherd, of Laton, Cal.; Emma, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; Florilla, who died at the age of eighteen years; and Forest, the wife of J. B. Pettit, of Mill Valley, Cal. In 1861 Mr. Cameron was made a Mason in Sparta, Tenn., and is now a member of Stanislaus Lodge No. 206, F. & A. M. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and Lee Camp, U. C. V., of Fresno, which he has served as commander. In politics he is one of the leading Democrats of the county, and in religion he is a consistent member of the Christian Church.

**JOHN KAMBICH.** Among the foreign-born citizens who have made a success in the western states mention belongs to John Kambich, who is located as a farmer on a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres adjoining Plano, Tulare county. A native of Austria, he was born December 25, 1857, a son of Steven Kambich, also of that country. The elder man came to America in 1869 and located in Chicago, Ill., where he engaged in peddling for some time. In 1871 he came to California and was occupied in agricultural pursuits in Yolo county for seven years, when, with his competence, he returned to Austria, where his death occurred in 1893. His wife, formerly Mary Ogalin, a native of the same country, still survives her husband. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter, of whom John Kambich was the oldest.

John Kambich received his education in the common schools of Austria and America, in young manhood being apprenticed to learn the trade of a blacksmith. He remained in Illinois engaged in the prosecution of his trade until April 22, 1883, when he came to Yolo county,

Cal., and at Blacks Station worked on a ranch and followed blacksmithing. In 1887 he located in Tulare county and in the vicinity of Plano bought three hundred and twenty acres of land, which is devoted to the cultivation of wheat and general farming. In Visalia, Cal., he was united in marriage with Emma M. German, a native of Missouri, and they are the parents of seven children, all of whom are at home, namely: May Cecelia, Lewis Edward, Henry John, Jo Frank, Anthony M., Bertha Marie and Paul August. Mr. Kambich is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and politically casts his ballot with the Democratic party.

**JAMES FORNEY DUNGAN, M. D.** The success of James Forney Dungan as a physician and surgeon is the result of well-directed effort, sustained by a thorough and earnest preparation for his work. In 1893 he located in Exeter, Tulare county, since which time he has built up an extensive and lucrative practice in the town and vicinity, and even attending patients at a distance of more than fifty miles, having won the confidence of all who have either benefited by or witnessed the value of his efforts.

Born in Glade Spring, Va., August 4, 1866, Dr. Dungan is the oldest in a family of eight children, of whom six are now living. His father, T. N. Dungan, was a native of Missouri, whither the grandfather located as a pioneer in the early days of the state, and where his death occurred. In manhood T. N. Dungan went to Virginia, where he became a farmer and stockman at Glade Spring. In 1894 he came to Exeter, Tulare county, and two years later set out the first grove of oranges in this district. He met with gratifying success in his work until his retirement, now making his home in Exeter. His wife, formerly Joanna McKee, was born near Glade Spring, Va., the descendant of an old Virginia family whose sterling traits were inherited from a long line of Scotch ancestry. She died in Exeter, after a useful and earnest life, her religious work being in the Baptist Church, of which she was a devout member, while her husband belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

James Forney Dungan was reared to young manhood in his native place, after receiving a preliminary education attending Holston Academy for two years. Deciding to take up the profession of medicine he began the study under Dr. W. L. Dunn, of Glade Spring, with whom he remained two years. He then took a course at The Medical College of Virginia, at Richmond, after which he entered Vanderbilt University. From this latter institution he was graduated in 1891 with the degree of M. D., spending a part of the following year at the University of Nash-

ville (the old Peabody School), in post-graduate work, from which he also received the degree of M. D. Entering upon the practice of medicine in 1892, he was located first in Watauga Valley, Tenn., where he remained a year, when he came to California and became a resident of Exeter. At that time there were only three or four buildings on the east side of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks, where the doctor located, and since then he has given his best efforts towards the material upbuilding of the town, as well as devoting thought and attention to the increase of his practice. Through Dr. Dungan's influence the first drug store was established in the town by his uncle, J. W. Dungan, and in various ways the business activity has been increased by the doctor's efforts. He has also given some time to horticultural pursuits, having a seven-acre orange grove, as well as several orange tracts not yet planted to fruit. He has also manifested his faith in the future growth and prosperity of the town by the purchase of both business and residence properties.

Dr. Dungan has been twice married, the first ceremony being performed in Watauga Valley, Tenn., and uniting him with Emma J. Kitzmiller, who was born near Glade Spring, Va., and died in Exeter. She left two children, Lake L. and Mamie Virginia. The doctor's second marriage occurred in Exeter, and united him with Sue Combs, a native of Missouri, and daughter of James Combs, now of Lake county, Cal. She was reared and educated in San Mateo and Lake counties, later graduating from the San Jose Normal, and for ten years taught school in Lake and Tulare counties. They have one son, Marshall. Mrs. Dungan is a member of the Episcopal Church. Fraternally Dr. Dungan affiliates with the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World, of Exeter. Politically he is a stanch Democrat, active in his efforts to advance the principles he endorses, and at one time served as a member of the county central committee. Along the line of his profession he is examining physician for several of the old line insurance companies represented in Tulare county.

**THE LINDSAY FRUIT ASSOCIATION** was formed in 1904 by three of the leading growers in the Lindsay district, H. S. Black, L. S. White and Hugh Latimer, the latter a resident of Riverside, but owning orange groves in this section of the state. The plan was to pack and ship the products of their own orchards and to also handle fruit for others if desired. The three members of the association have seventy-three acres of Washington navels and twelve acres of late Valencias, and all the fruit is packed and shipped from their packing house, which was

erected on a siding of the Southern Pacific at Lindsay. The plant has a capacity of three cars per day. The oranges are sold through the Southern California Fruit Exchange, and thus far the venture has proved a success.

The men who organized the company are well known throughout Tulare county. Mr. White located in Lindsay in 1902, soon afterward becoming interested in orange growing. Mr. Black settled here in 1893 and was one of the first men to set out oranges in Lindsay. The other member of the firm, Mr. Latimer, makes his home in Riverside, but is well known in Tulare county.

From its inception the association has met with success. The men connected with it understand their business thoroughly and do all in their power to bring about the desired results.

**JOHN W. STOKES.** A prominent rancher and stock dealer of Tulare county, John W. Stokes is located in the vicinity of Visalia where he leases land to carry on his business. He was born in Daviess county, Mo., July 2, 1837, a son of Yancy B. Stokes, the latter a native of Kentucky. Yancy B. Stokes came to Missouri in an early day and engaged in farming and stock-raising, in the course of time traveling extensively throughout the middle west in his business of buying and selling stock. About 1840 he removed to Iowa, where he made his home until 1850, in which year, on April 10, he started across the plains to California. The trip was made by ox-teams and occupied seven months, the company arriving in Hangtown, (now Placerville) October 12. He spent his first winter in California in Stockton, being ill the greater part of the time. His son, John W. Stokes, who accompanied him on the journey, cared for their stock that winter, and in the spring they went to Curtis Creek mines. The three months spent there were productive of considerable money, but Mr. Stokes had the misfortune to have it stolen from his trunk. He then went to Mokelumne river, in Calaveras county, where he remained until the spring of 1852, after which he located near Marysville, on the Yuba river. He spent the following spring and summer prospecting for mines, after which he returned to Stockton. In the fall of the same year he went back to Iowa, and in 1853 brought his family across the plains to California, although they stopped and spent the winter in Carson valley, the following spring locating in Contra Costa county, near Martinez. For one year this continued to be the home of the family, when, in December, 1855, they came to Tulare county and located on government land which Mr. Stokes took up six miles west of Visalia. He there engaged in general farming and stock-raising for some time, when he sold the

property to his son, John W. Stokes, and bought another tract in the same vicinity, owning at the time of his death about sixteen hundred acres. His death occurred March 4, 1886. His wife, whom he married in Missouri, was formerly Elizabeth Moore, a native of that state. Her death also occurred in California. In his political convictions Mr. Stokes was a staunch Republican.

In a family of six sons and five daughters born to his parents John W. Stokes was the third in order of birth. He received a limited education in the common schools of Iowa and California, to which state he first came with his father in 1850, being then a lad of thirteen years. He remained in California while his father returned to Iowa for the remainder of the family, working in the mines at various odd jobs. Upon the location of the family in the state he came with them to Tulare county and with his father engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He has continued in this work since, handling extensively cattle, horses, hogs, etc. He has purchased a large amount of land, while he also leases land for ranges. He is meeting with a success that bids fair to number him among the successful stockmen of the county.

In Tulare county, Cal., Mr. Stokes married Rachel M. Gibson, a native of Missouri, who died in San Luis Obispo county, Cal. She left a family of five children, namely: Christina, the wife of Adam Spauth, of Tulare county; Thomas, of Visalia; Elta, a resident of Los Angeles; Miles Andrew, of Visalia; and Claud, of San Luis Obispo county, Cal. Mr. Stokes' second marriage occurred in Visalia, and united him with Nancy Liggett, a native of Tennessee, and born of this union are two children, namely: Henry Jenkins and Roxanna, both at home with their parents. In his political convictions Mr. Stokes is like his father, a staunch Republican.

---

R. L. MARCH. An enterprising and successful farmer, R. L. March enjoys to an unusual degree the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens, who appreciate the ability and energy he has displayed in the cultivation and improvement of his farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located seven and a half miles northeast of Visalia, Tulare county. He was born in Boone county, Mo., August 13, 1865, the eldest of five living children. His father, George March, was a native of Missouri also, where he engaged in farming until 1881, when he came to California, and, locating near Visalia, engaged in agricultural pursuits for a time. His death occurred in Visalia at the age of forty-seven years. His wife, formerly Maggie Boyce, was born in Missouri, in which state her father was a farmer, and where

his death occurred. Mrs. March survives her husband and makes her home in Visalia.

R. L. March was reared to young manhood in Missouri, attending the district schools in both his native state and California, where he came with his parents when only sixteen years old. He remained at home until attaining his majority, when he became dependent upon his own resources. He worked on various neighboring farms until he had earned money to buy a six-horse team and plow, when he rented land and followed grain farming. He finally located on his present place, which he has since improved and cultivated. In addition to his home property he has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres a mile northwest, devoted to farming and stock raising, and eighty acres nine miles west of Visalia, on the Mill creek bottoms, where he herds stock.

In Tulare Mr. March was united in marriage with Belle Campbell, a native of Missouri, and the sister of J. E. Campbell, of Monson, whose sketch appears on another page of this work, giving the family history. They have one child, Loraine. In his political convictions Mr. March is a Democrat, and fraternally affiliates with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He and his wife are consistent members of the Christian Church of Visalia.

---

J. J. CAIRNS. It is always interesting to chronicle the history of the pioneer. The man who has braved the hardships of frontier life and who has become accustomed to the vacillating fortunes of the farmer on the California plains, is the one who has helped to build up Tulare county in more avenues than one. And particularly is this true in the interest he takes in irrigating by means of wells. When J. J. Cairns first began the sheep business he found it necessary to seek other sources of water supply than that of the river and creeks. He at once put down wells in Madera county, where he then lived, and as that was considered very dry land he was surprised to find water in sufficient quantity for his stock at a depth of fifteen or sixteen feet; this he also found true of other localities in the San Joaquin valley. In Tulare county he obtained water by sinking wells to a depth of fifty-five to one hundred and fifty feet. For a time the cost of the wells was out of proportion to the benefits received, and he therefore experimented until the desired result was obtained at a cost of \$90 for a well that would irrigate an entire section of land. By leaving out the casing the expense was materially lessened and its absence allowed the water to flow freely instead of shutting it off. He thus proved the efficacy of his scheme and was the first man of the valley to





*A. J. Parker*



accomplish what is destined to make this one of the greatest farming and horticultural regions in the world.

J. J. Cairns was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, August 10, 1844, the youngest of four children born to Andrew Cairns. His father was a forester and came of a sturdy old Scotch family. Mr. Cairns received a very good education, obtained in the private schools of his native shire. In 1866 he located in New Zealand and engaged in the sheep business for five years, when he came to California. He located in that part of Fresno county which is now Madera county, where he followed the sheep business until 1877, when on account of the drouth he took his flock to the Sacramento valley, ranging them in Colusa, Butte and Tehama counties. He sold out inside of a year, and taking into consideration the expense of moving and the death of so many, his receipts enabled him only to come out even on the venture. Once more at the beginning of the business, he located in 1881 in Tulare county five miles from his present home. Two years later he also became interested in the raising of grain, and shortly afterward disposed of his sheep and gave his entire attention to extensive farming. In 1894 he farmed twenty thousand acres of land, all in grain, of which six thousand was his own property. A failure of crops that year compelled him to dispose of his land to pay off indebtedness to the amount of \$175,000. He was left with one hundred acres, his present property. In 1893 he set sixty-five acres of this land to navel oranges, which have proved a success and is considered as one of the finest bearing orchards in the Lindsay district. He is still engaged in grain raising, farming about three thousand acres which he operates with five eight-mule teams. He also owns six hundred acres within three miles of Lindsay. On his home ranch he has fine buildings and improvements, the entire property being under irrigation from a large well operated by a nine-horse power electric motor. Mr. Cairns is one of the organizers and the president of the Lindsay Orange Growers' Association, which company has put up one of the largest packing houses in the county. He was also an organizer and is a director in the Lindsay Improvement Company, having acted as its first president. This company built the Fraternal Hall, a large, two-story brick building, and a credit to the place. He is a stockholder in the Lindsay Rochdale Association and a director and vice-president in the People's Telephone Company, of Tulare. One of the most popular and prominent men of the section, he holds a high place in the esteem and confidence of all who have come in contact with him, either in a business or social way.

In 1877 Mr. Cairns was united in marriage

in Fresno county with Eliza Galbraith, who is a native daughter of California. She is very active in the social life of Lindsay. Recently she has formed a club (of which she acts as president), whose aim is to plant trees in the avenues and in general promote the beautifying of this already famous orange section. Mr. and Mrs. Cairns are the parents of the following children: Walter, a stockman of Lindsay; Edith, attending the Santa Cruz Business College; Ethel; Laura and Norman. For many years Mr. Cairns has served as school trustee, and has always been greatly interested in educational work and the enhancing of the opportunities of the youth of our country, both intellectually and morally. Politically he is an uncompromising Republican.

ADONIRAM J. PACKARD. For more than a quarter of a century the late Adoniram J. Packard was a resident of Stanislaus county, his home being near Newman, and during that time he was held in high respect as an industrious and enterprising citizen, an able business man, a kind and accommodating neighbor, and a most loving and devoted husband and father; and his death, which occurred May 28, 1903, was a cause of general regret. Coming from honored New England ancestry, he was born July 26, 1840, in Norridgewock, Somerset county, Me., and was there brought up and educated.

In 1860, having previously served an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade, Mr. Packard came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to California. Settling first in Alameda county, he followed his trade at Haywards for nine years, and was afterwards a blacksmith at Hill's Ferry for two years. From there he removed to Cottonwood Grove, where he had a smithy for two years. In 1874 Mr. Packard came to Stanislaus county, locating at what was then called Dutch Corners, and, purchasing the home estate now occupied by his widow, was here prosperously engaged in farming until his death. A skillful workman and an expert mechanic, he was kept busily employed until a few years before his death, and possessing good business tact and judgment, he accumulated considerable property. He at one time owned one hundred and twenty acres of land lying just east of Newman, but sold it prior to his decease.

On December 1, 1874, in Merced, Cal., Mr. Packard married Miss Leonora Dougharty, who was born in Calhoun county, Ill., a daughter of William and Elizabeth Dougharty. A native of Mississippi, William Dougharty settled in Calhoun county, Ill., when a young man, living there until 1854, when he came with his family to Contra Costa county, Cal., journeying by way of Panama. In 1855 he removed to Ama-

dor county, but after mining there a short time at Volcano, he returned to Contra Costa county. Locating in Merced county in 1869, he took up land near Cottonwood, and was there engaged in farming until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Gorham Brown, was born in Illinois, and died, in 1900, in Contra Costa county, Cal.

Six children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Packard, namely: Maurice L., manager of the home place, and a mail carrier on a rural free delivery route; Lucinda May, assistant postmaster at Newman; Bertha M., wife of Alfred Eachus of Newman; Judson; Byron; and Reuel. In his political affiliations Mr. Packard was a staunch supporter of the principles promulgated by the Republican party. He belonged to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and was a faithful member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

L. N. BLACKLEDGE, M. D. The confidence of the citizens of Orosi and vicinity has been won by Dr. Blackledge in his work as a physician and surgeon, and he has built up an extensive and lucrative practice, although he has been a resident of this place but a short time. He is a native of Nottingham, Ind., where his birth occurred December 22, 1854. He is the third child and the only one in California in a family of nine sons and two daughters, of whom four sons and the two daughters are now living. His father, Jason R. Blackledge, was a native of Columbiana county, Ohio, where his father, a native of Bucks county, Pa., had settled upon emigration to the middle west. The elder man subsequently located in Wells county, Ind. The family came originally from English ancestors and in their location in Pennsylvania belonged to the Society of Friends. Jason R. Blackledge was reared in Indiana after he had reached the age of ten years, in manhood following the example of his father and becoming a farmer. Removing to Newton, Jasper county, Iowa, he followed the same occupation until his death. His wife, formerly Mary Paxson, is a native of Ohio and the daughter of Benjamin Paxson, who removed from his birthplace in Pennsylvania and settled first in Ohio and later went to Jay county, Ind. Mrs. Blackledge survives her husband, making her home in Newton.

L. N. Blackledge was reared in Iowa after reaching the age of three years, his father locating in that state in 1857. He attended the public schools and later the Hazeldell Academy. Deciding to take up the profession of medicine, he entered the Penn Medical University at Philadelphia, from which institution he was grad-

uated in 1880 with the degree of M. D. Locating in Pennville, Jay county, Ind., he entered upon a practice of his profession which continued for twenty years in the same location. He met with a success in his work which was not the result of accident, but of earnest and conscientious study, his every effort being to keep abreast of all advancement in the science of medicine and surgery. In 1887 he took a course in the Indiana Dental College at Indianapolis, graduating therefrom with the degree of D. D. S., while he also took special clinics on surgery at the Medical Department of the University of Indiana, in Indianapolis.

In Pennville, Ind., in 1879, Dr. Blackledge was united in marriage with Amanda J. Brown, a native of Monroe county, Ohio, and the daughter of Isaac Brown, of Maryland, who settled first in the Buckeye state, where he engaged as a merchant in Bellville, and later as a farmer in Jay county, Ind. Mrs. Blackledge is also a graduate of the Penn Medical College, having completed the course in 1874 with the degree of M. D., and practiced her profession in Pennville until her marriage. In 1899, on account of his wife's health, Dr. Blackledge came to California, spending the first six months in Pomona, from there going to Long Beach for a like period, and from there to Piru, Ventura county, where he engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery. In February, 1904, he located in Orosi and entered upon a general practice, which has already grown to lucrative proportions. He has evidenced his faith in the growth of the country by purchasing a twelve-acre orange orchard as well as property in Orosi. To himself and wife were born the following children: Cleola, at home; Inez G., a graduate of the high school of Pomona, and now a nurse in the California Hospital; and Brennan, in the high school of Dinuba. In Pennville, Ind., Dr. Blackledge was made a Mason and is demitted, and was also made a member of the Knights of Pythias, of which he is past chancellor, and is an ex-representative to the Grand Lodge. He is also associated with the Woodmen of the World.

In addition to his professional work Dr. Blackledge has always taken an active interest in oil wells, drilling twenty-two wells in Pennville, some of which were excellent producers.

JOSEPH CARTER, a successful orange grower of Tulare county, was born near Banbury, Oxfordshire, England, October 23, 1845, the eldest of three children. His parents, John, a farmer in Gardener, and Mary (Coleman) Carter, were both natives of the same place, where their death also occurred. Joseph Carter was reared on a farm, receiving his edu-

cation in the public schools. Deciding to emigrate he came to America in 1867 and located near Columbus, Ohio, where he followed general farming until March, 1873. In that year he came to California, for nearly two years remaining in the vicinity of Stockton; in January, 1875, he came to Portersville, Tulare county, purchasing the property upon which he has since made his home. This consists of eighty acres located one mile east of the town, all being under the Pioneer Ditch, of which company he has since become a director. He began at once upon modern methods of improvement and cultivation, putting out alfalfa and deciduous fruits. When growing and bearing he set out oranges. He began this work in 1888, and since that time has budded his entire orchard of twenty-three acres to navel oranges. It is his intention to set out the balance of his property in oranges, in the growth of which he has met with a gratifying success. In conjunction with Moses Davidson he is also interested in a well and pumping plant, whose capacity is fifty inches, operated by an electric motor, his interest being two-thirds of the concern. In 1899 he put up on his property a new and handsome residence, which has added immeasurably to the value of the place.

Mr. Carter married Mary Lewis, a native of Amador county, who was a resident of the vicinity of Portersville, and born of this union are five children, namely: Ella; Joseph and John, horticulturists, located on forty acres of orange land; Etta; and Clara. Mr. Carter is a member of the Baptist Church. He is a man of much worth and integrity and has taken a prominent place in affairs in Portersville, acting as school trustee and also as clerk of the board. He is broad-minded and public-spirited in every way, and always takes an active interest in movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community.

---

JOHN HERVEY DEMAREE. The name, Demaree, is of French origin and was first known as Demorest. The emigrating ancestor settled in the eastern states, where the family flourished for some time. Cornelius Demaree, a native of Pennsylvania, emigrated to Kentucky, thence to Indiana, where he followed farming as a means of livelihood. In his family was a son called Samuel, who was born in Kentucky, growing to manhood in that state, where he married. He followed teaching for a time, later locating as a farmer in Parke county, Ind., where his death eventually occurred. His wife, formerly Nancy J. Curry, of Kentucky, also died in Indiana. Of their family of ten children four sons and one daughter are living.

The fifth in his father's family, John Hervey

Demaree was born near Rockville, Parke county, Ind., June 27, 1843. He was reared on the paternal farm in Indiana, receiving his education in the district schools. He remained at home until the fall of 1863, when on December 14 he was mustered into Company A, Eighty-fifth Regiment Indiana Infantry, at Indianapolis. Following his enlistment he served under Sherman, participating in the battle of Resaca and various others in that locality. At the battle of Big Shanty he was taken ill, and was sent to the hospital at Nashville, thence back to Madison, Ind., where he remained under the doctor's care until the spring of 1865. He received his honorable discharge and was mustered out June 7, 1865. His brother, William Scott Demaree, now of Idaho, served through the Civil war in the Thirty-eighth Indiana Regiment of Infantry. Upon the close of the war Mr. Demaree found himself a cripple from the effects of sciatic rheumatism. Desiring to complete the education interrupted by the enlistment, he entered the Waveland Academy, and remained for nearly four years, when he graduated and entered upon his work of teacher in the same institution. After two years in that location he went to Wabash College, but was forced to give up that work on account of trouble with his eyes. Later he located in Kansas and engaged in teaching near Carlyle for a year, when he went back to Illinois and followed the same occupation until 1875. In that year he came to Tulare county, Cal., and bought the eighty acres which forms his present home. This is located on the St. John's river, and at that time consisted of entirely wild land. This he has since improved, and is cultivating to alfalfa and pasture, being principally engaged in stock-raising and the dairy business. The latter business he has been in for the past twenty years, being a pioneer in the work, making butter and selling milk supplied by a herd of fifteen cows. In addition to this property he also owns a farm of three hundred and twenty acres on the White river and forty acres one mile and a half from his home.

In 1875 he was united in marriage with Martha E. Depler, a native of Ohio, and they are now the parents of four children, all of whom are living, namely: Bertha Belle, Justin Hughes, Missouri Curry and M. Ray. Mr. Demaree is a member of the Presbyterian Church, while his wife belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically he is a Republican in national issues, but reserves the right to cast his ballot locally for the candidate whom he considers best qualified for public office. Taking a practical interest in all local affairs, he helped build the Willow school-house, and has served as school trustee for fifteen years. He is now acting as rural mail deliverer, on Rural Free Delivery No. 2, deliver-

ing to four hundred patrons north and east of Visalia, having been appointed to this position November 16, 1903. Mr. Demaree is a broad-minded and enterprising citizen, winning the esteem and confidence of his fellow townsmen by the many qualities which distinguish his citizenship. He has taken a practical interest in the upbuilding and development of this section, making his own success parallel with that of his adopted state.

GEORGE WASHINGTON GOUDY was born in Miami county, Ohio, August 15, 1837, and was the youngest of five children of James and Jennie (Cook) Goudy. The father was born in Ohio and was a lumber manufacturer on the Miami river in the early days. The mother was born in Pennsylvania, and both died in Indiana.

G. W. Goudy was a brickmason and plasterer by trade, and in 1859 came by way of Panama to California, engaging in mining at the Sierra mines, Placer county, until the breaking out of the Civil war. He joined Company K of the Seventh California Volunteer Infantry, his service being mostly against the Indians in Arizona and New Mexico until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He then located at Saratoga, Santa Clara county, where he followed the mercantile business and while there was married, May 1, 1871, to Mrs. Harriet E. (McGuire) Purdy, born in Lee county, Iowa. Her father, William McGuire, was born in Kentucky and was brought up in Chillicothe, Ross county, Ohio. On reaching his majority he began farming first in Ross county, Ohio, then in Miami county, Ind., Hancock county, Ill., and Lee county, Iowa. When he went to Iowa the Indians were still wild, and at first the families, for mutual protection, had to live at Fort Keokuk. He served in a company of dragoons in the Black Hawk war and his last days were spent in Fulton county, Ill. The grandfather, Thomas McGuire, was born in Virginia and settled in Kentucky, where he served as fife major in the war of 1812, and the great-grandfather, Thomas McGuire, served in the Revolutionary war with the same rank. William McGuire married Mary Ingersoll, who was born in New Jersey and was the daughter of Benjamin F. Ingersoll, who was an early settler of Ohio, later of Peoria county, Ill. He was also a fife major in the war of 1812. One of his sons, Robert Green, was the father of the celebrated Col. Robert G. Ingersoll. Mrs. McGuire died in St. Louis. Of her family of seven children four are living, two of the sons having enlisted in the Civil war: Thomas Jefferson served in a Kansas regiment and resides at Ft. Scott, Kans.; the other, George

W., enlisted from Arizona and now resides in Cuba, Ill. Mrs. Goudy was the youngest child and was reared and educated in Lee county, Iowa. In 1860 on account of ill health, she came to California, accompanying the family of Frank Sweeney across the plains in an ox-train to Sacramento, thence to Santa Clara county, where she made her home till 1871. They then removed to Portersville, Tulare county, residing there till 1875, when they located in Hanford. At that time there were only sixteen houses in the town. Five years later they went to Santa Maria, Santa Barbara county, where they resided until September, 1885. All this time Mr. Goudy was engaged in the building business, but on coming to Fresno in 1885 they purchased a five-acre tract of land one mile from J street and eight months later sold it at a big advance. Mr. Goudy died April 26, 1890. He was a Christian gentleman, an Adventist in religion, and as an honorable old soldier was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mrs. Goudy was first married in Gilroy to Stephen Disbrow Purdy, born in Ohio, and who came across the plains to California in 1852. By her first marriage she had two children: Effie May, who died at three years of age, and Charles W., a machinist and musician in Fresno. By the second union there was one child, George Washington, a fruit inspector of Fresno. Mrs. Goudy is a member of the Ladies' Circle of the Grand Army of the Republic, is also a member of the Adventist Church, and is an ardent Republican.

FIELDING GUY BURNS. The years which have passed over the head of Fielding Guy Burns, one of Tulare county's oldest pioneers, have brought to him and to the country many changes. When he first came to this section of the state the country was unimproved and uncultivated, antelopes and elk and other wild animals were roaming over the plains, and there was nothing to presage the prosperity and growth of which the county was capable. To such men as Mr. Burns obstacles existed only to be overcome, and with the courage and industry of the early pioneer he directed his best efforts toward the growth of this section, and his own personal success. Both results have been accomplished, Tulare county ranking with the best in the state, and Mr. Burns holding place with the first men of the section.

Born in Sherman, Grayson county, Tex., November 2, 1850, Fielding Guy Burns was the youngest of two children born to his parents, his brother, John Franklin Burns, now residing near Tucson, Ariz., where he is engaged in the stock business. His father, Jephtha, and grand-





GEORGE R. PHENEGAR



father, Uriah, were both natives of Tennessee, the elder man locating in Texas, and in 1853 crossing the plains to California. He became a resident of Monterey county, where his death occurred. As a resident of Texas, he was one of the staunch supporters of the rebellion in that state, and most eager for annexation to the United States. He also took part in the Mexican war. Jephtha Burns was a stockman in Grayson county, Tex., where he remained until 1853, when he started to cross the plains with his father and two brothers, John and Charles, residing respectively in Merced and Monterey counties, the latter being ninety-one years. In Elm river, Tex., where the brothers were fishing while on the trip, Jephtha Burns was drowned. His wife, formerly Amanda Virginia Bacon, died February 15, 1851. She was born in Franklin county, Mo., a daughter of Fielding Bacon, a native of Virginia and a farmer and stockman of Grayson county, Tex. He came to California in the same train with the Burns family, in 1853. He first located at Elmonte, near Los Angeles, where he engaged in the stock business until the spring of 1856. In that year he came to Tulare county and settled on the St. John's river, ten miles east of Visalia, where he entered land and improved a farm. In the years that followed he gave his attention to the establishment of his personal success, which has been the result entirely of his own efforts. When he first came to California he brought with him a few cattle, for which he had traded his land in Texas, and after keeping them for a time in Los Angeles county, sold the two hundred for \$125 per head in Graysonville, in the San Joaquin valley. This money was sent by the Adams Express Company to Los Angeles, while he went by boat to that city, finding on his arrival that the express company had failed. Out of this deal he lost all but his fare and \$1,500. With this comparatively small amount he started again in the making of his fortune. He immediately bought of P. O. Pico three hundred head of cattle at \$5 per head, which he paid for, and another three hundred on credit. He immediately took them to Sonora and sold them in the southern mines at good profit. Returning to Los Angeles, he once more invested in stock. In the fall of 1855 he bought one thousand head of cattle and drove them to Tulare county, where he began the stock business which brought him such lucrative returns in the passing years. He became very successful, accumulating land in Tulare county until he owned eleven thousand acres. At a cost of \$12,000 he put up a fine brick house, the brick for which was made on his place, while the woodwork was hauled from Fresno Slough. In the flood of 1867 his house sustained such injuries that he built another resi-

dence on the Cottonwood, where he had entered land, and made that his home for five years. At the end of that time he located in Visalia, where he lived until 1882, when he moved to Los Angeles, where his death occurred at the age of eighty-nine years. His wife, formerly Sarah Bell, a native of Virginia, also died in Los Angeles. Of their four daughters Mrs. Burns was the eldest, her death occurring in Texas in 1851.

Fielding Guy Burns was reared in Tulare county, a member of the family of his grandfather, Fielding Bacon. He received his education in the public schools of Visalia and in a private seminary. He remained at home until attaining his majority, when he engaged in the stock business in Humboldt county, Nev. He continued there for three years, when he returned to Tulare county and engaged in the sheep business on the plains for the ensuing five years. Following this he engaged in the raising of grain, operating two thousand acres of the property of his grandfather. He has met with success in his work and has accumulated considerable property, now owning six hundred and twenty-six acres on section 32, township 17, range 25. It was originally a section, but the valley railroad took fourteen acres of it. It is fine, productive land, in the vicinity of Elbow creek, and is devoted to alfalfa, grain and stock. He also owns three hundred and sixty acres on sections 18 and 19, township 17, range 26, on the Cottonwood, a productive and well-improved farm, which he rents. In his political affiliations Mr. Burns gives his support to the Democratic party.

---

GEORGE ROBERT PHENEGAR. During his life, which spanned a period of nearly fifty-four years, George R. Phenegar followed diversified occupations. His success in a financial way was due to his splendid ability to make good bargains and to his thorough knowledge of live stock, to which business as a dealer he devoted many years of his life in Merced county, where he also won an enviable reputation as a successful rancher and fruit grower. Born July 25, 1833, in Columbus, Ohio, he grew up on a farm, and up to 1854, the date of his removal to California, his life was comparatively uneventful. In Mariposa county he followed mining until the breaking out of the Feather river excitement, and following the tide of immigration to the latter place he continued mining until he decided to remove to Merced county. For a time he devoted his time solely to buying and selling stock, meeting with success, and in 1879 he purchased forty-seven hundred acres of land in Merced and Mariposa counties, and from that time turned his attention to farming in connection

with the stock business. He was one of the first men in his locality to engage in fruit culture. At the time of his death he owned, in addition to his ranch, a fine fruit farm near Selma, Fresno county.

In 1879 Mr. Phenegar was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (Anderson) Shaug, formerly of Missouri and a daughter of John Anderson; who crossed the plains from the latter state to California in 1857, and for years was a prominent resident of San Luis Obispo county. Mr. and Mrs. Phenegar became parents of four children: George Leonard, who died in August, 1904; Chauncey Anderson; Bert Washburn, who died aged six years, and Georgia Roberta. Mr. Phenegar was a man of strict integrity of character and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. As a business man he possessed more than ordinary ability, was broad-minded, public-spirited and aided materially in developing the natural resources of the various communities in which he lived. Upon his death, October 15, 1887, Merced county lost one of her most progressive citizens.

---

**EARL POWERS FOSTER.** Within the limits of the San Joaquin valley the entire life of Mr. Foster has been passed, and here he has achieved a degree of success both gratifying and well deserved. For a considerable period he has had charge of two thousand acres of land, two and one-half miles from Tulare, the property being owned by James Turner. Of this large tract one hundred acres are under alfalfa and twelve hundred acres under grain, in the sowing and harvesting of which two eight-horse teams are utilized. A specialty is made of raising beef cattle of high-grade Short-horn breeds. In all of his work Mr. Foster employs modern methods and machinery. Practical, resourceful and energetic, he manages the large acreage with wise judgment.

In the county of Tulare, where he now lives, Earl Powers Foster was born November 4, 1867, being the eldest among six children, four of whom are living. His father, Leander P. Foster, a native of Vermont, came to the Pacific coast in early life and settled on a stock ranch in Tulare county, but later moved to San Joaquin county and bought three hundred and twenty acres near Atlanta, where he engaged in grain farming until his death in 1875. After coming west he married Hattie Munson, who was born in Maine and now makes her home in Pacific Grove. During girlhood she came to California with her father, Nathan Munson, who remained in this state until his death in Humboldt county.

At the time of his father's death Earl Powers Foster was a boy eight years of age. After-

ward he remained on the home farm near Atlanta and early acquired a thorough knowledge of agriculture, besides having the advantage of attendance at Woodbridge College. After coming to Tulare county in 1894 he took up grain and stock farming, and has given his attention closely to this work. He votes the Republican ticket. His marriage, in 1892, solemnized at French Camp, San Joaquin county, united him with Sarah, daughter of James Turner, and a native of San Joaquin county. They have three sons: James, Powers and Forest Frederic.

The Turner family was founded in America by John Turner, an Englishman, who settled in San Joaquin county, thence removed to Stanislaus county, and died in Tulare county when ninety-two years of age. James, son of John Turner, was a pioneer of 1850 in California, whither he came with ox-teams across the plains. During the first winter in the state he made \$400 in the mines, later he took up teaming, and in the spring of 1852 settled eight miles from Stockton, where he bought a quarter section of land. At this writing he owns two thousand acres of tillable land in the same locality and there makes his home, being still at the head of his large interests, and hale and robust for a man who has passed seventy-three busy years. In politics he is a Republican and in religion holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Hannah Blosser, was born in Pennsylvania and died at the California homestead in 1882. She was a daughter of Jacob Blosser, a pioneer of 1850, who crossed the plains with oxen and settled on a large tract of raw land in San Joaquin county, later removing to Mendocino county, where the last years of his life were passed.

---

**FRANK E. BLACK.** The personality of Frank E. Black has won for him many friends, while his business ability has given him a competence among the citizens of Tulare county. Liberal, broad-minded and enterprising, he takes a keen interest in the public affairs of the community, and at the same time gives his attention to the advancement of his own welfare. A native of Ohio, he was born near Maxville, Perry county, July 19, 1863. He was reared in the home of his maternal grandfather, Henry Black, who, with his five sons, served in the Sixty-second Regiment Ohio Infantry during the Civil war, one son dying in service. His education was received through the medium of the public schools, which he attended for a short time, but became dependent upon his own efforts while still a lad. When sixteen years of age he secured a place as section hand, then became a brakeman

on the Ohio Central Railroad, September 26, 1884, his run being between Bucyrus, Corning, Columbus and Toledo. In the spring of 1885 he was employed in the same capacity on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, between Fort Wayne and Crestline, Ohio. He remained with that company for six years, when, in 1891, he came to California and secured employment with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, as a brakeman, working out of Tulare. In June, 1894, he was promoted to conductor, running out of Fresno, and November 1, 1901, he took his present run, which is between Portersville and Mendota, going twice over the road each day, a distance of two hundred and thirteen miles traveled. He is a very successful railroad man, stands high with the officials, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of the traveling public. He has been in the work for twenty years and has never had an accident.

In Fort Wayne, Ind., Mr. Black was united in marriage with Marguerite Current, a native of that vicinity, and the daughter of Sylvester S. Current, who was employed in the car shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for thirty-eight years, when he retired from active duties. Mrs. Black was brought up in Fort Wayne, where she was educated. They have one child living, Clinton Ellsworth. Mr. Black owns a stock farm on White river, thirty-five miles from Portersville, which is their mountain home. He was made a Mason in Portersville Lodge No. 303 and belongs to the Portersville Chapter, R. A. M., of this place, and Visalia Commandery, K. T. He is a demitted member of the Knights of Pythias and a member of the Order of Railroad Conductors No. 404, of Kern City, and politically is a stanch Democrat.

---

THOMAS FEEMSTER. M. D. A prominent place among the professional men is accorded Dr. Feemster, of Portersville, where he has been located since 1896. He was born in Columbus, Miss., May 28, 1850, a son of William D. Feemster, the representative of a prominent family of South Carolina, where his birth occurred in 1826. The grandfather, Silas D. Feemster, born in North Carolina, was a minister in the Presbyterian Church, locating first in South Carolina, then in Columbus, Miss., where he died. His father, William Silas Feemster, was a native of North Carolina, and with his oldest brother, Samuel, served valiantly in the Revolutionary war, the old flint-lock musket of the latter being still in the possession of his descendants. The history of the family is traced back to Norway, through England and Normandy, the first ancestor on English soil being with William the Conqueror. After their settle-

ment in the southern states and during the Civil war (as they were stanch Abolitionists, several members of the family serving in the Union army) they suffered much at the hands of the Confederate sympathizers and lost much valuable property. William D. Feemster was a farmer in Mississippi until 1880, when he removed to Kansas, locating near Fulton, where he followed the same occupation. His wife, formerly Frances H. Robinson, was a native of South Carolina, and the daughter of Dr. Elam I. Robinson, of North Carolina. He was a physician of the Eclectic school, having graduated from the old Worthington Medical College before it was merged into the Eclectic Medical Institute. He then engaged in the practice of his profession in South Carolina and later in Mississippi, where he died when nearly ninety years old. Mrs. Feemster died in Mississippi in 1860. Of the two sons and one daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Feemster one son and one daughter are living.

The oldest son of his father's family, Thomas Feemster was reared in Mississippi until he was nineteen, receiving a preliminary education through the medium of the district schools in the vicinity of his home. He then entered the Greenville and Tusculum College, of East Tennessee, from the scientific department of which institution he was later graduated. Following this he was engaged for two years in teaching school in Mississippi, when, in 1875, he went to Missouri and near Gainesville homesteaded a farm. In 1876 he entered the American Medical College of St. Louis, where he took the first course and then engaged in the practice of medicine in Gainesville for nearly five years. In the spring of 1881 he removed to Kansas, locating near Mound City, when he became a student in the American College, from which he was graduated in 1882 with the degree of M. D. He continued to practice in Mound City until 1896, in the meantime graduating from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of St. Louis, in March, 1895. While in Kansas he was president of the United States examining board of pensions. In 1896 he came to California, locating in Portersville in December of that year, since which time he has continued in the practice of medicine and surgery, meeting with a success which has already enrolled him among the prominent professional men of Tulare county. In addition to his professional interests the doctor is identified with the horticultural life of the community, owning a ten-acre orchard of bearing Washington navels, adjoining the site of Portersville, his place being under ditch and also equipped with a pumping plant. He also owns eighty acres on Deer creek, six miles from Portersville, which land is devoted to the cultivation of grain.

In East Tennessee Dr. Feemster was united

in marriage with Frances H. Malloy, of Alabama, and they are the parents of the following children: Elam I., a graduate of Emporia (Kans.) State Normal, now a practicing attorney of Visalia; Robert, a graduate of the Ft. Scott normal school and Heald's Business College, of San Francisco, and now manager of the Portersville Citrus Association; Lola D., the wife of William H. Gould, of Portersville; and Ethel A., Linnie J. and Russell A., at home. Dr. Feemster gives his support to the Congregational Church, of which his wife is a member. The doctor is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society.

#### QUINTIS VERNILE PLEASANT DAY.

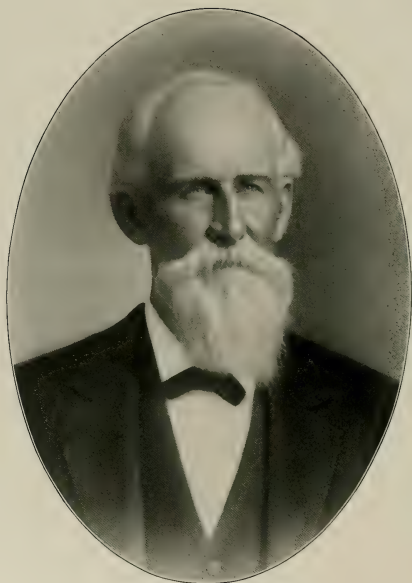
During the progress of the Mexican war Pleasant Day, who had been a farmer in Missouri, enlisted in the service and was given employment as a teamster, going to the front, where he remained until his death. Before entering the army he had engaged in farm pursuits in Buchanan county, Mo., where his wife and three children were left at the time of his departure for the front. His wife, who had been Verlinde Linville, was born in Jackson county, Mo., being a daughter of Rev. Zachariah Linville, a farmer and also a minister in the Christian Church. During the great emigration to California in 1849 Mr. Linville joined a party of gold-seekers, whom he accompanied across the plains. He prospected in mines near Placerville until his death, which occurred the same year. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Day became the wife of Daniel Dunnegan, with whom in 1857 she crossed the plains to California and settled on a farm in Sonoma county, thence removed to Yolo county, where Mr. Dunnegan died at Woodland. His widow is now making her home in Lake county. Of her first marriage there were two children who attained mature years, namely: Q. V. P., who resides in the suburbs of Dinuba; and Tencia Eveline, Mrs. Thompson, of Lake county.

In Buchanan county, Mo., where he was born February 4, 1843, Q. V. P. Day passed the years of childhood, from there going to Mills county, Iowa, in 1855, and in 1857 crossing the plains with a company who spent seven months en route. While on the Humboldt they were attacked by Indians and the eleven men forming the train bravely kept back the red men until help arrived. In Sonoma county Mr. Day attended Santa Rosa Seminary, and in 1859 became one of the first students in Hesperian College at Woodland, where he remained a student a part of two years. On taking up work for himself he clerked in a Woodland store, where he remained for eighteen months. His

next venture was the purchase of a stock of groceries. Later he also carried on a livery business, but this he sold after one year. At Woodland, October 13, 1868, he married Araminda Giddings, a native of Wisconsin, being a daughter of Edwin Giddings, who crossed the plains in 1852 and for seven years served as clerk of Yolo county. The year following his marriage Mr. Day removed to Stanislaus county and settled on a ranch near Grayson, where he engaged in the stock business. Later he took up merchandising in Lake county, where he had a store at Middletown for three years and at Lakeport for several years. While there he held the office of treasurer of Lake county for one term of two years. In the fall of 1890 he came to Tulare county and settled one and one-half miles southeast of Dinuba, where he has an orchard of five acres. At the same time, while managing his little homestead, he carries on an insurance and real estate business in town. His two children, Mrs. Maude Redpath and Mrs. Mabel Weddle, both reside in Dinuba, and the entire family are associated with the Christian Church, in which he officiates as an elder. At one time he was active in Masonry, but now is demitted. In national politics he favors Democratic principles, but during local campaigns he gives his support to men whom he considers best qualified to represent the people in office, irrespective of their political views. In his views on the currency question he favors the platform of the People's party, and in 1898 he was their candidate for county clerk, but the party is in the minority here as elsewhere, and he suffered defeat with the balance of the ticket. During the long period of his residence in California he has witnessed the development of the state from a sparsely populated and desolate region to one of the most prosperous commonwealths in the entire country, and no one rejoices in its development more than does Mr. Day.

B. L. CARPENTER, D. D. S. The Carpenter family was established in California by A. B. Carpenter, a well-known and highly esteemed farmer residing eight miles southwest of Portersville, Tulare county. He was born near Albany, N. Y., the representative of a sturdy eastern family, and in young manhood he became a farmer in Tioga county, Pa. Deciding to seek the more abundant opportunities of the Pacific coast, he brought his family to California in 1875, locating as a farmer in Portersville. Two years later he purchased his present property, where he has since made his home. Although seventy-seven years old, he still takes an active interest in his farm, and in addition to general farming gives much attention to a fine apiary





*W. M. Phillips*





*Mrs Wm Phelps.*



which he owns. His wife, formerly Euphrasia Redfield, a native of Watertown, N. Y., is living at the age of seventy-three years. Of the six children born of their union four are living, the youngest son being B. L. Carpenter, a successful dentist of Portersville.

The birth of B. L. Carpenter occurred May 20, 1866, in Westfield, Tioga county, Pa., where he was reared until he was eight years old. His parents locating in Portersville at that time, he received his education by attending the public schools in this place, the Rocky Ford district school near Poplar, and the San Jose State Normal. To acquire funds for his normal course he taught one term of school, and after completing the course he taught another year. He then took up dentistry, studying under Dr. F. L. Argall, of San Jose. Entering the dental department of the University of California he was graduated in 1895 with the degree of D. D. S. Returning to Portersville, in July, 1895, he opened an office and has since continued successfully in this location, building up an extensive practice and one that has brought him large financial returns. He is also interested in the horticultural life of the section, owning a fifteen-acre orchard of navel oranges five miles east of Portersville.

In Portersville Dr. Carpenter was united in marriage with Minnie Loyd, a native of Plano, Tulare county, and they are the parents of one child, Byron Leonard, Jr. Fraternaly Dr. Carpenter is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Portersville, being past grand of his lodge, and is past chief patriarch of the encampment. He also belongs to the Woodmen of the World. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is one of the board of trustees. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and in the line of his profession is an active member of the State Dental Association.

**WILLIAM MILTON PHILLIPS.** The ranks of the pioneers are fast thinning out, and the number of men in whose brain is a clear remembrance of the features which distinguished the coast country during the early '50s are becoming fewer and fewer. Around these early apostles of adventure is a certain strength and heroism not connected with any other time or place or people, for necessarily force and determination were required to leave comfortable conditions in the east and travel towards the practically unknown with no assurance of arriving at one's destination. To this class of brave and resolute travelers belongs William Milton Phillips, whose residence of fifty-two years in California has shifted from the noisy mining camps through various stages

of development to the peace and plenty of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres three miles from Los Banos.

This highly esteemed pioneer was born in Newtown, Hamilton county, Ohio, July 30, 1829, his family having been established in the Buckeye state by his paternal grandfather, James Phillips, who came from Germany, served in the War of 1812, and who lived to the extreme age of one hundred and ten years. His son, the father of William Milton, also named James, was born on the Ohio farm, eventually removing to Montgomery county, Ind., and from there to Paulding county, Ohio. In 1839, when William Milton was ten years old, the family located in Polk county, Iowa, where his father purchased a farm within half a mile of Des Moines, dying there when sixty-six years of age. He was fairly well-to-do, reared a family of three sons and four daughters, two sons and one daughter surviving him. William Milton Phillips had the advantages of farm and educational training in Ohio, Indiana and Iowa, his schooling having been acquired in the crude log school houses of that time; he sat on a slab, hewed flat on one side, and wrote with a quill pen. His life was uneventful until he started out on his own responsibility in the spring of 1851, going south to New Orleans, where he worked for a time on boats plying the Mississippi river. The spring of 1852 found him a member of a large and enthusiastic emigrant train, bound for the state of California. Owning a fine horse, and being a skilled marksman, he was chosen hunter of the expedition, and during the four months journey brought down many trophies of the chase, including bear, deer and kindred inhabitants of the plains. In his tramps abroad in search of food he encountered many Indians, with whom he was always on the friendliest of terms, giving them a handshake upon meeting, and evidencing a deep interest in their affairs. His knowledge of the best way to keep on friendly terms with the red men was of long standing, for in both Ohio and Iowa he had become familiar with their traits, and had learned considerable of their vernacular. Consequently, he was rarely molested in his search for food, and both received and gave many favors. The party came by way of the Carson route, past Johnson's cut-off, reaching Hangtown, now Placerville, in August, 1852.

After mining in Eldorado county for a couple of years Mr. Phillips removed to a farm in Contra Costa county, later locating in Lake county, and in 1872 took up his present farm in Merced county. This property he devoted to grain and alfalfa in the early days, and still raises large crops of alfalfa, for the past four years also running a dairy of thirty-five cows. His improvements are modern and practical, and his thrifty

methods and successful management are apparent to all who are privileged to visit his hospitable and pleasant home. September 30, 1869, he was united in marriage with Sarah J. Phillips, a native of Ray county, Mo., and daughter of William P. Phillips, a Missouri farmer, who crossed the plains in 1852. For several years William P. Phillips engaged in general farming and stock-raising in the vicinity of Oregon City, Ore., removing in 1865 to Antioch, Cal., later to Hollister, and still later to Fresno. In 1889, in the latter city, he met a tragic death in the burning of the Dexter stables, whither he had gone to rescue some papers from the flames. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Hartman, was also born in Missouri, a daughter of John Hartman. The circumstances of her death were scarcely less pitiable than those surrounding the death of her husband, for while on the way across the plains, when her heart was full of hope regarding the future, she was stricken with mountain fever and succumbed to the dread disease a week after arriving in Oregon. At the time her daughter, Sarah J., was but six months old. A son, Andrew J., died in California at the age of twenty-six years. Mrs. Sarah J. Phillips was reared in California and educated in the public schools. Into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Phillips seven children have been born: Lenora E., a graduate of the San Jose Normal, the wife of T. L. Baldwin of the Los Banos district; Florence, who is a graduate of the Stockton Business College, and who became the wife of C. O. Freeman, of Los Banos; Ephraim, the owner and manager of a dairy farm adjoining his father's ranch; Elmer, manager of his father's dairy; Ivy Eleanor, a graduate of the San Jose Normal, and at present engaged in educational work in Los Banos; William, attending the Polytechnic at Oakland; and Vivian, who died in 1898 at the age of nine years. Mr. Phillips is a member of the German Baptist Church, while his wife is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Previous to the war Mr. Phillips was a Democrat, but since then has voted the Republican ticket. His interest in education has been pronounced for years, and is evident, not only from the superior advantages he has given his own children, but from his insistence on ample funds and proficient instructors while a member of the school board.

---

**JOSEPH VOSSLER.** Germany has furnished the United States with many of its most substantial citizens, and in every state the natives of that country have become prominently identified with the various industries. The Germans deserve much credit for the pioneer work they have done in the west, as they have at all times been in the van of the settlers. Mr. Vos-

sler is no exception, for he has for many years been a resident of California, and during his residence here he has taken an active part in the work of development. Coming to this country without a dollar or a friend, he has, by his own individual efforts, accumulated a comfortable competency and attained a position of affluence in Tulare county.

Born in Germany, March 4, 1840, near Rottweil, a town located in the vicinity of the famous "Black Forest," he is a son of Simon and Johanna (Schuler) Vossler, both of whom spent their entire lives in the old country.

Joseph Vossler is the eldest in a family of eight children, and is the only one to locate in California. His early life was spent in his native country, where he attended the common schools and when old enough began learning the trade of a butcher in his father's market. After serving his apprenticeship he worked as a journeyman butcher, traveling through Switzerland and visiting the principal cities. Later he returned to Germany, but remained there only a short time, when, in 1868, he bade good-by to home and sailed for America, the land of promise. While he has been in this country many years, Mr. Vossler has never regretted his decision to leave the place of his nativity, as in that country the chances for advancement are limited, while here every man stands alone, and if it is in him to succeed he can do so.

Soon after arrival in the United States his attention was attracted to an advertisement of the Central Pacific Railroad, offering \$5 per day for laborers. In company with a partner he came west and for a time worked for the company, but as the road employed a great many Chinamen, Mr. Vossler decided to seek employment elsewhere. With that idea in mind he went to Sacramento in 1869, where he soon secured work on a farm near the city. For the following five years he continued working for others, but in 1874 he came to Tulare county, and with the money he had saved from his earnings, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he at once began to cultivate and improve. Engaging in grain-raising and the hog business he was soon able to buy more land, adding to his original purchase until he now owns seven hundred and twenty acres, of which two hundred and forty acres is located two miles east of Woodville. This place is improved and equipped with all the modern appliances necessary to carry on a successful farming business. His pumping plant is of twenty-four horse power, which supplies all the water necessary for irrigation and other purposes. While he devotes considerable of his land to the growing of grain and alfalfa, he is also engaged in the cattle and dairy business.

Mr. Vossler was in the Tule river irrigation district and was a member of the committee that brought about the liquidation and took an active part in the settlement of the affairs which led to the paying of the bond in 1904.

In Modesto Mr. Vossler was united in marriage with Nannie Gabriel, who was born in Holstein, Germany. To this union have been born six children, all of whom are living in the vicinity. In order of birth their names are as follows: Fred, Charles, Joseph, Andrew, Cora and Herman.

Mr. Vossler believes in the rights of mankind and in political belief is strongly in favor of the principles as promulgated by the Socialist party. Taking a deep interest in educational matters, he served for many years as trustee of his school district, and during his tenure of office labored earnestly for the bettering of the existing conditions. Fraternally he is a welcome visitor in the Odd Fellows' lodge rooms, while in religion both he and his wife are associated with the Christian Science Church at Portersville.

---

**JOHN N. LARSON.** A prominent business man of Portersville, Tulare county, John N. Larson has met with a success which has numbered him among the representative men of this section. He was born in Chicago, Ill., October 16, 1859, a son of Nels Larson. The latter was a native of Norway and a ship carpenter by trade, who became an early settler of Chicago, where he worked in the first shipyard until his death. His wife, formerly a Miss Lindgren, was a native of Sweden, and her death also occurred in Chicago. Of their three children, two are located in California, A. J. Larson being engaged in the real estate business in Lodi.

John N. Larson was the youngest of the three children of his father's family. He was reared to the age of fifteen years in Chicago, attending the public schools in pursuit of an education. At that age he made his first trip to the coast, for eighteen months remaining in Oakland, where he was employed as a lather. Returning to Chicago, he attended school until the spring of 1877, when he came back to Oakland. In the same year he went to Leadville, Colo., where he followed the building trade, in 1880 going to Durango, before the railroad came through. Returning to California about 1881 he located in Lodi, where he engaged in contracting and building, later spending a short time in Colorado, then going to San Diego during that city's rapid growth. There he found abundant employment in contracting and building for a time, after which he again located in Lodi, remaining there until the spring of 1897, when he came to Portersville, and bought the Greeley ice business.

Mr. Larson has enlarged the plant, carrying on a wholesale and retail ice business, and has erected a soda works in connection. He is also interested in the ice and soda water business in Tulare, the firm being known as Frame & Larson, and they are also interested in the Visalia soda works, of which Mr. Larson was one of the incorporators and is now president of the company. He is a business man of unquestioned ability and shrewd judgment and with the practical points of his work thoroughly in hand.

In San Francisco Mr. Larson was united in marriage with Mattie A. Cochran, who was born near Lawrence, Kans., and they are the parents of two children, Verda and Helen. Mr. Larson has always taken the keenest interest in the growth and progress of his adopted city, being a participant in movements calculated to advance the general welfare. He was active in the organization of the First National Bank of Portersville, of which he is a director; has been a director of the Board of Trade since its organization; and is also a member and director of the county Board of Trade of Tulare county. As a Republican he has often been called upon to serve in positions of trust and responsibility. Upon the incorporation of Portersville he was elected councilman, serving his first term from 1902, and was re-elected in 1904, at present acting as chairman of the finance committee, as well as serving on various others. During his first term he gave effective service as chairman of the street committee in the laying of new sidewalks, etc. He is also a member of the county central committee. In addition to his business interests Mr. Larson is also identified with the horticultural interests of the section, owning a ten-acre orchard of navel oranges near town, while in addition to this he is setting out twenty acres. Fraternally he was made a member of the Knights of Pythias in Durango, and is now a member and past chancellor of Portersville Lodge. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Foresters.

---

**REV. FATHER JOHN COEN.** The work being done by Rev. Father John Coen as pastor of St. Ann's Church, in Portersville, is such as to place him in the front rank of those who are adding immeasurably to the moral and spiritual welfare of this section. A native of Ireland, he was born in County Mayo June 24, 1871, next to the youngest in a family of six sons and six daughters, of whom four sons and four daughters are living, he being the only one in America. He comes of an old and distinguished family of Ireland, which formerly flourished in England, from which country an emigrant located the name in the Emerald Isle,

Thomas Coen, the father of Rev. John Coen, was a farmer and merchant in County Mayo, dying there in 1893. His wife, formerly Mary Scanlon, a native of County Sligo, and the representative of a worthy family, survives him, making her home on the old residence in Ireland.

When only a lad in years John Coen began the study of the classics. After completing a seminary course he entered Carlow College, where he took theology, philosophy and scripture. Upon the completion of this course June 13, 1892, he was ordained by Bishop Comerford in the college, and was assigned by Bishop More of Los Angeles to work in Hollister. He immediately took passage for Los Angeles, Cal., and upon his arrival became assistant in the Church of the Sacred Heart of Hollister. After four months of service he was appointed pastor of the Watsonville parish, and the following year, at his own request, was returned to Hollister as assistant. He remained in that position until November, 1896, when he received the appointment to his present pastorate, since which time he has continued in charge of the parish. A man of liberal views, earnest consecration and a devotion to his work which admits of no question, Father Coen has won the love and respect of his congregation and has brought about movements which have resulted very materially to the betterment of the people. This congregation was first started by meetings in various houses and halls, the church being built in 1892 by Father Farrelly. In 1902 the presbytery was built through the efforts of Father Coen. He has also organized the congregation at Woodville, Tulare county, and while he has in his pastorate all the eastern portion of Tulare county to the Mono and Inyo county lines, he also visits the South Tule Indian Reservation. He has organized an Altar Society, and in all matters pertaining to the spiritual and temporal welfare of the people Father Coen gives his most earnest and undivided efforts.

---

**CHARLES A. BISHER.** Self-made in the best sense implied by the term, Charles A. Bisher enjoys to an unusual degree the high regard of all with whom he has come in either business or social contact, and as a practically retired citizen of Visalia is rounding out the years of an active and successful career. The third in a family of seven children, of whom three are living, Charles A. Bisher was born in Muscatine, Iowa, March 11, 1855, the son of Charles August and Annie Elizabeth Bisher, both of whom died in Iowa, the father when their son was seven years old and the mother when he was eleven years old. The father was a native

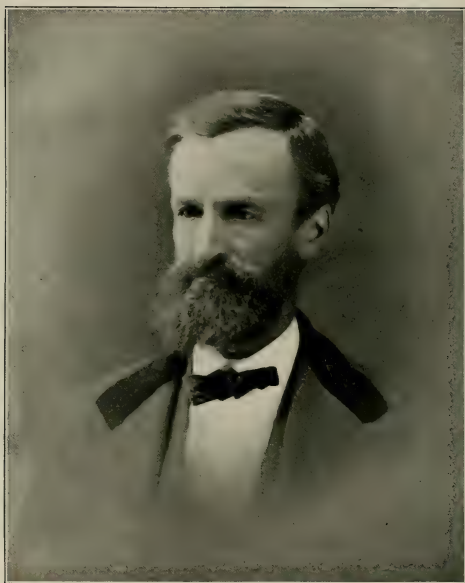
of Germany who settled in Muscatine and engaged as a wheelwright and cabinet maker.

Until he was twelve years old Charles A. Bisher remained in Muscatine, Iowa, and was then bound out to Hiram Kirkpatrick, a farmer, who lived near Cairo, Iowa. He remained there for three and a half years, his first years work being to rake bundles off the old McCormick reaper. During this time he attended school but two months in the year. On seeking new employment he found work with a neighbor for \$18 per month, with whom he remained for some time, in 1873 deciding to locate in California. He accordingly made the trip west and located in Visalia, securing employment with the Weston dairy, where he remained twenty-two months. Being defrauded of his wages he sought and found employment with Henry Hartley, and for five years conducted a dairy ranch near Visalia and again on Elbow creek in Tulare county. Having accumulated sufficient capital he then entered the livery business, becoming proprietor of the Visalia Stables in partnership with W. W. Coughran. Two years later he bought out his partner's interest and continued alone for some years, when he sold to W. H. Moffett. With J. B. McKinley he then established the Kaweah Stables, which were conducted under the firm name of Bisher & McKinley for some time, Mr. Bisher only buying an interest till his friend was well established. This was the only brick stable in the city, and the largest in dimensions, and was well equipped in every particular. After one year he sold out his interests and withdrew entirely from active business, spending his time in looking after his property, which consisted of one hundred and eighty acres, eighty of which is devoted to alfalfa. He has lately disposed of this ranch. He has been successful in all his undertakings, whether as a farmer or business man, and in his display of ability and unerring judgment has won a place of prominence among the business citizens of this section.

Mr. Bisher's home at No. 501 North Cottonwood street, is presided over by his wife, formerly Ida Hartley, a native of Visalia, where they were married. She is the daughter of Henry C. Hartley, who was born in Independence, Mo., November 6, 1833, the son of George Hartley, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and an early settler of the middle west, where he was located in Missouri, Illinois and Iowa. In 1853 Henry C. Hartley crossed the plains by horse train as far as Salt Lake City, when they completed the trip to California by pack train. On the journey he became ill and was left by the party and came near dying in the wilderness, but recovered and made his way alone to California. In September, 1853, he came to Tulare county







*Geo W. Smith*

and in Tulare has since made his home. He has been a very successful farmer and stockman and now, owns a fine ranch on Elbow creek, seven miles northwest of Visalia. He married Isabelle Baker, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of James Baker who brought his family to Tulare county in 1857. She died in Visalia in 1898, leaving a family of four children, namely: Laura, the wife of Mr. Moye; Charles, a farmer near Visalia; Ida, the wife of Mr. Bisher; and George, a stockman near Visalia. Mr. and Mrs. Bisher have one child, Merle Elizabeth.

Mr. Bisher is a Democrat in his political convictions and is an earnest and broad-minded citizen and gives his support to all movements and enterprises best calculated to advance the general welfare. For one term he served efficiently as a member of the city board of trustees.

---

GEORGE W. SMITH. The life history of George W. Smith is indissolubly connected with the irrigation interests of Tulare county, as he was more closely identified with projects of this nature than any other man in this section. He was a surveyor and civil engineer and surveyed the majority of the longest canals and ditches in Tulare county. He was one of the organizers of the Uphill Ditch Company, and served as its president for many years, as well as surveying and superintending its construction. His last work was for the 76 Canal Company, on what is now known as the Alta Irrigation District, acting in the capacity of chief engineer. His death occurred October 24, 1896, at the age of seventy years, removing from the community a man who held the esteem of his fellow citizens for the sterling qualities which distinguished his character.

Born in New York August 26, 1826, George W. Smith was a son of David and Lovisa (Palmer) Smith, both of whom were also natives of the same state. He was the descendant of English ancestry, his great-grandfather having emigrated from his native land and settled in Rhode Island, where his grandfather, Seth Smith, was born. His maternal ancestors were among the early settlers of New York state. George W. Smith was one of a family of nine children, of whom he was the eldest son. He remained in his native state until he was twenty-three years old, receiving his education in the meantime. In 1849 he decided to seek his fortune in the gold fields of California. Sailing from New York City on February 6, a passenger on the Clarissa Perkins, he landed in San Francisco September 12, and immediately entered upon the life of a miner. His first location was at Hawks Bar, after which he went to Rattle-

snake creek, where he was the first man to strike a pick. He was very successful as a miner, but for a time was less so as an investor, as he lost the greater part of his earnings in the organization which turned the course of the Tuolumne river, and after paying his debts and working for a time, lost again in the erection of a quartz mill. For a time previous to this second venture he was located in Mariposa county, where he drove ox teams and delivered logs to the saw mills. He later engaged in the butcher business at various places and met with the success which attended the greater part of his efforts.

In 1865 he located on a half-section of land in Tulare county, about seven miles northwest of Visalia, and afterward homesteaded other land, engaging on the entire property in farming and stock-raising. He made this his home until 1887, when he purchased four hundred and eighty acres of land three miles north of Visalia, where he built a handsome residence, substantial barns and outbuildings, improvements which placed his ranch among the most valuable in this section of the county. Until his death he engaged in general farming operations and stock-raising on this property, as well as continuing to take a broad interest and active participation in his work as an engineer and surveyor. For several years he served as county surveyor, holding the office two terms by election and twice by appointment. In 1878 he was elected deputy sheriff of the county, and later was a prominent candidate of the Democratic party for the office of surveyor-general of the state. Fraternally he was associated with the Odd Fellows and Ancient Order of United Workmen, and was a Knight Templar Mason, becoming a Master Mason in Carson City in 1863.

The marriage of Mr. Smith occurred in Aurora, Esmeralda county, Nev., July 23, 1864, and united him with Nancy Caroline Parker. She is a native of Newton county, Ark., and was the youngest of two daughters born to her parents, Anderson and Mathilda (Kelley) Parker. Her father was a native of Tennessee, as was also his father, Alvin Parker, who as a farmer removed to Arkansas and in 1853 crossed the plains to California and became a stockman in Tulare county. Anderson Parker was a farmer in Arkansas and died there when his daughter, Mrs. Smith, was but one year old. Mrs. Parker was a native of Mississippi, but removed to Arkansas, in which state her father died. In 1857 Mrs. Parker crossed the plains to California by ox teams, bringing her two daughters. The six-months trip was made by Salt Lake, and was full of peril through the ravages of the Indians, the train requiring a guard each night of the journey. Upon her ar-

rival she settled upon a farm near Visalia, where her death occurred at the age of forty-two years.

Nancy Caroline Parker was ten years old when the memorable trip was made to California, and upon her arrival made her home with her uncle, B. G. Parker, who had acted as captain of their train, as he had made the trip in 1853 and was familiar with the route. She was reared to womanhood in the west and after her marriage made her home in the vicinity of Visalia. In June, 1904, she built a handsome residence in the city at the corner of Northwest First avenue, and has rented her farm, which now consists of three hundred and twenty acres all under irrigation and given over to the cultivation of grain and stock-raising. She has proven herself a woman of rare business ability and has managed her affairs with admirable skill and judgment since her husband's death. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Charlotte is the wife of E. Baker of Kingsburg; Crosby is located at Richmond, Cal., engaged in the livery business; Seth is a farmer and stockman, located on a ranch in the neighborhood of Visalia; Luther died February 24, 1895, at the age of twenty-five years; Burton is located in Los Banos, where he holds the position of superintendent of the San Joaquin & Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company; Lavonia is the wife of T. Cortner of Tulare county; Lovisa is the wife of Samuel Bond of Tulare county; Luina is at home with her mother; and Lawrence died December 15, 1897, at the age of twelve years. In her political convictions Mrs. Smith is a Democrat and though unable to cast a vote herself wields no little influence with those who are.

---

**HIRAM F. BREY.** Liberal and enterprising, Hiram F. Brey has contributed no little to the successful upbuilding of Portersville and vicinity, making his personal efforts lie parallel with those for the material welfare of the section in which he has made his home since 1889. A native of Napoleon, Ohio, he was born November 10, 1848. His father, Gideon Brey, was a native of Pennsylvania, who became a farmer in Ohio, marrying Hannah Frease in Stark county, of which she was a native. Her father, John Frease, was also a native of Pennsylvania and an early settler of Stark county, Ohio, where he was engaged as a farmer. Mr. Brey was located as a farmer in Henry county, Ohio, until his death, which occurred at the age of seventy-five years, his wife having died in 1853. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are living.

Hiram F. Brey was reared to the age of sixteen years on the paternal farm in Ohio, receiv-

ing his education through the medium of the district school in the vicinity of his home. At sixteen he entered the store of an uncle and followed clerking for the ensuing four years. In 1869 he decided to cast in his lot with the pioneer element of a more remote west, and accordingly came as far west as Laramie, Wyo., where he engaged as a clerk for one year. Following this he became fireman on the Union Pacific Railroad, which position he retained until January, 1873, when he became conductor for the same company. In December of that year he went to Nevada, and was employed as a conductor until 1876, his run being between Toana and Winnemucca. Following his work in Nevada he accepted a position as conductor with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, running out of Vallejo, Solano county, for four years, when he went to Oregon and was employed by the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company between The Dalles and Walla Walla, Wash. After one year he came back to California and was again employed as a conductor on the Southern Pacific Railroad, his run being from Oakland to Sacramento. Resigning from this position in 1884, he accepted the position of bookkeeper with the West Valley Lumber Company, at Dixon, Solano county, and later was manager of a lumber yard at Reno, Nev., for two years. He then returned to California and in the spring of 1889 located in Portersville, where he became yard manager of the San Joaquin Lumber Company. After four years this company sold out to the Puget Sound Lumber Company, with whom he continued in the same capacity until 1895. In that year Mr. Brey organized the Portersville Lumber Company, which bought out the interests of the Puget Sound Company at Portersville, and this he conducted until 1903, in the fall of the year previous having assisted materially in the organization of the Central California Redwood Company, which bought out the interests of the Portersville Lumber Company, the Enterprise Lumber Company and mill, and West Pacific Lumber Company and mill, the three consolidating and forming one of the most extensive lumber firms in this section. They at once rebuilt the mill at Dillonwood site, which has a capacity of forty thousand feet per day, their product being shipped principally to the eastern states. The large redwood trees above twelve feet have to be blasted, while upon trees up to that size the Mulay saw, which forms a part of their equipment, is used. During the summer they run sixteen ten-horse teams and employ a large number of men, this enterprise adding no little to the industrial supremacy of this section. Mr. Brey was elected secretary of the new company and is also manager of the company business,

his extensive knowledge, the result of long experience in this line of work, making his services of great value to the firm. In addition to his business interests Mr. Brey has also been identified to some extent with the horticultural life of the community since 1890, when he set out an orange orchard of twelve acres one mile from Portersville, and at the present time he is setting out sixteen acres additional. He has been identified with the Portersville Water Development and Improvement Company since its organization in 1898, this being the first company to pump water for irrigating purposes in the vicinity of Portersville.

In Virginia City, Nev., Mr. Brey married Ada Lackey, a native of that place, and the daughter of Albert Lackey, a pioneer miner of Nevada. They have two children, Alberta and Marie. Mr. Brey is a director of the Board of Trade, with which he has been connected since its organization, and is also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Portersville. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Winnemucca, Nev., and in 1890 became a charter member of Portersville Lodge No. 303, F. & A. M., of which he was its second master. He became a Royal Arch Mason in 1903, in Portersville Chapter No. 85, R. A. M., and belongs to Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T., and Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco. His wife is a member of the Episcopal Church. Politically he is a Republican in national politics, while locally he reserves the right to support the man whom he considers best qualified for public office. He is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Retail Lumber Dealers' Association, after its organization becoming its second secretary, which office he held for eight years.

---

**JAMES WALLACE OAKES.** As a pioneer of the state James Wallace Oakes is accorded a prominent place among the citizens who have given the best part of their lives to the establishment and upbuilding of a western commonwealth. Almost a half century has elapsed since he came to California and the greater part of that time has been passed as a resident of Tulare county, in the development of natural resources. Born near Victoria, Ontario, he is the son of Hammon Oakes, a native of the same locality.

The Oakes family came originally from France and located in New Brunswick where the name was prominent for generations. James Oakes, the son of John W., who died in New Brunswick at the advanced age of one hundred and two years, left the place of his nativity after many years spent as a lumberman on the St. John's river and located near Port Ryerse, where

he engaged as a farmer and stockman until his death, which occurred in his eighty-sixth year. He was a pioneer of heroic mould, taking up his land in an entirely new locality, clearing it of timber and bringing it to a high state of cultivation. His son, Hammon Oakes, also became a farmer in that locality and was extensively interested in stock-raising, owning three farms. He lived to be seventy-three years old. His wife was in maidenhood Isabelle Phillips, a native of New York, and the descendant of an old New England family. He located as a farmer and stockman near New London. Mrs. Oakes died at the age of sixty-eight years.

Of the eleven children born to his parents, six of whom are living, James Wallace Oakes is the fifth in order of birth and the only one who ever came to California. His birth occurred September 1, 1836, and on his father's farm, where he was reared, he received a practical training which has made its influence felt throughout his entire career. He attended the district school in his youth. In 1855 he came to the United States and located in Jackson county, Iowa, where, in the vicinity of Sabula he located until the spring of 1856 when he bought a farm in Harrison county, Mo., consisting of one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land, and twenty acres of timber. He then bought a yoke of oxen and with six others broke his prairie land and proceeded to an improvement of his property. In the spring of 1857 he went to Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and found employment as a driver of a team for freighters under Upton Hayes, between that point and Camp Floyd. He then went to Salt Lake and from that point came with fifteen others by ox-teams to California, making the trip via the Carson route. At Genoa they sold their teams and made the rest of the journey on mules, and after their arrival in Placerville Mr. Oakes followed the precarious fortunes of a miner in that county and also in Butte. In Nevada county he engaged in quartz mining for four years, then spent one year in Marysville and in the fall of 1868 came to Tulare county and rented a ranch owned by B. G. Parker, on Elbow creek, where he followed farming on a large scale for that time. He conducted three farms at the same time and also improved his own ranch, operating about seven hundred acres of land. He now owns two hundred and eighty acres of land two and a half miles east of Visalia, which is all under irrigation and highly improved. Both Mill creek and Packwood creek run through his property, and a ditch which he and a half dozen others built. About one hundred and thirty acres are devoted to alfalfa, the largest interests of the place being given over to the dairy business, in which he was engaged for sixteen years. He has had as many

as eighty-five milch cows at one time. He now rents his ranch for dairy purposes and furnishes the stock. He also has a stock ranch of twenty-three hundred acres at Cherokee, Tulare county, about thirty-five miles east of Visalia, all fenced, where he engages in the raising of cattle and horses.

In Visalia Mr. Oakes married Mrs. Margaret I. (Houston) Allen, a native of Arkansas, whose ancestry is given at length in the sketch of W. W. Houston, which appears in another part of this volume. Fraternally Mr. Oakes is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. He has never allowed his name to be mentioned as a candidate for office, but has never shirked the responsibilities which have devolved upon him as a citizen. For two years he served as deputy sheriff under Alfred Balaam, after which, for three years, he served under Chris. Franks as deputy United States marshal, and as such settled up the Mussel Slough trouble between the Southern Pacific Railroad Company and the settlers of that section. This position called into play the exercise of great tact and diplomacy, for the people were naturally suspicious of anyone who attempted an amicable settlement of the dispute. Before undertaking it Mr. Oakes was given his own methods by the railroad company, and in a short time he won the confidence of those with whom he was attempting settlement and was thus given a chance to make satisfactory terms with all interested. No one has ever filled that office with greater efficiency nor returned to private life with more commendation than did Mr. Oakes. And it is only just to add that he well merits the high esteem in which he is universally held.

**AZEL B. HAMILTON.** Six miles north-east of Merced is located the forty-acre ranch which belongs to Azel B. Hamilton, a progressive and enterprising farmer of this section, and one interested as well in the material welfare of the community. A native of Johnson county, Mo., he was born November 10, 1853, a son of A. B. Hamilton, Sr. The elder man was a native of Tennessee, where he married a Miss Alexander, also of that state, who died when Azel B. was quite young. The family located in Missouri, where Mr. Hamilton carried on farming and stock-raising in Johnson county.

In Missouri Azel B. Hamilton, Jr., attained his majority, and in the same year he left home to become dependent upon his own resources. He came west to California in 1874, visiting Merced county and spending a year in travel in various parts of the state. He also made a trip

to Mexico, but in 1876 returned to California and passed the ensuing year in the Sacramento valley, when he located in Merced county, satisfied to make this his permanent home. Until 1899 he raised wheat on Bear Creek, when he located on his present ranch, which is located in Rotterdam colony and consists of forty acres of fine farm land. In addition to the cultivation of this property he also rents one hundred and twenty-five acres, while a part of his interests lie in the conduct of a dairy which is supplied by thirty cows. He owns his own separator and carries on the work with much profit. A part of his land is devoted to an olive grove.

Mr. Hamilton has been married twice, the first ceremony being performed in Mariposa county and uniting him with Sarah C. Laird, who died in 1894. They were the parents of the following children: Paris R., Elsie A., Everett B., David, and Myrtle. In 1899 Mr. Hamilton married in Merced county Lillie F. Ward, who is a native of Merced county. In his political preferment Mr. Hamilton is an adherent of the principles of the Democratic party, in the interests of which he is now serving his second term as supervisor of his district, having acted as chairman of the board for two years. Fraternally he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**MOSES DAVIDSON.** A citizen of much worth and integrity, Moses Davidson enjoys to an unusual degree the confidence and esteem of all who have known him during his residence in Portersville and Tulare county, and to no man is greater credit due for the development of the orange industry of that section. A native of Beaver county, Pa., he was born March 20, 1837, a son of John Davidson. The elder man was a native of North Ireland, whence he emigrated with his parents to Beaver county, Pa., his father, Thomas Davidson, becoming a farmer in that section. In manhood John Davidson also followed farming in Pennsylvania until 1855, when he removed to Brooklyn, Poweshiek county, Iowa, where his death occurred in 1880, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and politically was a Republican after 1864. His wife, formerly Mary Ann Thompson, was a native of Pennsylvania and the daughter of James Thompson, a farmer of Pennsylvania, who died in Butler county. Mrs. Davidson died in Iowa at the age of fifty-nine years. They became the parents of fourteen children, thirteen of whom attained maturity, while five sons and one daughter are now living.

The youngest of his parents' living children, Moses Davidson was reared in Pennsylvania un-







*J. C. Paine.*

til 1855, receiving his education through the medium of the district school in the vicinity of his home. In that year his father emigrated to Iowa, Moses Davidson and three brothers crossing the country by team on a four weeks' trip, while the remainder of the family traveled by train to Davenport. Until the breaking out of the Civil war he remained at home with his father, in August, 1862, enlisting in Company H, Twenty-eighth Iowa Regiment Volunteer Infantry, being mustered into service at Iowa City. He served at Helena, Ark., then during the siege of Vicksburg, on the Red River Expedition under General Banks and the retreat that followed this disastrous venture. He was then sent to Savannah, thence to Washington, serving in the Shenandoah Valley under Sheridan, taking part in the battles of Winchester and Cedar Creek, and continuing in active service until the close of the war. He was mustered out in Savannah, Ga., in July, 1865, being honorably discharged in Davenport, Iowa. Following his service, Mr. Davidson spent one year in an attempt to recover his health, which had been more or less impaired by the rigors which he endured while in the army. He then engaged in a mercantile business in Brooklyn, Iowa, and later began farming, purchasing a farm in the vicinity of that place. This property consisted of two hundred and forty acres, devoted to the raising of grain and stock purposes. He became prominent in public affairs in the county, serving for several terms as township supervisor. On account of poor health he returned to a commercial life, engaging in the sale of agricultural implements, in which work he remained for two years. Deciding to locate in California, he made his first trip to the coast in 1887, but returned shortly afterward to Iowa, where he settled up affairs, disposing of the greater part of his interests there. In 1888 he located near Portersville, and engaged in the raising of wheat. He met with success and in 1890 purchased his present property, and the following year set out the first orange grove in this vicinity. His home farm consists of nineteen acres one mile east of Portersville, all in navel oranges, and where he has built a fine residence and installed a pumping plant, operated by electricity, furnishing a fifty-five-inch stream. Two miles from the town he bought eighty acres, where he put down a well, and built a pumping plant operated by an electric motor. He set out an orchard of twenty acres, and afterward sold forty of the original purchase. Of the balance of forty acres he has set thirty-five to oranges, of the entire forty having given twenty acres to his son, Carl A., while the other twenty he still owns. In addition to this he also owns one hundred and sixty acres in the vicinity of Terra Bella.

In Iowa Mr. Davidson was united in marriage with Eva Rogers, who was born and died in that state, leaving two children, namely: Carl A., a horticulturist, and Eva, who died at the age of twenty months. In Missouri Mr. Davidson married Elizabeth J. Perry, a native of Illinois. Of the four children born of this union two are living, Mabel P. and Alice E., both at home. Mr. Davidson has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1854, and is now acting as chairman of the board of trustees of the church of Portersville. He also served for some time as the superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is a stockholder in the Syndicate Wells for supplying water for orchards, and is a member and director of the Portersville Citrus Exchange and a stockholder in the Exchange buildings. Politically he is a staunch Republican, which ticket he has voted since 1864, refusing to endorse the Chicago platform, which pronounced the war a failure, up to 1900, when he began voting the Prohibition ticket. He is a broad-minded and public-spirited citizen, taking an active interest in all movements which have for their end the betterment of the community.

JAMES C. PAINE. The president of the Malaga Packing Company, a corporation which has in no small degree advanced the fruit interests of Fresno county, James C. Paine is a citizen of great personal worth, and one whose forceful methods and business ability have won for him the respect of his fellow horticulturists. He is prominent as a vineyardist and fruit grower of the Fowler district, having a hundred-acre ranch which is one of the largest in the vicinity, finely developed and improved, fifty acres being given over to the cultivation of raisin grapes, thirty-five acres to various fruits, and the rest to general farming.

A native of Tippah county, Miss., Mr. Paine was born May 4, 1853, a son of James W. and Eliza (Blackard) Paine. Both parents were natives of Tennessee, the father a son of Hardin L., a native of North Carolina. He was a farmer by occupation. About 1856 James W. Paine removed to Missouri and located in Dallas county. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war he removed to northeast Missouri, finally locating in Macon county. In 1886 he came to California and died here at the age of seventy-three years. His father, Hardin L. Paine, took his slaves to Texas upon the outbreak of the war and spent the rest of his life there.

Reared to manhood on his father's farm in Missouri, James C. Paine received a thorough agricultural training, and on starting out on his own resources at the age of eighteen years sought his livelihood in the same occupation

which had employed his boyhood years. He remained in Missouri until 1879, when he went to Tennessee and farmed until 1886. In the last named year he came to California. Locating in Madera county, he leased about three thousand acres of land and engaged in wheat raising for twelve years. In the meantime, in 1891, he had purchased his present farm in Fresno county. In 1898 he permanently moved his family upon it, since making this location his home. In 1903 he organized the Malaga Packing Company, incorporated, of which he was elected president. The company purchased the property of the Malaga Co-operative Packing Company, which it now operates.

In Tennessee Mr. Paine married Fannie Jeffries, a native of Mississippi, and the daughter of John Jeffries. The children born of this union are as follows: James S., Victor A., Lyman H., Jesse L., Harry F., John C., Sarah J., and Robert Treat. In his political convictions Mr. Paine is a staunch Democrat.

---

**JEREMIAH SULLIVAN.** While Mr. Sullivan has resided in Tulare county but a short time, he has already taken a prominent place in the ranks of the leading men of the county and is highly respected by all with whom he has become acquainted.

Born in Ontario, near Ottawa, Canada, September 2, 1854, he is a son of Michael and Mary Ann (Laffin) Sullivan. The father was a blacksmith by trade and later in life removed to Grand Forks, N. D., where he lived at the time of his death. Mrs. Sullivan is still living, making her home in Spokane, Wash. She is the mother of seven children, six of whom are living.

Jeremiah Sullivan was reared in Appleton, Ontario, where he was educated in the public schools. Under the direction of his father he learned the trade of a blacksmith and in 1877 went to Smith's Falls, Ontario, where he worked at his trade until removing to South Dakota. Subsequently he located in St. Paul and later went to Emerson, Manitoba, to take charge of a machine shop. This he conducted for a few years until finally he started a shop of his own, which he owned up to the time of his removal to California, the change being made necessary on account of his health. While living in Emerson he became prominently identified with the public, taking a leading part in political affairs and serving as mayor of the city for two years, and councillor for thirteen years. So popular did he become that the citizens gave him a banquet on the eve of his departure for California and presented him with a set of engrossed resolutions, expressing their sincere respect and deep

regret that circumstances had made it necessary for them to part.

It was in 1902 that Mr. Sullivan first came to this state. At that time he purchased land near Portersville and then returned east, the following year bringing his family, also a party of sixteen prospective homeseekers. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres near Plano, (adjoining the city of Portersville) of the finest foothill orange land. On the farm where he resides is one of the best equipped pumping plants in the county. His irrigation flumes are of cement, a fifteen horse power electric motor being used to pump the water which furnishes enough to irrigate the entire tract of one hundred and sixty acres, forty of which he planted to orange trees. In addition to his farming interests, he opened the "Summerland" on October 1, 1904. The entire house was refurbished throughout and the rooms are now the finest in the city and are always occupied.

While living in Smith's Falls, Mr. Sullivan married Sarah Frances Paquette, who is a native of that town. To them have been born three children: Herbert J., Mabel and Armond P.

Fraternally Mr. Sullivan is quite prominent, being a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Knights of the Maccabees and the C. M. B. A. Politically, while living in Manitoba, he was a Conservative, but since coming here he has not identified himself with any party.

No doubt Mr. Sullivan will, as in his former home, make a success of his ventures, and it is safe to say he will at all times be found ready and willing to perform his part as a citizen. He is well read, being posted on the important questions of the day and with a ready command of language he can, at any time, express himself clearly and concisely.

---

**MRS. MARY VICTORIA ARNOLD.** Ten miles northeast of Visalia, Tulare county, on section 30, township 17, range 26, is located the ranch which belongs to Mrs. Mary Victoria Arnold, one of the successful horticulturists of this section. She was born in Texas, near Marlin, Falls county, next to the youngest in a family of five children, of whom four are now living, and is the only one located on the coast. Her father, Victor Wyres, a native of Georgia, became a farmer and stockman in Texas, in which state his father, Robert Wyres, followed the same occupation. Victor Wyres was located in Falls county (then known as Edwards county), his death occurring in Junction City, Tex., in 1901. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Ray, of Alabama, was a daughter of Dempsey Ray, a farmer of Texas, in which state she also died.

Mrs. Arnold, then Mary Victoria Wyres, re-

ceived her education in the public schools of Falls and Bell counties, Tex., where she was married in 1878 to George Arnold, who was born in Alabama. In 1882 they came to California and located near Grangeville, Kings county, and engaged in general farming. Later they removed to the Mussel Slough country, and in 1884 settled in Tulare county, homesteading a claim near Monson. This quarter section proving alkali land they left it in 1885, pre-empting a quarter section in the vicinity of Visalia. At that time there were no roads through this part of the county, and but few improvements on the neighboring farms. The improvements since made on the property have brought it to rank with the most valuable and productive ranches in the county. Up to within six years ago the land was devoted to the raising of grain, and since that time stock-raising and a hundred orange trees are the principal sources of revenue. The land is irrigated by means of wind-mills, modern methods being a feature of the work, and Mrs. Arnold is deservedly mentioned as one of the most successful horticulturists and stock-raisers of the county. She is the mother of four children, namely: Lizzie, the wife of O. B. Kiteley; Archie, Arthur Lee and Dollie, the three last named being at home. In her political convictions Mrs. Arnold is a staunch Democrat, and though unable to cast a vote still wields a marked influence in this direction.

---

OLIVER O. HENRY. The record of the life of Oliver O. Henry, one of the most esteemed and useful members of the society of Portersville, is closely identified with much that has marked the progress of Tulare county during the last thirty years. He was born in Frederick county, Md., April 13, 1833, the descendant of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His grandfather, John Henry, came from his birthplace in the north of Ireland to America and located in Lancaster county, Pa., a pioneer of the state. His son, Francis Henry, was born in Lancaster county, in manhood removing to Maryland, where he became a prominent citizen. He followed the occupations of farmer and merchant, and was also an extensive railroad contractor. A man of much oratorical ability, he served in the Maryland legislature, where he won considerable renown. In time he removed to Michigan, thence to Ohio, in the latter state engaging as a railroad contractor with the Erie Company, building up a large business, while he also engaged as a merchant. Locating finally in La Grange county, Ind., he engaged as a farmer and contractor, taking a large drainage contract which called for an unusual display of executive ability. He became prominently known throughout the state,

serving in the Indiana legislature two terms and making a record for himself and his cause. He was always a staunch Democrat and gave his support to the principles of this party. Fraternally he was a Royal Arch Mason. His death occurred in Indiana at the age of eighty-eight years. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Formwalt, was born in Maryland and died in Indiana, at the age of sixty-two years. Her father, John Formwalt, was born near Westminster, Md., and in manhood became a farmer, locating later in life in Ohio, where his death occurred. Besides Oliver Osborn Henry, mentioned as the subject of this narrative, Mr. and Mrs. Henry were the parents of the following children: Catherine Jane, who became the wife of O. B. Taylor and died in Portersville; Albert Reese, who died in Portersville; and Margaret, who died in youth in Ohio.

Oliver Osborn Henry received his education principally in the common schools of Ohio and Indiana, also received instruction from a private tutor. He was but thirteen years old when he accompanied his parents to La Grange county, Ind., their home being in the heavy timber lands of that state. With the self-reliance of the pioneer lad he set to work to assist in the clearing of the lands about their home, at an early age becoming engineer of his father's sawmill, which he conducted for five years. When twenty-three years old he married, after which he located on timber lands which he cleared and cultivated. In the spring of 1864 he crossed the plains by Halliday's coach to Nevada and for a time engaged in mining. Coming on to California he spent a short time here, later returning to Indiana by the Isthmus of Panama. He remained on his farm until the fall of 1878, when he sold out and coming to California once more purchased the farm which has remained his home ever since. This was then a vast wheat field and since that time has been transformed to a modern ranch, in addition to the raising of grain the setting out of all deciduous trees and grapes occupying considerable time and attention. When Mr. Henry purchased the land in 1881 he paid \$10 per acre, and seven years later sold five acres for \$1,000, another five acres for \$875, showing the great advance in prices caused by the improvement and cultivation of the property. In 1878, with his brother Albert, who had purchased one hundred orange trees in Los Angeles, he set out an orange orchard on his place, these being the first budded orange trees at Portersville. He met with a success in this venture as well as in his other efforts, and soon established a nursery of both deciduous and citrus trees, supplying the greater part of the trees for the early orchards throughout this section. Of his original property eighty acres was under the

Pioneer Ditch, and of this he still owns twenty acres, the balance having been divided among his children. Twelve acres are devoted to the cultivation of oranges, while the remainder is in alfalfa.

December 18, 1856, occurred the marriage of Mr. Henry, uniting him with Catherine Lydia Dawson, who was born in Sandusky, Ohio, in which state she was reared until she was seventeen years old, when she accompanied her parents to Indiana. Her father, John Dawson, a native of Pennsylvania, was a farmer and an early settler of Ross county, Ohio, whence he removed to La Grange county, Ind., in 1853, following the occupation of farmer until his death at the age of seventy-six years. He was a man of strong, earnest convictions, and at the age of sixty-six years enlisted in the Forty-fourth Regiment Indiana Infantry, for service in the Civil war. His wife, formerly Lydia Huddell, was born in Ross county, Ohio, and died in Indiana, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Of their family of five daughters and two sons, all but one son and one daughter are deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. Henry were born three children, namely: W. Willshier, who died in Portersville November 3, 1902 (for more complete details refer to his biography which appears on another page of this work); Clara A., a graduate of the University of California, the wife of Prof. George Louderback, of the Chair of Geology, in the University of Nevada; and Edith F., a graduate of the San Francisco High School and a course in the San Francisco Normal School, the wife of S. A. Barber, M. D., of Portersville. In his fraternal relations Mr. Henry was made a Mason in Ionic Lodge, at Wolcottville, Ind., of which he is past master, and is a charter member of Portersville Lodge No. 303, F. & A. M. Both himself and wife belong to the Order of the Eastern Star of that place. In his political convictions he is a staunch Democrat and has always given his support to the principles he endorses. He is active in party work in Tulare county, having served efficiently as a member of the county central committee.

**BURTON U. HEBERLING.** A prominent position among the business men of Visalia is accorded B. U. Heberling, a successful contractor and manufacturer, and one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of the community. He has been a resident of the city since 1887 and for several years engaged as a carpenter and builder, in 1894 entering into partnership with D. M. Toothacre, and two years later establishing their planing mill which has brought to them such satisfactory returns. Among the buildings which they have put up are the Lucier Building;

the high school and its addition; telephone building; Spaulding residence; the building for the California Fruit Cannery; the building for the California Fruit Cannery; the canneries; Wallack Building; the Methodist Episcopal Church South; the Huey residence, as well as those of Brownfield, Harp, Emery, Marks and others too numerous to mention; the Oak Grove and Angiola schools, etc. Their work has been of a high grade and first class in every particular, and they have legitimately won the position which they hold today as contractors.

Mr. Heberling is a descendant of German ancestry, the paternal grandfather having brought his family across the water and located them in Wayne county, Pa., where he became a farmer. In his family was a son, Frederick, who was born in Germany and accompanied his parents to their new home in America. He also became a farmer in manhood, remaining on the old home place, which he cleared and put under cultivation. His death occurred in 1875. He left a widow, formerly Sarah Leeper, of Northumberland county, Pa., who was left an orphan in childhood. She died in 1902. Of her family of three sons and three daughters, one daughter and two sons are now living. B. U. Heberling, the only one of the family in California, was the youngest in the family and was born in Wayne county, Pa., March 4, 1862. He was reared on the paternal farm until he was fourteen years old, and attended the public schools. He then sought employment among the neighboring farmers and also in the sawmills of Alleghany county, Pa. He spent one season in the timber camps of Cattaraugus county, N. Y., and then returned to Wayne county, Pa., where he remained for a time. In 1887 he came to Visalia, Tulare county, and began to work at the trade of carpenter. In forming the partnership with Mr. Toothacre the firm name became Heberling & Toothacre, and from a small beginning they have risen to the position of the leading contractors in the city. After their establishment of the planing mill in 1896 they have engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of building material and carry on a large business in Tulare county. In addition to this interest Mr. Heberling is associated with the Pioneer Brick Company, as one of its organizers, and is its secretary and treasurer. This company manufactures its brick in Visalia.

The home of Mr. Heberling, which he built at No. 318 Northwest First avenue, is presided over by his wife, formerly Mary A. Akers, of Wayne county, Pa., where they were united in marriage. Three children were born of this union, namely: Alice, Marvin and Floyd. Fraternally Mr. Heberling is associated with the Woodmen of the World, the Independent Order of Foresters, the Independent Order of Good Templars, and the Independent Order of Odd Fel-







*J. A. Haley,*

lows. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, now serving as trustee of the same and superintendent of the Sunday-school. An enterprising citizen he is a member of the Board of Trade and takes an active and intelligent interest in all movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community.

---

JOHN A. COLEY, a prominent business man of Escalon, San Joaquin county, is a self-made man in every respect, his success in life being due to his own industry and perseverance. Of distinguished ancestry, he is of English descent on the maternal side, and of Irish descent on the paternal side of the family. His grandfather, William Coley, was born in North Carolina, removing in early manhood to Russell county, Va., where he became the owner of a large plantation. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and was wounded in battle. His son, George W., the father of John A., although born in North Carolina, was reared on the old Virginia plantation of his father in Russell county. He also followed agricultural pursuits in his native state, in the vicinity of Bristol, for years, but during the after part of his life was engaged in commercial pursuits. At the time of his death, in 1901, he was fifty-eight years old. By his marriage, with Polly Ann Agner, he became connected with another old and distinguished family of Virginia, and his widow still survives him, having in March, 1904, reached the age of fifty-eight years. She has been twice married, having two children by her first marriage now living and six living of those born of her second marriage, one being deceased, and of the latter family, John A. is the eldest but one.

It was near Bristol, W. Va., that Mr. Coley was born, August 31, 1868, just five years after West Virginia had started her existence as a new state. He was brought up on the home farm, which was located twenty miles west of Bristol. Here he attended the district school during his boyhood and early youth, and remained an inmate of the home until he attained his majority, assisting in farm work. October 8, 1889, he left home en route for California, arriving in San Joaquin county on the fourteenth day of the same month. His home has been in this vicinity ever since and he has been prominently identified with the business interests of this county, first as farmer and afterward as grain dealer. The first two years of his residence in this county were spent upon a ranch in the present Escalon district, and the land upon which he then worked is now owned by him. In 1891 he began farming on his own behalf, beginning in a modest way with one team and wagon. The first year he cultivated only

one hundred and sixty acres; this was increased the second year to three hundred and twenty, and the third year to twelve hundred and eighty acres, and he then had three teams. Soon after this Mr. Coley was enabled to purchase three hundred and twenty acres. In connection with operating this farm, Mr. Coley entered the employ of G. W. McNear of San Francisco, and for seven years he was grain buyer for this firm at Escalon and Avena. In their interests, he superintended the building of their extensive warehouses at these points. December 7, 1903, he purchased these warehouses and since then he has continued in the grain business on his own behalf. The warehouse at Escalon has a capacity of twenty-four hundred tons and the one at Avena is equally as capacious. He has sold the latter, however, but nearly all the grain raised in this vicinity is handled by him. He still owns a farm of three hundred and twenty acres on the French Camp road.

Quite recently Mr. Coley built a fine, substantial residence in Escalon, and he also erected the Escalon Hall for lodge purposes and public stores. In San Francisco, he wedded Sadie Florence Wade, a lady also born in Bristol, W. Va., and they have one child, Cyril L. Fraternally Mr. Coley is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Woodmen of the World, and the Masons, affiliating with Oakdale Lodge No. 275. Politically a Democrat, he is not active in political affairs, but he is intensely interested in educational affairs, officiating as he does as clerk of the board of school trustees, now building a new and commodious school house in Escalon. Mr. Coley takes a fitting interest in his home place and its surroundings, and in connection with grain buying he also handles insurance to some extent.

---

#### CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS RIDGWAY.

A native of Missouri, Mr. Ridgway was born April 27, 1859, a son of J. D. and Martha (Baldwin) Ridgway. The father was born in Missouri, where he lived at the outbreak of the Civil war. Enlisting as a private in a regiment from his native state he served until 1864, when he was honorably discharged. Soon after he and his family crossed the plains to California, the first winter being spent in Lassen county. The following spring they located in Solano county, where for the next five years Mr. Ridgway was engaged in farming near Elmira. At the expiration of the five years he returned to Lassen county and in 1893 went to Los Angeles county. There he followed farming for some years, but is now living retired from active pursuits, making his home with his son, the subject of this review. Mrs. Ridgway was a native of Ken-

tucky and died in Lassen county in 1875. She was the mother of five children, of whom Christopher C. is the oldest.

Christopher C. Ridgway was reared on his father's farm, receiving his education in the district schools of the neighborhood. He remained at home until after the death of his mother when he started out to make his own way in the world, and since that time he has had many ups and downs, but success has rewarded his efforts and today he is one of the substantial men of Tulare county. For a time, after leaving home, he worked at anything he could get to do, but finally became engaged in the stock business near Susanville, where he had two hundred acres under ditch. This he sold in 1891 and went to Los Angeles county, where he became interested in the dairy business. In 1894 he became identified with the creamery business at Compton, which he conducted as manager for two and one-half years. At the expiration of this time he located at Hynes, where he became identified with another co-operative creamery. This he managed for five years, or until 1901, when he located near Portersville, where his brother had located a year previously. In partnership they bought a farm of four hundred and eighty acres, one hundred and seventy-five of which are devoted to alfalfa, while the balance is used for grazing and general farming purposes. The brothers erected what is now known as the "Sunflower Creamery." This model plant has a daily capacity of one thousand pounds of butter, which is shipped to the Los Angeles and San Francisco markets.

In Lassen county, Mr. Ridgway was united in marriage with Sarah A. Hodges, who was born in Missouri. To this union have been born five children, as follows: Oscar, Ernest, Fred, Archie and Joseph.

In politics Mr. Ridgway is a Republican, but has neither the time nor the desire to take an active part in political matters. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, while both he and his wife hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**ANDREW LESLIE.** The sterling traits of character which have distinguished the citizenship of Andrew Leslie, a successful miller of Portersville, Tulare county, are an inheritance from a long line of Scotch ancestry, his birth having occurred in Roxburyshire, Scotland, September 5, 1848. His father, also called Andrew, was a native of Berwickshire, Scotland, where he engaged as a farmer until 1855, when he took his family to Ontario and located in the vicinity of London. There he made his home for the remainder of his life, attaining a prominent position in the citizenship of that place. The family

records of the Leslies are intact back to the year 1300, and the descendants take pride in the staunch integrity and honor of their ancestors. Andrew Leslie, Sr., married Elizabeth Allan, also a native of Scotland, whose death occurred in Ontario. They became the parents of nine children, all of whom attained maturity, while six are now living.

Andrew Leslie, Jr., was next to the youngest child in his father's family, remaining in his native land until removing to Ontario with his parents. In November, 1865, when a little more than seventeen years old, he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a miller near London. He remained in that location for three years, when, in 1868, he came to the United States and located in Milwaukee, Wis., where he followed his trade. Later he was located in the southern part of Illinois until 1872, when he came to California. After following his trade in Sacramento for a time he went to Marysville, working in the Buckeye mills, and was then employed in the Star mills at Vallejo. Deciding to engage in the milling business independently, he established a business in Balls Ferry, Shasta county, later removing to Red Bluff, where he entered into partnership, the firm being known as Willard & Leslie, proprietors of the Red Bluff mills. October 9, 1889, he came to Portersville and assumed charge of the mill which he now owns, conducting the same for about a year, when he entered into partnership with John T. Manter. This relationship continued until 1893, when Mr. Leslie purchased the entire property, since which time he has operated the mill alone. In 1897 he put up a new mill on the old site, a four-story brick building, 64x30 feet in dimensions, equipped with a modern Plansifter system of bolting and operated both by water (from the Pioneer Ditch Company) and by steam, the mill having a capacity of sixty-five barrels per day. He caters to the local trade in Portersville and vicinity, and has a lucrative business.

In Cottonwood, Shasta county, Cal., Mr. Leslie was united in marriage with Carrie Leschinsky, a native of Philadelphia and the daughter of John Leschinsky, who was born in Poland and immigrated to Philadelphia, where he made his home until 1856, when he brought his family to California via the Panama route. He located in Shasta and engaged in business as a blacksmith, later following farming and stock-raising in Cottonwood. He is now retired from active cares, making his home in Redding. His wife, a native of Germany, died in Cottonwood. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie, namely: Andrew Allan, foreman in his father's mill; William Walter, a graduate of the Portersville high school, and now attending the Uni-

versity of California as a student in the dental department; John August, a graduate of the high school, and employed as a clerk in the store of Wilko Mentz; and Fred Arthur, a graduate of the high school, who in 1905 entered the dental department of the University of California. Mr. Leslie is identified fraternally with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and in national politics is a staunch Democrat.

**JAMES CHARLES McCABE.** The participation of J. C. McCabe in business affairs in Portersville, Tulare county, has resulted in financial returns for himself and an increase of commercial prestige for the city. Of distinct ability, unswerving integrity, and a broad and liberal interest in all movements pertaining to the general welfare, he has taken a prominent position in the place, and is esteemed by all who know him. A native son of the state, he was born at Marysville March 3, 1857. His father, Owen McCabe, was a pioneer of the state, coming from New York City to California via the Isthmus of Panama in 1849. Unlike many others who thronged to the west in that year, he did not seek his livelihood in mining but engaged in the hotel business in Marysville. During the flood of 1862 his residence was carried away, but undaunted by the misfortune he moved into another house in that place and continued his efforts. In 1877 he located near Modesto, Stanislaus county, where he engaged in farming for many years, even now in his ninety-ninth year, looking after the interests of his place. His wife, formerly Margaret Fitzpatrick, died in Marysville many years ago. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are living.

The third in his father's family, J. C. McCabe was reared in his native city until 1867, when he located with his uncle, Owen Fitzpatrick, in Modesto, Stanislaus county, a stock-raiser of that place. He attended the district school in the vicinity of his uncle's home until attaining manhood, when he engaged in the stock business. In 1878 he went to San Francisco and served an apprenticeship as an upholsterer, three years later going to Colfax, Wash., where he engaged as an undertaker. Returning to California, he located in San Diego and assisted in the furnishing of the Hotel Del Coronado. After a year he went to San Francisco and took up the undertaking business. In 1880 he located in Tulare and after a few months purchased, with Mr. Carruthers and R. Black, the undertaking establishment of H. N. Denny, of Visalia. For one year he conducted the business, when he sold out, and coming to Portersville established a furniture and undertaking business under the firm name of Parks & McCabe, and continued the

manager for seven years. The partnership was then dissolved and, since that time Mr. McCabe has conducted affairs alone. He is an expert in his line of work, having taken seven courses in embalming in San Francisco. In addition to his business interests, Mr. McCabe owns eight acres adjoining the city, five acres of which is in eight-year navel oranges. He also owns a handsome residence at the corner of Murry and Putnam avenues.

In Tulare Mr. McCabe married Maggie Griffin and they are the parents of three children, namely: May, Charles and Oren. A staunch Republican in his political convictions, Mr. McCabe has often been called upon to serve his party in various positions of trust and responsibility. In 1894 he was nominated on that ticket for the office of county coroner and public administrator, and was elected over two candidates by a plurality of five hundred, being one of two Republicans elected that year. He took the oath of office in January, 1895, and served efficiently until 1899, at that time refusing further candidacy. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Encampment, of which he is past chief patriarch, Foresters of America and Modern Woodmen of America.

**HENRY CARL WILLIAM PETERSON.** In his work as a horticulturist Mr. Peterson has won an unusual success and is deservedly prominent among the representative men of this section, although but a brief time numbered among this class of citizens. A native of Sleswick, Germany, he was born April 8, 1865, a son of John Peterson, a mason and contractor by trade. Both father and mother, the latter formerly Annie Mathewson, died in that locality. Of the seven children born to them two sons are now living. The education of Henry C. W. Peterson was received in the schools of Sleswick, which he attended until he was fifteen years old, when he was apprenticed to learn the barber's trade. He continued for four years in that work, after which he traveled throughout Germany and Austria for the same length of time. He then spent two years in Berlin, after which, in 1889, he came to America and located in Elgin, Ill. He followed his trade in that location until 1890, when he removed to St. James, Minn. That city remained his home for five years, when he came to California and in Portersville, Tulare county, purchased the Pioneer Barber Shop, and continued in the prosecution of his trade until November 15, 1904, when he sold out to Gus Long. When he first located in Portersville he purchased land five miles north of the city and at once began setting out navel oranges, now having a bearing orchard of twenty acres. Since

that time he has bought and set out ten acres of land one mile north of Portersville, where he has now built a handsome residence and laid out fine grounds. He has a large well adjoining the place, operated by an electric motor, thirty-horse power and of large capacity, now being used to irrigate one hundred acres of oranges. He is also interested in the Hilo Water Company, of which he is a director and secretary. In 1905 he contemplates an extended tour throughout Europe and especially in Germany, his native land.

In Elgin, Ill., April 7, 1889, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage with Louisa Michaels, a native of Grasse-Spiegel, Germany, and a daughter of William, a contractor and builder, who came to America in 1902 and now resides with his son-in-law. He was accompanied to the western state by his wife, formerly Augusta Kupplin, a native of the same place in Germany. Of their six children all are living. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have one child now living, namely: Rosa Anna Helen; another child, Elsie, died at the age of six years. They are members of the German Evangelical Association. Mr. Peterson is a member of the Portersville Citrus Union and politically casts his ballot with the Republican party.

THOMAS E. HENDERSON, an enterprising citizen of Tulare county and a stock-raiser of considerable note, was born in Huntingdon county, Quebec, January 7, 1851, the youngest and only one in California of a family of eight children, four of whom are living. His father, James Henderson, was born on Grampian Hills, Scotland, inheriting from a long line of Scotch ancestors those qualities of manhood which distinguish the citizens of that country. As a young man he came to America and became a farmer in Quebec, near Franklin Centre, near the line of New York state, where he made his home until his death when over eighty years of age. His wife, formerly Eliza Brower, was a native of Vermont and the descendant of German ancestry.

Reared on the paternal farm, Thomas E. Henderson received his education in the district school and the Huntingdon Academy, from which institution he was graduated in 1864. He then entered McGill University, taking the classical course until the close of the Sophomore year when he left school and went to Malone, N. Y. He there studied law under the Hon. W. A. Wheeler and was admitted to the bar in November, 1869, after which he came directly to California. He located in Santa Clara county until July, 1870, when he came to Tulare county, and became a resident of Visalia. For several years

following his location in this section he managed the Broder ranch and later followed the stock-raising and butcher business, and owned two ranches near Visalia. In 1875 he located on the Tule river, three and a half miles from Portersville, where he bought new land and engaged in stock-raising until 1881. He then sold out and the following year purchased the property which he now owns, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres of land on the Tule river, under irrigation from the Porter's Slough and Hubbs & Miner Ditch. This property is devoted to alfalfa and stock, while he also owns one hundred acres on the Tule river three miles below this property. Although educated for the law and in every way fitted to make a success of the profession, the free, open life, the healthful activity, and the simplicity which comes from close contact with the primitive labors, have meant more to Mr. Henderson than the honors which might have been his in the other field. He has not, however, allowed his early training to be lost, but has brought it to bear in many cases which came up before him as supervisor of the First District, to which office he was elected in 1884 on the Democratic ticket, taking the oath of office in January, 1885. In 1888 he was re-elected over two candidates by a large plurality, his majority the first time being only forty votes. Elected again in 1892, he went into office with the largest majority in the county, holding the office until January, 1897, or twelve consecutive years. From 1891 to 1897 he was chairman of the County Board, during which time the new hospital was built, as well as the jail and sheriff's office, and hundreds of miles of road in the county.

Near Rocky Ford, Tulare county, March 16, 1884, Mr. Henderson was united in marriage with Serena Young, a native of Stanislaus county, Cal., and the daughter of Daniel Young. The latter was a native of Benton county, Mo., from which place he crossed the plains to California in 1849. He became a farmer and stockman near Modesto, in 1872 locating near Rocky Ford, where his death occurred at the age of sixty years. His wife, formerly Martha Maxwell, was a native of Arkansas, and a daughter of Thomas Maxwell, who brought his family across the plains, and located near Knights Ferry, where he died. Mrs. Young is still living and makes her home in Dinuba. Mrs. Henderson was the eldest in a family of eight children, all of whom are living, and was reared to womanhood in Tulare county. Born to Mr. Henderson and his wife are the following children: Edwin, Robert, Fred, Maurice and Ralph, all of whom are at home. Fraternally Mr. Henderson is a Mason, having been made a member of this organization in 1874 in Visalia Lodge, No. 128,







*R. B. Kent*

and is a charter member of Portersville Lodge, No. 303. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and is a member of the county central committee.

**RICHARD B. FENTEM.** The founder of the Fentem family in the United States was an English merchant bearing the name of Richard Fentem, who brought his family across the ocean to America and settled in Missouri. From that time until death ended his activities he engaged in merchandising in addition to cultivating a farm in Lincoln county. His son and namesake, who was born at Manchester, England, learned the carpenter's trade and for years followed the building business, but eventually engaged in the raising of stock and grain, continuing to reside in Lincoln county until his death in 1862. Years afterward his widow died at the home of her son, Richard B., in California, when seventy-seven years of age. A native of Kentucky and bearing the maiden name of Clarissa Palmer, she was a daughter of Burton Palmer, a Virginian, for some time resident in Kentucky, but later a farmer in Missouri.

In the family of the second Richard Fentem there were twelve children; of whom seven daughters and one son attained mature years, and five daughters and the son still survive. The latter, who was given the name of his father and grandfather, forms the subject of this article. He was born near Troy, the county-seat of Lincoln county, Mo., July 28, 1848, and was the youngest in the large circle of children. The district schools and Troy Seminary gave him fair educational advantages. After leaving school he engaged in trading in stock for a year, but malaria had seriously affected his health and a change of climate was rendered imperative. Hoping to be benefited by the change, in 1869 he came to California, arriving at Stockton in September and without delay securing employment on a ranch. In January, 1870, he bought a flock of sheep and embarked in the sheep business in the San Joaquin valley, where he bought a ranch of four hundred and eighty acres on Orestimba creek. For some time he was extensively engaged in raising sheep, but in 1878 sold off his entire flock and turned his attention to grain farming on the west side. Buying four hundred acres four miles south of Newman, he engaged in its cultivation with gratifying success. On disposing of that property, in 1892 he bought forty acres at the corner of the Hill and Creamery roads, which being under the ditch furnishes an excellent location for the raising of alfalfa. The residence and barns were erected by the present owner, a wind mill has been put in and other improve-

ments made. About fifty head of high-grade Short-horn, Durham and Holsteins may be seen on the place and twenty-five of these are milch cows, for the dairy industry is one of his principal interests. On the inception of a plan to establish a creamery he aided the enterprise and bought stock in the New Era, which was the first creamery built in the valley and proved a success from the start. As a member of the first board of directors he was instrumental in planning a policy that brought success to the creamery company and encouraged the establishment of similar plants throughout the valley. Besides his home place he has three hundred and twenty acres on the west side of the canal, which is excellent grain land and will be under the new Sunset canal. While his interests are largely connected with those of the agricultural community of Stanislaus county, his home place lies in Merced county, just across the line from Stanislaus, two and one-half miles south of Newman. Under his control at this writing there are twelve hundred and eighty acres, the care of which demands his entire attention, making him one of the busiest ranchers in all this region.

Two sons (Warner, who died here, and Ray, a farmer of this locality) were born of the marriage of Mr. Fentem and Miss Thane South, who was born in Pike county, Mo., and died at their California home. After her death Mr. Fentem was united in marriage with Miss Ella Clare, who was born in Lincoln county, Mo., and remained there until after her marriage. She is a daughter of Frank Clare, an agriculturist through all of his active life, but now taking the rest to which his four score years entitle him. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Fentem there are five children, namely: Bessie, a student in the San Jose high school; Hiram, Alton, Benjamin and Elberta. The family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Fentem officiated as ruling elder and clerk for about twenty-four years and also held the office of Sunday school superintendent. In political views he favors the principles of the Democratic party.

**EDWARD HILL DALE.** The dairy business claims the attention and efforts of Edward Hill Dale to the exclusion of all else except the raising of stock, his work along agricultural lines having been abandoned in 1900. Up to that time he farmed about twenty-five hundred acres, but finding the returns more or less precarious he sold off the greater part of his land in 1900 and has since turned his attention into another channel. He is located in the vicinity of Poplar, Tulare county, and is esteemed as a liberal and broad-minded citizen. Born near Carrollton, Carroll county, Ga., July 7, 1849, he is a son of

John M. Dale, whose biographical history is given more at length in the sketch of Samuel E. Dale, found in another part of this volume. Until attaining young manhood he remained a resident of his native state, removing in 1868 to Tennessee, thence to Illinois. Returning south he was located in Arkansas and Mississippi for about fourteen years, six of which were spent in the former state, his work during this period being the operation of stationary engines. In March, 1882, he came to California and in Tulare county homesteaded the claim where he now lives, the southwest quarter of section 4, township 22, range 26, having to pay \$1,200 in cash. He began the raising of grain, which continued uninterruptedly until 1900. He then turned his attention into his present line of work, meeting with a success. Twenty-five acres of his land—all of which is under irrigation from the Poplar Irrigation Company ditch, of which he is a director—is devoted to the cultivation of alfalfa.

The marriage of Mr. Dale occurred in Monroe county, Ark., and united him with Virginia C. Thompson, a native of Tennessee, and they are the parents of the following children: James G., engaged in the oil business in Kern county; Mary, the wife of Thomas Phillips, of this vicinity; John, a graduate of Ramsay's Business College, and now the principal of the commercial department of the Tulare high school; Addie, the wife of Howard Bachman, of Berkeley; Elmer, at home; Edward, located in Berkeley; Maud, the wife of J. B. Sailors, of Berkeley; and Kate, at home. Mr. Dale gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of which his wife is a member. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.

**JAMES LOONEY MINER.** A prominent citizen of Tulare county, James Looney Miner is widely esteemed both for his business ability and the sterling traits of character which have distinguished his residence in this section. A native of Gallatin (now Saline) county, Ill., he was born October 16, 1835. His father, Daniel Looney Miner, was a native of Tennessee, from which state he served in the war of 1812. He became a pioneer farmer of Illinois, his death occurring in Saline county, at eighty-four years of age. In young manhood he married Polly Bays, a native of Virginia, who was reared in Tennessee. She made her home with her son, James L., until her death, which occurred at the age of eighty years. Of the twelve children born of this union one son and two daughters came to California, of whom two are now living.

The tenth child in order of birth, James Looney Miner was reared on the paternal farm in Saline county, receiving his education in the

subscription schools in his home neighborhood. When not quite twenty years of age—on March 3, 1855, he married and started in farming pursuits in Saline county. Responding to the need for men during the Civil war, he enlisted August 2, 1861, in Company E, Third Illinois Cavalry, and was mustered out September 5, 1864, after a service of three years, one month and three days. After enlistment the first move of the regiment was to start to Benton Barracks from Springfield, thence to St. Charles after three days, then to Jefferson City, Mo., and on to Springfield. They returned to Rolla, Mo., in October, and the following February went back to Springfield, Mo., thence to Cross Hollow or Elkhorn Tavern, where Pea Ridge fight occurred March 6, 7 and 8, 1862. They then rambled in many directions, making cavalry dashes throughout the south that lay west of the Mississippi river, finally reaching Helena, Ark. Thence his company was sent to St. Louis as bodyguard of General Carr, then first colonel, and there they remained during the winter of 1862 and '63. Going to Vicksburg in February they took part in the siege of that place, after its capitulation going to New Orleans, and then to Burwicks Bay, out on a scout, during which Mr. Miner's horse was shot under him, being struck in the flank, behind the shoulders and in the head. As his horse fell Mr. Miner sprang from him and was immediately taken prisoner and compelled to ride a mule forty-five miles before he was given anything to eat. He remained under guard sixty-six days before he was exchanged, when he returned at once to his regiment and again entered into active warfare. He found the regiment at Port Hudson, where they remained until being sent to Memphis, Tenn., thence to Springfield, Ill., where they were mustered out of service.

Mr. Miner returned to civic life as a farmer in Illinois, continuing in that location until 1867, when he decided to come to California, making the trip via the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco. He first located near Bloomfield, Sonoma county, remaining there for one year, when he went to Yolo county, near Woodland. October 10, 1869, he came to Tulare county, locating five miles west of Portersville with his family. In the fall of 1871 he purchased his present property, where he has since made his home with the exception of the years 1890 and '91, which he spent on his homestead, southwest quarter of section 32, township 24, range 28, the same being still in his possession. He now owns one hundred and fifty-seven acres of the original purchase along the Tule river, which is under irrigation from the Hubbs & Miner Ditch. He also owns the west half of the southwest quarter of section 28, township 21, range 27, less four

acres, and the west half of the northwest quarter of section 33, township 21, range 27, less nineteen acres. He also owns mountain timber in this county, as follows: the south half and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 7, township 21, range 31; the south half of the northwest quarter of section 8, township 21, range 31; the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 8, township 21, range 31; and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 18, township 21, range 31, two hundred and eight acres in all.

Mr. Miner has been married twice, his first wife being Christian Elizabeth Smith, of Kentucky, who died in Saline county, Ill. She was the mother of four children, namely: John Asbury, whose farm adjoins that of his father; Phoebe Elizabeth, the wife of William H. Hensley, of Los Gatos; William David, who died young; and Mary Jane, the wife of J. X. Siwczynski, a farmer near Portersville. In Saline county Mr. Miner married Mary Elvira Oglesby, a native of Illinois, and they are the parents of four children: James Willis, engaged in farming with his father; Hiram Robert, a farmer in this vicinity; George Alfred, at home; and Larrender Margaret, the wife of D. K. Wallace. Fraternally Mr. Miner was made a Mason in Saline county, Ill., then joined the Portersville Lodge, No. 303, from which he is demitted. Mrs. Miner is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Politically Mr. Miner is a Jeffersonian Democrat.

---

**HON. FRED E. HARDING.** The state of California owes much to eastern men of wealth who have used their money in developing various industries here. To this class belongs Mr. Harding, who has spent many thousands of dollars in improving and developing the resources of Antelope Heights, Tulare county. A native of New York state, he was born in Richfield Springs in September, 1847. His father, Hon. Henry G. Harding, was a native of Connecticut, from which state he removed to New York where he became a prominent business man and farmer. He was also a leading politician and served in the legislature as a representative from Otsego county. In 1857 he migrated westward, locating in Monmouth, Ill. There he became a member of the firm of C. Harding & Co., bankers. By his marriage with Elvira C. Hubbard, he became the father of two children, Fred E. being the eldest.

Fred E. Harding was a youth of ten years when his father removed to Illinois. His preliminary education was secured in the Monmouth public schools, later graduating from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., with the degree of A.

B. He immediately engaged in the banking business as bookkeeper in the National Bank, of Monmouth. Two years later in 1874 the Second National Bank of Monmouth was organized and Mr. Harding was appointed as assistant cashier. From that position he was steadily advanced until in 1892 he was elected president, which connection he still retains. Aside from his interests in this bank, he assisted in the organizing of the Peoria Home Savings and State Bank. He is also a director in the State Bank of Roseville, Ill., and is connected with the National Bank of the Republic in Chicago. Aside from his banking interests he has been engaged in the manufacturing business in Monmouth, and was also engaged in farming in Warren county, Ill.

In about 1891, Mr. Harding began spending his winters in California. The possibilities of orange growing in the highlands attracted his attention and in 1898, in partnership with Mr. Pattee he purchased one thousand acres of land, which has since been improved and developed. A large portion is now devoted to the growing of oranges, which venture has proved a complete success and "Antelope Heights" is one of the best paying orange properties in Tulare county. The place is equipped with all modern improvements including pumping plant, packing house, etc. As before stated, these improvements have cost many thousands of dollars, the spending of which has done much for this section of the state.

Mr. Harding has for many years been active in political matters, and in addition to serving as a member of the Monmouth city council, in 1894 he was elected to the Illinois State Senate by the Republican party. During the time he filled this office it was his pleasure to assist in the election of Senators Cullom and Mason. As is usual with a successful business man Mr. Harding demonstrated his ability, and at the expiration of his term his constituents expressed their satisfaction in the work he had accomplished.

In Monmouth he was united in marriage with Lucy A. Nye, who was born in Massachusetts. Since becoming interested in the Antelope Heights district they have won an enviable place for themselves in the esteem of their friends.

---

**CHARLES WESLEY TRABER.** As one of the active young men in his community to advocate progressive ideas and improvements, Mr. Traber has ever been a willing promoter of every plan to advance the business development of his section, and much of the progress of Parlier is traceable directly to his influence. A native of Mendocino county, Cal., he was born March 25, 1868, a son of Charles P. and Mary



E. (Coates) Traber, the former a native of New York state and the latter born in Wisconsin in 1833. The union of this esteemed couple took place in Wisconsin, and in 1861 the father came west to seek a home, locating in Mendocino county, and a couple of years afterward he was joined by his wife. Of the three children born of this union, two are sons and one a daughter, namely: George L.; Charles W.; and Loretta, wife of Samuel J. Harp, deputy sheriff of Fresno county. The father, after locating in Mendocino county, engaged in the flour milling business and for a period of thirteen years ran a mill near Willits, in that county. In 1874 he removed to the San Joaquin valley, being one of the original settlers on the plains south of Selma, Fresno county. There he took up a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres of government land in the vicinity of Parlier, and he it was who superintended the construction of the Church ditch, or the "Long cut," which has been of untold benefit to the settlers, bringing as it does the water necessary for agricultural pursuits. He also ran a mill at Centerville for a short time, in connection with his farm pursuits. His active career was closed by his death in 1878, aged forty-five years.

The mental training of Charles W. Traber was gleaned from his attendance at the public schools. His school days over, he engaged in farming and stock-raising. He is now joint owner of the paternal farm with his brother George L. They have one hundred cows, and the high brand of their dairy products is unrivaled. Their extensive vineyards cover forty-five acres devoted to the raisin grape, which alone yields them a comfortable income. The balance of their one hundred and sixty acre farm is used in raising alfalfa, which yields several successive crops each season, in addition to furnishing pasturage for several months. Mr. Traber is unmarried, and with his mother still resides on the home place, and it is needless to add that she is well cared for by her sons, who anticipate her every want. Although he has abstained from political aspirations, Mr. Traber is active in the advancement of the Republican cause and has proved himself a useful member of his party. Fraternally he is allied with the Knights of Pythias of Selma and the Native Sons of the Golden West.

---

JOHN HILTON. Prominent among the successful farmers of Tulare county is John Hilton, who is located a mile and a half east of Portersville on property which he purchased in the fall of 1876. He is a native of Oswego county, N. Y., where he was born June 8, 1827,

the third in a family of twelve children, of whom all attained maturity and eight are now living. His father, John Hilton, Sr., was born in New York state, the son of a Revolutionary soldier, in manhood becoming a farmer in Livingston county, Mich. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California and upon his arrival engaged in mining in Placerville until his death, which occurred the following year. His wife, Hannah Wrought in maidenhood, was born in New York state and died in Michigan. One son, George, enlisted in the Third Michigan Cavalry and died in the service.

John Hilton was reared in New York state until 1836, when he accompanied his parents to Livingston county, Mich., where he received his education in the subscription schools of that section. He remained at home until attaining his majority, when he began farming at Casnovia, Muskegon county, clearing a farm of heavy timber. He continued to improve and cultivate eighty acres of land until 1864, when he decided to bring his family—wife and seven children—to the more remote west where opportunities for advancement were more plentiful. He accordingly outfitted in March of that year with horse-teams and with twelve wagons in the train, going from Grand Haven to Milwaukee by boat, when they drove across Wisconsin and Iowa to the Missouri river. At Council Bluffs they laid in a new supply of provisions and continued on their journey, having to wait, however, two weeks to cross the Missouri river, as there were forty-two hundred wagons ahead of them. The journey to Oregon was safely accomplished via Fort Hall, and from Oregon City they went to Marion county and located within twelve miles of Salem, where Mr. Hilton engaged in farming until the following year. He then took his family to Mariposa county, Cal., and followed farming for a year; thence to Sonoma county until the fall of 1867, when he located on land he pre-empted twelve miles south of Portersville, Tulare county. In 1876 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres where he now resides, which he devoted to grain and stock-raising. In 1898 he set out twenty acres of navel oranges in addition to his other interests. Of his original purchase he still owns one hundred and fifty-five acres, all of which is under irrigation from the Pioneer Ditch.

In Michigan Mr. Hilton married Eliza Averill, who was born in Onondaga county, N. Y. Her father, Samuel H. Averill, was a native of Vermont and an early settler of Onondaga county, N. Y., where he farmed and engaged as a lumberman. In 1848 he removed to Ottawa county, Mich., where he engaged as a farmer until his death at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. His wife, formerly Elizabeth McFarran,







Andrew J Lapever

Catharine Lapever

of New York state, also died in Michigan, at the age of seventy-five years. Of their family of twelve children eight attained maturity, two sons serving in the Civil war, one dying in service. Mrs. Hilton was the fourth in order of birth. To Mr. Hilton and his wife were born the following children: Nellie, the wife of Robert Baker, of Portersville; Julia, wife of James Montgomery, of Los Angeles; Carrie, the wife of George Brown, of Bakersfield; Frank P., a prominent member of the Knights of Pythias, being Forest Ranger of the Southern division of the Sierra Forest Reserves, having charge of the Kern river division near Isabella; John, a miner, of Portersville; Delbert, a farmer at Hanford, Kings county; Adella, residing in Portersville, the widow of C. T. Graef; and Mary, the wife of Frank Woodley, of Los Angeles. Mr. Hilton is a Socialist in his political affiliations, having withdrawn his allegiance from the Republican party in 1894.

ANDREW J. LAFEVER. Of the old army of '49, composed of men of positive natures, and sufficient number of years to realize the importance of the events into which they were ushered, comparatively few remain. Soon their deeds and hardships will be told only by their children and children's children, or gained through the medium of narrative and history. The charm of the brave and courageous and unusual surrounds these men, not only those who have passed the borderland which separates them from their fellows, but those who remain to tell their own stories and dream their own dreams of the past. To the latter class belongs Andrew J. Lafever, the inheritor of a name connected with early American history, and a representative of a family which on both sides has counted fearlessness and justice as priceless heritages. Mr. Lafever was born in Knox county, Tenn., November 14, 1826, and is the third child in a family of fourteen, seven sons and seven daughters, who, with the exception of one daughter, attained maturity.

Before the war with England the paternal great-grandfather, Henry Lafever, came to America with his family, and for two years made his home in Virginia, after which he returned to France. Later, when LaFayette came to this country to help liberate the colonies, he accompanied him, and when the war was over again returned to France. He also served under Napoleon in the battle of Waterloo. The grandfather, John Lafever, was born in Virginia, but the greater part of his life was spent in Tennessee, where he attained a competence as a cotton raiser. He served through the Revolutionary war and gave up his life for his country in the

war of 1812. During the Revolutionary war some British soldiers sought to refresh the inner man by stealing some sweet potatoes from the farm of this soldier, and his wife, in maidenhood Lucy Barbankez, with the courage of her side of the house, shot seven of them and was arrested for the deed. She was, of course, never prosecuted, as the soldiers were appropriating her property, and she gained a deserved reputation for courage and justice. She became the mother of two children, and died at the age of eighty-seven years. William Lafever, the father of Andrew J., was born in Tennessee, moved to Missouri in 1834, and purchased and entered land in Ray county. In time he became one of the large land owners of that territory, raising hemp, tobacco, corn and stock, and having many slaves to do his bidding. He took a great interest in the state militia and in the training of soldiers. He served in the war of 1812, Black Hawk war and Seminole war. A temperate and moderate life told in his favor, for at the time of his death he had attained the age of ninety-seven years. Longevity appeared on the maternal side also, for his wife, formerly Elizabeth Roberts, a native of South Carolina, lived to be eighty-four years old.

Andrew J. Lafever was the third in order of birth of fourteen children. What early education he received was in a private school, and he worked at cotton scraping with the slaves, and engaged in horse trading on his father's plantation. In 1846 he enlisted as a volunteer under General Taylor, being assigned to Colonel Willock's division; he re-enlisted in 1847 and was assigned to Company C, Santa Fe Battalion, U. S. A., becoming sergeant under Gen. Sterling Price. In 1847-48 he was one of the escort of the general, as his second choice, and in 1848 he returned to Missouri, stopping for about twenty days at Independence, where he was discharged from the service in October, 1848. November 4, 1848, he cast his first presidential vote for General Taylor. Engaging in a butchering and packing business in Camden, Ray county, Mo., he had opportunity to hear much of the great gold discovery on the coast, and April 4, 1849, set out across the plains with ox-teams, eventually arriving at the Peter Lawson ranch, near Bidwell's bar, Cal., at the end of about seven months' travel. For the first thirteen months he engaged in mining at Bidwell's bar and other camps in the vicinity. While at Bidwell's bar a thief was discovered in camp who had tried to purloin a can of syrup. A quick consultation was held by the other miners and it was decided to hang without ceremony. Mr. Lafever, however, objected, owing to the absence of a code of laws governing such misdemeanors. The life of the man was spared, but an attempt

was made to obviate further trouble of that kind by drawing up a code calculated to terrify evil-doers. For the first offense of petty larceny the penalty was forty-nine lashes and expulsion or hanging; for grand larceny, ninety-eight lashes or hanging; for the second offense of petty larceny, ninety-eight lashes or hanging; for the third offense, hanging; and for the second offense of grand larceny, hanging. Willful murder was also punished by hanging. Men condemned to trial had the benefit of the opinion and judgment of twenty-four of the substantial men of the community, and every question had to be answered by the witness.

From Bidwell's bar Mr. Lafever went to the South Fork of the Feather river with a prospecting company, intending to turn the course of the river, a project which signally failed. Removing to Marysville, on the Yuba river, he engaged in mining for a short time, and then followed the tide of fortune-seekers to Gold Lake, which, however, was never found. For a time he prospected in St. Louis, Pine Grove and Howland flat, also Nelson creek and Poor Man's creek, and in 1850 mined in Told's Diggings and Forbestown, starting a general merchandise store and butchering business in the latter camp. He was successful in his store and mining, and in the spring of 1851 built and managed the Lexington house, an unpretentious log structure located beside a spring which he had discovered in 1850. He also conducted a general store. In 1852 he built a new house at Lexington, near the log cabin, sawing the lumber by hand. Successful beyond his expectations, he started a hotel and butcher shop at Spanish Flat, managed the enterprises in both places, but disposed of the Lexington hotel in 1854, and making his headquarters thereafter in Spanish Flat until 1857. In the mean time, in 1856, there had been great excitement in camp over the water ditches, resulting in shooting scrapes, and the organizing of a mob who were going to hang an innocent man, which, however, was dispersed by Mr. Lafever. In the spring of 1857 Mr. Lafever himself escaped serious trouble because of the justifying circumstances surrounding his act. In self-defense he shot and killed Judge John Chapels, the leader of that mob, and though he surrendered to the authorities, nothing ever came of the matter. Mr. Lafever showed wonderful clemency for his fallen foe, hired a man to care for him, and so far ingratiated himself that the dying man shook hands with him, and expressed appreciation of his bravery.

In the fall of 1857 Mr. Lafever went to Marysville, and then started to Mendocino county, but stopped at Petaluma and Santa Rosa for the winter. Purchasing a place near Ukiah, he later started for Colorado, but wintered in Merced

county with a band of horses and mules. Sickness invaded his two hundred and fifty head of stock and he was delayed until August, in which month he came as far as Visalia, taking his horses to the mountains for the winter. On two occasions in Mendocino county thieves tried to take his land away from him, and in 1870 he was shot through the left lung by H. Griffiths, in Potter Valley, almost destroying his left hand and wrist. In 1873 he purchased a home near Kings river, in Fresno county, added to it from time to time, until he owned more than a township of unsurveyed land, including a place called Pine Flat, consisting of a quarter of a township, which he presented to his only child and son, Henry C. Lafever. When the fence law was passed he experienced serious trouble with his land, for grabbers resorted to every device to deprive him of it, even waylaying and killing his son, November 17, 1882. During the trial following this brutal murder Mr. Lafever killed Zeb Lashley in the courtyard at Fresno, the outlaw being at the bottom of the difficulties over the land and the killing of his son. The outlaw was surrounded by forty-eight of his gang. Through the prevalence of injustice Mr. Lafever lost his cattle and land, and practically everything that he had in the world. During the Indian troubles Mr. and Mrs. Lafever had several narrow escapes from the savages. In November, 1885, he came to Visalia and purchased forty acres in the outskirts of the town. Here he raised cattle, horses and hogs, and in 1893 he moved to his late home of six acres within the city limits, at No. 409 Watson avenue. May 29, 1904, he lost this home and all his possessions by fire, entailing a loss of \$5,000 over and above \$2,200 insurance. Here he was extensively interested in raising thoroughbred Poland-China hogs and fine chickens, deriving a comfortable income from this peaceful occupation.

Mr. Lafever's married life began in Marysville, March 19, 1852, his wife, formerly Catherine Trullinger, being a native of Baden, Germany, who came to California in 1850. The tragic death of the only son of this union cast a shadow over the lives of both Mr. and Mrs. Lafever, and was among the heart-breaking disasters which have paved the way for peace in the far west. Mr. Lafever is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of the California Society of Pioneers and a veteran of the Mexican war, in which he has served as commander. Formerly he was a member of the Knights of the Golden Circle. There are few men whose early experiences have been of such a varied character as have been those of Mr. Lafever. The somber side of the camps and mines and trails has seemed to predominate, yet he is a cheerful and optimistic man, believing in the good of humanity,

and evidencing at every turn of his busy life generosity for those less fortunate than himself. Books might be written of absorbing interest concerning his life, and he has observed intelligently and faithfully, even impartially, considering the sorrows which have darkened his pathway and the misfortunes which have resulted from man's greed and ingratitude.

---

ELLIOTT PATTEN. Coming to California in 1881, Elliott Patten has since met with success in his business ventures and has also made scores of warm personal friends who have an interest in his welfare. He is, in all respects, a self-made man, his success coming as the result of his own well-directed efforts.

A son of John and Catherine (Waite) Patten, he was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, May 9, 1858. John Patten is also a native of the Buckeye state, his father, James, being an early settler in Morrow. On reaching man's estate John Patten engaged in farming and stock-raising, meeting with excellent success while living in Brown county. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in the Fifty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being a corporal of his company. During the war he was wounded several times, but received no serious injuries. Mr. Patten was united in marriage with Catherine Waite, who was born in Florida, a daughter of David Waite. This marriage resulted in the birth of twelve children, all of whom grew to maturity and ten are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Patten are passing their declining days in Ohio, surrounded by a large circle of friends and all the comforts that make old age enjoyable.

Elliott Patten was reared in Brown county on his father's farm, receiving such education as could be secured at the district school. At the age of fifteen years he left his home, going to Butler county, where he secured employment on a farm. Here he remained eighteen months, when he went to Maine, where a sister was living. Securing employment as driver of a freight wagon for a lumber firm, he continued at this work for two years. He then determined to seek his fortune in the far west and accordingly made his way to Kansas, locating for one year in Irving. Again changing his place of residence he went to Salina, the same state, where he was employed on farms until 1881, the year of his arrival in Tulare county.

Locating in the foothills he purchased eighty acres of land, which he at once began to improve. Buying a house he moved it to its present location on this ranch and has since remodeled it and made it modern in its appointments.

In addition to his first purchase, Mr. Patten

homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, which he has improved. He has also made several purchases, including the place where he now resides, which came into his possession in 1883. Here he erected a fine residence and otherwise improved the place until he has one of the finest ranches in this section of the county. In 1901 he disposed of a portion of the old homestead to the Merryman Fruit, Land and Lumber Company. His total possessions now aggregate two hundred and eighty acres. Aside from the land in the lowlands, he has a ranch in the Cedar Creek mountain range, just below the snow line, which is used for grazing purposes. He is also engaged in well boring, which occupation he has followed several years. During this time he has put down hundreds of wells, most of which have produced at the depth of one hundred feet.

Since coming to California, Mr. Patten married Ellen Fly, a daughter of James C. Fly, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume. Four children have been born to them, as follows: Elsie, Otto, Mary E. and Ernest, who died at the age of eighteen months.

Mr. Patten is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and takes a deep interest in the Sunday-school, having been its superintendent for several years. In politics he is a Democrat, but takes little interest in political matters. He has had a hard struggle with the world, but his efforts have won a victory of which he may feel proud. Many a man would have failed, and where now appears the word "success" we would have read "failure." He has done much for Tulare county and the people unite in giving him credit for what he has accomplished.

---

LEE LOWREY. Among the younger generation of Tulare county who have early impressed their worth upon the community in which they reside, prominent mention belongs to Lee Lowrey, a native of the state, his birth having occurred near Visalia November 21, 1867. His father, J. E. Lowrey, a native of Tennessee, crossed the plains in 1850 with ox-teams, and upon his safe arrival began mining. Later he located in Sonoma, eventually making two trips back east by way of the Isthmus of Panama, his return trips being made across the plains, when he farmed in Sonoma county. In 1860 he settled near Visalia, Tulare county, three miles northwest of the city, improving a farm and engaging in the stock business. He also bought a ranch in Long valley and followed stock-raising in that location, building a home in the foothills, and setting out an orange orchard of two acres, which is said to produce the finest



oranges in the state. On account of having impaired health in his valley home the greater part of his time was spent on his mountain ranch, where his death occurred in June, 1904, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Parsons, a native of Missouri, descended from the Fosters, of that state, that being her mother's maiden name. Mrs. Lowrey resides in the old home since her husband's death,—of her family of thirteen children, eight of whom attained maturity,—being surrounded by six surviving children, namely: Marian N., a stockman in the vicinity of Visalia; J. D., a stockman in Visalia; D. D., in Alaska; Allie E., at home; W. L., a stockman near Visalia; and Lee, of this review.

Upon his father's farm near Visalia Lee Lowrey was reared to young manhood, receiving his education in the public schools of that city and the Normal School. He also attended and graduated from the Stockton Business College, and for thirteen months following engaged as a bookkeeper in that city. Returning home he engaged in stock-raising, renting the mountain ranch as well as that in the vicinity of Visalia, his brand, a double L, with a bar across the top, being well known throughout this part of the country. Profiting by his business training he decided to enter mercantile activity, purchasing the establishment of J. H. Edwards & Co., of Orosi, in partnership with his brother, the firm name being J. D. & Lee Lowrey. This business enterprise was successfully continued until 1903, in December of that year selling out and dissolving partnership. Mr. Lowrey returned to the stock business on the old Lowrey ranch on Nigger creek, although he still makes his home in Orosi.

In Orosi Mr. Lowrey married Alethea Hitzman, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of Fred W. Hitzman, who died in California. They are the parents of one child, Rema Elaine. Politically Mr. Lowrey is an adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and fraternally is associated with the Knights of Pythias, of Orosi, and Visalia Parlor, Native Sons of the Golden West.

---

N. B. EDMISTON. Among the old pioneers of Tulare county prominent mention belongs to N. B. Edmiston, who came to California in 1850. He was born in Gibson county, Tenn., April 25, 1827, next to the youngest child in a family of seven, of whom he is the only one now living. His father, Robert Edmiston, was also a native of Tennessee, and a descendant of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He served in the war of 1812 under General Jackson. In an early day he removed to Pope county, Ark., and became a

pioneer farmer of that state, where his death eventually occurred. His wife, formerly Mary Glasby, a native of Tennessee, died when her son, N. B., was only two years old.

Reared to young manhood in Pope county, Ark., N. B. Edmiston received his scholastic training in the district school in the vicinity of his home. Upon the breaking out of the Mexican war, he became a volunteer in Company A, First Arkansas Cavalry, under Colonel Yell, serving until the expiration of his time (one year), taking part in the battle of Buena Vista. His brother, Andrew, also served as a member of the same regiment. After his honorable discharge he returned home and remained a short time, when, in 1850, in company with his brother Andrew and two comrades, he started across the plains with a wagon and five yoke of oxen. They traveled by the southern route—El Paso, Tucson, and Yuma to San Diego—thence by sailer to San Francisco. Seventy miles east of Tucson they sold their teams and bought pack-horses with which they continued their travels. From San Francisco they went to the mines in Sonora, remaining there for seven months, after which they teamed with ox-teams from that point to the mountains. In March, 1852, Mr. Edmiston returned to Arkansas via Panama and New Orleans, there purchasing cattle, which in the spring of 1853 he started to drive across the plains by the northern route—by the Platte, and Salt Lake, where they wintered, after which they proceeded to Stockton, near Woodbridge, San Joaquin county. A year later he sold the cattle, continuing in the stock business, however, for many years. In 1859 he located in Calaveras county, where he had discovered a copper ledge on Table Mountain, which he opened and operated for a time. In 1874 he located in the northern part of Tulare county, for one year engaging in the sheep business on Sand creek. While a resident of that place he was one of the organizers of the Sand Creek district, building the first schoolhouse, which is now in Orosi. In 1876 he purchased his present property of three hundred and twenty acres from the railroad, being one of the first to locate in this section. The following was a dry year and he lost his sheep, after which he engaged in the raising of grain. After the building of the irrigation ditch he set out a vineyard, now having twenty-seven acres devoted to this cultivation, while the balance of sixty acres, which comprises what is left of his original ranch, as he has sold a few acres from time to time, is given over to alfalfa.

In Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, Cal., Mr. Edmiston was united in marriage with Nancy Howell, a native of Arkansas. Her father, James Howell, a native of Tennessee, and an







HARVEY LIGHT

early settler of Arkansas, came across the plains in 1853-54 with Mr. Edmiston. He married Sarah Bond, also of Tennessee. His death occurred in Newman, Stanislaus county. To Mr. and Mrs. Edmiston were born four children, namely: Sarah J., deceased, the wife of J. A. Bacon, of this vicinity; Allen McD., who is conducting a dairy near Sultana; Theodate, deceased, who married John Toler, also of this vicinity; and Bettie, at home. Both himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in which he has officiated for forty years as steward. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat.

---

**HARVEY LIGHT.** In 1900 the death of Harvey Light removed from the business and social life of Modesto a man whose influence had ever been felt along the lines of advancement and progression in both city and county. Numbered among the pioneers of the state he came to California in 1850, bringing with him the inherited and trained characteristics of the thrifty New Englanders, and with that reserve force, energy and ability, he gave himself to the upbuilding of the western state, his years of usefulness passing considerably beyond the biblical allotment before he was called upon to lay down alike the responsibilities and pleasures of this life.

The family of which Harvey Light was a representative came from the state of Maine, his father, George W., being a native of Washington county. He was a stone-cutter by trade and at the age of twenty years removed to Bangor, Me., where he took up a farm in the midst of wilderness lands and made that his home until his death at the age of eighty-seven years. Through the many noble qualities which were manifest in his character, through his mode of life he came to be a prominent and well-beloved man in the community which knew him intimately for so long a time. He occupied an influential position in the affairs of the neighborhood and his voice was always to be heard on the side of right and justice. Always a Democrat in his political convictions he lived to see the rupture caused by the political factions of the country, and at the time of the war relinquished his earlier convictions and espoused the cause of Republicanism as that which meant right and justice and equality, in regard to both country and the colored race. His wife, formerly Sarah Jane Lurmen, was born at Liberty, Me., and died at Bangor at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom all but two attained maturity. Given in order of birth they were as follows: Harvey, the personal subject of this review, born at Bangor, Me., August 17, 1822; Olive, who died in Bangor; Tillie

Jane, who also died in Bangor; Sarah Ann, who likewise died in that city; Susan, now a resident of Modesto, and of whom a short sketch will be given; Arvilla, who died in Bangor; Henry, who died in Bangor, having served his country in the Civil war; George, an extensive farmer and prominent citizen of Carmel, Me.; Samantha, who died in Bangor; Andrew, who died in Bangor; and Clara, now Mrs. Ed Crabtree, of Oakdale.

Harvey Light was reared to manhood in his native state, receiving his education in the common schools. Upon attaining manhood he decided to come west, starting in 1849 for California via the Isthmus and arriving in San Francisco in the following year. With the majority of those who sought fortunes in the west at that time he became a miner at Marysville, engaging also at LaGrange and various other places before he was satisfied to take up less exciting but more wholesome and profitable labor. After recovering from the cholera, which attacked him while still in the mines, he went to San Francisco and became boss of the gang of men who were driving piles on the Pacific wharf in that city, remaining so occupied until this work was entirely completed. Afterward he was extensively interested in mines and mining operations and at a later date sold his interests to a San Francisco company with considerable profit to himself. In 1874 he came to Modesto, Stanislaus county, and located with his sister, Mrs. Susan Hurd, with whom he lived retired until his death in 1900. Like his father he was a strong Republican in his political convictions, and though never desirous of personal recognition was active in the support of good government.

Mrs. Susan (Light) Hurd was born in Bangor, Me., February 8, 1836, and when sixteen years of age was united in marriage in her native city with A. D. Hurd, also of Bangor. To them was born one child, named Harvey, who died at the age of three years. Mr. Hurd also came to his death in 1854, while engaged in his work as contractor and builder at Hermon, Me., being killed by falling rock. Mrs. Hurd came to California in 1872 via the Isthmus and went to live with her brother at LaGrange, the two afterward locating in Modesto, where she now makes her home. Mrs. Hurd owns considerable real estate in the city, among other property owning the business block at the corner of I and Tenth streets.

---

**L. D. HILLIARD.** Five and a half miles east of Visalia, Tulare county, is located the home place of L. D. Hilliard, one of the successful farmers and stockmen of this section. He was born near this same farm on the Hilliard home-

stead, November 22, 1857, a son of Abraham Hilliard, a pioneer of the state and of this locality. The elder man was born in Northampton, Pa., his home remaining in the east until 1852. In that year he crossed the plains with ox-teams, bringing with him to California his wife and one child. After six months they arrived safe in the state and located in the vicinity of Stockton, where they remained until 1853. Coming to Tulare county in that year, they made their home for a short time in Venice, then the county seat, but soon became established on the farm five and a half miles east of Visalia. Here Mr. Hilliard made improvements, putting up a house (their first home here being in a house where the Indians had killed and skinned a white man a few years before), after which he engaged in the stock business. Later he gave considerable attention to general farming, adding to his land from time to time by purchase until he owned five hundred acres on the Kaweah. His death occurred in 1877, at the age of sixty years, and removed from the community one of the pillars in the foundation of the western statehood. Politically he was a staunch Republican. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Stoops, of Pennsylvania, survives him, and is now the wife of H. C. Arnold, of Plumas county, Cal. Born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hilliard were five sons and three daughters, of whom four sons and the three daughters are living. Of the sons F. M. is a farmer near Traver; W. C. P. is on the old home place; and A. W. is also farming a part of the home property.

L. D. Hilliard was reared on the paternal farm, receiving his education principally through attendance at the district school in Deep Creek district. On account of the illness of his father, he felt it necessary to early assume responsibility, at the age of sixteen years conducting the farm. After the death of his father he gave his attention entirely to the work of the place for several years. In 1884 he rented a farm and began independent operations, his attention being chiefly given to the raising of grain. He finally purchased eighty acres on the plains near Exeter. About sixteen years ago he bought his present property and has since engaged in farming and stock-raising. The farm consists of two hundred and forty acres on the Mineral King road, about five miles east of Visalia, where he has made all the improvements, putting up substantial barns and outbuildings, and in 1904 built a nine-room, two-story residence which adds no little to the value of the property. This is conceded to be one of the finest farm-houses in the vicinity, while the other improvements are in keeping. His herds number among them good graded stock, and Mr. Hilliard has ably demonstrated the fact that he understands the work

with which he has been so long and so profitably connected. In addition to the property mentioned (located on sections 31, 32 and 27 of township 18, range 26), he also owns a ranch on Dry creek of four hundred and forty acres on sections 3 and 2, township 17, range 27, six miles north of Lemon Cove.

Near Exeter, Tulare county, September 3, 1884, Mr. Hilliard was united in marriage with Laura B. Teague, who was born in that vicinity, a daughter of John Teague, of Exeter. They are the parents of two children, Carroll Arthur and Effie Elizabeth. Mr. Hilliard takes a deep interest in all local affairs, and for several terms has served efficiently as school trustee of the Deep Creek district. Politically he is a Republican.

---

WILLIAM STOBIE. A man of great integrity, William Stobie enjoys the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact, either business or social. He is located on an extensive ranch of five hundred and eighty acres seven miles northwest of Visalia, where he is engaged in the cattle business, having one hundred head of cattle, and meeting with a success which names him among the prominent stockmen of this section. A native of Scotland, he was born near Dunse, Berwickshire, February 17, 1848, a son of Henry Stobie, a shepherd, whose birth and death occurred in the same place. His mother, Elizabeth (Wilson) Stobie, also died in that locality. Of their family of nine children, only three are now living, William Stobie being the only one in America.

William Stobie was reared in his Scottish home, receiving his education in the private schools of that country. When ten years old he became dependent upon his own resources, his first employment being to herd cows. He remained so occupied for six months, after which he worked on farms in the neighborhood. He saved his earnings and in 1872 came to America, spending the first five months in Canada, and going thence to Texas, where he remained four months. In 1873 he came to California, going first to Sacramento, then to Stockton, working in the latter place for seven months. Locating in Tulare county in February, 1874, he found employment in shearing sheep through the summer, working with a sheep raiser in the mountains. In the same fall he bought a thousand head of sheep and herded them on the plains toward Portersville until 1879, when he purchased eighty acres of land a half mile north of Farmersville. He continued in this business in that location until 1890, when he sold out and bought one hundred and sixty acres on Cross creek and began the cattle business. He has

added to his land until he now owns five hundred and eighty acres all in one body, parts of sections 2 and 3, of township 18, range 24, and section 32, of township 17, range 24. In addition to this property he also owns twelve hundred and eighty acres on Stone river, on sections 19 and 29, of township 16, range 26. With the passing years the changes which have come into the life of Mr. Stobie have been paralleled by those which the country has experienced. In 1874, when he first came to this section, there were no fences, comparatively no improvements, and little cultivation, even within a distance of three or four miles of Visalia, farmers and stockmen riding at will throughout the country. Prosperity and progress have come to the entire section, the upbuilding and development of the country being the direct result of the efforts of such men as Mr. Stobie.

In Scotland Mr. Stobie was united in marriage with Elizabeth Allen, a native of the county of Haddington, Scotland, and they are the parents of one son, Wilbur Jones. In his political affiliations Mr. Stobie gives his support to the Republican party.

---

**ANDREW R. LAHANN.** Although Mr. Lahann was a resident of California but a few years, he made for himself a position that will be honored by his many friends for years to come. Death is always sad, but when the grim reaper takes from our midst one who is young, well-liked, and with a bright future, it is especially sad.

Mr. Lahann was a native of Illinois, being born in Monmouth, November 16, 1867. His father, Reimer Lahann, emigrated from Germany and settled in Monmouth, where he was engaged in cigar manufacturing for many years. He and his wife are now living in Chicago. She bore the maiden name of Catherine Fongardt, and was also a native of Germany. By their union three children have been born.

Andrew R. Lahann was the second child and the only son. He was reared in Monmouth and received an excellent education in the Monmouth college. After completing his schooling he learned the cigarmaker's trade and later engaged in the manufacture of cigars with his father, the two carrying on quite an extensive wholesale business. In 1898 he disposed of his interests in the east and came to California, locating at Naranjo, or Antelope Heights. Here he at once became engaged in the fruit industry, purchasing twenty-two acres of land, which he converted into an orange grove, being the first man to set out an orange tree on the Antelope Heights tract, which was christened "the Catherine tree." Later he purchased a general mer-

chandise store here and for two and one-half years conducted a successful merchandise business, selling to M. E. Brotherton in April, 1904. Mr. Lahann was also interested in the Antelope Heights Water and Irrigation Company, serving as its secretary for some time.

In 1892, while still a resident of Monmouth, Mr. Lahann was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Adelaide Rankin, who is a native of that city. She is a daughter of Cyrus Rankin, who was born in Indiana, from which state he removed to Monmouth, where he became an extensive farmer and stock-raiser. He married Miss Martha Reynolds, a native of Ohio. Both are now deceased, the former dying in 1899 and the latter in 1890. Mrs. Lahann was the fourth of a family of five children and was reared in her native town, receiving her education in the Monmouth college, from which institution she was graduated in 1889 with the degree of A. B. By her marriage with Mr. Lahann she is the mother of two children, Catherine Martha and Reimer Rankin.

On July 27, 1904, the many friends of Mr. Lahann were shocked to learn of his death. He had become very popular since taking up his residence here. Fraternally he held membership with the Phi Kappa Psi and the Knights of Pythias, and in religion was a member of the Presbyterian Church, being one of the most earnest workers in that church. Since his demise Mrs. Lahann has been attending to the business he so well established, demonstrating her ability in this time of need. It is her intention to remain here and give her two children the advantages of a good education. Her large circle of friends wish her prosperity, and while they mourn the death of her husband they feel that he left a comfortable competency which will enable his loved ones to live in comfort.

---

**CHARLES L. DENNEN.** No more encouraging example of the self-made farmer is found in Kern county than Charles L. Dennen, owner of a valuable ranch of one hundred and eighty acres in the Fairview district, and also an additional one hundred and forty acres in the Panama district. Mr. Dennen is the child of parents who had little to offer him in the way of pecuniary help, and his youth and early manhood were one succession of struggles for the success which has since come to him. He was born in Oxford county, Me., March 7, 1857, his father, L. W. Dennen, also a native of Maine, being at that time employed in the factories of the great manufacturing and lumbering state.

The elder Dennen is a strong character, and all his life has shown a disposition for adventure and change. As a boy he found vent for an ex-

cess of energy by running away from home and boarding a man-of-war, upon which he served with creditable fortitude about four years. The year of his son's birth he removed to Brown county, Kans., settled on a farm of eighty acres, and was busily improving the same at the outbreak of the Civil war. In the service of the Union he attained the rank of corporal, and spent his time principally at St. Joseph, Warrensburg and Sedalia, Mo., actively engaged in fighting guerrillas. From Brown county he removed to Pottawatomie county, Kans., where he improved a homestead and became prominent in politics and government affairs. He was awarded the mail contract for eight years, and for a number of years was postmaster of a station in the county. His next home was his present one in Hennessey, Oklahoma, where he is living retired, and where, at the age of eighty years (having been born in 1824) he is hale and vigorous, and able to enjoy the people and events by which he is surrounded.

In both Brown and Pottawatomie counties, Kans., Charles L. Dennen attended the public schools at rare intervals, but he made up for his educational deficiency by becoming a careful and practical farmer. He was but twenty years old when in February, 1877, he married Mary Davis, a native of Madison county, Iowa. After his marriage he conducted a rented farm for four years, at the end of that time investing his earnings in a farm of his own, which he managed successfully until 1887. He then sold his farm and came to Kern county, Cal., took up a tract of land covered with weeds and brush, proved up on it, and at the same time rented land for a year from the Kern Land Company. He was not particularly successful at the start, and when making arrangements for the nucleus of his present farm, which consisted of twenty acres at \$60 an acre, he was able to pay down only \$10. A stout heart and hope in the future came to his aid, and with the help of his encouraging and economical wife he toiled early and late and finally had his farm paid for and a comfortable home established for his family. More land was soon required, and finally the one hundred and eighty acres proved also too small. The new farm is valued at \$100 an acre, but the prospective owner feels no dread of the future, for he has gained a substantial footing in the west, and his career has been of so honorable a nature, that his word has come to be regarded as would be his bond. He makes a specialty of hay and stock, and averages from eight hundred to one thousand hogs a year. He has a good country house, well constructed barns, and the most practical of modern agricultural implements. Feeling keenly the disadvantages under which he labored in his own youth, because of a limited education, he has given his children a better train-

ing, and every advantage possible under the circumstances.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennen have had nine children born to them: Lilly Josephine, the wife of James Hosking; Charles Richard, living in Bakersfield; George Bary, a rancher; Le Roy Alfred; Clara C., deceased; Millie Alline; Lewis William; Mary Myrtle, and Vernon Vivian.

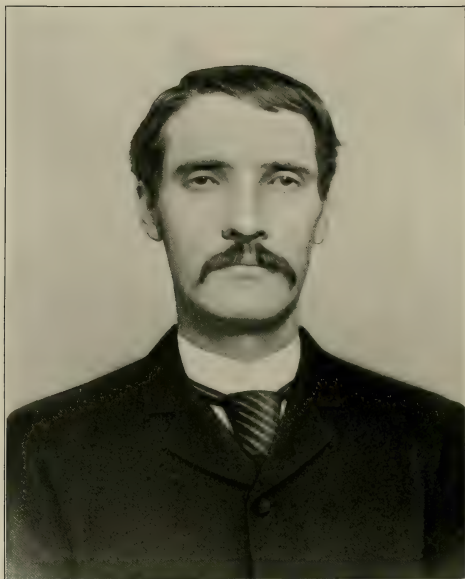
Mr. Dennen is a man of broad and tolerant sympathies, a good neighbor, faithful friend, and generous and indulgent husband and father.

---

CHARLES H. BAILEY. Five and a half miles west of Merced is located the eighty-acre ranch of Charles H. Bailey, a successful rancher and dairyman of the British Colony, and one of the deservedly prominent men of this section. A native of the state, he was born in Sacramento county, eleven miles from Sutter's Fort, January 17, 1854, his parents being Joshua T. and Susan (Hughes) Bailey, the latter a native of Illinois. The father was born in Wisconsin in 1804, and in manhood became an engineer, one of his most important achievements being the erection of a smelting works in his native state. He also engaged extensively in the lumber business. In 1849, in company with his two sons, Joel and James Bailey, he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, upon their arrival proceeding at once to the mines at Placerville, where they made a fortune digging gold. In 1853 he returned home by the same route and in the same year brought his family to California, crossing the plains with a large drove of cattle and horses. At Ash Hollow they had a severe encounter with the Indians, and lost a part of their cattle. On the trip out Mrs. Bailey was taken prisoner by the Indians, but her recapture was safely effected. She was also useful at one time in making bullets for the soldiers at Fort Laramie. On reaching California a second time Mr. Bailey located in the Sacramento valley and engaged in the stock business, operating on a very extensive scale, and was very successful until he lost much of his stock during the floods of 1862. Soon after that disaster he became interested in fruit culture, setting out a large vineyard which was one of the first in Sacramento county. In this occupation he continued until his death, which occurred at the ripe age of eighty-four years. For so many years identified with the best interests of the state in its pioneer growth, Mr. Bailey is justly numbered among the men who laid the foundation for the present prosperity and greatness of California. Besides Charles H. Bailey his living children are as follows: Joel, on the old home place in Sacramento county; George, located in San Luis Obispo county; Joshua, also of Sacramento







*W. H. Lowell*

county; and Nellie, the wife of A. B. Blair, of Santa Cruz.

The home of Charles H. Bailey remained in Sacramento county until he was seventeen years old, when he became dependent upon his own resources, with the characteristic self-reliance of the young pioneer. Following his early training he engaged in farming until 1884, being located in Yolo county, going thence to San Joaquin county, where he remained four years. Returning home he spent some time on the paternal ranch, when, in 1895, he came to Merced county and purchased his present farm. As before mentioned this consists of eighty acres of fine farm land, which is devoted to the cultivation of alfalfa and grain, while he also successfully conducts a dairy, which is supplied by twenty-four cows, of graded and thoroughbred stock, in which he takes the greatest pride and interest. Mr. Bailey has made a success in his work and is honored throughout the county for his many sterling traits of character which distinguish him.

The marriage of Mr. Bailey united him with Mrs. Kezziah (Melson) Howell, a widow with one daughter, Zoie, now the wife of H. Davis. Mrs. Bailey was a native of Iowa, and the daughter of James Melson. She died April 21, 1904. By this union with Mr. Bailey one daughter, Ethel, was born. In his political preferment Mr. Bailey is a Republican and fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Native Sons of the Golden West. Always taking an active interest in the advancement of the general welfare of the community, Mr. Bailey was an invaluable influence in securing rural delivery for this part of the county.

**WILLIAM HARRISON LOWELL.** The earlier settlers of Kern county were brave, sturdy men, of resolute spirit and determination and full of enterprise. Prominent among these pioneer residents stands William Harrison Lowell, who for nearly thirty years has been actively identified with the industrial progress of Bakersfield, and is now one of its most substantial and respected citizens. A man of unquestioned integrity, business tact and energy, he has achieved success in his undertakings, by strenuous effort and prudent thrift acquiring much wealth, being now one of the leading capitalists and property owners of this section of the state. A son of William Lowell, he was born April 14, 1841, in Somerset county, Me., being lineally descended from a colonial family of distinction, in New England annals no name standing higher than that of Lowell.

Reared and educated in Maine, William Lowell worked as a ship carpenter when young, and

was afterward engaged in agricultural pursuits in his native state, living there four score years. Coming then to Bakersfield, he spent the declining years of his long life with his sons, dying at the advanced age of eighty-four years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Tyler, spent her seventy-one years of earthly life in Maine. She was a most estimable woman, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She bore her husband six sons, namely: Wilmot, a pioneer resident of Bakersfield; Danville, who came to California in early life, and died here at the age of fifty years; William Harrison, the subject of this sketch; Henry Harrison, of Boston, Mass., a twin brother of William Harrison; John, of Bakersfield; and Alexis F., also of Bakersfield.

Brought up on the Maine homestead, William Harrison Lowell acquired his early education in the country schools, and assisted in the care of the home farm until attaining his majority. January 14, 1862, he enlisted in the Fourth Battery, Maine Light Artillery, and served for three years with the Army of the Potomac. He was at the front in the battles of the Wilderness, the second engagement at Bull Run, the battle of Slaughter Mountain, and in many skirmishes of minor importance. Returning home at the close of the war he followed farming during the summer seasons, and in the winter time worked in the lumber camps.

Migrating to California in 1876, Mr. Lowell worked on a ranch in Kern county with his brothers for awhile, and later, in partnership with them, embarked in the business of sheep raising, being located near Bakersfield. With characteristic enterprise and foresight they bought two hundred and ninety-three acres of land, now known as the Lowell addition to Bakersfield, platted it, laying out streets and town lots, and have since sold the greater part of it, selling to a syndicate for \$175 an acre. Prior to platting the land, however, Messrs. Lowell used it for ranching purposes until 1887. These four gentlemen subsequently bought forty acres of land lying three-fourths of a mile from this city, and set it out as an orchard, devoting it especially to the culture of peaches. Messrs. Wilmot and Alexis F. Lowell at the end of five years sold their shares of the orchard to their brothers John and William, the present owners.

In partnership with his brother Wilmot, Mr. Lowell owns the entire residence block lying between M and N, and Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets, and containing ten houses. Mr. Lowell has other property of value, having erected two houses on K street, and also owning two houses on Chester avenue, all of which he rents. Money that he has not invested in real estate or residences he loans, allowing but little of his capital to lie idle.

July 2, 1875, in Maine, Mr. Lowell married Hannah C. Ball, a native of Somerset county, Me., and they have one son, Arthur, living at home. Mrs. Lowell came here with her husband in 1876, and for a few years resided on the ranch, in common with her neighbors enduring hardships and privations unknown in her eastern home. Mr. Lowell is a Republican in politics, and is a member of Hulbert Post No. 127, G. A. R.

ROBERT M. HOLTBY. While realizing the extent of the difficulties which beset his path, the pioneer sheep raiser of the coast stands forth as a singularly fortunate seeker for independence, for while his risks were great, his gains also were great, and the freedom of his life, its close association with the elements, and the small demand upon the conventional side of his nature, presents a picture of vigorous opportunity refreshing to the monotonously envired city dweller. Many of the early sheep raisers have indelibly impressed their services upon the past in Kern county, and have assured to their families a share of the opulence of the present. Prominent among these men was Robert M. Holtby, whose shrewd manipulation of crude conditions has caused his name to be identified with sheep raising in both Kern and Tulare counties. His death, March 7, 1892, on the anniversary of his birth, in Manchester, Canada, March 7, 1847, was deeply regretted, not only because he represented the typically strong personal characteristics of the frontiersmen, but because forty-five years of existence cut short his happiest years. Coming to Bakersfield in 1891, he erected the comfortable house now occupied by his widow, and it was his intention to plant shade trees and lay out the grounds with shrubs and flowers. The latter part of his dream failed of realization, however, but his plans have been since carried out, with the result that the Holtby property is one of the most attractive in the city.

Of English parentage, Mr. Holtby was reared in Canada, where his father was a large farmer and land owner. He received a practical education in the public schools, and when nineteen years of age sailed around the Horn to Oregon, and engaged in teaching school for about six months. Discerning the great possibilities of sheep raising, August 26, 1867, he left Oregon and with money given him by his father, invested in sheep along the White river, Tulare county, Cal., and in time was obliged to purchase additional stock and land. His operations finally extended into Kern county, and the extent of his operations may be imagined when it is known that during one winter alone he lost

six thousand sheep in the deep snow. Notwithstanding this, he continued for many years, offsetting his losses with large gains, and becoming known as one of the most daring and successful raisers in this part of the state. Though his lands were widely scattered, he selected for his home a ranch twelve miles from Bakersfield, on Poso creek, where he lived for several years. One ranch, known as the Troy ranch, a fine property, where he resided from 1886 until his removal to the city, was one of the most valuable and highly cultivated in the county. This was sold in 1891. During his active life Mr. Holtby employed many people on his ranches, and his attitude toward them furnished perhaps the clearest insight into his character. He was always considerate and thoughtful, and had the faculty of inspiring others with his enthusiasm and love of work. As a Republican he was a conscientious voter, but never an office seeker, for his thoroughly honorable and straightforward nature found much that was antagonistic in the manner of securing office. He was of a quiet and reserved nature, but determination and force of character were ever present. His friendships covered many years, and stood every test.

May 6, 1880, Mr. Holtby was united in marriage with Celia Woodman, a member of an old New England family of English extraction, who was born at Paw Paw, Mich. Mrs. Holtby, who is now the manager of her husband's extensive estate, had excellent educational advantages in her youth. She inherits the refinement and strength of character of ancestors who settled on the New England coast as early as 1635, and her high sense of honor is undoubtedly an additional gift of these religious and liberty loving enthusiasts. One daughter, Roberta, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Holtby.

LEMUEL W. VAUGHN. Though not a native Californian Mr. Vaughn came to the state at so youthful an age that he knows no other life than that of her native sons. His father, James Vaughn, a native of Virginia, was the first pioneer of the family, emigrating from the Atlantic coast to Missouri when twenty-five years of age and there engaging in the saw-mill business in pursuit of a livelihood. Attracted to the more remote west by the glowing reports of '49, he crossed the plains in that year and engaged in mining on the American river, in the first seven weeks washing out \$8,000 in gold, by placer mining. He remained in the state two years, continuing a success which sent him back to Missouri in 1851 with considerable wealth, the return trip being made by way of Cape Horn. The following year he again crossed the plains, bringing his family with him. He located in

Amador county, where he engaged in both placer and quartz mining for twenty years, a greater part of the time being spent on Jackson creek. He is now retired from the active cares of life and makes his home in Shasta county. His wife was in maidenhood Elizabeth Atkinson, also a native of Virginia.

Lemuel W. Vaughn was born in Missouri March 9, 1848, and was but three years old when he crossed the plains to his western home. He was reared to manhood in Amador county, which was then practically a wilderness, the family for days at a time seeing no one but Indians. As occasion offered he attended school at Jackson in pursuit of an education, but in very youthful years began to follow the occupation of his father, and also found remunerative employment in freighting. With the energy and pluck of the early pioneers, Mr. Vaughn allowed no lack of personal effort to stand in his way of success. May 7, 1869, he arrived in Merced county, having walked from Stockton, and for the following eight years remained in this county. He worked for wages for two years, when he rented land five miles east of the present location of Merced and engaged in the cultivation of wheat. From this location he went to Shasta county and freighted for seventeen years. Returning to Merced county in 1896 he located on his present ranch, which consists of thirty-three acres one-half mile from Atwater, and seven and a half miles northwest of Merced. This property is given over to the cultivation of alfalfa and fruits, among the latter a variety of grapes, and sweet potatoes, raising of the last named from one hundred and fifty to two hundred sacks to the acre. His home is a comfortable one-story frame house, while the other buildings on the place are substantial and commodious in every respect, the entire ranch presenting an appearance of neatness and thrift. In addition to this property Mr. Vaughn has valuable copper-mining interests in Shasta county.

The marriage of Mr. Vaughn occurred in Merced county and united him with Mary E. Upton, a native of New Hampshire, and of this union were born three children: Lemuel, William and Theresa, the latter the wife of Thomas Upton. Mr. Vaughn is a Democrat in his political convictions.

---

**WILLIAM M. CARDEN.** During his residence in Kern county, William M. Carden has witnessed many changes for the better, and has himself taken a sufficiently active part to be able to share in the general prosperity of the present. Although his present home is a leased farm in the Greenfield school district, ten and a half miles south of Bakersfield, the fact that he has

ceased to be a large land owner indicates a desire to avoid responsibility rather than a wish to be less substantially connected with the state of his adoption. Mr. Carden comes of a fine old southern family of English extraction, unexpectedly launched in America by Sir John Carden, a large vessel owner, who, with his ship, was captured by the Americans during the war of 1812. Any bitterness which he might have felt on account of this unceremonious handling seems to have disappeared in time, for he settled in Georgia, where the grandfather of William M. spent many years of his life, and where his son, Thomas J., was born. The family moved to Missouri about 1812, Thomas J. at that time being a young boy, who lived on the home farm until attaining his majority. He married Elizabeth W. Coker, a native of North Carolina, who was reared and educated in Nashville, Tenn. On the maternal side Mrs. Carden was a Virginian. In time Mr. Carden located with his family in Arkansas, where he bought a tract of ten thousand acres with his brother, and engaged in the stock business until the breaking out of the Civil war. The general depression consequent upon the war completely ruined their business, and in 1868 Mr. Carden brought his wife and seven children across the plains, William M., born in Harrison, Carroll county, Ark., May 11, 1849, being at that time nineteen years old. The father located on a ranch near Visalia, remaining there until his death in August, 1871, at the age of sixty-seven years. In 1874 his widow and the children located near Kernville, Kern county, where the mother died when in her sixty-ninth year.

William M. Carden began work in earnest after the family came to Kern county, settling on the south fork of the Kern river, and owning about four hundred and eighty acres of land, eventually known as the Carden ranch. The property proved profitable enough, but after the death of his brother in 1893 Mr. Carden became dissatisfied with the place, sold his interest, and purchased the farm upon which he lived until coming to his present place in 1902. In the meantime, in 1891, Mr. Carden was united in marriage with Helen J. Vandergaw, a native of Brooklyn, N. Y., and daughter of Cornelius M. and Anna (Sturgeon) Vandergaw. On the paternal side Mrs. Carden is descended from the first settlers of what was then New Amsterdam, now Brooklyn, her remote sires building the first schoolhouse of the place, and eventually owning the navy yards. The family was established in San Francisco about 1872, owing to the illness of Mrs. Vandergaw, and in the coast city Mr. Vandergaw engaged in business, but died while on a visit to New York at the age of sixty-six. His wife still continues to live in Oakland, where

her children were educated, and where Mrs. Carden began school teaching at the age of eighteen. For a time she was assistant principal of the Oakland school, until, on account of impaired health, she came to Kern county and taught on the South Fork until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Carden have four children: Robert E., Elizabeth A. T., Morris and Sarah J. M. Mr. Carden is a Democrat in politics, but is liberal in his views, and votes for the best man regardless of political affiliation. He has served as school trustee for a number of years, and has always sought to establish a high standard of instruction in his neighborhood. Since 1876 he has been identified with Bakersfield Lodge No. 202, I. O. O. F. Mrs. Carden is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**THOMAS J. SMITH.** Six miles west of Bakersfield, in Kern county, is located the eighty-acre ranch belonging to Thomas J. Smith, who, with his wife—the helpmate of his early life—is passing the evening of his days in peace and plenty, and with the evidence of the country's growth and prosperity all about him. Born in Hempstead county, Ark., November 15, 1834, he was the son of James W. and the grandson of James Smith, the latter being a native of England who came to the United States when a young man and settled as a farmer on the Hudson river, in New York state. James W. Smith was reared in Kentucky and in manhood was engaged as a farmer for some years, when he removed to Arkansas and was interested in the cultivation of cotton. He died in Arkansas in 1871, at the age of sixty-seven years. He had met with considerable success in all his dealings, and at his death was a well-to-do planter of the south. He married Alva Cinda, a native of Missouri, who died at the age of sixty-seven years, the mother of ten children, of whom Thomas J. was the third in order of birth.

The youth of Thomas J. Smith was spent upon the parental farm in Arkansas, where he remained until reaching his eighteenth birthday. March 25th of that year he came overland to California, being one of four to own ox teams, which was their mode of conveyance. Arriving at Merced on the 18th of October, 1852, Mr. Smith at once began mining in Mariposa county, continuing in this occupation for about fifteen years. With his earnings he purchased a ranch located ten miles from Mariposa, consisting of four hundred acres, which he improved and cultivated, devoting the land to hay and stock raising. In 1880 he sold this property, and coming to Kern county became the owner of the eighty-acre ranch which now claims his attention and efforts, raising alfalfa and also con-

ducting a small dairy. When Mr. Smith and his wife first located in Kern county there were but two other houses in the colony, his land being a pre-emption claim, the right to which he purchased at \$25 per acre.

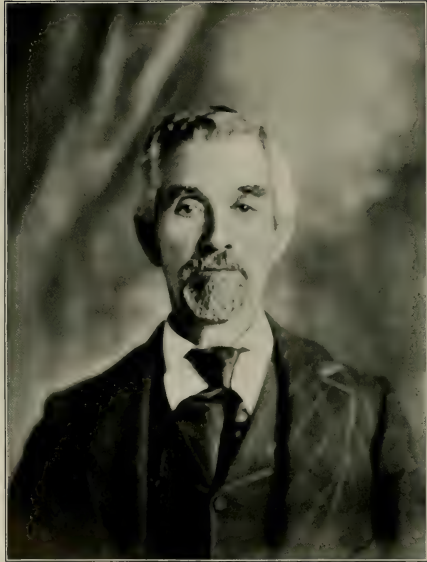
On the 25th of December, 1864, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary J. Burt, a native of Sevier county, Ark., in which state she was reared. In 1862 she came to California with her parents, Alexander and Mary (Lock) Humphreys, natives respectively of Mississippi and Alabama. The parents located in Los Angeles, but later removed to Mariposa county, where the mother died at the age of seventy and the father at seventy-seven years. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born the following children: J. Albert, who is conducting an engine in the oil fields of Kern county; Wiley C., who is manager of the Rosedale Creamery, at Rosedale, Kern county; Thomas M., who is at home; and Charles G., a talented musician and artist, who is located on a mining claim in Inyo county. By her former marriage Mrs. Smith had one daughter, Isabella Burt, who became the wife of C. E. Coughran, and now lives at Long Beach, Cal. In his political affiliations Mr. Smith is a Democrat, but has never cared for official recognition. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, having been made a member of Mariposa Lodge No. 24, F. & A. M. Mr. Smith is a member of the Congregational Church, while his wife belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

**GEORGE DAGGETT.** Ever since 1878 the name of George Daggett has been identified with ranching in Kern county, where he has improved several properties, and where he still owns a fine ranch of eighty acres five miles south of Bakersfield. Although the land has but recently come into his possession, it shows the conscientious care which it has always been his habit to bestow upon whatever he has owned, and at the less arduous stage of his career, furnishes sufficient responsibility to keep his mind occupied and his enthusiasm alert. Mr. Daggett has been one of the most active stockmen in Kern county, and is well informed concerning all kinds of stock which flourish in this region. For years he was a member of the stock firm of H. H. Fish & Company, and during this association traversed this entire section, buying, shipping, and raising stock, becoming familiar to everyone in the business, and both influential and prominent in the development of stock interests in the state.

In his youth Mr. Daggett had moderate advantages, attending the public schools in Grand Rapids, Mich., near which town his parents removed when he was a child from Ingham county, the same state, his birth occurring at Vevay,







*Jacob Meyer*

August 6, 1839. When about twenty-one years old he went to Chicago, Ill., to attend school, remaining there until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when he returned home, and in September, 1861, enlisted at Grand Rapids in Company C, First Regiment of Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, serving for twenty-three months. At the end of the service he was discharged at Nashville, Tenn., on account of disability, and subsequently remained on the home farm until 1864. The rigors of the war experience had completely undermined his health, and subsequent out-of-door work failed to restore him to the strength that he sought. Following the advice of friends and physician, he came to California in 1864 and located at Petaluma, Sonoma county, for a time filling a clerkship in a general store. Confinement, however, interfered with his recovery in an ideal climate, and he therefore turned his attention to ranching near Petaluma for about eight years.

In 1878 Mr. Daggett sold his holdings in Sonoma county, and came to Kern county, settling near Bakersfield, where he has since lived. His present ranch is on the Kern Island canal, and every foot of it can be irrigated. He is engaged in general farming and some fruit raising, and has a comfortable home and a fair share of worldly possessions. However, while fortunes have come and gone Mr. Daggett does not spend time in useless regret, for he has what is better than money, an honored name, and hosts of friends. He is sufficiently high-minded to treasure as his greatest possessions these two evidences of good faith and integrity, and to look calmly and happily at life, notwithstanding the fact that he is denied the boon of good health, and often finds his tasks a burden. Mr. Daggett subscribes to the principles of the Republican party, but has never accepted office of any kind. He is well known fraternally, and identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of Hulbert Post No. 127, G. A. R.

**JACOB MYER.** Noteworthy for his achievements in industrial, business and military circles, Jacob Myer occupies a position of prominence among the public-spirited and progressive residents of San Joaquin county. A veteran of the Civil war, a prosperous agriculturist, and a man of great force of character and strong personality, he is well deserving of honorable mention in a work of this kind, and a brief record of his life will give pleasure to many of its readers. Of strict integrity and high principles, possessing broad and enlightened views on all subjects, he has ever been among the foremost in promoting the best interests of town and county,

and has been influential in advancing the educational and moral welfare of the community. A native of Switzerland, he was born August 13, 1832, in Ober Endingen, Canton of Aargau, where his parents, Jacob and Elizabeth Myer, spent their entire lives, the father, who was a farmer, living to the age of seventy-five years. They reared a family of nine children, of whom five are living, Jacob and two of his sisters being residents of California.

Brought up on the home farm, Jacob Myer attended the public schools of Ober Endingen until fourteen years old, when he began working for wages on neighboring estates. Immigrating to America in 1859, he located first in Seneca county, Ohio, where he pursued his former occupation for two years. In 1861, aroused by the same patriotic spirit that inspired the followers of that Swiss hero, William Tell, Mr. Myer offered his services in defense of the flag of his adopted country, enlisting in Company H, Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and subsequently re-enlisted, serving until the close of the Civil war. He took part in many important engagements of the conflict, among them being the following: Second battle of Bull Run; Gettysburg; Camp Rappahannock; the engagements in the Shenandoah Valley; the battles at Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain; the engagements at Dallas; at Resaca, where he was wounded in the left hip by a spent ball; at Peach Tree Creek; Buzzard's Roost; Kenesaw Mountain; Lovejoy Station; Jonesboro; the siege of Atlanta; was with Sherman in his march to the sea, and with him entered Savannah; was subsequently with Custer in the battle of Goldsboro, and at the close of the war marched with Sherman's army in the grand review at Washington. He was honorably discharged, with the rank of corporal, in Cleveland, Ohio, after which he resumed work in his former home, Seneca county, Ohio, remaining there several years.

In 1871 Mr. Myer was induced by his brother-in-law, Mr. Garrison, a resident of California, then visiting in Ohio, to come to this state to settle permanently. Removing, therefore, with his family to San Joaquin county, he bought Mr. Garrison's two hundred and fifty-acre ranch, located on the Stanislaus river, and embarked in grain and stock-raising. Meeting with eminent success in his agricultural operations, Mr. Myer has since purchased other tracts of land, including one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his original farm; four hundred acres farther down the river, known as the Bailey ranch; seven hundred acres on the west side, four miles from Los Banos, in Merced county, being now the owner of upwards of fifteen hundred acres, eight hundred and ten acres being in the Stanislaus valley. His Merced county ranch, devoted prin-

cipally to the raising of grain, he rents, but with the assistance of his sons operates the remainder. On his large and finely cultivated home farm, Mr. Myer has made improvements of a high order, having erected a handsome residence, substantial farm buildings, and set out a family orchard. He has also a fine farm about eight miles east of Oakdale, through which the Santa Fe Railway passes, affording fine transportation for his farm productions, which are now marketed at Riverbank, but one and one-half miles distant, while Stockton, which was formerly the nearest market, is twenty-seven miles away. The wonderful success that has followed Mr. Myer in his undertakings is due entirely to his own strenuous efforts, his industry and energy being apparently unlimited, while his enterprise and ability are unsurpassed.

In Seneca county, Ohio, Mr. Myer married Kate Snyder, a native of Bavaria, Germany, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Frederick, Sidney and Jacob, assisting in the management of the home farm; Mrs. Ann Hall, living near the home ranch; and Mrs. Clara Copeland of Copperopolis. Politically Mr. Myer is a staunch Republican, and an ardent supporter of all temperance reforms. He takes keen interest in local affairs, and for several terms served as school trustee. Socially he belongs to Grant Post No. 9, G. A. R., of Modesto. Religiously he is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Birneyville, in which he is now serving as steward, as chairman of the board of trustees and as superintendent of its Sunday-school.

**PHILIP SCOTT.** One of the most liberal, enterprising and respected residents of Fresno is Philip Scott, for many years a popular conductor on the Southern Pacific Railway, but now a successful vineyardist, and chairman of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. Coming from good old New England stock, he was born near Joliet, Ill., May 3, 1848, a son of the late Jediah H. Scott. His paternal grandfather, Philip Scott, was born and reared in New England, being a cousin of Gen. Winfield Scott, but settled permanently in New York state, where he followed general farming.

A native of New York state, J. H. Scott was born on an island in the St. Lawrence river. Succeeding to the independent occupation in which he was reared, he settled in Will county, Ill., taking up land near Joliet, where he improved a farm. In 1852, with his wife and children, he started across the plains with horse teams, also driving a large herd of fine cattle and horses. Coming along the old

Placerville route, he stopped over in Carson valley to feed his stock, when the Indians carried away all of his loose cattle and horses. Settling near Sacramento, he bought three hundred acres of land, and was prosperously engaged in the raising of stock and hay until the memorable flood of 1861, when he was drowned out, losing his entire property. Purchasing then a small place in Sacramento county, on the American river, he lived there until 1885, when he removed to Amador county, where he followed farming a few years. Coming then to Fresno, he was a resident of this city until his death, in 1895. He married Anna Chamberlain, who was born in Canada, a daughter of Franklin Chamberlain, a native of Massachusetts, and the descendant of an early family of New England. She survived him, and is now living in Fresno. Of the children born of their union the following is the record: Franklin was drowned in 1855, aged eleven years; Philip is the subject of this sketch; Jay, a farmer, was for two terms sheriff of Fresno county; Henry was killed by a mining accident in Tuolumne county; Ella is a resident of Fresno; Mrs. Lillie Joy died in Sacramento in 1885; Harriet is the wife of Frederick Berry, of San Francisco; Mrs. Alta Prouty is a resident of Fresno; Benjamin, a farmer, lives in Fresno county; Frank, a farmer, of Fresno, was formerly deputy sheriff; and Mrs. Alice Prouty is a resident of Fresno.

Coming across the plains with his parents when but four years old, Philip Scott received a practical education in the district schools of Sacramento county, and throughout the days of his boyhood and youth assisted in the farm work. Entering the employ of the Central Pacific Railway Company in April, 1866, he served as brakeman between Sacramento and Colfax for a year, and was then promoted, becoming conductor on a construction train. Giving up railroad work in 1870, Mr. Scott assisted his father in his agricultural labors for five years. In 1875 he accepted the position of conductor on the Visalia division of the Southern Pacific Railway, and ran on a freight train between Lathrop and Tulare until 1880. Being then promoted to passenger conductor, he ran from Oakland to Tulare and Bakersfield for ten years, having exceptional success all the time, meeting with no serious accident. In February, 1890, Mr. Scott went from Bakersfield on a hunting expedition, and was shot in the left arm by the accidental discharge of the gun of a brother conductor, receiving such an ugly wound that the arm had to be amputated during his journey home in a wagon. Three months later, May 1, 1890,

he took charge of the local train running between Fresno and Portersville, and served as conductor until April 1, 1902, when he resigned his position, and has since devoted his attention to the care of his finely cultivated vineyard, lying seven miles northeast of Fresno, and containing forty acres. In 1895 Mr. Scott took up his residence in Fresno, and opened a livery business, which he managed until it was burned out in 1898. In his vineyard he raises grapes of all kinds, making a specialty of raisin grapes, and in addition to his Fresno vineyard owns eighty acres of land in Tulare county.

In November, 1898, Mr. Scott was elected county supervisor from the third district to fill a vacancy, and in the fall of 1900 was re-elected by a handsome majority for a term of four years, and is now serving as chairman of the board. Under the instruction of the supervisors Fresno county is now erecting a new County Hospital at a cost of \$90,000, and is building a new steel bridge which will cost \$22,000.

In Sacramento, December 24, 1873, Mr. Scott married Alice Leonard, a native of that city. Her father, the late Albert Leonard, came to California via Cape Horn in 1849, and subsequently married Caroline Merrill, who crossed the plains with her parents in 1849, and who is yet a resident of Sacramento. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Scott four children have been born, namely: William M., of Fresno, horticultural commissioner for Fresno county; Jessie, wife of P. B. Donahoo, of Watsonville; Anna, wife of R. G. Barton, manager of the Barton Opera House in Fresno; and Blanche, wife of J. C. Clark, of Fresno. Politically Mr. Scott is a Republican, and fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Mrs. Scott is a member of the Christian Science Church.

**WILLIAM UNGER.** A son of Frederick and Dora J. Unger, William Unger was born in this state January 3, 1869, and when eleven years old was taken by his parents to Fresno county, where he was reared to manhood. He received a rather limited education in the common school in the vicinity of his home, the greater part of his time being spent in the practical duties of a farmer, to which he was early trained by his father. When twenty years of age he became dependent upon his own resources. He put to fruit forty acres of land on the home place on shares, of which twenty acres then became his property. Upon this he built a residence. He sold this farm in 1903,

and in the same year purchased his present ranch, located four miles northeast of Selma, Fresno county, on the Centerville and Kingsburg ditch. This property consists of forty acres, of which five acres is in vines and thirty acres in fruit trees of various kinds, while he also owns twenty acres devoted to vines in the vicinity of the Fruitvale school. Upon his purchase of the property in 1903, Mr. Unger erected a handsome residence and in every way has sought to beautify and improve his home.

In Fresno county in 1893 Mr. Unger was united in marriage with Ada E. De LaGrange, a native of West Virginia, and they are the parents of two children, Bertha E. and Elwood. Politically Mr. Unger is a Republican, and in the interests of his party is now serving as director in the Fruitvale school district.

**WILLIAM STONEMAN SIMPSON.** Prominent among the leading contractors and builders of Stanislaus county is William Stoneman Simpson, an able representative of the industrial interests of Newman. An eminent writer has said, "Never desert your own line of talent. Be what nature intended you for, and you will succeed." Appreciating the thought of this author, Mr. Simpson has measured his own ability, and straightway followed the path marked out. A native of Illinois, he was born November 26, 1867, in Galena, a son of Thomas and Sarah (Snow) Simpson, receiving the name of "Stoneman" from his mother's mother. Further parental and ancestral history may be found elsewhere in this biographical volume, in connection with the sketch of his brother, Edward Simpson.

Removing with his parents to Central City, Colo., in 1871, William S. Simpson there acquired his early education, attending the public schools. From his boyhood he was familiar with mining pursuits, working in the gold mines of Gilpin county and Leadville, Colo., during the summer seasons. He was subsequently employed in timbering during the winters, and in carpentering in summers. Coming to Newman Cal., in September, 1889, Mr. Simpson followed his trade in this locality for several years. In 1895 he started in business on his own account as a contractor and builder, for five years being at the head of the firm of Simpson & Stamper, and since 1900 being senior member of the firm of Simpson & Tompkins. During all of this time Mr. Simpson has been busily employed, having filled many contracts in Stanislaus and Merced counties, and having erected many of the larger and more important buildings of Newman, including among others the Armisted drug store; Tefts building; the bank building; the

John Cadoza and Peter Miller residences; the Acme and New Era creameries; the Rosenthal building; the Catholic Church; and his own residence.

In Newman, Mr. Simpson married Emma Giddings, who was born in Stanislaus county, and is a sister of W. W. Giddings, cashier of the Newman bank. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have two children, namely: John and Vera. Politically Mr. Simpson is an uncompromising Republican, having never swerved from the political faith in which he was reared, and fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

**SAMUEL GREGORY.** A pioneer high in the esteem of his fellow citizens is Samuel Gregory, who is located on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres two miles west of Portersville, Tulare county. He was born in Cocke county, Tenn., May 23, 1835, a son of William Gregory, also a native of that state. The elder man was a farmer by occupation, who died in 1844, when his son was not quite nine years old. His wife, formerly Susan Meral, was a native of Tennessee, and died nearly two years before her husband. Of their family of four sons and three daughters, all but one daughter are living.

Left an orphan at eight years, Samuel Gregory was taken into the home of Stewart Harris, of Marshall, Saline county, Mo., a saddler and harness maker. He attended the public school, and at the same time learned the trade of saddler. With Mr. Harris he crossed the plains in 1853, the former having made a trip to California in 1849, returning in 1851, and two years later taking his wife, our subject and his brother, Henry, to the west. The journey was made by way of Fort Bridger, Salt Lake, Humboldt and Carson rivers. Upon their safe arrival in the state they located at Woodland, Yolo county, where Mr. Harris engaged in farming and stock-raising. For one year following his arrival in California, Samuel Gregory worked with Mr. Harris, the latter paying him \$600 for his services. The following year he engaged in teaming, which occupation he continued for two years. In 1857 he went to Los Angeles and with others bought and brought north a herd of cattle, locating them in Colusa county, where Mr. Gregory took up land. He became the owner of one hundred and seventy acres, which he later sold, engaging in the sheep business in the foothills of Colusa county, where he bought eight hundred acres. After following this occupation for seven or eight years he located in College City, where he engaged in a mercantile business with his son, J. G., and F. J. Steel, now of Hanford. Later he bought out Mr. Steel, and the firm name was changed to Gregory & Greg-

ory. This business was continued successfully until 1897, when Mr. Gregory sold out and located near Portersville, Tulare county, purchasing his present farm and engaging in the dairy business and stock-raising. His entire farm is under irrigation, from the Hubbs & Miner Ditch, while Mr. Gregory is also interested in the Caldwell, McGee and Putnam Ditch.

In Cashville, Yolo county, July 4, 1859, Mr. Gregory was united in marriage with Sarah Elizabeth Calmes, born in Clark county, Ky., and a daughter of Fielding and Cassie (Horton) Calmes, of Kentucky. Mr. Calmes was a farmer in Saline county, Mo., whence he crossed the plains in 1849, returning later and bringing his family to California in 1854. He engaged in the cattle and sheep business in Colusa county, where both himself and wife died. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Gregory are the following children: Cassie, who died in Colusa, at the age of fourteen years; Fielding C., a farmer of Maxwell, Cal.; Lila, the widow of R. H. Mahaffey, now residing with her parents; Belle, the wife of J. M. Kincheloe, of Woodland; Joseph G., a farmer near Portersville; Delia, the wife of W. E. Rise, of Saratoga; H. B., a farmer near Portersville; and Walter, a farmer living at home. Mrs. Gregory is a member of the Christian Church. Fraternally Mr. Gregory is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

**WILLIAM HARLEY LEE.** While Mr. Lee is a native of Missouri, nearly his entire life has been passed in California. He has been successful in his chosen vocation, and this success is the result of his own labors. Coming to the state, many years ago he has been an eyewitness of the rapid growth and development of California, and has taken a prominent part in the improvement of Tulare county.

Mr. Lee was born October 30, 1849, in Howard county, Mo., which was also the birthplace of his father, William Lee. His grandfather was a native of Virginia, and removed from the southern state to Missouri at a very early date. He died when his son was but a small child. After his father's death William Lee was adopted by a Mr. Waite, who raised him as he would an own child. In those days the youth had few of the educational advantages now offered, merely attending the district schools when the work of the farm would allow. Thus his boyhood was passed, and on reaching man's estate he engaged in farming and tobacco raising, also manufacturing cigars. He was a soldier in the Mexican war, performing the duties of a teamster.







GEORGE J. WEGMAN

In 1850, hearing much of the splendid opportunities of California and the glorious climate, he determined to seek his fortunes in the far west. Now we would think a journey across the plains with ox teams would be almost impossible, but in those days it was the only means of getting overland to the coast, and with ambitious hopes for the future, Mr. Lee bade good-by to home and friends, and with all his earthly possessions started for the Golden West. On arrival here he first engaged in mining on the Feather and Yuba rivers, meeting with fair success. He next located in San Jose, Santa Clara county, near which place he engaged in farming. At one time he was the owner of one hundred and sixty acres where the city of San Jose now stands. After a short residence in the Santa Clara valley he removed to Napa county, where he remained until 1853, at which time he took up his residence in Tulare county, settling in the spring of 1854 near what is now the town of Venus. Here he took up land on the Outside creek, which he improved. He dug the first ditch to be used for irrigation purposes, and it was called the Lee ditch.

In 1869 Mr. Lee made another change of location, this time removing to the Yokohl valley. He purchased railroad land and later pre-empted and homesteaded a tract, owning altogether six hundred and forty acres, mostly in the valley. After taking up his residence in the Yokohl valley he became one of the leading farmers and stockmen of the county, continuing to live there until his death in 1892, at the age of sixty-seven years.

While still a young man Mr. Lee was united in marriage with Elizabeth Fugit, who was born in Missouri and died in California in 1894. She was the mother of ten children, five of whom are still living, as follows: William H., whose name introduces this review; Charles H., a resident of the Yokohl valley; Joseph F., a farmer and stockman living on the Tule river; Louisiana, now Mrs. Daly, who lives near Venus; and May, now Mrs. Dumont, of Yokohl valley.

William Harley Lee was but a babe in arms when his parents crossed the plains, so that his first remembrance of life is in California. Here he was raised on his father's farm and received his education in the Deep Creek school district. In 1869 he located in the Yokohl valley where he engaged in farming and stock-raising. At the age of eighteen he homesteaded the one hundred and sixty acres where he now resides. This place he has improved and placed under a high state of cultivation, making it one of the finest ranches in this section of the county. From time to time he has added to his original purchase until he now owns eight hundred and sixty acres, most of which is in the valley. In addi-

tion to farming, Mr. Lee is interested in stock-raising, making a specialty of Short-horn cattle. Aside from his farming and stock-raising, Mr. Lee is also engaged in teaming, using eight horses and three wagons to haul talc or soapstone to Exeter; he is also interested in various other enterprises.

In the Yokohl valley Mr. Lee married Miss Livinia Hector, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of John Hector. Six children have been born to them, namely: Nettie Eliza married Samuel Combs, of Yokohl; Emma Louisa, the wife of George Hall, of Chico; Hettie May married Warren Awbery, and died in Exeter in May, 1903; Laura Belle, at home; William Edmond of Chico, and Rena Ethel, also living at home.

Mr. Lee votes the Democratic ticket, but he has never had the time to take an active interest in politics, preferring rather to devote his entire attention to his own business interests. As a result of this application, he has accumulated a handsome property, and now he and his estimable wife have reached the age when they are in a position to enjoy themselves. Both are very popular and have a large circle of friends who wish for them many years of happiness.

---

GEORGE JOHN WEGMAN. From the time of his arrival in California until his death more than twenty years later Mr. Wegman was a resident of Tulare county and held an honored position among its energetic farmers. Of German birth and ancestry, he was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, where his father, Michael, owned a vineyard and winery. The years of his boyhood were spent in the school room and as an assistant to his father, under whose training he learned habits of industry, self-reliance and perseverance of inestimable value to him in later life. During early manhood he married Caroline Wennerhold, who was born in Kur-Hessen, and was a daughter of Jacob Wennerhold, an officer in the German army. During his service of nineteen years as a soldier he bore a part in the Napoleonic wars, received many wounds in battle, and participated in the memorable engagement at Waterloo. Subsequent to his honorable discharge from the army he engaged in the hotel business in Germany, remaining there until his death.

The year 1849 found Mr. Wegman and his wife aboard a sailing vessel crossing the Atlantic ocean. Though without means, they had youth and health and hopeful hearts, and to such as these a livelihood is assured in our country. At first Mr. Wegman followed the cooper's trade in Lancaster, Pa., but about 1855 he went west to the Mississippi river and built a cooper's shop at Warsaw, Hancock county, Ill., where

he remained for some years, also engaged in farming: After the close of the war in 1865, he removed to Wisconsin and took up a farm in Jefferson county. From there, in May of 1875, he came to the Pacific coast region and settled in Tulare county, where he bought land three miles northeast of Visalia, on Elbow creek. In addition to raising crops suited to the soil and climate he engaged in the stock business, and met with a fair degree of success through his industrious efforts. On this homestead his death occurred December 29, 1896, when he was seventy-five years of age. A few years later, on the same home place, occurred the death of his wife, who passed away June 24, 1903, aged eighty-two years, five months and twenty-three days. In religious belief she was a sincere member of the German Reformed Church, and through a long life exemplified in character the doctrines she upheld. Four children comprised her family, namely: Caroline, wife of Andrew Belz; Theo., who died in Wisconsin at fourteen years of age; Eliza Otelia, who cared for her parents until their death and since then has continued on the old homestead with the Belz family; and Mathilda, who died in California at eighteen years of age.

ANDREW BELZ. As indicated by the name, the Belz family is of German extraction, the ancestral home having been in Germany as far back as the records can be traced. The first of the family to establish a home in the United States was Christopher Belz, a Saxon by birth and a machinist by trade, who, during 1854, crossed the ocean to America and settled in Rome, N. Y., following his trade in that city until his death. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Margaret Schnuer, was a native of Saxony and died in the home of her son, Andrew, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. In religious belief Christopher Belz and wife were faithful adherents of the Lutheran Church, and contributed to its maintenance as their means permitted. They were the parents of four children, of whom Andrew, the eldest was the only one to settle in California. He was born in Saxemeiningen, Germany, January 31, 1832. During boyhood he learned the machinist's trade under the supervision of his father, whom in 1854 he accompanied to Rome, Oneida county, N. Y. Later he removed to Jefferson county, Wis., where he followed his trade. The year 1865 found him a pioneer of Visalia, Cal., where he followed the blacksmith's trade.

Returning to Wisconsin in 1874 Mr. Belz was there united in marriage with Miss Caroline Wegman, with whom he established a home in Visalia. After his marriage he built a blacksmith's shop

and followed the trade in Visalia. During 1888 he discontinued work at his trade and on the site of the shop, near the Southern Pacific depot, erected the Pacific lodging house, which still stands. For some years he has made his home on the Wegman estate, three miles from town. This property is largely under alfalfa and is rented for a dairy and stock farm. Excellent irrigation facilities are furnished by the Mathews ditch, in which the family are financially interested. In politics Mr. Belz votes the Republican ticket, while in religious connections he and his wife, as well as Miss Wegman, are believers in the faith which Dr. Martin Luther established during the stormy period of the Reformation. In the Belz family there are three children. The older son, George Andrew, is a graduate of the San Jose State Normal School with the class of 1902 and at this writing teaches school in Kern county. The younger son, Frank Arthur, is a student in Santa Clara College, and the only daughter, Eliza M., remains with her parents on the homestead.

CHESTER DUSY. Among the native-born citizens of Fresno county conspicuous for their ability and worth is Chester Dusy, a rising young druggist of Selma. He comes of pioneer stock, being a son of the late Frank Dusy, and was born April 22, 1875, in Selma, of Canadian ancestry. Frank Dusy, a native of Canada, removed to the States when a lad of twelve years, and was brought up and educated in Maine, living near Penobscot. After learning the trade of stone-cutter he worked as a journeyman a few years, receiving fair wages. Following the tide of emigration westward in 1852, he came to California in pursuit of gold, and for a number of years thereafter was engaged in mining near LaGrange, in Stanislaus county. Removing to Fresno county in 1869, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land lying three miles north of Selma, and first embarked in business as a sheep-raiser, subsequently setting out a vineyard, which he managed with good success. Going to Sunrise City, Alaska, in 1894, he prospected and mined there for a while, and then returned to Selma, where he lived until his death in 1898, at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Ross, was born in Nova Scotia and died in Selma, on the home ranch, in 1894, aged forty-three years.

The oldest child of the parental household, Chester Dusy, attended the public schools of Selma during the days of his boyhood and youth, receiving his diploma at the high school in 1894. Desirous then of becoming a pharmacist, he worked for two years in the drug store of Webster Brothers, and was subsequently in

the employ of E. A. Cutler, druggist, in Fresno two years. Continuing then his studies at the California College of Pharmacy, Mr. Dusy was graduated from that institution in 1901. In January of that year he started in business on his own account, forming a partnership with Mark A. Sawrie, with whom he has since been associated. This enterprising firm has one of the finest stores of its kind in the city, and enjoys a large and lucrative patronage.

Mr. Dusy married, in Selma, Annette M. Levis, who was born and bred in Farmersville, Cal. Politically Mr. Dusy supports the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member of Selma Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M.; of Selma Chapter, O. E. S.; of Selma Circle, W. O. W.; and of Selma Lodge, F. of A.

**GEORGE G. MURRY.** A leading attorney of Portersville, George G. Murry is numbered among the representative professional men of that city, his position being won by the ability which has characterized his efforts. He is likewise distinguished as the son of one of the first settlers of the Tule river section, J. P. Murry, known for nearly forty years as one of the most prominent stockmen of this vicinity. He made and lost several fortunes in the stock business, at his death, however, leaving considerable property to be divided among his heirs. He was one of the best known and honored of the early citizens of the country, still retaining a place in the affections of those who remember him, although his death occurred some years ago. By marriage he allied himself with a prominent family of Tulare county, Martha Keeney becoming his wife. She was the daughter of John R. Keeney, a pioneer millwright, who helped build the old flour mills of Portersville, later becoming sole proprietor until his death. He was prominent in public affairs in the county, serving in 1855 as county recorder and later as county clerk. Mrs. Murry died June 10, 1900, having survived her husband a little less than a year.

George G. Murry is the only living child of his parents. He was born in Visalia March 24, 1867, his childhood being spent in Portersville and vicinity. He learned the stock business thoroughly, in all its details, under the capable instruction of his father, with whom he remained associated until 1884. That year he went to New Mexico, and for three years acted as superintendent of a ranch owned by George Hearst and J. B. Haggin. Returning then to Portersville, he engaged as a clerk in the store of R. Porter Putnam, and later for R. W. McFarland. Deciding to take up the study of law, he entered Vanderbilt University, of Nashville, Tenn., in 1893, taking a two years' course. Returning

home he continued to assist his father until the fall of 1896, when he was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court, and opened an office in Portersville. With the exception of four years—from January, 1899, to January, 1903, when he filled the appointment of J. A. Allen to the office of deputy district attorney—he has since conducted a general practice in Portersville and has met with a gratifying success. In the fall of 1902, in the Republican convention, he was unanimously nominated for district attorney, but in the election that followed was defeated, as the county went overwhelmingly Democratic. However, he carried his home town by a majority of two hundred and forty-five, an increase of more than two hundred over the usual Republican majority. Since opening his law office in 1903 he has gained the principal clientele of Portersville and vicinity, where he holds high rank for his ability, tact and talent in the line of his profession. Throughout his career he has been associated with Judge J. A. Allen in all superior court work. Mr. Murry is also a member of the county central committee, and is state committeeman for Tulare county, his work in the councils of the party wielding no little influence for the advancement of the principles he endorses.

Mr. Murry also owns a ranch of two hundred and forty acres adjoining Portersville, a part of the original Murry homestead, where he still engages in the stock business. On this property is located the Portersville Golf grounds, Mr. Murry being a member of the club. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Portersville Lodge No. 303, and also belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star. He is identified with Visalia Parlor No. 19, Native Sons of the Golden West.

**PRESTON LEANDER BOZEMAN** is a native of California, first seeing the light of day near Hanford, in what is now Kings county. He was born October 14, 1865. His father, J. W. Bozeman, was born in Mississippi, which state was also the birthplace of his father, Thomas J., who was a large planter and who came to California in 1852, crossing the plains with ox-teams. He was the first man to pitch a tent at the town of Bozeman, which was named in his honor. Later he took up his residence near what is now the town of Kingston, where he died at an advanced age.

J. W. Bozeman, the father of Preston L., accompanied his father in the journey across the plains, reaching the Golden State in 1852. For a time he was engaged in the sheep business, but in 1875 settled near Lemoore, where he purchased a ranch and became interested in the

grain and stock business. Success crowned his efforts so that he is now able to enjoy his old age, living in a comfortable home in Hanford.

Miss Susan Hendrey became Mr. Bozeman's wife. She was born in Indiana, a daughter of Isaac Hendrey, who crossed the plains in the early days with his family. Reaching California a settlement was made in San Bernardino county, where he lived the balance of his life. His wife survived him and died in Hanford in 1900.

Mrs. Bozeman was the mother of eight children. The eldest in this large family was Preston L. Bozeman. His boyhood was passed on the farm near Lemoore, attending the district schools when the work of the farm would permit. Remaining at home until he had reached his twenty-first year, he then engaged in farming near his boyhood home, where he remained for three years. At the expiration of this time he moved to Fresno county, locating in the Coast Range mountains, where he lived for the following two years. He then went to Armona, where he engaged in the fruit business for two years. In 1895 he came to Exeter, where he purchased land and engaged in the orange growing business. He also went to work for others, at one time having the care of one hundred and sixteen acres. He erected his present residence in 1904. In addition to his seven-acre home tract, he owns ten acres near his home.

In Visalia Mr. Bozeman was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Hill, a native of Missouri and a daughter of R. M. C. Hill, who is now living retired in Visalia. Mrs. Bozeman is the mother of five children, namely: Ethel, Claude, Meady, Robert and Carl.

In politics Mr. Bozeman is a Democrat, while fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World. Here where he is best known he has a large circle of friends. His life thus far has been a success and this is the result of his own efforts.

---

ALLAN MCGREGOR, a member of the firm of Henderson & McGregor, of Lindsay, Tulare county, came to California in 1884 and has since won for himself a position of prominence among the enterprising citizens of this community. He was born in Ontario, near Ottawa, December 21, 1851, a son of Peter McGregor, a native of Perthshire, Scotland, who immigrated from his native land in young manhood, locating in Ontario, where he followed farming for a livelihood. He married Ann Stewart, also of Perthshire, Scotland, and both himself and wife are now deceased. They became the parents of five sons and three daughters, of whom three sons and three daughters are now living.

Next to the youngest in his father's family, Allan McGregor was reared to young manhood among the scenes of his birth. At the age of four years he began an attendance of the public school in the vicinity of his home, after the completion of which course he entered a grocery store in Sarnia, Ontario, preparatory to learning the details of the business. Later he traveled through various parts of Ontario and the United States, finally emigrating to California in 1884. He located first in San Jose, where he engaged in farming, making that locality his home until 1895. In the last named year he came to Lindsay and two years later bought an interest with Mr. Henderson in the general merchandise business, which they now conduct. Mr. McGregor is also interested in orange growing and takes a strong interest in both the commercial and horticultural possibilities of the section. Politically he is a Republican and fraternally is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

---

JOHN ROY HEPBURN. A native of Illinois, Mr. Hepburn was born at Saybrook, McLean county, September 27, 1874. His father, John, was born in Scotland, and on coming to this country settled in Saybrook. By occupation he was a stationary engineer. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in an Illinois regiment and served until the close of hostilities. On his return to Saybrook, he again took up his occupation of engineer which he continued to follow until October, 1874, when he was killed by an explosion, caused by some one tampering with the engine during a short absence.

Mr. Hepburn married Elizabeth Smith Murphy, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Joseph Murphy, who migrated from Pennsylvania to Illinois, where he followed farming. Mrs. Hepburn now resides in Los Angeles. She is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church and is engaged in missionary work.

John Roy Hepburn is the youngest of two children, his older brother now living in Alameda. In 1882 the Hepburn family removed to Highmore, Hyde county, S. D., where the mother had homesteaded a fine farm. Here our subject was reared, attending the public schools, and later taking a course in the Mitchell Business College.

In 1890 he came to California, first locating in San Jose. There he entered the employ of Hugh Holthouse, a farmer and liveryman, with whom he remained eight years. At the expiration of this time, in 1898, he removed to Lindsay, where he began budding oranges for K. H. Platte. Continuing with Mr. Platte and Mr. Bagg's until 1901 he secured a position with





*B. L. Roadcap*



the Moore Orange orchard, where he remained until March, 1904. He then accepted his present position, that of superintendent of the Giant Oak Fruit Company, near Exeter. Here he has charge of four hundred and forty acres, three hundred and forty acres of which are devoted to fruit. It is said to be the finest fruit orchard in the county, and under his supervision satisfactory results are being obtained.

While in San Jose, Mr. Hepburn was united in marriage with Miss Lillie Foster, a native of Vacaville. Three children are the result of this union: Budd, Merle and Ruth. Being of a saving disposition he has become the owner of eight acres of land where the town site of Lindsay is located. In Mr. Hepburn Tulare county has a man who will surely make his way and become one of the influential citizens.

---

**BENJAMIN L. ROADCAP.** The land which forms the present homestead of Mr. Roadcap lies on the St. Johns river in Tulare county and comprises eighty-three acres of the old Henry Perkins estate. Through an excellent system of sub-irrigation the proper amount of moisture can be furnished to the growing crops, but no necessity for flooding the land has arisen. Corn and alfalfa are the principal crops, several hundred tons of the latter product furnishing each year ample feed for the stock on the place, besides giving the owner considerable hay to place upon the market. The raising and feeding of hogs he has made his specialty, and at times there have been as many as four hundred head of fine grade Poland-Chinas in his feed yards.

The Roadcap family is of old Virginian stock. Emanuel Roadcap, a native of that commonwealth, was a soldier in the war of 1812, after which he took up farm pursuits. George, son of Emanuel, was also of Virginian birth and proved his patriotic spirit by serving in the Union army during the Civil war. Later he removed to Texas and settled on a farm near Dallas, subsequently removing to Trinidad, Colo., and eventually coming to California, where he died at the home of his son Benjamin in 1902, at seventy-one years of age. By his marriage to Lean Ritchie he was united with an old Virginian family, her father having been a farmer in that state. She still survives and makes her home with her only child, Benjamin L., near Visalia. The latter was born at Harrisburg, Va., August 14, 1856, and as a boy received such advantages as neighboring schools afforded. In 1880 he ventured upon farm pursuits in Texas, but five years later went to Trinidad, Colo., where he engaged in general contracting. Going to Salt Lake City in 1891 he was there employed for three years as superintendent of streets. The

year 1895 found him in California, where he has since made his home on the Perkins farm in Tulare county, at first renting the place, and in January, 1904, acquiring a part of the homestead by purchase.

The first marriage of Mr. Roadcap took place in old Virginia and united him with Florence Koogler, who was a native of that state, and who died in Tulare county in 1900. The children of their union are as follows: Gilbert Floyd, who is interested in baling hay in partnership with his father; Effie Lee, wife of John D. Martin, of Visalia; Leslie Bernard, Wonda Virginia and Harry Niles, who reside on the home place. Mr. Roadcap's second marriage was solemnized in Watsonville, Cal., and united him with Sina Maggie Clauson, a native of that place, and a daughter of Hans and Sina M. Clauson, natives of Denmark and honored citizens of Watsonville, where the mother died in young womanhood. Though not a partisan in opinions, Mr. Roadcap is known among acquaintances as a pronounced Republican, ready to give his time and influence to the party's support. The Woodmen of the World receive his allegiance and he in turn is the recipient of such advantages as the order confers upon its members. While the period of his residence in Tulare county has been comparatively brief, covering less than a decade, he has gained a success that is as commendable as it is gratifying, and at the same time he has built up a large circle of friends among the people of his part of the county.

---

**ELEMUEL M. MILLS.** Though a resident of the San Joaquin valley but a brief period, Mr. Mills has successfully established himself in an assured position of financial and social prominence, having already identified his interests with those of the upbuilding forces of the community. He is located two miles northeast of the city of Merced, and with his wife is owner of the magnificent ranch widely known as the Sells property, toward the development of which \$80,000 has been spent in the past few years. The property consists of one hundred and fifty acres, given over entirely to horticultural pursuits, among the fruits successfully produced in this section being lemons, oranges, peaches, plums, figs, apricots, pomegranates, almonds, English walnuts, and in fact about every variety known to the California horticulturist. The splendid management which Mr. Mills has exercised since taking possession of the ranch has increased its value, an evidence of which lies in the superiority of the fruit produced, the quantity as well as quality, and the rank which his property takes among the best equipped and most productive of the county. No encomium is

needed upon the ability of Mr. Mills, for his work has already proved itself, and he is to-day numbered among the representative horticulturists of Merced county.

Of sturdy eastern stock, Elemeul M. Mills was born in Lancaster county, Pa., September 22, 1860. His father, Nathaniel B. Mills, was a native of Pennsylvania, in which state his father, also named Nathaniel B., settled when he emigrated from his English home. Nathaniel B. Mills, Jr., was a man of remarkable business judgment and foresight, and in Pennsylvania became the owner of large freighting teams, with headquarters at Pittsburg and operating to various adjacent points. He also had extensive interests in copper mines in his native state, and owned considerable real estate in Lancaster, his home. In addition to the business judgment and ability which was his by inheritance he was also supplied with a trade, being an expert mechanic. In 1861 he enlisted in Company H, Ninety-seventh Regiment, Ohio Infantry, in which company he served during the war, in the course of time being raised to the rank of first lieutenant, and in 1871 he secured the contract for the delivery of mail in Coshocton county, Ohio, removing to that location where he also purchased farming lands. He died in Ohio in 1897, at the age of seventy-seven years. In Pennsylvania he married Sarah Hagans, also a native of that state. In his political convictions Mr. Mills was a Democrat. He was a man of much erudition, as well as practical ability, both of which were visible in his life work.

Until he was seventeen years of age, Elemeul M. Mills remained at home, when he went to Columbus, Ohio, a distance of one hundred and twenty-five miles from his birthplace, with the intention of entering good schools and fitting himself for his lifework. During vacations he taught in the public schools, thus earning money to pay his own way in the pursuit of an education. He graduated from Reynoldsburg high school, after which he entered the National Normal University, by which he was graduated in the College of Science, continuing as student and teacher until 1885. He then located in Indianola, Iowa, and secured an interest in a mercantile business with which he remained connected for three years. During this time he was elected principal of the Carlisle school and served with credit to himself and those who gave him their support. Returning to Ohio in 1888 he entered Chautauqua College, from which institution he was graduated with honors in 1892, after which he taught in his native state for eight years. In 1900 he engaged in his first real estate transaction, disposing of some property belonging to the family at Columbus. In the same year he came to California and in Merced county took

charge of a \$3,000 fruit crop, which was his first experience as an orchardist. In the following year he engaged with J. H. Rucker & Co., a real estate firm in San Jose, and in a very short time had made a record as a salesman, now being considered one of the best real estate men in the valley. In one month he sold eight thousand, two hundred acres of land in the San Joaquin valley to eastern people, in tracts of from forty to three thousand acres. He is now connected with the A. N. Town Company, of San Francisco.

The marriage of Mr. Mills, which occurred in Ohio in 1883, united him with Carrie B. Behm, also a native of Ohio and the daughter of Joseph and Barbara A. (Helsel) Behm. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, which was also the location of the maternal ancestry, the maternal grandfather, Philip Helsel, being a native of the state, whence he removed to Ohio in 1801 and became the owner of considerable property in and about Columbus. To Mr. and Mrs. Mills were born the following children: Ross M., now a student of Stanford University; Harry B., Edna F., and Sarah V. In his political convictions Mr. Mills believes as his father did and is a staunch adherent of the principles of the Democratic party. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JAMES BUCHANAN JORDAN. A native son of the state, James Buchanan Jordan was born in Monterey county, near San Juan, November 27, 1856, the youngest in a family of twelve children, six of whom are living. His father, John Jordan, was a native of Illinois and a '49er, for more complete details concerning whose life refer to the sketch of E. F. Jordan, which appears on another page of this work. Since 1857 he has made his home in Tulare county, living first on Chattan's Slough and later on the Kaweah. His father being engaged in the stock business, his boyhood years were spent on a farm, while he attended the district school. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years old, when he went to Arizona and spent six years in prospecting and mining in Globe and Silver King. In 1883 he returned to Tulare county and located east of Exeter, where he engaged in the raising of grain on from five hundred to three thousand acres of land. He used as high as six six-horse teams, and also bought and conducted a combined harvester, meeting with gratifying success in his efforts. He eventually purchased land, first buying two hundred and forty acres of the northeast half of section 25, township 18, range 26, and eighty acres of the south half of the northwest quarter of section 35, township 18, range 26. He still

owns this property, but leases it. In 1899 he located in Yokohl valley, where he owns twenty-six hundred acres, all fenced and in one body, and used for stock-raising and general farming purposes, seven hundred acres being under plow. In Kern county, where he made his home from 1886 to 1891, he owns three hundred and twenty acres, which he rents.

In Bakersfield, Kern county, Mr. Jordan was united in marriage with Ellen Myers, on the 23d of March, 1893. She was born in San Diego, Cal., the daughter of Joseph Myers, who was born in Illinois and came to California in the '50s. He now resides on Dry creek, Tulare county, with his wife, formerly Matilda Fancher, a native of California. They were the parents of thirteen children, twelve of whom are living, Mrs. Jordan being the fifth in order of birth and being reared to young womanhood in Tulare county. To Mr. and Mrs. Jordan have been born six children, namely: Claude Allen, Grace May, James Earl, Harvey Hampton, and twins, Preston Scott and Ethel Fern. Mr. Jordan is a Democrat in his political convictions and has been active in his efforts to promote the principles he endorses. He served as a member of the county central committee, and for some time was trustee of the schools in the Kaweah and Yokohl districts. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in Kern county and is now a member of the lodge in Exeter.

DR. N. W. WILLIAMS. Born in Ogdensburg, N. Y., Dr. N. W. Williams is the son of Nelson and Mary (Shapee) Williams. The father was born in Liverpool, England, and the mother in Paris, France. They were farmers near Ogdensburg, N. Y., where their death occurred.

Dr. Williams was reared on the farm, having the advantages of the district schools. He spent some time in a store and then served a three years' apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade. Not finding it to his liking he came to Oakland, Cal., in 1874. He became interested in photography and soon was an excellent retoucher of negatives. While following that business he became interested in the study of medicine under Dr. D. D. Crowley, and in due time entered the California Medical College, where he was graduated in 1884, with the degree of M. D. He practiced at Lemoore, now Kings county, for a period of three years and then located at Traver, Tulare county, when that town was at its zenith. He had a successful practice there until February, 1903, when he located in Lindsay, where he erected a residence and office and follows his chosen profession.

Dr. Williams is a stockholder in the Lindsay

Rochdale Association. He is a lover of fine horses and owns Dr. W., one of the finest bred and best horses in the state. His first season's record of 2:07½ was made at Sacramento in 1904. Dr. W. was sired by Robert Basler, and his dam was sired by Sacramento, the son of Monroe Chief, and is only four times removed from Hambletonian, No. 10.

Dr. Williams was made a Mason in Potsdam, N. Y., and is now a member of the lodge at Traver. He is a staunch Republican, and is an active member of the California State Eclectic Medical Association. Mrs. Dr. Williams was Zerelda Pitzer, born in Mariposa county, Cal., and is a lady of much culture and refinement.

CHARLES E. MACKEY. The Mair <sup>100</sup> ery stable has for one of its proprietors Charles E. Mackey, one of the enterprising and worthy young men of Exeter, and one who bids fair to be named among the most successful business men of this section. Born in Rockbridge, Ozark county, Mo., December 20, 1871, he is the son of Archie Mackey, a native of Indiana who settled in Missouri at an early day and became a farmer. During the Civil war he served valiantly for three years, after which he removed to Jackson county, Ark., and followed farming until his death in 1876, just on the eve of his departure for California. His wife, formerly Penelope Hawkins, was a native of Gentry county, Mo., and a daughter of Joseph Hawkins, an old settler of the state who died in Gentry county. After her husband's death Mrs. Mackey returned to Ozark county, Mo., purchased a farm and reared her family to useful manhood and womanhood. Of her ten children five are now living, Charles E. Mackey being the youngest and the only one in California.

Charles E. Mackey was reared on his mother's farm in Missouri, attending the district schools until assuming the responsibilities of manhood. When but little more than seventeen years old he came to California, in Visalia entering the employ of J. V. Huffaker for a time, and afterward being employed in the Driving Park with different horsemen. In 1892 he went to Yokohl valley and engaged in farming and stock-raising for four years, in January, 1896, locating in Exeter and buying the only livery business of the place. Since that time he has conducted the same with constantly increasing success, in 1903 taking in a partner in the person of A. L. Montgomery, the firm now being known as Mackey & Montgomery. In 1904 they built a barn, the dimensions of which are 120x50 feet, with an ell measuring 60x75 feet, thorough in all its equipments, and being well supplied with fine horses and vehicles. For several years,



previous to the building of the spur, Mr. Mackey conducted a four-horse stage line between Visalia and Exeter, and met with a splendid success in the enterprise.

In Yokohl valley Mr. Mackey was united in marriage with Lou Hawkins, a native of Georgia, and they have one child, Aubrey. Mrs. Mackey is a member of the Christian Church, and supports every movement in its interest. Fraternally Mr. Mackey is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Woodmen of the World, of Exeter. Politically he is a staunch Democrat and is active in the support of the principles he endorses. In 1898 he was elected constable and served for four years, at the end of that period refusing a re-nomination. In July, 1903, he was appointed by the board of supervisors justice of the peace, which office he still retains.

---

**WILLIAM FRANCIS JORDAN.** With the passing away of William Francis Jordan from the scene of his life's activity, was lost to the community one of the time-honored landmarks of the early days of the state, a first settler of Yokohl valley, and for many years a potent factor in its development and progress. He was born in Van Zandt county, Tex., November 14, 1838, a son of John and Eliza Jane (Sadorus) Jordan, whose biographical history is given at length in the sketch of E. F. Jordan, which appears in another part of this volume. William Francis Jordan was brought to California when only a small child, being reared to young manhood in Monterey county. In 1857 he came with his parents to Kaweah, Tulare county, where he completed his education in the Kaweah district school. Upon attaining manhood he engaged in general farming and stock-raising, early locating in Yokohl valley, where he bought land, owning at one time twenty-four hundred acres. He was successful in his operations as a stockman and accumulated a comfortable competence. His death occurred September 1, 1901. He was a man of strong religious character, being an active member of the Baptist Church. Fraternally he affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically cast his ballot with the Democratic party.

Mr. Jordan was married twice, his first wife being Henrietta Ann Brooks, a native of Texas and the daughter of Micajah Brooks. Her death occurred on the home farm in the Yokohl valley. Of her six children two attained maturity, Laura, the wife of Henry Watts, of Bakersfield; and Alma, residing in Bakersfield. Near Exeter, February 15, 1888, Mr. Jordan was united in marriage with Mary Synnor Combs, who was born in Cass county, Mo., where she spent the first few years of her life. Her father, John

Cuthbert Combs (a brother of Dr. F. A. Combs, of Visalia, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume), was a native of Kentucky, and in 1875 he brought his family to California, his first trip having been made here in 1849, and several others in the intervening years. Mrs. Jordan was the oldest of ten children. She is the mother of four children, all of whom are at home, namely: William S., Allen Sadorus, John Cuthbert and Samuel Howard. Mrs. Jordan now owns four hundred and sixty acres of land in the Yokohl valley, and since her husband's death has continued the stock business with marked success. She has fine running water on the place, piped throughout, and in every way conducts her affairs in a modern and up-to-date method. She has recently set out a small lemon orchard on her place. In her religious convictions Mrs. Jordan is a Presbyterian, and politically, although she cannot cast a ballot, wields no little influence for the advancement of Democratic principles. In January, 1905, she removed to Exeter in order to give her children better school advantages, though still managing the ranch.

---

**SAMUEL A. BAGGS.** There is not a man in the entire state of California who has a more enviable reputation as a horticulturist than Mr. Baggs. Coming to the state in 1887 and locating in the southern part, he had ample opportunity to enter the fruit business. Becoming deeply interested in his work, he has steadily advanced until now he has gained a reputation of which he may feel proud.

A native of Illinois, he was born in Sparta, August 20, 1862. His father, William Baggs, came to America and settled at Sparta, where he purchased land and engaged in farming. He married Amanda Hague, who was born in Sparta and is now living in Arkansas, the wife of Mr. McBride, Mr. Baggs having died in 1860.

Samuel Baggs was a youth of but seven years when his father died and since the age of ten has made his own way in the world. His educational advantages were limited to the district school which he attended while working for his board. Remaining in his native state until 1887, he then came to California, locating at Riverside, where he secured work in the orange orchards. A year later he began pruning and budding and soon gained the reputation of being the most successful budder in the state. Of a saving disposition, he accumulated a small sum with which he purchased two acres of land at Arlington.

In March, 1899, Mr. Baggs came to Lindsay, at once engaging in horticultural work. Later he purchased his present home on which he erected



a fine residence and set out orange trees and put two acres into strawberries. This place is highly improved, having a well and a pumping plant run by an electric motor installed at a cost of \$1,000.

In addition to looking after his own business, Mr. Baggs has charge of the San Dimas Nursery Company, for R. M. Teague. Since locating here he has budded over thirty-five thousand orchard trees in Tulare county, and since he took up this line of work he has budded hundreds of thousands of trees. Recognizing his worth and ability, the people have made him the horticultural inspector of Lindsay and Exeter and for one term he served as inspector for Tulare county.

While living in Riverside, Mr. Baggs met and married Minnie O. Simms. She was born in Kentucky and when sixteen years of age came to California. Mr. and Mrs. Baggs are the parents of one child, Eva M.

Fraternally Mr. Baggs belongs to Court California No. 551, Independent Order of Foresters, of Riverside. He is also a welcome visitor in the lodge rooms of the Woodmen of the World. In politics he votes the Democratic ticket, but is not greatly interested in political matters.

Mr. Baggs has had to make his own way in the world since he was a mere youth, and the success he has made of his life is the result of his own labors.

---

**JAMES SYLVANUS LEWIS.** The identification of James Sylvanus Lewis, an esteemed and highly honored citizen of Tulare county, with the progress and development of this section of the state of California is not exceeded by that of any other pioneer. He was born among the primitive scenes of the early days, reared through boyhood to an understanding of the privations and hardships of pioneer life, and in manhood bent his every energy and effort, not alone to a personal success, but to a material upbuilding of the state that claimed his allegiance.

The Lewis family came originally of southern stock, Kentucky being their home for many years. There Samuel Lewis, the grandfather of James S., was born, grew to manhood and became prominent in public affairs, serving as county judge for some years. He finally removed to Jackson county, Mo., where he served in the same capacity, and in 1849 became a pioneer of California. He spent a few years in Amador county, thence, with the Harrells, about 1853, came to Tulare county. He engaged as a stockman on the Tule river, where he became owner of a large ranch six miles west of Portersville, the first house on the place being built from timber which he split and dressed for the purpose. His

death occurred in that location in 1872, at an advanced age. His son, Joseph Lewis, a native of Kentucky, accompanied his father to Missouri, where he was married. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California by means of ox teams, locating in Amador county, where he mined until 1855. In that year he located in Tulare county and became interested in stock-raising, entering a ranch on the Tule river six miles west of Portersville. In 1859 he moved his family to the ranch, where he followed stock-raising. After the passage of the no-fence law he engaged in grain-raising, purchasing land until he owned three hundred and twenty acres. This he afterward disposed of and bought one hundred and sixty acres one mile east of Portersville, where he continued to follow general farming and stock-raising. Disposing of that property also, he then purchased a farm on the Upper Tule, seven miles east of Portersville, where his death occurred October 17, 1904, at the age of eighty years. He was a devout member of the Baptist Church, and politically cast his ballot with the Democratic party. His wife, formerly Ellen Allen, a native of Missouri, survives him, now residing on the old homestead at the age of seventy-four years. Of their nine children, of whom four are living, James Sylvanus is the eldest, and was born in Jackson, Amador county, June 25, 1855.

From the year 1859 the home of James Sylvanus Lewis has been in Tulare county. He first attended the Oak Grove school, which building was put up through the efforts of his father and several neighbors, and later studied in the school at Plano. He remained at home until attaining his majority, when he began general farming and stock-raising for himself. In 1876 he purchased his present property, a mile and three-quarters northeast of Portersville, which was all wild land and open plain, antelope and various animals abounding. He at once began the work of improvement and cultivation, putting up adequate buildings, setting out trees and in time making his ranch a credit to the county. He now has seven hundred and twenty acres, which is known as the Hillside Slope farm. In 1891 he set out ten acres of navel oranges and later eight acres more, besides which he engages in the cultivation of grain and in stock-raising. His farm is irrigated from the Pioneer ditch, of which company he was one of the organizers, and for many years acted as a director. He is also interested in the Portersville Water & Development Company, of which he is director and the president.

In Visalia Mr. Lewis was united in marriage with Mrs. Emma (Strout) Sibley, a native of Maine and the daughter of Elijah and Mary A. (Tyler)<sup>ne</sup> Strout. Her father was a contractor and resided near Lewiston, Me., where both he

and his wife died. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Lewis, Elijah Strout, was a native of Maine, and of German descent. He served as a soldier in the war of 1812 and left an honored name to his descendants. By her first marriage Mrs. Lewis became the mother of two children, Wilfred S. Sibley and Mrs. Angela M. Tyler, of Portersville. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Baptist Church. Fraternally Mr. Lewis was made a Mason in Portersville Lodge No. 303, and also belongs to Portersville Chapter, R. A. M. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.

---

MAJOR THOMAS JEFFERSON McQUIDDY. The name of Thomas Jefferson McQuiddy is a household one throughout the length and breadth of Kings county. His rise from obscurity to influence and success is an encouraging tale to the rising generation, and his courage and persistency in combating adverse circumstances along the line of his industrious career have attracted to him the good will and graciousness of whomsoever he chances to meet. Now seventy-six years old, hale and hearty, and full of the joy and expectancy of life, he is as much the friend and sympathizer of the present history makers as he formerly was of the men who worked with him in the pioneer days of trial and adversity. Scarcely an onward movement in this section but has profited by his financial or other support, from the digging of ditches for irrigation to fighting with the railroad company for titles to the land of the settlers. In fact one of the most pathetic as well as interesting epochs in the life of Major McQuiddy is in connection with the struggles of the Mussel Slough settlers for their homes and rights. With others he lost after years of futile effort, but he had already won a competency, and probably no one accepted an unjust and calamitous decision with more philosophy or dignity.

Major McQuiddy was born in Woodford county, Ky., March 6, 1828, and is a son of John McQuiddy, a grandson of another John, and great-grandson of David McQuiddy, the latter of whom was born in Scotland and came to the United States long before the Revolutionary war. The great-grandfather became a large land owner in Virginia, and with his son John, who was born on the Virginia plantation, followed the martial fortunes of Washington during the war for independence. The latter removed from Virginia to Kentucky at an early day, and at one time did about all the gunsmithing and blacksmithing of Woodford county. He was a natural mechanic, and

built and owned two mills, and also built and repaired wagons. He was a prominent figure in his county, and lived to be a very old man. His son John, the father of Major McQuiddy, was born in Woodford county August 10, 1790, and during his active life lived on a farm, attaining fair success. During the war of 1812 he shouldered a musket and fought under General Harrison. About 1840, when Thomas Jefferson was twelve years old, he made arrangements to take his family overland to Bedford county, Tenn., a distance of three hundred miles. On this occasion the lad proved true to his training, and became of valuable assistance in managing the expedition. Twenty slaves, besides hogs, cattle and horses, accompanied the family to their new home, and once established, the father turned his attention to cultivating his land and to manufacturing hemp for baling cotton. Subsequently he devoted all of his energy to farming and stock-raising, being thus employed until shortly before his death in 1863, at the age of seventy-three years. On the maternal side Major McQuiddy is also descended from Revolutionary stock, his maternal grandfather, Abraham Dale, having served in the Continental army. The latter was a native of Virginia, and was of Scotch descent, his ancestor having settled in the Old Dominion long before the war. Mr. Dale was survived by his wife, whose death occurred in Missouri at the age of eighty-eight. There were several other children in the Dale family besides Mrs. McQuiddy, who was born in Woodford county, Ky., in 1793, and whose given name was Achsah. She became the mother of six children, who attained maturity, of whom Thomas Jefferson was the youngest, and is now the only survivor.

Major McQuiddy remained on the home farm in Tennessee until his nineteenth year, when he married Jane M. Ruth, a native of Tennessee, who died at the age of thirty-five, leaving seven children. Of these, Achsah is the wife of S. E. Biddle; William R. is an attorney in Hanford, and is represented in this work; John Talbot is a contractor of Sonoma, Sonoma county, Cal.; Katie is the widow of P. E. Jacobs of Hanford, proprietor of the Vendome hotel; Sarah, deceased, was the wife of James H. Sharp of Kings county; Reden Dale is a resident of Santa Barbara, Cal.; and George P. died at the age of twelve. After his marriage Major McQuiddy managed his father's farm until 1849, in which year he moved to Clay county, Mo., and for two years engaged in manufacturing hemp. He then went to Nodaway county, where he became prominent and in 1859 was elected sheriff of

Nodaway county, a position which he held at the breaking out of the Civil war. Leaving a deputy in charge of the sheriff's office, he raised a company of eleven hundred out of a voting population of seventeen hundred, and was made captain of what constituted the state guards, serving six months under Sterling Price. He then entered the Confederate service as a captain of Company G, Third Battalion, Confederate Cavalry, under Col. A. W. Slayback, and in four or five months was promoted to the rank of major, in command of a battalion. He was with Price in his first campaign in Missouri, and in 1862 went to Corinth, Miss., and Alabama, in 1863, being assigned to the secret service, where he remained for the balance of the war. In November, 1862, he was wounded at the battle of Corinth two days in succession, the first being a slight flesh wound in the right arm, and the second a more serious injury in the right thigh. For the following three or four months he was confined to the hospital, and upon recovering joined his regiment. While in the secret service he was captured in Tennessee in 1864, but made his escape, and continued the work for which he was well fitted, because of great familiarity with all parts of Tennessee and the south.

Returning to his home after the war, Major McQuiddy took charge of the settlement of his father's estate, the latter having died while his son was wearing the gray of the Confederacy. His wife had also joined the silent majority while her husband was serving in the army. In 1867 Major McQuiddy married Mary J. Huffman, a native of Tennessee, whose grandfather, Peter Huffman, served in a North Carolina regiment in the Revolutionary war.

Mrs. McQuiddy has been a faithful mother to her husband's seven children, rearing them to manhood and womanhood. She became the mother of one child, Lila Cyrene, now deceased, and has reared three grandchildren to maturity.

In 1873 Major McQuiddy came to the Pacific coast and settled on one hundred and sixty acres of land four miles northeast of Hanford, on what is now known as Mussel Slough, soon afterward taking up an adjoining ranch of the same size. He afterward purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land of the Southern Pacific Company, the company making promises in pamphlet form that, upon securing title, the land should be graded at from \$2.50 to \$5 per acre, improvements made by settlers not to be considered in fixing the valuation. Relying upon the word of the railroad company, about two hundred and fifty

families settled on the lands, which were then nothing but an arid sand plain, and cultivated them at an enormous expenditure of time, money and patience. Banding together in a common cause, they organized the Settlers' Ditch Company, diverted water from the Kaweah river, a distance of twenty miles, and in time witnessed the transformation of their desert home. In 1877 the railroad was built through, and in 1878 the company graded lands at from \$5 to \$45 an acre, thus completely ignoring its former promise. A spirit of intense bitterness prevailed among the settlers, and a league was formed to protect their homes and lands. The company, however, gave no heed, but secured indictments, in many instances evicting holders and selling to other settlers. Their spirit of vindictiveness and persecution resulted in the killing of seven men, May 11, 1880. During this affair Major McQuiddy was the means of saving the lives of United States Marshal Pool and land grader Clerk. Litigations continued through the courts until 1887, when the settlers were obliged to pay for their land according to the assessed value. Major McQuiddy was one of the foremost who exerted strenuous efforts for fair dealing, but he also was obliged to pay the exorbitant demand, and continued to live on his farm until removing to Hanford in 1889. For a couple of years he leased his farm, then managed the same for two years, and later leased six hundred acres, upon which he engaged in stock and grain raising until 1895. Since then he has been practically retired from active life, although at present he is serving as inspector of weights and measures for Kings county. He is entitled to the credit of having raised the first oranges in Kings county, and of being one of the first to discover that alfalfa was particularly adapted to its soil. He devoted about two hundred and forty acres to alfalfa, and had forty-five acres under vines, and the balance utilized for horses, mules and cattle. He was one of the most scientific farmers of the county, and had the finest improvements known to this section.

Since 1857 Major McQuiddy has been identified with the Masonic fraternity, and is a life and charter member of Hanford Lodge No. 279. Both he and his wife are members of the Church of Christ Scientist. He has been interested in many enterprises in Kings county, both before and since it was set aside from Tulare county. At present he owns stock in the Arc Light Mining Company, now operating in Fresno county, and of which he is president. He is also interested in the noted Coalinga oil fields, and is developing gypsum in that locality, being one of the first to dis-

cover its richness. He is a lifelong Jeffersonian Democrat, and in 1882 was a candidate for governor of the state of California on the Greenback ticket. His political services have been of the same thoughtful and practical kind, as his other efforts toward the upbuilding of Kings county, and have strengthened the regard in which he is held by the people, regardless of political preferences. He has the sterling worth of the typical western pioneer, but little of the visionary dreamer whose expectation of large wealth was out of all proportion to the amount of work he expected to accomplish. He has been a man of action, of vigorous, infectious energy, and in his opinions and theories has always been guided by a lofty regard for the rights and prerogatives of his associates.

---

LOUIS HAAS, deceased, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., was a son of Mathias Haas, who was also born in the Quaker City, the descendant of German ancestry. Louis Haas engaged as a butcher in young manhood, remaining in his native city until 1852, when he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Upon his arrival in San Francisco he went to Montezuma Hill, where he engaged in the grocery and bakery business, and later located in Gravel Range, at Dutch Flat, where he bought a mine and entered upon its operation. Later he went to North Butte, Sutter county, and became very successful in his efforts. In 1860 he located in the northern part of Tulare county, where there was a wide range, and there engaged in the sheep business. Subsequently he became the owner of seven sections of land in that locality around Smith mountain, and three sections in the Hanford country, now Kings county. In 1862 he brought his family to Tulare county, but eventually located them in Stockton, where they made their home until 1875, in that year removing to Grangeville, Kings county. When the land became settled Mr. Haas sold his sheep, and in partnership with a Mr. Crow engaged in general farming, although from that time on he was practically retired. His death occurred in San Francisco in 1888, at the age of sixty-four years. In his political affiliations he was a staunch Republican, and was a liberal and progressive citizen, lending his aid and support to every movement which had for its ultimate end the general welfare of the community. His wife, formerly Mary Marsh, a native of Pittsburg, Pa., and daughter of Thomas Marsh, still survives him, residing on the old homestead. Of their four children three attained maturity, viz.: Mrs. Vania Orr, of Visalia; Mrs. Robison, of Hanford; and F. Pierce, in the vicinity of Hanford.

Vania Haas was reared to young womanhood in Stockton, in which city she was united in marriage with Walter Crow. He was a native of Missouri and the son of William Crow of Ripon, Cal. He engaged in farming and stock raising in the vicinity of Grangeville, Kings county, and there met his death at the hands of the Settlers' League, which precipitated the Mussel Slough fight. He was shot dead in May, 1880, at the age of thirty years. They were the parents of the following children: Lola, a graduate of the Stockton high school, now the wife of D. M. Stewart of Oakland; Clarence, a graduate of the University of California, now an electrician of New York City; and Walter, a farmer residing south of Visalia. Her second marriage occurred in Grangeville, and united her with Prof. A. R. Orr, who was born in Illinois March 18, 1855, and who graduated from Kirksville normal in June, 1875. The same year he came to California and located in Visalia, where he became an instructor in the city schools. In 1876 he organized the Visalia Normal and became its president, retaining the position for eleven years. He then accepted a position in the United States land office in the contest department, and maintaining the same for seven years. Mrs. Orr has shown herself a woman of rare business ability, after the death of her first husband assuming control of his extensive interests as a farmer and stockman, as she had also done in her father's estate. She has a stock ranch in Kings county, and owns a ranch of four hundred and eighty acres a mile and a half west of Dinuba, Tulare county, of which four hundred acres are in alfalfa, the chief interest of the place being an extensive dairy. She also has an eighty-acre vineyard at Sultana. At one time she owned thirty-two hundred acres around Smith mountain, but this she has since sold off in small tracts.

---

SAMUEL LOUIS GIVENS. The Givens family is too closely connected with the early history of Mariposa and Merced counties to need any introduction to the readers of the history of the San Joaquin valley. A worthy scion of this distinguished family is found to-day in the person of Samuel L. Givens. At the age of ten he accompanied his parents to California and in 1879 purchased his home ranch in Merced county, thirteen miles east of Merced, and upon this place he still lives. Born in Union county, Ky., November 8, 1842, Mr. Givens is the youngest of nine children born to Thomas and Catherine D. F. (Richards) Givens, the former born in Virginia December 1, 1798, and the latter born in Kentucky February 1, 1805. The nine children born to Thomas Givens and wife are as





*W B Hardman*





*Allie Le Hardman*



follows: Robert R., deceased; Eleazar T., born October 17, 1828; Matilda, deceased; Mrs. Jane R. Pool, of Stockton, Cal., born March 7, 1832; Catherine A., deceased; Thomas Jr., deceased; John H., of San Francisco, born October 15, 1838; Mrs. Mary R. Thrift, of Stockton; and Samuel Louis. December 24, 1852, Mr. and Mrs. Givens with their family started for California, reaching New Orleans January 1, 1853, and on January 4 they embarked on board the Pampero bound for Greytown, which they reached twelve days later. Crossing the Isthmus on the backs of mules, they then took passage on the Brother Jonathan, bound for San Francisco, which they reached February 2 of the same year. In Mariposa county the father purchased the Texas ranch, containing ten hundred and forty acres, and this ranch is now owned by Samuel L. and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Thomas Givens. Here the father died in 1860.

From his tenth year Mr. Givens was educated in Mariposa county, with a finishing course at the University of the Pacific in Santa Clara county. His education completed, he continued to remain on the old home place until 1870, purchasing that year the ranch upon which he still lives, in Merced county, and upon this place the intervening years of his life have been spent. His home place contains five hundred and twenty acres devoted to grain, stock and grazing, and in addition he rents three thousand acres in Mariposa county, the latter utilized solely in raising stock. He has in all six hundred head of stock.

December 20, 1877, in Mariposa county, Mr. Givens was united in marriage with Miss Susan L. Wills, who was born in the above named county December 9, 1855, a daughter of Benjamin Wills, a native of Alabama; he married Miss Amanda Cathey. Mr. Wills made his first trip to California in 1849 and afterward went back to Alabama for his family, who crossed overland to Mariposa county. Mr. and Mrs. Givens have but one child, a son, Archibald. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Politically Mr. Givens is a Democrat. Personally he is active and well built, and claims a popularity which is justly due.

WILLIAM BENJAMIN HARDMAN is the owner of a large and valuable ranch near Volta, Merced county, which invariably attracts the attention of the passer-by as a home of peace and plenty. In the acquisition of this fine property Mr. Hardman labored earnestly and vigorously, and after many years of strenuous effort in his chosen line of work finds himself the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of choice land, well improved, furnished with a substantial set of

farm buildings, and all the appliances and machinery required by the intelligent and progressive modern agriculturist. A son of Levi W. Hardman, he was born April 21, 1847, in St. Joseph county, Ind., near South Bend. His grandfather Benjamin Hardman, a native of Pennsylvania, was a farmer and a pioneer settler of Indiana. Leaving there in 1847, he finally located in the Willamette valley, Oregon, where he passed the remainder of his days, dying at a venerable age.

A native of Indiana, Levi W. Hardman was there engaged in farming with his parents until the summer of 1847. Then, a young man, he started with his father and brothers and others for the western frontier, Stephen Broadhurst forming one of the party. Going as far as Missouri, the entire party spent the winter in that state, and April 17, 1848, started across the plains for Oregon, behind ox teams, with Captain Wambaugh in command of the train. Hearing of the wonderful discovery of gold while on the way, Levi W. Hardman and a few of the more venturesome men of the train determined to follow the trail to California instead of going on to Oregon, and accordingly left the main body of the party at Fort Hall. Mr. Hardman, being an expert marksman, was detailed as hunter for the crowd, and in his endeavors to keep the company supplied with buffalo and deer meat had several hairbreadth escapes from the Indians. Arriving in California, he spent a year at the Marysville mines. His health failing, however, he located in Napa, where he purchased land and engaged in ranching. Meeting with good success in his operations, he bought another ranch, lying about four miles from his original purchase, on the Soda Springs road, and in Napa county reared his family. He died whilst on a visit to his son, William Benjamin, December 17, 1897, aged seventy-seven years. He married Alice Broadhurst, who was born in Michigan, and who, now a bright and active woman of seventy-six years, resides in Shasta county. Sixteen children blessed their union, eight of whom grew to years of maturity, and are now living, William Benjamin being the eldest child.

Coming when an infant with his parents to California, William Benjamin Hardman was educated in the district schools of Napa and Napa county, remaining beneath the parental roof-tree until after attaining his majority. Locating in Merced county in November, 1869, he homesteaded and pre-empted three hundred and twenty acres of land, which are included in his present home ranch. The land was in its original wildness, and he at once began its improvement by erecting a rude cabin, hauling the lumber from which it was made from Banta Station, sixty-five miles away, there being no timber in this section of the valley. After his marriage, Mr.

Hardman brought his bride to his cabin, and at once embarked in business as a farmer and stock-grower. Energetic, resolute and persevering, he met with well-deserved success in his undertakings, and subsequently purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land lying about a mile from his home ranch, and has now a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres, all under irrigation. One hundred acres he devotes to the growing of alfalfa, which he uses largely for feeding stock. He raises fine cattle and horses, the latter being principally English Shires and Clydesdales, among those of the former breed being an imported horse, Scropton Fashion, which he has exhibited twice at state fairs, on each occasion carrying off the first premium. Among his Clydesdale horses of note is Clunie, a handsome four-year-old. He is also engaged to some extent in the raising of poultry, which he finds profitable.

December 1, 1870, in Snelling, Merced county, Mr. Hardman married Alice Broadhurst, who was born in Napa county, Cal., in 1852. Her father, Stephen Broadhurst, was born in Ohio. Her grandfather, William Broadhurst, a native of Pennsylvania, settled first in Ohio, but afterward removed to Michigan, locating as a pioneer near Niles, where he spent the remainder of his life. Five years of age when he accompanied his parents to Niles, Mich., Stephen Broadhurst there grew to manhood on the farm that his father cleared from the wilderness. When twenty-two years of age he started with the Hardman party for Oregon. While spending the winter in Missouri he married Rebecca McCombs, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Lambert McCombs, a farmer. Mr. McCombs removed from Ohio to Indiana, from there coming across the plains to California in 1849, and settling in Napa county, where his death occurred a few weeks later. Stephen Broadhurst was engaged in farming in Napa county until 1869, when he settled as a farmer and stockman in Merced county. He subsequently removed to Calaveras county, where he resided until his death, in 1886. His widow survived him, dying in 1889. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are living, Mrs. Hardman being the second child in order of birth. Mr. and Mrs. Hardman have four children living, namely: Icie P., at home; Frank U., at home; Arabella, wife of F. H. Helmer, of Plainsberg, Cal.; and Bertha M., wife of L. P. Raven, of Los Banos. A staunch Republican in politics, Mr. Hardman takes great interest in local affairs, and for many terms served as school trustee, being president of the board a part of the time, and assisting in building all of the school houses in this part of the county. During the Civil war, when but sixteen years of age, he was a member of the state militia, belonging to

the Napa Rangers, a cavalry company. He is past master workman of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; and belongs to Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand. His wife is a member of the Rebekahs.

ALEX R. CARNEY. A resident of California since 1899, Alex R. Carney has become one of the largest orange growers in this section of the state, also an active factor in other lines of business, being interested in the Exeter Lumber Company, of which he was the organizer. A man of exceptional educational ability, he has attained a position in the business world that each year becomes more secure.

Alex R. Carney is a native of Marinette, Wis., a son of Fred and Elizabeth (Corry) Carney. Fred Carney was born in Fredericton, New Brunswick. After reaching man's estate, he engaged in the lumber business, a few years later removing to Marinette, Wis., being a pioneer settler of that place. Here he became associated with Whitbeck & Co., lumber dealers, and for fifty years he continued with the firm, being their superintendent and manager. As time passed and Marinette became an important city, Mr. Carney assisted in organizing several banks. He also became the owner of over one thousand acres of land, which he improved, platting portions of it as additions to the city of Marinette. A Republican in political belief, he always took an active part in the affairs of the state and county, being one of the most influential men of the city. A believer in advancement, he was at the head of many plans calculated to advance Marinette. Mr. Carney married Elizabeth Corry, who was born in Chatham, New Brunswick. As a result of this union six children were born, viz.: Mary, wife of C. G. Andrews, of Los Angeles; Jennie, who married W. J. Davis, of Marinette; Elizabeth, the wife of W. L. Ducey, of San Francisco; Fred, Jr., and Frank L., of Marinette; and Alex R.

Born April 27, 1876, Alex R. Carney was first a student at Notre Dame, Ind., where he was prepared for Harvard University. Entering the university in 1897 he continued his studies at that institution for one year. In 1899 he came to California, locating near Exeter, where his father had already become interested in the growing of oranges, having, in 1896 purchased land and set out part of the orchard now bearing the name of "Bonnie Brae." On his arrival the son at once took charge of the business, which at that time consisted of fifty acres. Since then he has added to the original purchase, until he now has one hundred and ninety acres, all in the family name. One hundred and twenty acres of this are devoted to oranges, all navels and

the trees are bearing. Seventy acres are in grapes, the Emperor variety being in the lead. The product of these fine orchards and vineyards is shipped direct to the eastern markets. In addition to the orchard property, Mr. Carney owns other lands and in 1901 he erected one of the finest residences to be found in Tulare county.

While his fruit business has taken most of his time, Mr. Carney has branched out in other lines and in 1900 organized the Exeter Lumber Company, of Exeter. This concern is now on a good paying basis and is one of the city's leading industries.

Mr. Carney was united in marriage at Notre Dame, Ind., with Kittie Culbert, a native of Muskegon, Mich. One child has been born to them, A. R., Jr.

When the contemplated electric car line is built, it will pass Mr. Carney's place, and he is now planning to erect his own packing house, and with the electric power will run a large pumping plant. The Carney ranch is second to none in the county, and with Mr. Carney at the helm modern improvements will be added from time to time which will keep it in the van of others in this section.

---

GEORGE WARREN FILLMORE. The Fillmore family, well represented in California, is of New York ancestry, members of whom have been prominent citizens in Onondaga county for generations. W. C. Fillmore was a farmer in that location, and as a representative citizen held the office of sheriff. His son, William Cortland, was a native of Onondaga county but in manhood removed to Madison county and in the neighborhood of Chittenango engaged in farming. He lived to be eighty-two years old, his death occurring in 1902. He was a man of strong, forceful nature and public-spirit, and gave his best efforts toward the upbuilding of the community in which he made his home. He gave his support to the Baptist Church, in which he was a deacon for many years. His wife, formerly Harriette Waldo Wing, was a native of Moultrie county, Ohio, whose parents died early in life. Her death occurred in New York in 1893. She left a family of five sons and two daughters, of whom Jerome, who died in San Francisco, February 11, 1902, was general manager of the Southern Pacific Railroad; George Warren is the subject of this review; William C., Jr., who died in Los Angeles in 1894, was also connected with the Southern Pacific Railroad; Nancy became the wife of W. J. Sheldon and died in Chicago in 1904; Wing is a conductor on the Southern Pacific Railroad between Los Angeles and Fresno; Mary is the wife of S. H.

Tuttman, of Hamilton, Mont.; and Edward Luther is associated with the Union Iron Works in San Francisco.

A native of Chittenango, Madison county, N. Y., George Warren Fillmore was born July 1, 1847. He was reared to young manhood in his native state and attended the district schools. About 1865 he became associated with the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, acting as foreman during the construction of the second track. Returning to New York he remained for about three years, after which, in 1875, he came as far west as Nevada and engaged as brakeman on the Southern Pacific Railroad, running out of Winnemucca. Two years later he became conductor, retaining this position until 1881, when he was transferred to the western district, running out of Oakland as conductor on passenger trains. Since that time he has made his home in Oakland, having built a residence at No. 965 Jackson street. About 1885 he purchased a farm five miles south of Visalia, Tulare county, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. Upon this he has made all the improvements, in 1891 having set out an orchard of about forty acres, a part of which is planted to a vineyard. It is universally acknowledged that this orchard of Mr. Fillmore's is the finest in Tulare county, in point of the growth and health of the trees, every care and attention having been given to their cultivation.

In Amsterdam, N. Y., Mr. Fillmore married Anna Wayne, a daughter of John Wayne, a descendant of "Mad Anthony." He was a farmer in New York state, where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Angeline Brower, was also of an old and distinguished New York family. Mr. and Mrs. Fillmore have one daughter, Bessie May. In his political affiliations Mr. Fillmore is a staunch Republican. He is a citizen widely known and honored for the many sterling traits of character which distinguish him, and through which he has won the confidence and esteem of all who know him.

---

JAMES T. CARTER, a successful dairyman of Tulare county, in the vicinity of Visalia, was born in Davis county, Iowa, near Bloomfield, December 11, 1852. His grandfather, Joseph Carter, a native of Kentucky and a patriot in the Black Hawk war, became an early settler of Iowa, where he engaged in farming. Later in life he removed to Barry county, Mo., where his death occurred. His son, William Carter, was a native of Kentucky. He also became a farmer in Iowa, in which state he remained until after the Civil war broke out. During the war he removed to Woodson county, Kans., then to Missouri, and later to Wilson county, Kans.,

where he became a pioneer farmer. In 1882 he came to California and located near Three Rivers, Tulare county, where he still resides. His wife, formerly Mary F. Hill, of Kentucky, was a daughter of Robert Hill, of the same state, who removed to Iowa, where his death occurred. Mrs. Carter is still living, the mother of seven sons and two daughters, having lost two children by death.

The fourth child in the family of his parents, James T. Carter was reared on the home farm. Until he was twenty-five years old he remained at home, when he engaged in farming independently near Fredonia, Kans. In 1883 he came to California and in Tulare county entered the employ of James Pogue, with whom he remained eight years. Since that time he has been engaged in general farming, stock-raising and the dairy business. He is located on an eighty-acre tract two and a half miles northwest of Visalia, where he has a dairy of thirty cows. He is a very successful farmer and is one of the representative men of this section. In Visalia, January 25, 1893, he married Mrs. Ovitt (Taylor) Stong, a native of Birkenhead, Chester, England. Her father, W. G. Taylor, also a native of England, conducted a mercantile establishment, selling gloves and hosiery in Liverpool. In 1850 he brought his wife and three children to California on the barque Ocean Queen, via Cape Horn. The ship was wrecked off Cape Horn and the greater part of the year was spent on the sea. Upon their safe arrival in the state, Mr. Taylor went at once to the mines in Mariposa county, and later to Stanislaus county, following mining at Knights Ferry, until 1874. In that year he returned to England, and settled in South Devon, where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Ovitt E. Hannon, was born at Birmingham, England, and died at Knights Ferry, Stanislaus county. Of the five children born of their union, Mrs. Carter, the third in order of birth, is the only one now living. She was reared to young womanhood in the state of her father's adoption, receiving her education in the public schools. In 1872, in San Francisco, she married M. S. W. Stong, a native of Illinois. He was a son of Solomon Stong, a farmer of Illinois of German descent. He came to California in 1849, crossing the plains with ox-teams from Missouri, and upon his arrival in San Juan engaged in the mercantile business. After his marriage he removed to Battle Mountain, Nev., and in 1873 located in Visalia, Tulare county, in the latter place following building and farming. In 1880 he located on a farm adjoining the one now owned by Mrs. Carter, this being purchased in 1887, in which year Mr. Stong died. He was a Mason of Royal Arch degree, and politically cast his ballot with the Democratic par-

ty. Taking a strong interest in all local affairs he served as school trustee. Of the five children born of her first marriage four are living, namely: Clara M., the wife of W. E. Malone, of Los Angeles; Ovitt E., the wife of A. R. Shippy, of Visalia; David B. Stong, located near Visalia; and Guy W. Stong, at home. In his political affiliations Mr. Carter is a Democrat, and fraternally is associated with the Woodmen of the World.

---

JOHN HEDBERG, as manager of the Lindsay Citrus Nursery Company, has attained a prominence in the nursery business of which he may well feel proud. Ever since leaving home he has had his own way to make in the world, and by industry and economy he has accumulated a handsome property. A native of Sweden, he was born July 19, 1870, and is a son of Erick and Annie Hedberg. The father is now engaged in farming in the old country. The mother bore four children, two of whom are in America.

John Hedberg remained at home until reaching his twenty-first year, when he entered the Swedish army, remaining in the service one year. At the expiration of that time, in 1891, he bade good-bye to his home and friends and came to the United States, first locating in Madison county, Neb., where he remained one year. In 1893 he arrived in California, securing employment in a vineyard and orchard in Fresno county. Later he entered the employ of Marshall & Wilson, the nurserymen, with whom he continued three years, learning the business thoroughly. In 1895 he came to Lindsay and was the first to engage in the citrus nursery business in a commercial way at this place. For four years he continued in the business two miles from Lindsay, but at the end of this period sold out and purchased eighty acres on the hill-side three miles northeast of Lindsay. At the time of purchase the land was in stubble, but Mr. Hedberg lost no time in beginning the improvement of the place. A well was sunk and a pumping plant installed which now has a capacity of five thousand gallons per hour, enough to irrigate his orange grove of forty-three acres. Since then he has set out twenty acres to nursery, containing one hundred and fifty thousand orange trees, being the largest citrus nursery north of Tehachapi, and in addition has set out other varieties of fruit trees. In the spring of 1905 he set out forty acres more of navel oranges in Round Valley, three miles from his home place, where he also owns two hundred and sixty acres of citrus land. While most of his time is devoted to the nursery and horticultural business, Mr. Hedberg has also become interested in several business enterprises, including the Lindsay Cit-







*Wm L Ratliff*

rus Nursery Company, in which he holds a half interest; the Rochdale Association, and the Lindsay Building and Improvement Company, of which he is a director.

Fraternally he holds membership in the Woodmen of the World, and in politics he supports the policies of the Republican party, but has never taken a very active interest in the politics of the county, preferring to devote his whole time to his business. He has met with excellent success and now has one of the finest nurseries in the entire state. When one considers that Mr. Hedberg has been in this country but a few years, and that he has never had any assistance, his success can be fully appreciated. At the same time he has never neglected his duties as a citizen, and when called upon by his neighbors he has always responded.

---

**WILLIAM P. RATLIFF.** The popular postmaster of Tulare is a descendant in the third generation from a native of the Isle of Man who became a farmer in Pennsylvania and whose son, William, carried the family fortunes further west, establishing a home in Indiana and later in the midst of frontier environments in Iowa. At the time of the removal from Pennsylvania John, son of William, was a small boy, and in early manhood he carried on a farm in Iowa, but the spirit of adventure and desire to gain a fortune led him to cross the plains in 1850. For eight years he prospected and mined, and finally returned to Iowa via Panama and New York City. During a brief stay in New York City he married Elizabeth Madden, who was born in Dublin, Ireland, and whose brother, Michael Madden, had been a partner of Mr. Ratliff in their mining operations in California. Intending to settle up his affairs and go back to California, Mr. Ratliff brought his wife to his old farm. In January, 1860, three months after the birth of his son, W. P., and just prior to the intended departure for California, he was thrown from a horse and killed. The widow and orphan child carried out his plans and came via Panama to California in 1860, settling in Plumas county, where later Mrs. Ratliff became the wife of E. H. Holthouse. Born of that marriage are four sons and a daughter, all residents of Santa Clara county. In 1870 the family moved to the vicinity of San Jose and bought a farm near Lawrence Station, where Mrs. Holthouse died in 1902, at sixty-eight years of age, her death being the result of an accidental fall.

While his parents were living at Oskaloosa, Iowa, W. P. Ratliff was born October 12, 1859. However, his earliest recollections are associated with California, where he supplemented a common school education by a course of three years

in Santa Clara College. After leaving college he secured a clerkship with T. W. Spring. Coming to Tulare in 1882, he became a brakeman on the Southern Pacific Railroad and a year later was made a conductor between Tulare and Huron. In 1888 he left the railroad and took a position with Braly & Blythe, real estate agents, also agents for the Wells-Fargo Express Company. Resigning from their employ in 1892, he accepted the cashiership of the Tulare County Bank and the Tulare Savings Bank. In August of 1896 he resigned there and became assistant cashier of the Bank of Tulare, continuing in the position until February, 1901, when he was chosen superintendent of two different oil companies in the Kern river oil fields. To assume the duties of the new place he removed to Kern county, but misfortune soon overtook him. He fell a victim to typhoid fever and for five months was unable to leave his bed. Meanwhile he had been removed to San Francisco, in order to have the best possible attention and medical care. Upon regaining his strength he returned to Tulare in November, 1901, and a few months later became cashier of the Bank of Tulare, where he remained until his appointment as postmaster in April, 1902, under President Roosevelt, assuming the duties of that position on the 1st of May.

In Tulare, June 5, 1888, Mr. Ratliff was united in marriage with Alice Harter, a native of Stockton and a daughter of Isaac and Matilda (Parker) Harter, pioneers of this state. Mr. and Mrs. Ratliff have one son, Clinton P. Politically a Republican, Mr. Ratliff has been a local leader of the party, has served as a member of the state central committee, in 1896 was chairman of the county central committee, for one term served as city assessor and for two years held office as city treasurer. In the Board of Trade he has held the offices of president and secretary. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World; Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which he is recorder; Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., in which he was made a Mason and of which he is past master; and Tulare Chapter No. 71, R. A. M., in which he is past high priest.

---

**WILLIAM WHITFIELD WRIGHT.** It is with much pleasure that we present to our readers a brief sketch of the life of W. W. Wright. One of the oldest employes in the service of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and one of the pioneers of California, his life is an interesting recital of the advance of modern transportation. It is impossible for us to go into details, owing to lack of space. If we could, the incidents associated with his life would read like a romance.

A native of Wisconsin, Mr. Wright was born

near the city of Milwaukee, January 26, 1856. His father, W. W., was born in Connecticut, but in early pioneer days removed to Wisconsin where he engaged in the tilling of the soil. Later he removed to Illinois, settling in Grant county. There he lived until the news of the discovery of gold in California. The same year he outfitted, and with ox teams made the trip across the plains. The following year he went east for a visit, and on his return to this state he engaged in mining for three years. At the expiration of this period he again went east, where he lived until 1864, when he again crossed the plains, this time accompanied by his family. The journey was made with horses and in the remarkably quick time of ninety-four days. They came via the Platte river and Salt Lake. At the latter place they were addressed by Brigham Young. On arriving here the family settled in San Joaquin county, near Stockton, where Mr. Wright engaged in the raising of grain. In 1872 he disposed of his interests there and came to Tulare county, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres near Buzzard's Roost, ten miles west of Tulare. There he carried on a successful farming business until 1875, when he located in Tulare where he purchased a lot and erected a fine residence in which he lived until his death at the age of sixty-four years. After moving into Tulare he engaged in well-boring for several years. He married Cynthia Oliver, a native of Illinois. After the death of Mr. Wright she married George H. Castle of Stockton, where she resided until his death and then returned to Tulare, in which place she died at the age of seventy-four years. By her first marriage she became the mother of two children: Lizzie, who is the deceased wife of Delos Wilson; and W. W.

William W. Wright remembers well the journey across the plains. His education was secured in the district schools of California. In 1873 he came to Tulare and entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad as a hostler in the roundhouse. Two years later he was promoted to the position of fireman, and in 1880 was transferred to the right-hand side of the cab. From that time to the present he has never lost a day, except through an accident and when he desired a vacation. His first run as an engineer was between Los Angeles and Lathrop, pulling freight. In 1892 he was promoted to the passenger service with headquarters at Fresno. Five years later he was sent to Visalia. Later when the road was completed to Portersville, he located here and has since made this place his home. The only accident he has had occurred while running on the "Sunset Limited" between Fresno and Bakersfield. Two side bars on the engine broke and one rod tore through the cab, tearing the seat out and otherwise demolishing

the woodwork. It is a wonder he was not killed, but while he was laid up for nine months he was, at the expiration of that time, able to resume his place.

On one of his trips, between Fresno and Tulare, the train was held up by Britt and Dan McCall. As there were two deputy sheriffs aboard a fierce fight ensued and one of the robbers was killed. There are many other incidents in connection with his railroad experience, but space will not permit of their being mentioned.

In San Francisco Mr. Wright was united in marriage with Kate Gilmer, a native daughter of California. Her father, Rufus, is now living in Visalia, and a sketch of him will be found on another page of this work. Mrs. Wright was engaged in teaching for thirteen years.

Fraternally Mr. Wright is a Mason, belonging to the Royal Arch Masons and the Commandery. He is also a member of the Mystic Shrine, being associated with Islam Temple of San Francisco. In connection with his life's work he is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of Bakersfield, of which he is past chief engineer.

In politics he supports the principles of the Republican party, but has never had the time to take any part in public affairs. His life has been a success. At all times he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, as is evidenced by his many years of service with the Southern Pacific. Both he and his wife are honored by all who know them.

---

REV. JONATHAN WALTON GRAYBILL, A. B., M. D. In Rev. J. W. Graybill, Lindsay has a citizen whom all take pleasure in honoring. No more earnest worker in the cause of religion can be found, and while he now devotes a good share of his time to other lines, he is still the pastor of three churches, and in the past has been one of the most active members of the profession. Having a desire for greater usefulness, Mr. Graybill also took up the profession of medicine, being a graduate M. D. Since coming to Lindsay, in 1902, he has proved himself to be a very useful member of that section of the county. Progressive, he is always in favor of any movement calculated to be of material benefit to his adopted town and county.

A native of Virginia, he was born at Salem, August 2, 1853, a son of Michael Graybill and a grandson of John, who was also a native of Virginia of Holland descent, from which country George Graybill, the progenitor of the family in America, emigrated and settled at Lancaster, Pa. Michael Graybill married Mary Obenchain, a daughter of Peter Obenchain, who was a large planter in Virginia and also served in the war

of 1812, while his grandfather fought for the independence of the Colonies in 1776.

Rev. J. v. Graybill was one of nine children, five of whom are living, but he is the only one that came to California. A brother, Rev. A. T., was a missionary in Old Mexico, where he had been engaged in this work for thirty years. Reared on his father's farm near Salem, J. W. Graybill attended the public schools and the Fincastle Academy. From there he entered the Hampton-Sidney College, from which he was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1876. After this he matriculated in the Union Theological Seminary at the same place, graduating in 1880. The following year, at Roanoke, Va., he was ordained a minister in the Presbyterian Church. After his graduation he studied in the Kentucky Medical School at Louisville, Ky., from which he was graduated in 1882 with the degree of M. D. The same year of his graduation he went to Old Mexico as a Presbyterian missionary. While in that country he held the chair of languages in a theological school, and was also superintendent of four different mission schools. Here it was that his medical training proved useful, for during the time he was in Mexico the yellow fever raged. Dr. Graybill treated over five hundred cases and was also stricken with the dread disease and suffered a severe illness.

Dr. Graybill returned to Kentucky in 1886, locating at Richwood, where he was pastor of the Presbyterian Church for six years. At the end of that time he was compelled to leave on account of ill health. Going to Colorado, he was in charge of the Presbyterian Church at Brighton for three years. From there he removed to Trinidad, where he continued in church work for five years. Then, in 1897 he accepted a call to the pastorate of the church at Palo Alto. While there he did post-graduate work in Stanford University, and two and one-half years later he went to San Rafael. At the latter place he became part owner and one of the head masters in the Tamalpais Military Academy for two years.

In 1900 Dr. Graybill had purchased land near the town of Lindsay, and owing to the ill health of his son, he left San Rafael at the expiration of two years, locating at Lindsay, where he has since made his home. Having become a land owner, he concluded to take less active part in church work and devote more attention to the cultivation of his property. Since locating here he has made additional purchases of land, now owning several fine orange orchards, all being under a high state of cultivation and bringing in good interest on the original investment.

Since his arrival in Lindsay he has organized the Lindsay Presbyterian Church, which is now

in a flourishing condition. He has also been instrumental in organizing churches at Exeter and Plano, being pastor of all three. With all his business investments to look after, he finds time for church work and so arranges his work that he is able to look after his congregations in each of the towns mentioned, and when any special movement is inaugurated to better the existing conditions of either church, he is to be found planning and laboring earnestly to make a success of the venture.

In Shelbyville, Ky., August 30, 1881, Rev. Graybill was united in marriage with Luella Crockett, a native of Kentucky, and to them has been born one child, Robert E.

During his residence in Trinidad, Dr. Graybill was made a Mason, and he is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. In politics a Republican, he is deeply interested in the questions of the day and keeps well posted on current topics.

Socially he and his wife are prominent, and while they have lived in Lindsay but a few years, they have made a large circle of friends. As a business man Rev. Graybill is a success, and those who have had dealings with him are now his friends. He has had an eventful life, but is now in good health and looks forward to many years of happiness.

**CAPT. ARTHUR J. HUTCHINSON.**  
Forced to come to California on account of ill health, Captain Hutchinson has become one of the prominent men in the San Joaquin valley, and there is no man who has done more for Tulare county, especially that section about Lindsay. When the captain arrived here most of the land was unimproved, and there was no water for irrigation purposes, but he soon demonstrated that water could be pumped from wells for that purpose. Aside from being the pioneer in pumping water in this manner, he has also been prominent in other lines, his vast experience has fitted him for any position, but he prefers the quiet life of an orchardist to that of any other.

A native of the Island of Bermuda, A. J. Hutchinson was born August 30, 1846. His father, Gen. William Nelson Hutchinson, was born in England in 1800. Entering the English army he was advanced to the position of general. Later in life he went to the Bermudas where for a time he served as governor, this being an appointive office, made by the king of England. In 1894 he returned to his home in Devonshire, England, where he died. His father, Sir William Hutchinson, was a general in the English army and a man of great prominence.

Gen. W. N. Hutchinson was united in mar-

riage with Mary Russell, a daughter of John Russell, D. D., who at one time was the head master of Charter House and one of the canons of the Canterbury Cathedral. Mrs. Hutchinson died in England at the age of seventy-eight years. She was the mother of six children, five of whom are still living.

Arthur J. Hutchinson received a good education, graduating from the Royal Military College in 1864. Soon after he was commissioned an ensign in the Twenty-third Fusiliers and sent to India, where he served until 1870. During this time he was raised to the rank of captain and in the year mentioned was invalided home. Continued poor health led him to seek a more healthful country and in 1871 he came to California. Here he decided to remain on account of the climate, and make it his permanent home. With this idea in mind he sold his commission in the English army and located at Pomona. Purchasing a ranch there he engaged in the fruit business for a time and was the first to have an artesian well. Finally he sold out and purchased an interest in the Cicuega Ranch near Los Angeles, where he became engaged in the raising of fine blooded horses, among the number being Beaconsfield, Hock Hocking, Manzinita, Arthur H., St. David and others.

In 1887 Captain Hutchinson sold his farm and stock with the intention of returning to England, but the following year, while traveling in Virginia, he met and married Sadie Lindsay Patton, and in 1889 they came to California. Taking up his residence in Tulare county, the captain purchased his present ranch. Later the Lindsay Land Company was formed with Captain Hutchinson as director and manager. This company purchased two thousand acres of land, a portion of which was subdivided into town lots and the town of Lindsay was located, named in honor of Mrs. Hutchinson.

During the winter of 1892 and '93 Captain Hutchinson sunk a number of wells and began the improvement of his ranch, setting out orange trees, which have proved a success. In 1893 and '94 about five hundred acres of oranges were set out. This has led to extensions all over the county toward the foothills. These orchards are irrigated from wells, the water from which is directly distributed through pipes to the different sections of the orchards. At the present time there are, within a few miles of Lindsay, over two thousand acres that are planted to oranges and other fruits, all of which are irrigated from wells. This immense business began with one central pumping plant, which secured water from one well. When the captain first planned this extensive business and gave the figures to the company, the others did not think the plan feasible and engineers pronounced it impossible.

However, in spite of all that was said, the captain had confidence in his scheme and finally told the company he would go ahead and do it alone. This he did, and now that it has proved such a success the full credit is accorded Captain Hutchinson. In addition to his interest in the company, he owns fifty acres which are devoted to navel oranges and tangerines, having one of the largest orchards of the latter in the state. His ranch has been finely improved. The first packing house that was built in Lindsay was put up by the captain and still remains in his possession.

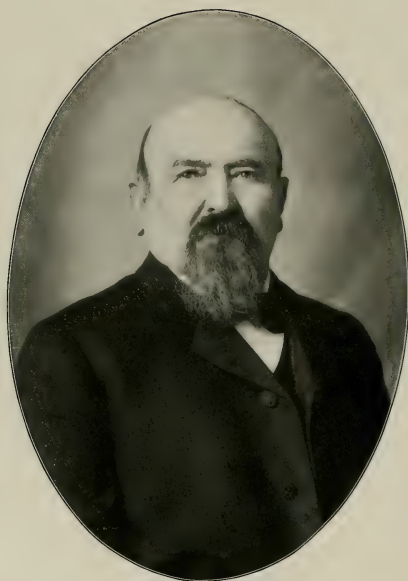
To Captain and Mrs. Hutchinson three children have been born, namely: Mary Lindsay, William Nelson Lindsay and Arthur John Lindsay. In politics Captain Hutchinson is a Republican, but has no time to devote to public matters, although there is no man in Tulare county more ready to give of his time and means when called upon to do so, providing the matter is worthy of his support. Such men as he are always at the front to introduce modern methods; Lindsay, in fact the entire state, owes much to Captain Hutchinson. He has met with success, but in gaining his success others have been benefited to a large extent.

ALBEA EDGAR SCRUGGS has every reason to be pleased with Tulare county, for a proper use of its opportunities has resulted in a competence for him. He owns a fine farm nine miles west of Portersville, where he has made many improvements, putting up buildings adequate for his needs and erecting a handsome residence. He is justly named among the representative farmers of this section. A native of Virginia, he was born near Palmyra, Fluvanna county, February 4, 1846, the descendant of southern ancestry. His father, Joseph Scruggs, was born in Buckingham county, Va., where he engaged as a farmer until his death, his wife, formerly Pearley Shepherd, of Virginia, also dying in the same locality. They were the parents of seven sons and five daughters, of whom four sons and two daughters are living.

The youngest in the family of his parents, Albea Edgar Scruggs was reared on the paternal farm in Virginia, receiving his education in the public schools in the vicinity of his home. In manhood he decided to seek his fortune in the more remote west, believing in the abundant opportunities of the newer states. He accordingly came to California in 1867, first locating in Crow's Landing, Stanislaus county. Subsequently he made several trips back east, but his interests remained in California. In 1875 he located in Tulare county, raising stock for a time. In 1876 he bought a ranch of the railroad company







GEORGE B. OTIS

and began to make improvements, while at the same time he followed grain farming and the raising of stock. He now owns four hundred acres on sections 28 and 33, township 21, range 26. Of this land one hundred and fifty acres is devoted to alfalfa. In 1892 he began setting out an orchard of prunes, pears and peaches, being one of the first to devote land to this purpose. He now has an orchard of twenty-five acres, while his entire property is under irrigation from the Woods Central Irrigation Ditch, of which company he is a director. He also owns a grain farm on the plains of four hundred and eighty acres. One of Mr. Scruggs' chief interests on his farm is a dairy, noted for the excellence of its products.

Near Portersville Mr. Scruggs was united in marriage with Mrs. Julia (Rhoades) Turner, a native of Texas, and the daughter of William Rhoades, one of the first settlers near Portersville. He had eight children, of whom Mrs. Scruggs was the sixth in order of birth. To Mr. and Mrs. Scruggs have been born nine children, viz.: William J., of Nevada; John E., a dairyman; Pearley, who died at the age of eighteen years; Hugh E., of Berkeley; Clarence; Fay; Clifford; Roy and Ray (twins), the last five named are at home.

Mr. Scruggs gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Poplar, of which he is a member. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Tulare, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party as far as regards national issues, reserving the right to cast his ballot locally for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

GEORGE BUELL OTIS, a pioneer of California and an honored resident of Berkeley, was born in Chittenden county, Vt., near Bolton, September 16, 1844, and is a son of Albert Hinsdale and Mary (Jewell) Otis. The former was born in Massachusetts and was the only child of Joseph and Viola (Hinsdale) Otis, of English ancestry. Albert Hinsdale Otis was reared in Massachusetts and was there educated, graduating from the Wesleyan University with the degree of D.D. In Vermont he married Mary Jewell, who was a daughter of Jesse Jewell, one of the early settlers of Bolton, Vt. In 1838, with his wife, he went to Wisconsin and bought government land near what is now Kenosha, but was then known as Southport. In addition to his duties as a circuit rider in the Methodist Episcopal Church, he followed millwrighting successfully for years. He improved a farm in Wisconsin, to which state his father later went and

took the home prepared by the son, who at once made another home on an adjoining farm. Albert H. Otis and his wife reared a family of five children, one daughter, Ruby, dying in early childhood. Charles Wesley, born in Wisconsin, is a retired merchant now living in Santa Rosa, Sonoma county; Sarah Anna is the wife of George P. Laird, of Cambria, Cal., a retired dairyman and educator; Philo J., a retired farmer of Fresno county, was formerly a teacher in Oregon; and George B. is the subject of this sketch. The father came to California in 1851, locating in Grass valley. He assisted in building the first quartz mill in California and engaged in mill building for some time. In 1854, via the Isthmus of Panama (having crossed the plains in his former trip to California) he returned to Wisconsin and two years later brought his family to California, settling in Sonoma county, where he followed farming. His death occurred in Alameda county on the site of the University of California, in 1865, while his wife died in 1887, and both are interred in Petaluma.

George B. Otis received his education in Wisconsin and Sonoma county, Cal., after which he took a six months' course at the University of the Pacific. In 1864 he went to Nevada and followed mining for a time, but not meeting with success he returned to California and with his brother Philo purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land near Petaluma. The ranch was later disposed of and in 1866 they drove a band of dairy stock to Salinas valley, where they leased a part of a Spanish grant near Castroville. They there added to their stock and continued the dairy business. It was there that Mr. Otis met and married his wife, formerly Elizabeth Roadhouse, who was born near Stockton, Cal., November 20, 1851, a daughter of Joseph Roadhouse. In 1872 the brothers removed to Santa Clara county, their lease having terminated, and there followed the dairy business until 1876, when they dissolved partnership. George B. Otis removed to Fresno county and there in time accumulated six hundred acres of land, now owning eighty acres adjoining the town of Selma. There he established his home and in 1880, with three others, platted the town of Selma. It was Mr. Otis who selected the name by which the town is known. There he erected a comfortable home and resided until his removal to Berkeley. George B. Otis is a direct descendant of James Otis of Revolutionary fame.

To Mr. Otis and his wife were born four children: Albert Joseph was born in Pajaro valley, Santa Cruz county, January 25, 1871; he is unmarried and makes his home in Selma; George Fredron, born in Santa Clara county, August 7, 1873, is married and has one son, Buell; he makes his home in Selma, having charge of his

father's business there; Elizabeth, born November 17, 1878, is the wife of Jacob Boehler, of Watsonville; and Earl Norriss, born August 16, 1881, is unmarried and makes his home in Selma. Elizabeth and Earl were born in Selma, Fresno county, in what was formerly part of the original courthouse. Mr. Otis assisted in building up the town of Selma and gave of his time and means to advance its interests. He has never aspired to public office, although he has always been an ardent Republican. He and his family are members of the Episcopal Church. Fraternally he is an active member of Selma Lodge No. 309, I. O. O. F., being a charter member and one of the organizers of same. He has passed all the chairs of the lodge and is also a member of the Encampment, and has attained the Canton.

---

**JOSIAH MESSER FERGUSON.** A veteran of the Civil war and a resident of California for many years, Mr. Ferguson is well worthy of mention in this work. His has been a successful life, the result of his own efforts. In youth no special advantages were associated with his surroundings, and as he advanced in life and gradually attained a position of affluence he could truly say that all was his from "right of conquest."

A native of Georgia, Mr. Ferguson was born March 25, 1843, a son of Champion and Rachel (Duckett) Ferguson. The father was born in Kentucky, where his early life was spent and where he engaged in farming for a time, but while still a young man he removed to the state of Georgia. There he continued his occupation, subsequently migrating to Meigs county, Tenn., where he lived until his death at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife was a native of Georgia and a daughter of Jacob Duckett, who settled in the latter state at a very early date, having removed there from North Carolina. Mrs. Ferguson died in Arkansas. She was the mother of eleven children, three of whom were killed in service during the Civil war.

J. M. Ferguson is the only one of the family in California, where he has resided since 1875. His early life was spent on his father's farm, where he assisted in the farm labors as soon as he was old enough. In those days educational advantages were limited and the schooling of Mr. Ferguson amounted to only a few terms in a subscription school. In 1863 he made his way through the mountains of Tennessee and joined the Tenth Tennessee Cavalry, Company G, in which company was also a brother. Enlisting as a private he was later promoted to orderly sergeant. Most of the time was spent in scouting in the mountains of Tennessee, although he took

part in the battle of Nashville. In the fall of 1864 his company was ordered to New Orleans, where he remained until the close of the war, being honorably discharged at Nashville, in 1865.

Returning to Georgia, he spent a short time visiting the scenes of his boyhood days. That same fall he went to Tennessee and from there to Russell county, Ky., where he was employed in a sawmill for one year. Returning to Tennessee he engaged in farming for seven years. At the expiration of this time he disposed of his interests in the south and in 1875 bade goodbye to his home and friends and came to California, locating in Tulare county, at what is now the town of Poplar, so called from a row of poplar trees. At that time the country was sparsely settled, and where are now fine farms and orchards was nothing but uncultivated plains. Mr. Ferguson homesteaded one-quarter of section 2, which he at once began to cultivate and improve. He was one of the first to engage in grain raising in this section of the county, having at one time one thousand acres under cultivation. When he settled there, no postoffice was established but he and Arthur B. Carpenter got up the petition and after a short time succeeded in having the Poplar postoffice established. At first Mr. Carpenter was the postmaster, but later Mr. Ferguson was appointed and served for one year, when owing to a change in his business affairs, he resigned.

In addition to his farming and grain growing interests, Mr. Ferguson engaged in a general mercantile business at Poplar, which he conducted for ten years. During this time he was one of the most active men in that section of the state. He assisted in the building of the Poplar Irrigation Ditch, which was the first ditch to be constructed on the south side of the Tule river. He helped to run the first water and was for years the president of the company. During the past few years Mr. Ferguson has disposed of much of his land, although he still owns three hundred acres on sections 2 and 35, three hundred and twenty acres on section 7, which is a grain farm, and one hundred and sixty acres in the foothills.

In 1904 he rented his farm and removed to Portersville, where he is now enjoying the result of his many years of hard labor. In 1903 he purchased an interest in the grocery business now known as Futrell & Ferguson in Portersville. This was formerly conducted by Futrell & Howatt. Later he purchased the latter's interest and the business is now conducted by his son and son-in-law.

While living in Tennessee Mr. Ferguson was united in marriage with Parthena C. Cundiff, a native of that state. To this union have been born eight children, as follows: Cordelia, now

the wife of Fletcher Martin, who is living on the old place; Cora, who married William Walker of San Francisco; Dora, wife of George Futrell, of Portersville; Mary, who married Arthur Hayes, of Poplar; Tennie, at home; James, who was accidentally drowned in the Fremont Baths at Oakland, in March, 1902; Thomas, at home, and Fletcher, who is at home attending the high school.

Fraternally Mr. Ferguson is a Mason and a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic, although he does not attend the meetings of the latter organization. In politics he is a firm believer in the principles advocated by the Republican party, and while he has never had the time nor the inclination to take a very active part in political matters, he is always deeply interested in local affairs, and has at all times been found ready and willing to perform his duties as a citizen. He has been especially interested in educational matters, and was a director of his district for many years.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In that section of the county where they made their home for so many years they have hosts of friends.

---

**SAMUEL E. DALE.** Since locating in Tulare county in 1875 Samuel E. Dale has acquired a position of prominence among the representative citizens of this section of the San Joaquin valley. Of southern ancestry, he was born near Carrollton, Carroll county, Ga., August 18, 1841, one of a family of ten children, of whom nine attained maturity. His father, John M. Dale, was born in Abbeville district, South Carolina, and in young manhood engaged in the Indian wars of the country. He removed to Carroll county, Ga., and engaged as a planter and stock-raiser until 1868, when he came to California and located near Modesto, Stanislaus county, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, in maidenhood Polly Bailey, was a native of Gwinnett county, Ga., and a daughter of Robert Bailey, of South Carolina, and a farmer of Georgia. She died in Georgia, at the age of thirty-nine years. The children born of this union were as follows: John H., who died in the Red River country in Texas; William C., of Poplar; Willis, who died at the age of seventeen years; Valentine B., a resident of Stanislaus county, Cal.; Robert F., who died in Tate county, Miss.; Samuel E., the subject of this review; Elizabeth, who married Jesse Patterson, of Texas, where her death occurred; Sarah, the wife of David Hulsey; Z. Taylor, who died in San Joaquin county; and Edward Hill, of Poplar.

Samuel E. Dale was reared in Georgia and ob-

tained his education in the public schools in the vicinity of his home. In the spring of 1861 he volunteered in the Seventh Georgia Regiment, and during the four years of active service was located principally in Virginia, taking part in the battle of Gettysburg, as well as in those battles which followed in Maryland and Virginia, during the siege of Petersburg and Richmond. He was with General Lee in Richmond until the surrender. During the service he was wounded twice, the first time at the battle of Bull Run in 1861, receiving a flesh wound in the left thigh, and later was wounded in the side. Upon the close of the war he engaged in raising cotton in Georgia until 1868, when he left the state, going by boat from New York City to Panama, thence by steamer to San Francisco. Arriving in the state of California, he located on the Stanislaus river in Stanislaus county, where he followed farming until 1875. In that year he came to Tulare county, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of railroad land, which now forms his home ranch. This land was wild and without any improvements or cultivation, and he at once began the work which to-day places his farm in the front rank of those of this section. Later he purchased two other places, one of one hundred and sixty acres and the other of eighty acres, making a total of four hundred and eighty acres. For many years he engaged in general farming and stock-raising, but for the past eight years has devoted his attention principally to the latter occupation. He also conducted a dairy business for some years, when he sold out. He has disposed of a portion of his property, now owning in the home place but three hundred and twenty acres, two and a half miles southwest of Poplar, which he rents.

Mr. Dale is a Democrat in his political convictions and an ex-member of the county central committee. He has served acceptably on the grand and petit juries, and has in all ways taken an active interest in public affairs. He is a member of the Sterling Price Post, United Confederate Volunteers, at Fresno.

---

**SAMUEL JAMES VINCENT.** The position which Mr. Vincent occupies in the social, financial and business life of Tulare county has been won by the display of unusual ability, stanch and unswerving integrity in all his dealings, and a personality which has given him a leadership in the community. A native of Ontario, he was born near Kingston July 4, 1870, the son of Hugh Gilmore Vincent, an old settler of that place and a farmer, who came to California in 1876. He engaged in the sheep business here, and is still living, hale and hearty, at the age of seventy-one years. His wife, formerly Mary J.

Carmichael, is also living. They were the parents of nine children, eight of whom are living and are located in California. The children are as follows: Mary, deceased, was the wife of W. J. Grue; Margaret, the wife of J. B. Monroe, of Woodville; John, a stockman of Woodville; Belle, the wife of M. Santry, of Woodville; Samuel James, the subject of this review; Martha, the wife of Patrick Griffin, of Woodville; Annie, of Woodville; Tina, the wife of John Billingslea, of Woodville; and H. Gilmore, a stockman of Woodville.

The sixth in order of birth, Samuel James Vincent, accompanied his parents to California when only six years old, receiving his education in the public schools. At the age of nineteen years he engaged in the stock business, being principally interested in the raising of sheep. This occupation he has since followed with marked success. In 1894 he became the owner of a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres about seven miles west of Portersville, upon which he located two years later and proceeded to improve and cultivate the property. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres on sections 26 and 27, township 22, range 27, about half of which is in alfalfa, the entire land being under the Stockton Ditch Company, of which he is secretary. In addition to this property he also owns three other tracts of land, six hundred and forty acres and three hundred and twenty acres, eight miles southwest of Sausalito, and one hundred and sixty acres northwest of that place.

In Woodville, June 19, 1898, Mr. Vincent was united in marriage with Jane E. Oughton, a native of Ireland, and they are the parents of the following children: Violet, Roy and Ray. Mr. Vincent is school trustee for the Woodville district and has also served as clerk of the board. Politically he is a stanch Republican and an ex-member of the county central committee, and fraternally was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Woodville.

---

**CHARLES J. CARLE.** A native of the Gold-  
en State, Mr. Carle was born at Phillips Flat,  
June 9, 1858, a son of Andrew Jackson Carle,  
a native of Ohio. His father, Joshua Carle, was  
also a native of the Buckeye state, later he re-  
moved to Wapella, Ill., where he died in 1894  
at the age of eighty years.

Andrew J. Carle crossed the plains to Cali-  
fornia about 1850 and for a time lived at Phillips  
Flat, Mariposa county. Later he organized a  
water system for the purpose of supplying water  
to the mines. After this venture he took up  
his residence in San Francisco, where he en-  
gaged in a general merchandise business. While  
living there he became interested with others in

a company that was formed for the purpose of  
exploring the island of Cocos, off the coast of  
Central America. By the decision of the mem-  
bers of the company he was made captain of  
the expedition. All finally being ready the start  
was made and after an absence of eight months  
the party returned to San Francisco. The hard-  
ships of the voyage undermined Mr. Carle's  
health and soon after his return he died.

Mr. Carle was united in marriage with Cath-  
erine Rebecca Hampson, a native of Ohio. She  
became the mother of five children, four of whom  
are still living. The second of this family was  
Charles J. Carle. His early boyhood was spent  
in San Francisco, where he lived until going to  
Sonoma county. At the age of eleven he went  
east with his guardian, W. R. Carle, and made  
his home with an uncle, J. T. Carle, at Clinton,  
Ill., where he attended the public school. After  
two years there C. J. Carle removed to, New-  
castle, Pa., where the time was spent on a farm  
and in attendance of the public school in the  
vicinity. Three years later he returned to Illi-  
nois and lived at Wapella for five years. During  
a portion of this time he was a student in the  
Butler University, but in his junior year he re-  
turned to California. Prior to this, however, he  
had taught school for one year in Illinois.

Upon arrival in California in 1879, he se-  
cured a position as clerk in San Francisco. Later  
he lived in different parts of the state, finally  
returning to San Francisco, where he was en-  
gaged in the produce business for two years. He  
then bought a farm in the Santa Cruz mountains  
near Los Gatos. This he improved and for five  
years was there engaged in the fruit business.  
The property is still in his possession. At the  
expiration of the five years he formed a part-  
nership under the firm name of Topham, Carle  
& Co. and located in Milpitas, Santa Clara coun-  
ty. After continuing there for eight years as  
manager of a general merchandise business he  
came to Lindsay, where he had previously pur-  
chased twenty acres, five acres of which had been  
set out with Washington navel oranges. Since  
making his home here, he has set out the bal-  
ance of his land and otherwise improved it.

In addition to his orange business, he is one  
of the progressive members of the El Mirador  
Land Company. This company has purchased  
four thousand acres of the Lewis Creek ranch.  
The land has been divided into small tracts and  
named the El Mirador Colony. Mr. Carle is the  
resident director and manager of the company,  
and through his personal oversight the venture  
has proved a success. The tract is located in the  
foothills three miles east of Lindsay.

While living in Milpitas, Mr. Carle was united  
in marriage with Grata M. Ashley, who was born  
in Placer county, this state, and a daughter of







Courtesy Galbraith

John T. Ashley, a California pioneer. Mrs. Carle is the mother of two children, William Ashley and Jackson Tyler. By a former marriage Mr. Carle has one child, Helen E.

In Portersville, Mr. Carle was made a Mason and is now a member of the lodge and chapter. He also holds membership in the Sigma Chi fraternity. Politically he supports the Republican party, but has never cared for any of the emoluments of public office. His life thus far has been a success, and while succeeding in a financial way, he has never neglected his duties as a citizen. He and his wife have a wide circle of friends.

**COURTNEY TALBOT.** The many talents of Courtney Talbot have won for him the admiration and esteem of all who have come to know him throughout his long residence in Tulare county. The family is an ancient one on American soil, the first emigrating ancestor presumably having located in Virginia, where the name flourished for generations. Nicholas Talbot was born in Virginia November 10, 1776. In young manhood he immigrated to Kentucky to take part in the formation and upbuilding of that state, in Bourbon county, May 19, 1799, being united in marriage with Aria Kennedy. She was born May 11, 1781, the daughter of John Kennedy, who was taken prisoner by the British at Guilford Courthouse, N. C., March 15, 1781. He died soon afterward from the effects of the inhuman treatment received aboard the British prison ship. A letter that he wrote before entering the army is carefully preserved among the relics of the family, the spirit of fervent patriotism and the prayer for the success of the colonies speaking eloquently of the manhood which sustained our country in its incipency. That for which he gave his life was afterward defended by four of his grandsons, who fought gallantly in the Civil war. Nicholas Talbot died May 1, 1828, while his wife survived him until January, 1862. The parents of Nicholas Talbot were Samuel (born in Virginia, March 17, 1756,) and Constantine (Ragan) Talbot, the daughter of Nicholas Ragan, also of Virginia. Coleman Talbot, the son of Nicholas and Aria Talbot, was born in Bourbon county, Ky., July 13, 1809, and made his home in his native state until attaining his majority. In 1830 he went to Adams county, Ill., and enlisted in Capt. David Crow's company, serving in the Black Hawk war of 1832. He remained in that location for about twenty years, in 1850 following the example of his ancestors and seeking a new field. In 1850 he crossed the plains to California, upon his arrival engaging in mining first at Hangtown (Placerville) and later at Coloma

and Diamond Springs. April 15, 1851, he located in Sonoma county and engaged in farming until January, 1852. He then took passage on the steamer California bound for Panama, thence on the El Dorado to New York City, and from there to Kentucky, visiting for the last time the scenes of his childhood and the home of his mother, who was then living. On the 20th of April of the same year he once more crossed the plains to California, in company with J. M. Bowles, T. H. Tate, M. Britton and others, arriving in Sonoma county in October. In July of the following year he settled near Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, where he now resides, sustaining the reputation of the family for longevity as well as rare powers of strength and endurance. He was married to Drusilla Bowles, a daughter of Jesse Bowles, a native of Kentucky, who married a Miss Parker of Kentucky. Coleman and Drusilla (Bowles) Talbot became the parents of five sons and four daughters, of whom Courtney Talbot was the fourth in order of birth, being a native of Adams county, Ill., where he was born April 11, 1837.

In the common schools of Illinois and the Sonoma Academy Courtney Talbot received his education. Following the example of the great majority of the citizens of the state at that time he became a miner at Oroville, Butte county, and along the Feather river when only eighteen years old. He subsequently engaged in the more stable pursuit of farming, although from 1860 to 1863 he was located in Nevada in prospecting and mining. In the last named year he returned to his home in Sonoma county and there set out a vineyard, which he conducted for a time. In the year 1871 he conducted a hotel known as the American hotel in Petaluma, after one year going to Merced, in the San Joaquin valley, where he engaged in farming near Los Banos. His chief interest for some years was the cultivation of wheat. While a resident of that locality he attained a prominent position, discharging the duties of justice of the peace for two years. Coming to Tulare county in 1874, he located near Hanford, where he farmed and also assisted in the building of the Settlers' ditch. During the famous Mussel Slough fight he was an active participant in behalf of the settlers. In 1883 he located in the cottonwoods near Visalia, Tulare county, and engaged in the raising of wheat for several years, when, in 1887, he located in Tulare for the purpose of giving to his children the better educational advantages of that place. He engaged in horticulture in the Russell and Oakdale colonies but lost heavily. In 1890 he located on the Tule river and established and built up the Sunnyside Grove, located fourteen miles east of Portersville. This property consists of twenty acres of fine, bearing Wash-

ington navel oranges, which fruit he ships himself, the first carload from the district this year being from his ranch, and sent to the San Francisco markets. He is making a success of his work, giving to its prosecution his talents, energy and industry, and the interest which comes from congenial employment. He enjoys the outdoor work although he is a man of letters, and devotes much time to the reading of good books, and also does considerable writing, especially in the realm of poetry. One of his best-known poems is "An Ode to Tule River," which is given in full at the close of this sketch.

In Santa Cruz, in 1867, Mr. Talbot was united in marriage with Amelia Holser, a native of Hancock county, Ill., and a daughter of Conrad Holser, who came to California in an early day and engaged in the butcher business and later the hotel business in Petaluma, conducting the Magnolia hotel, until his death. They became the parents of the following children: Jessie Millman (deceased), Alice, Willie Coleman and Pearl E. at home. The son is an intelligent and promising young man of this community, a position of trust already granted him being his appointment as horticultural commissioner of the Portersville district. Politically Mr. Talbot was first a Republican, afterward a Democrat and now reserves the right to cast his ballot for the candidate whom he considers best qualified for public office. In 1884 he was elected supervisor from the fourth district, and served acceptably for a term of two years.

#### AN ODE TO TULE RIVER.

(BY C. TALBOT.)

Hail mystic connection of cloud and of snow  
With the sun-bathed valley of the land below;  
Down from the summit of old Moses' brow,  
Silently climbing, but who can say how?  
But soon in thy pranks, thy infant tricks  
Are seen in thy splashing and whirling sticks.  
Go on in thy fun, you cute little brooks,  
Playing hide-and-go-seek in all the dark nooks,  
Now join hands and close up your ranks,  
Not single or double, but in solid phalanx,  
For down through the rocks thy way must be hewn,  
With evidence of power thy path must be strewn,  
Silently working and wearing away,  
All the hours of the livelong day.

Hail! dashing river in the pride of thy youth  
Like impetuous young manhood in the pursuit of truth  
Ever onward, singing, dashing along,  
Swelling the chorus of the mountain's wild song.  
Down through forests of darkest green.  
Mid fern-covered banks thou flowest between,  
Where the buck, the doe and the cute little fawn,  
Delighteth to linger on thy cool, shady lawns.  
Still onward through mountains of wild chaparral,  
Where the bear, and the lions and the panthers do  
dwell;  
Where the eagle from his cleft swoops down with a  
scream.  
Spreading terror to all that drink from the stream;  
Now out o'er the cliffs with a wild, reckless leap,

Filling the air with a white, silvery sheet,  
While the sunbeams form a bow in the sky,  
Which forever shall linger, while the waters pass by.  
Now resting awhile in the caverns below,  
With foam for a mantle, as white as snow.  
From under this mantle, thy waters run clearer,  
Spanning the banks with a beautiful mirror,  
While the mountains and peaks seem below as above.  
As perfectly united as two hearts in love.  
Perhaps it is here in the ages gone by,  
Thou hast heard the sound of the lover's sigh.  
For a dusky maiden would repair to the brink  
Where she would see her form as she leaned o'er  
to drink.  
Stop not, oh river, 'mid these scenes old and hoary,  
There waits thy coming a far brighter story.  
Well mayst thou know it, I will tell it thee now—  
Thou shalt follow in the furrow of the husbandman's  
plow;  
Thy way shall be changed, thou shalt be led from thy  
course,  
Thou shalt be bridled and led like a man does his  
horse;  
Around through the glades of fair Pleasant Valley,  
Where spring first unfolds the poppy and lily,  
Around through the hills, where periods of dearth,  
Have held constant sway since God made the earth,  
Still sparkling and rippling thy waters glide along,  
As pure and as limpid as a maiden's love song.  
Till yonder, oh river, at the base of the hill,  
Thou shalt arrive at the town of old Porterville,  
The pride of the valley of the great San Joaquin,  
And thou art the jewel of this bright lovely queen.  
Now send for Pomona, old Ceres and Flora,  
Bid them arrange there grand Courts and I'll tell them  
a story.  
Let them marshal their forces and prepare for a rally,  
For we'll have here a wedding ere thou enter the val-  
ley,  
Since the valleys and mountains do here clasp hands,  
We'll join here in wedlock the waters and lands;  
Thou, oh river, thou hast been wooed and been won  
Like many a fair daughter by some mother's son.  
Bid sanchero come to this grand celebration,  
And open his ditches in every direction.  
And the mountains and valleys together shall sing.  
The result of this union great wonders will bring:  
Pomona will reign here mid her apples of gold  
And Flora will come and her beauties unfold.  
The churches and schoolhouses, with many a spire,  
Shall rejoice at the coming and all rise higher;  
And songs of praise shall ascend to the Giver,  
And thank the good Lord for our own Tule River.

JAMES C. FLY is a gentleman whom it is a real pleasure to meet. Hale and hearty he is considered one of the most popular residents of Tulare county, where he has lived for so many years. Now that he has reached old age he is able to enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries of a well earned competency.

A native of Tennessee, Mr. Fly was born March 15, 1837, near the city of Nashville, a son of John and Betsey (Turner) Fly. John Fly was also a native of Tennessee, where he lived until 1840, when he removed to Barry county, Mo., where he engaged in farming for several years. Later in life he took up his residence near

Ft. Scott, Kan., where he continued to follow farming and stock-raising until 1890, when he followed his son to California, locating in Tulare county. Here he finally died at the age of sixty years. His marriage resulted in the birth of nine children, seven of whom are still living.

James C. Fly accompanied his parents on their removal from Tennessee to Missouri, spending his boyhood on the farm. In those days the farmer youth had little opportunity of attending school, a few terms in the district school being the limit of educational advantages. Going to Kansas with his father, he remained there one year, when he returned to Barry county, Mo., and engaged in farming and stock-raising on the Missouri river.

Hearing such flattering reports of California, Mr. Fly determined to come west and in 1865 he started on the long journey. Ox-teams and wagons were the only transportation facilities that Mr. Fly could command, but in those days the young men thought little of such a trip, and with a cheerfulness now hard to imagine, he and his outfit started for the Golden West. On reaching Prescott, Ariz., he remained there for one year, engaging in placer mining until the water gave out, when he again started for California. This time no stops were made, and after many weeks of tiresome traveling Mr. Fly reached Tulare county, and here he has since made his home.

Soon after his arrival Mr. Fly purchased eighty acres of land two miles from Farmersville. This he at once began to improve, securing water from the People's ditch for irrigation purposes, with which he was able to produce splendid crops of grain and alfalfa. During all these years this land has remained in his possession, and each year he has raised from one to three crops, never having a failure. In addition to this, his first purchase, he homesteaded another eighty acres on section 2, which he has improved and placed under a high state of cultivation. Aside from general farming Mr. Fly has devoted considerable attention to stock-raising, owning one hundred and sixty acres in the foothills, near Dry Creek, which is used for grazing purposes.

While still living in Barry county, Mo., Mr. Fly was united in marriage with Mary Palmer, who was born in Arkansas. To Mr. and Mrs. Fly have been born the following children: Melinda, who married Henry Adkisson and died in 1884; Ellen, the wife of Elliott Patten; John, who is a stockman living near Fresno; Martha, now Mrs. William Hester; Rosa, now Mrs. R. H. Owens; Ettie, now Mrs. C. Noel, and Vinton, the youngest, who lives near the old home and assists his father in the work of the farm.

Politically Mr. Fly is a Democrat on national

issues, but in local matters he believes in voting for the man best qualified for the office. Aside from serving as school trustee he has never taken an active part in public matters, deeming it best to devote his time to his own business. For years he has been one of the leading members of the Exeter Methodist Church, and has always done his part in the upbuilding of Christianity. He has lived here many years and is well known throughout the county. He is one of the upbuilders of California, and while he has never, in any degree, been a public man, he has done his part as a citizen.

J. SMITH DUNGAN is probably one of the best posted men on oranges in the San Joaquin valley. He is a persistent student and spends all his leisure time reading books and papers relating to the industry. As superintendent of the Bonnie Brae ranch, he has an ample opportunity to demonstrate his ability.

A son of Thomas N. Dungan (whose sketch will be found on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of Dr. J. F. Dungan, of Exeter), he was born in Washington county, Va., near Glade Spring, March 28, 1872, and is the second of six living children. His early life was spent on the home farm in Virginia where he worked and attended the public schools. Remaining at home until reaching the age of twenty-one, he then struck out for himself and in 1895 came to Exeter. He soon became interested in the citrus fruit industry and for a time was in the employ of the Ohio Lemon Company, doing the nursery work for that company until February, 1901, when he resigned his position to become associated with George T. Frost, who at that time was with the Merryman Fruit, Land and Lumber Company, having charge of the Bonnie Brae orange grove. Mr. Dungan was placed in charge of the orchard and continued in this position until Mr. Frost severed his connection with the Bonnie Brae. Mr. Dungan then took charge of the orange grove for the owners, the Merryman Fruit, Land and Lumber Company.

This is an important position and one that carries a great deal of responsibility with it, but the company place implicit confidence in Mr. Dungan, and that this confidence is not abused is shown by the condition of the trees. In addition to the Bonnie Brae tract, Mr. Dungan also has charge of the Santa Regina tract of one hundred and seventy-five acres. Of this seventy acres are devoted to olives, forty-three to pears and five acres are in grapes. The balance is used for general farming purposes. To carry on this business requires the services of a large force of men, all of whom are under his direct super-

vision. Mr. Dungan owns a residence in Exeter and is also the owner of three acres of oranges, located in the town of Exeter, block 1.

Mr. Dungan has taken an active interest in fraternal matters, being a member and past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias and also holds membership in the Uniformed Rank, K. P., of Exeter.

Politically a Democrat, he has never had a desire to hold public office, preferring to devote his entire time to his business interests. Public-spirited, he is an active member of the Exeter board of trade and can be counted on to do his part in the work of progress.

**JOHN ETZENHOUSER.** Holding a substantial position among the representative business men of Visalia is John Etzenhouser, a prominent contractor and builder, a successful agriculturist, and the president and manager of the Pioneer Brick Company, which he assisted in incorporating, and in which he is a large shareholder. He is a native of California, his birth having occurred November 20, 1864, in San Joaquin county, on Dry creek, where his father, the late Henry Etzenhouser, Jr., settled in 1854. His paternal great-grandfather, Jacob Etzenhouser, was a lifelong resident of Germany. His grandfather, Henry Etzenhouser, Sr., emigrated with his family to the United States in 1841, locating first in Pennsylvania, and then in Illinois. In 1852 he came across the plains to California, and followed mining for a while. After the death of his wife, which occurred in the northern part of the state, he returned east, settling in Jackson county, Mo., where he was accidentally killed by a railway train.

A native of Germany, Henry Etzenhouser, Jr., was born near Cassel, Kur-Hessen, January 13, 1824, and was brought up in his native country. On July 13, 1841, he came to America, and settled near Philadelphia, with his parents, with whom he afterward removed to Illinois, taking with him his bride, whom he had married in Pennsylvania. Coming with an ox-team train to the Pacific coast in 1852, he was engaged in mining pursuits for several months. In 1853 he had the misfortune to lose his right arm by the premature discharge of a fuse, and soon after, in 1854, he settled near Dry Creek, in the San Joaquin valley, where he followed general farming until 1871. Removing in that year to Jackson county, Mo., he purchased land near Independence and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his retirement. He subsequently lived there until his death, in November, 1902. Near Philadelphia, Pa., he married Hannah Margaret F. S. Clay, who was born November 9, 1826, in Saxe-Weimar, Germany, and came

with her parents to Pennsylvania, where they spent the remainder of their lives. She bore her husband nine children, namely: Henry died at the age of two years; Mrs. Rosanna L. A. C. Morss, of San Jose, Cal.; Elias, a collector, residing in Kansas City, Mo.; Rev. Rudolph, a traveling evangelist; Daniel died at the age of sixteen months; Alfred, living on the old home farm in Missouri; John, the subject of this sketch; Alma, a farmer in Jackson county, Mo.; and Celestia, wife of Elmer Weldon, died in San Jose, Cal., in 1902.

Being taken by his parents to Missouri when in the seventh year of his age, John Etzenhouser was there brought up on a farm, and educated in the district school. Beginning life for himself at the age of fourteen years, he went to Colorado, where he worked in a sawmill for a short time. Returning then to Missouri, he worked for two years at brick-making, waiting for an opportunity to learn the bricklayer's trade. In 1882 Mr. Etzenhouser again went to Colorado, and as an employee of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway Company helped to build the roundhouse and shops at Grand Junction, and while so employed began the trade of a brick mason. Continuing with the company, he worked as a mason on the roundhouse and shops at Pleasant Valley, Utah, and after their completion, on November 4, 1882, came to San Francisco, Cal. The ensuing two years he was employed in dairy farming in San Luis Obispo county. Subsequently marrying, Mr. Etzenhouser followed farming in San Benito county for eighteen months, and then settled in Kern county, where he continued in his independent occupation for two years, his farm being located near Bakersfield. While there, he completed the brick mason's trade, under the instruction of John English, and then followed it for a time in Fresno. He subsequently worked as a brick mason in various places, including Visalia, Fresno, San Jose, and Portland, Ore. Locating in Tulare county in 1894, Mr. Etzenhouser bought one hundred and twenty acres of land near Traver, and there carried on farming in addition to working at his trade until 1902. His land is nearly all under irrigation, and he has it well improved. He has a good orchard of three acres, a vineyard of fourteen acres, while the remainder is devoted to raising alfalfa for dairy purposes, his dairy containing thirty cows.

Desiring to give his attention exclusively to contracting, building and brick-making, Mr. Etzenhouser rented his ranch in 1902, and moved to Visalia, where he bought his present residence property. He has erected many of the important public and private buildings throughout the county, both in city and country, and has accumulated considerable wealth. The Pioneer







L. R. Preuss

Brick Company, of which he was one of the incorporators, and is the president and manager, has a large factory, which is well supplied with modern machinery, run by oil, and makes a superior quality of both common and pressed brick, which is in good demand in the local markets.

In Hollister, Cal., Mr. Etzenhouser married Anna Morss, who was born in San Joaquin county, a daughter of Dudley and Mary (Kane) Morss. Her father, a native of Illinois, came to California with his father, Jacob Morss, in 1860, settling first in San Joaquin county as a farmer, and now being a resident of Santa Clara county. Three children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Etzenhouser, namely: Arthur Earl, now a sophomore in the Visalia High School; Benjamin died when but eight days old; and Edith Augusta. Fraternally Mr. Etzenhouser is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and politically he is a Socialist.

L. ROY PAYNE, a worthy representative of the men of energy and thrift who have had much to do with the development of the packing industry of the San Joaquin valley, was born February 2, 1875, in Clyde, Allegan county, Mich., a son of J. H. and Celia A. (Askins) Payne. The former, a native of England, accompanied his father to the United States and settled on a farm in Michigan. Later he engaged in the insurance business, and died in that state at the age of sixty-eight years. Mrs. Payne is a native of Allegan, and a daughter of a pioneer farmer of Michigan, who came from Pennsylvania at an early day; she makes her home in Fresno. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Payne four are living, viz.: Bertram D., a lumber manufacturer of Fresno county; Frank T., also engaged in the lumber business; Esther C., the wife of Milton Loyrea, of Spokane, Wash.; and L. Roy.

L. R. Payne spent his boyhood days in Allegan county, attending the public school and the high school in Vicksburg, Mich., and graduating in 1892. In 1893 he came to California and settled in Fresno with his mother. Entering the employ of the Fresno Home Packing Company, by steady application and observation he gradually worked his way from the lower rung of the ladder to a position of prominence. In 1896 he became general superintendent of the packing house and in 1898 purchased an interest in the business and was elected secretary of the company and a director. In 1902 he was elected vice-president and made general outside manager, having charge of all the packing interests.

The Fresno Home Packing Company owned the first seeded raisin packing plant in the valley. They built up a lucrative business, and

later had several branch houses. In 1902 the consolidation of five independent packing houses was made, the plant being known as Pacific Coast Seeded Raisin Company, the largest shippers in the state. They erected the largest buildings in the state, used for that purpose, and fitted them with special machinery to handle all kinds of California fruits and raisins. All labor-saving devices are used, and nowhere in the world is to be found as modern a plant for the handling of and preparing for market the raisin output of the United States.

Since the organization of the new company Mr. Payne has devoted his entire time and attention to the advancement of the business, to maintaining a standard grade of goods, to the installation of the latest machinery and keeping on friendly relations with their employes.

In Oakland, December 19, 1901, Mr. Payne was united in marriage with Della M. Hodges, a native of Fresno and a daughter of I. A. Hodges, who is now a resident of Oakland. They have one daughter, Marian Frances. Mr. Payne is a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. At one time he served on the executive committee, was a member of the building committee during the erection of their new building, and is now chairman of the committee on exhibits. He was also a member of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition committee. Fraternally he is a Mason, being initiated into the order in Fresno Lodge No. 247, and is a member of Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M., Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., and of Fresno Lodge of Perfection. Politically he is a pronounced Republican, though he has never allowed his name to be mentioned for office. Socially he is a charter member of the Sequoia Club of Fresno. In all matters that have had for their object the advancement of the social, moral, educational and commercial affairs of Fresno county and California, Mr. Payne has been a liberal contributor. By his strict integrity and perseverance he has worked his own way in the world and in business circles he has attained a firm position among the substantial men of Fresno.

E. T. RAGLE. Every year the grim reaper is thinning the ranks of the pioneers. The men who left comfortable homes in the east to brave the dangers and the privations of the far western wilderness, are rapidly being called to their final reward. But throughout this grand state there are yet many of these noble characters who, although well advanced in years, are still hale and hearty. Among this number mention must be made of Mr. Ragle. In the early '50s, when the only means of transportation across the barren deserts and trackless prairies was the "prairie

schooner," this man came to California. To be sure he was but one of thousands, but to him and his associates, the state of California owes a debt that will never be repaid. In this busy world of the present, too little credit is given the men who blazed the way for future generations.

Mr. Ragle was born in Hawkins county, Tenn., May 18, 1833, a son of George and Annie Margaret (Miller) Ragle. The father followed farming in Tennessee and there his death occurred. His wife, a native of Virginia, bore him ten children, but only two of this large family are now living.

E. T. Ragle was reared on his father's farm in Tennessee, receiving his education in the old-time subscription schools. Upon leaving the parental roof, he went to Dubois county, Indiana, where he remained two winters and one summer. At this time the stories of this western coast were being told in every household, and with the determination to seek his fortune in the Golden West, Mr. Ragle went to St. Joseph, Mo., from which point the pioneer was starting for California. At Weston, Mo., he joined a train with which he remained until reaching Salt Lake. There he and three comrades secured pack horses and came on in advance of the train, finally reaching Trinity county in safety. The winter after his arrival he followed mining, but not liking that occupation, he went to Santa Rosa in the spring of 1855, soon after buying a farm on the Santa Rosa creek. There he engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1865 when he sold out and came to Tulare county and followed farming on Outside creek, until 1872. In the last-named year he purchased his present place on the Kaweah. When this land came into his possession it was wild and unimproved, but under the direction and supervision of the owner, it was placed under cultivation and improvements were made, until today it is one of the most valuable properties in the county. Mr. Ragle has devoted his time to the raising of grain and stock and has handled over four thousand sacks of grain per year. From time to time land was purchased until the aggregate reached six hundred and forty acres, but since then two hundred acres have been sold.

In Sonoma county, Mr. Ragle met and married Eliza Ann Moffett, who was born in eastern Tennessee and crossed the plains to California in 1857. Of this union twelve children have been born as follows: Frances L., now Mrs. Renick; George Wesley; Martha Louise, who is now Mrs. Toler of Orsi; Charlotte Jane, now Mrs. Thomas Morrison; William Hamilton, who resides at home; John Henry, living near Tulare; Annie Eliza, deceased; Elizabeth A.,

living near Visalia; Virginia Caroline; Mary Josephine, at home; Warren Emanuel, also at home; and Nancy Alice, who resides in this vicinity.

Mr. Ragle is a staunch Democrat, believing firmly in the principles of this party. While he has never cared for the emoluments of public office he has nevertheless taken an active interest in local matters, especially along educational lines, serving for several years as trustee of the Antelope school district. A member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church he has for years been one of its most substantial supporters and has at all times been ready to give of his time and means to further the interests of this denomination.

It will be seen by the foregoing sketch that this honored pioneer has made his own way in the world, and while he has met with success it is not the result of outside assistance but rather the outcome of his own industry and perseverance. In his battle for success he owes much of the result to the faithfulness of his most estimable wife, who has at all times been a true helpmeet.

---

MORGAN JAMES WELLS. In passing through Tulare county in the luxurious palaces of today, the traveler sees on either side waving fields of grain and alfalfa, fine orchards and magnificent vineyards, and cannot but be impressed with the thrift, enterprise and progressive spirit of its citizens. The trials, privations and hardships of the original settlers, however, are not apparent, and the courage and endurance necessary to change the primitive face of the country to its present bright picture of civilization can not be realized by the younger generations. Among the prominent pioneers of this section of California is Morgan James Wells, who settled on his present homestead, near Visalia, almost fifty years ago, and has since been an important factor in developing the resources of town and country. A native of Tennessee, he was born June 15, 1833, in Dixon county, which was also the birthplace of his father, the late Henry Gilbert Wells.

In the fall of 1833, Henry Gilbert Wells removed with his family to Arkansas, locating in Pope county. Buying wild and unbroken land, he improved a ranch, and engaged in general farming and stock-raising for several years. Coming across the plains to California with ox-teams in 1856, he spent his declining years with his son, Morgan James, dying at the age of eighty-one years. He married Nancy Wilson, who was born in Tennessee, and died at the home of her son, Morgan J., in California, when sixty years of age. Her father, Adam Wilson,

was born in Ireland, and after his emigration to the United States was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Tennessee.

The sixth child and only survivor of a family of seven children, Morgan James Wells has had a varied experience in life. His parents removing to Arkansas when he was but a few months old, he was brought up in true pioneer style, with none of the advantages given to the boys of today. He was educated in a subscription school, which was kept in a rude log house, with a shake roof and slab benches, and was taught to write with a quill pen made by the teacher. Being seized with a severe attack of the gold fever in the spring of 1852, he formed a company and started with ox-teams for the Pacific coast. Following the Cherokee route, he went up the Arkansas valley, through Denver, which was then a very small hamlet, along the Platte to Salt Lake, thence by way of Humboldt and Carson City to Tuolumne county, arriving in Sonora, being six months en route. After mining there for a year, Mr. Wells went to old Milerton, where he resided for three years, being engaged in mining and teaming. Locating in Tulare county in 1856, he continued as a freighter for a few months, hauling lumber from the mountains with ox-teams.

In 1857, Mr. Wells, with his bride, settled on his present home ranch, about five miles northwest of Visalia, on Elbow creek. Entering one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, he first built a shake house, which in course of time was replaced by a substantial frame residence. By dint of energetic perseverance he improved a good ranch, and until the close of the Civil war was engaged in general farming and teaming, making a specialty of raising wheat, cattle and hogs. He pays considerable attention to fruit culture, having now a productive family orchard, and about thirty acres of prunes, which grow well in this locality. A man of excellent business tact and ability, Mr. Wells has made wise investments, and in addition to his home farm, which now contains two hundred and forty acres, he owns Bone Canyon ranch, which is situated fourteen miles northeast of his home farm, and contains eleven hundred acres of land, devoted principally to grain and stock-raising. His land is under good irrigation from the Wutchumna canal, in which he is financially interested.

In 1857, in Tulare county, Mr. Wells married Catherine Fudge, a native of Tennessee, and the daughter of John C. Fudge, a farmer, who crossed the plains with his family in 1856, coming to California as a pioneer. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wells six children were born, namely: Mary, who married L. H. Douglass, died at the age of twenty-three years in Visalia,

leaving one child, David Roy Douglass, now attending the San Francisco College of Pharmacy; Sallie, of Visalia; Susan E., wife of David Douglass, died in Visalia, at the age of thirty-two years; Maggie died when eighteen years old; John died when twenty years old; and William Reid, well-known farmer and stockman, operating the Bone Canyon ranch. William Reid Wells married Linda Pleas, a native of San Joaquin county, and they have one child, Donald Morgan Wells. In his political views Mr. Wells is a staunch Democrat, and an ex-member of the county committee. In 1879 he was elected sheriff, and took the oath of office in March, 1880, and served most acceptably for two years and ten months, his term being extended owing to the change of Constitution; at its expiration he was not a candidate for re-election. As sheriff, Mr. Wells was associated with several celebrated cases, among others being that of Ben Harris, a colored man, who killed his wife and her child. Harris fled to the brush, and on being found by Mr. Wells and his deputies defied them, and was shot by one of the deputy sheriffs. Fraternally Mr. Wells belongs to Visalia Lodge No. 148, F. & A. M., to which his son, William R., also belongs; and to Visalia Chapter, R. A. M.; and is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mrs. Wells has proved herself a true helpmate to her husband throughout his career, and, like him, is held in high respect by all. She is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

---

**RAPHAEL BARCROFT.** Progressive and enterprising, R. Barcroft, one of the leading hardware merchants of Merced, is prominently identified with the mercantile prosperity of this section of the San Joaquin valley. The descendant of a pioneer family of prominence, he is a worthy representative of the native-born sons of California, and one of its most esteemed citizens. He was born September 13, 1856, in Hornitos, Mariposa county, a son of R. W. Barcroft. Further parental and ancestral history may be found elsewhere in this volume, in connection with the sketch of his brother, Frederick Barcroft.

Educated in the public schools, R. Barcroft learned the blacksmith trade when young, working first as an apprentice, and later as a journeyman. Locating in the city of Merced in 1878, Mr. Barcroft followed his trade for seven years, acquiring a good reputation for his mechanical skill, and accumulating some property. Embarking in the mercantile trade in 1885, he bought out the hardware business of his brother Frederick, and for two years was at the head of the firm of Barcroft & Branson, being located in a

small frame building. In 1887 Mr. Barcroft bought out his partner's interest in the firm, and has since carried on the business alone. In this he has met with success, his trade having rapidly increased. Being forced by the demands of his customers to have more room, he built, in 1894, on Main street, his present brick store, 25x100 feet. In the fall of 1903 he built a store adjoining the original structure, making that 25x100 feet, and raised the entire building one story, also putting an addition 40x50 feet on the old store, making the building in its entirety 50x140 feet. The second floor is used for lodge rooms and offices, but the remainder he occupies in his own business, and in addition has a plumbing shop, 24x50 feet, and a warehouse in which he stores his surplus goods. Mr. Barcroft has the most complete stock of goods in his line to be found in the county, including heavy and light shelf ware, stoves, furnaces and house furnishing goods. He also handles agricultural machinery and implements of all kinds, and deals in carriages and wagons.

Mr. Barcroft married, in Tuolumne county, Cal., Margaret Tinney, a native of that county, and they are the parents of two children, namely: William R., a student in the electrical department of the Wilmerding Mechanical College; and Frank R., in the store with his father. In national politics Mr. Barcroft is a stanch Republican, and in local affairs he is quite active, for twelve years having served as a member of the city board of trustees, during which time a first-class sewer system has been installed, and other improvements made. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias; of the Woodmen of the World; of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which he is a past officer; of the Independent Order of Foresters; and of the Young Men's Institute.

**JOHN A. VAN CLEVE.** Exeter has in the above-named gentleman, a young man who, while he has been in California but a few years, has already won for himself an assured position in the orange industry. Mr. Van Cleve comes from Wisconsin, which state has furnished California, and particularly Exeter, with several of its best citizens.

John A. Van Cleve attended the public school in his native town, later entering the University of Michigan, preparing for his university work at St. John's Military Academy. In 1897 he was graduated from the university, after which he entered the Ypsilanti Business College, where he remained until 1899. The following three years were spent in various parts of the state, and in 1901 he came to California, locating at Exeter. In the spring of 1902 he took the con-

tract for looking after the Badger Hill Orange ranch, being in the employ of the Merryman Fruit, Land and Lumber Company. Here he has remained up to the present time, now having charge of two hundred and sixty-one acres.

While Mr. Van Cleve has been busily at work for others he has saved his money and now owns one hundred and sixty acres four miles north-east of Exeter, and intends to devote it to the growing of canteloupes. Thus it will be seen that he has made a splendid start in life, and is one of the young men that in the future will become one of our best citizens.

A true-blue Republican he takes an active interest in the welfare of his party, but has neither the inclination nor the time to seek office. He is well posted, not only on current events, but has read extensively and is thoroughly conversant with his chosen vocation. Since locating in Exeter he has won a large circle of friends who unite in wishing him continued success.

**JASPER HARRELL.** A potent factor in the upbuilding of the best interests of Visalia, Jasper Harrell is numbered among the most worthy of the pioneers of the state. Born in Atlanta, Ga., August 16, 1830, he was a son of Edward Harrell, who was born in 1800 and died in California June 7, 1889. Jasper Harrell started in life with few educational advantages, and all that came to him in after years to make of him a successful, well-read, well-informed man was the result of his own unaided efforts. In young manhood he drifted west, in 1850 taking passage from New Orleans on a steamer bound for San Francisco. Upon his arrival there he went at once to the mines in Tuolumne county, where he remained two years. Although he was more or less successful, the life of a miner held but little attraction for him, and he accordingly located near Visalia, where he engaged in the stock business. Since 1850, and until within a few years of his death, he purchased large tracts of land. These tracts have since been devoted to stock-raising purposes, now consisting of about ten thousand acres of land situated seven miles north of Visalia, where Mr. Harrell made his home for many years. He met with complete success in his work, acquiring liberal means. His spirit of enterprise was largely manifested, in that he gave liberally of all he had to the furthering of important enterprises, public or private, putting up various residences in Visalia, as well as a magnificent three-story bank building on the corner of Court and Main streets, erected in 1889 at a cost of \$35,000. In the same year a private bank, under the name of Harrell & Son, was started and conducted successfully







*Phoe Price*

until 1893, when the Producers' bank was incorporated which assumed the business of Harrell & Son, Mr. Harrell being one of the largest stockholders. The principal reason for the change in banks being that A. J. Harrell wished to give his individual attention to the Sparks-Harrell Corporation, which is still in existence and in a flourishing condition. In addition to his varied interests in Visalia he was a large landowner in the city of Los Angeles, among other possessions belonging to the estate being the Nadeau Hotel and a fine residence at the corner of Pearl and Orange streets. He was the owner of the Sparks-Harrell Company, a land and cattle corporation owning one hundred and seventy thousand acres of land in Nevada, and herding thirty thousand head of cattle on that range. The many activities of Mr. Harrell were cut short by death May 13, 1901, when nearly seventy-one years of age. He left a vacancy in the business world which could be filled by very few.

In the fall of 1857 Mr. Harrell was united in marriage with Martha E. Bacon, a native of St. Louis, Mo., and the daughter of Fielding and Sarah (Bell) Bacon, the former a native of Missouri and the latter of Pennsylvania. Born of this union were two children, of whom Andrew J. is a banker in this city, and Victoria is the wife of Walter J. Trask, an attorney. In his political convictions Mr. Harrell always gave his support to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. A broad, liberal and enterprising man he is justly remembered as a citizen of worth and ability, and one whose best efforts for personal success lay parallel with those for his adopted state. He was readily accorded an honored place in the memory of the people who profited by his public-spirited life, which won for him the distinction of being one of the foremost citizens of his day in Tulare county.

THOMAS PRICE was born at Plainsberg, December 16, 1864, and with the exception of one or two short intervals his entire life has been spent within the borders of his native county. He was reared on a farm and the greater part of his life has been spent in general farming and stock-raising. Since 1902 he has been associated in the real estate business with H. H. Miner, of Le Grand, his present place of residence. This enterprising firm has been instrumental in bringing many homeseekers to this section of the state.

Thomas Price, Sr., was one of the prominent and influential pioneer settlers of Merced county, one who was closely identified with the early history of the county. He was born on a farm

October 4, 1825, in Arkansas, a son of James and Pamela (Browning) Price. In 1846, at the age of twenty-one, he was united in marriage with Alice Slinkard, and from then until the spring of 1852 the young people made their home in Arkansas.

Accompanied by his wife and one daughter, Mr. Price crossed the plains to California in 1853, the journey lasting from April 17 to October 22, the date of his arrival in Marysville, where they remained but a short time, afterward residing for a few months in Sonora, Tuolumne county. In August, 1854, he located in Merced county, which at that time was a part of Mariposa county, and here he made his home the balance of his life. Unlike the majority of those who settled in California at that early date he did not seek his fortune in the mines, but with keen foresight he was quick to realize the advantages of free grazing, and as soon as possible turned his attention to stock-raising.

Going into Texas in the spring of 1855, he bought a drove of cattle, brought them to California, and by giving his personal attention to the business succeeded beyond his expectations. He continued to follow the stock business until 1871, when the great land excitement broke upon the community. Following in its train was the law prohibiting stock from running at large, and as a natural result the stock business declined. Selling his stock Mr. Price turned his attention to general farming, a venture which was crowned with success. In 1873 he again went to Texas and purchased large tracts of land on the frontier. His home farm near Plainsberg contained twelve hundred and thirty acres and in addition he owned a two thousand acre ranch in Mariposa county. Politically a Democrat, he was active in political affairs. He died in 1887, at the age of sixty-two years. Seven children were born to him and his wife as follows: Mary J., wife of W. C. Wilson, a butcher of Le Grand; Sadie R., wife of J. F. McSwain, of Merced; George, a resident of Fresno county; James D., who resides in Mariposa county; Jefferson D., of Le Grand, where he is filling the office of justice of the peace; Thomas, and Nettie L.

In his youth Thomas Price had exceptional educational advantages; after completing the grammar school course he took a high school course at Merced, subsequently taking a thorough commercial course at Heald's Business college in San Francisco. His school days over, farming claimed his attention in his home county until 1885. He then went to Nebraska and engaged in stock-raising for a couple of years, afterward returning to Merced county, which has since been his home. In addition to the real estate business Mr. Price owns an interest in twenty-two hundred acres of stock land in Mariposa

county. By his marriage in 1891 he was united with Miss Stella Aiken, a daughter of the late W. B. Aiken, of Merced, one of the first supervisors of the county. A native of Louisiana, he crossed the plains to California at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Price have one son, Justin G., who was born in 1895. Like his father, a Democrat in political views, Mr. Price has rendered efficient service as supervisor of Merced county for the past four years, representing the second district. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, Modern Woodmen of America, Native Sons of the Golden West, and the Fraternal Aid Association.

**PUTNAM BROTHERS.** Enterprising and substantial citizens, the Putnam brothers occupy a place high in the esteem and confidence of their fellowmen, and are widely known throughout Tulare county for the ability and energy which have marked their career. They are sons of Joseph Putnam, a pioneer of '49, who left his father's farm in the Green mountains of Vermont, where he was born, going first to the state of Massachusetts, thence to California. He engaged in mining in Calaveras and Amador counties, which occupation he continued until he went into the mercantile business at Volcano. Later he located on the Mokelumne river, in San Joaquin county, and set out an orchard of sixty acres, the balance of his four hundred acre farm being devoted to the raising of grain. He remained in that location until his death, which occurred in 1893, at the age of sixty-two years. He had taken a lively interest in the growth and up-building of his adopted state, with the exception of a short time spent in the east, to which he made two subsequent trips, remaining in California the balance of his life. He was a member of the California Pioneers of Stockton. His wife, formerly Mary Ann Fletcher, was a native of Massachusetts, in which state she was married to Mr. Putnam. In 1859 she came to California by the Panama route, and died in the old homestead in 1899. Of the nine children born of this union, six are living, namely: Mary Ellen, the wife of Lucian Athern, of Clements, Cal.; Joseph Fletcher; Lucy, the wife of W. E. Whipple, of Clements; William; E. A., at Clements, and Jennie, the wife of Abner Jones, of Clements.

Joseph Fletcher Putnam was born in Cambridge, Mass., in 1854, and with his mother came to California when five years old. He received his education in the district school in the vicinity of the home farm in San Joaquin county. He followed farming on the home place after attaining maturity, finally, however, locating on a farm thirty miles east of Visalia, Tulare county, on Three Rivers, where he homesteaded and en-

gaged in the stock business. He resided there thirteen years, when he sold out, and, returning to the old home engaged in farming there for a few years. He then went to Santa Clara county, and engaged in horticulture until 1903, when he located on the farm now owned by himself and brother, William. This consists of four hundred and twelve acres seven miles west of Visalia, where they are engaged in general farming and stock raising. They have a fine place, and very productive land, all under irrigation from the Persian Ditch, of which company Mr. Putnam is superintendent. Sixty acres of this property is devoted to alfalfa. Mr. Putnam has a family of three children: Ira, at home with his father; Lena, the wife of H. J. Stokes, of Visalia, and Blanche, at home. In his political preference Mr. Putnam is a staunch Republican, giving his voice and vote to the support of every movement calculated to advance the principles he endorses. He is an enterprising and liberal citizen and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

William Putnam is a native Californian, his birth having occurred at Clements, Cal., in 1862. He grew to manhood amid the scenes of his birth, receiving his education in the district school in the vicinity of his home. He first engaged in general farming and fruit growing on the old home place at Clements, and later followed the stock business on the Calaveras river in Calaveras county. In 1903 he joined his brother in their present farming venture, in which they are meeting with gratifying success. In Calaveras county he married Maud Messenger, a native of that county, and the daughter of Captain H. A. Messenger, a pioneer prominent in the early history of the state. They are the parents of three children, viz: Ralph, Frances and William, Jr.

**THOMAS W. PEDIGO.** As a merchant and rancher of Tulare county, Mr. Pedigo is well known and esteemed for his sterling traits of character which distinguish him in his business. A native of Lawrence county, Ind., he was born July 30, 1865, the son of John Douglas Pedigo. The latter was a native of Kentucky, who, when a boy, went to Indiana with his father. In young manhood he engaged in farming in Lawrence county, where his death occurred in 1876, at the age of sixty-two years. His wife, formerly Jennie Garten, was a native of Indiana, where she also died. They were the parents of nine children, four sons and five daughters, of whom Thomas W. was the youngest.

The education of Thomas W. Pedigo was received in the common schools of his native state, where he grew to manhood. In 1881 he secured employment with the Louisville, New Albany &

Chicago Railway as brakeman, two years later becoming conductor on the Louisville & Northern Railway. In the fall of 1884 he came to California and located in Sonoma county, following the carpenter's trade in and about Santa Rosa until 1886, when he located in Tulare county. He first located in the Lake country, where he was employed in boring wells for a time, in the spring of that year coming to Springville, where for five years he engaged in teaming into the mountains. During this time he helped to take out the Chicago World's Fair tree on Bear creek, a branch of the North Tule river, and helped to set it up in San Francisco for exhibit. Being located in San Francisco, he then engaged as an electric lineman until April, 1892, when he returned to Springville and followed teaming until 1900, when he established a modest mercantile enterprise in Springville. In the four years of its existence it has grown to a size commensurate with the custom to which it caters, and has proven a profitable venture for its owner. In addition to this business Mr. Pedigo also owns eight hundred acres of land in a cattle ranch adjoining the town of Springville.

Mr. Pedigo has been twice married, his first wife being Bertha Rae, with whom he was united in 1892. She was a native of California and died here in June, 1898. They had two children, Maud and Minta, both at home. In the fall of 1898 Mr. Pedigo married Grace Wells, a native of Kansas, who came to California with her parents when a child. In 1897 Miss Wells received the appointment to the postmastership of the office in Springville (Daunt), and with the exception of nine months has held it continuously. Fraternally Mr. Pedigo is identified with the Woodmen of the World, having passed all the chairs, and belongs to Mt. Whitney Camp No. 605, of Springville. He is also a member of the Women of Woodcraft. Politically he is a Republican, although for two years he was active in the Populist party. With others he gave his influence to this party in order to purify the county of a political ring that was a curse and a burden to Tulare county; as soon as this was accomplished he again affiliated with his old party.

---

**CALVIN A. CASE, M. D.** Professional ability is an inherited talent of the Case family, as is evidenced by the fact that four brothers of the name entered the practice of medicine and surgery and attained more than ordinary success. One of the brothers, Dr. Case, of Pleasanton, although comparatively a newcomer in Alameda county, has already established a reputation for skill in diagnosis and accuracy in the treatment of disease. Prior to his removal to this locality

he was identified with the medical profession of the San Joaquin valley, where he built up a growing and profitable practice, but the heat of summer there caused him to seek another location.

In Geauga county, Ohio, on a farm lying near Chagrin Falls, Cuyahoga county, Calvin A. Case was born November 18, 1848, his parents being Albert and Mehitabel (Sprague) Case, natives respectively of Connecticut and Vermont. The paternal grandfather, Asa Case, was born in Connecticut, of one of the pioneer families of that state, and traced his lineage to England. During the war of 1812 he served with courage and fidelity. A wound received in battle troubled him for many years and finally resulted in his death, at seventy years of age. During the active period of his life he made his home in Ohio, where he improved a farm from the virgin soil. Little is known concerning the maternal grandfather, except that he was born in Wales, immigrated to the United States at an early age, settled in Vermont, and thence removed to Ohio, where he died at the age of ninety-six years. His daughter, Mrs. Case, was thirty-six at the time of her death, which occurred in Michigan.

When a small child Albert Case accompanied his parents to Ohio, where he was reared and received such advantages as the district schools of that day afforded. Until 1856 he engaged in farming in the same locality in Ohio, but during that year he removed to the vicinity of Lansing, Mich., and acquired a valuable farm near Okeemos, Ingham county, where he continued to reside until his death at seventy-six years. At the time the family removed to Michigan, Calvin A. Case was a boy of eight years, and two years later he was orphaned by his mother's death. He was then taken into the home of an uncle near Detroit, but two years later returned to his father's home, and remained there until he started out to earn his own way in the world. At sixteen years of age he secured employment in a drug store in Saginaw, Mich., where he remained about four years, meantime gaining a knowledge of the compounding of drugs that has been of inestimable value to him in his professional career. When twenty years of age he began to read medicine with two older brothers who were physicians in Saginaw county. In 1868 he matriculated in the medical department of the University of Michigan, where he took the full course of lectures. After his graduation in 1870 he became a student in the Detroit Medical College, where he carried on his studies for a year. At the expiration of that time he began to practice the medical profession, remaining one year in Chesaning, Saginaw county, and eight years in Shepherd, Isabella county, Mich. From the latter town he removed to St. Louis and en-

gaged in practice. The year 1885 found him in California, but after a sojourn of two years he returned to Michigan. In 1890 he again came to the Pacific coast, where he has since made his home. For a considerable period he conducted a large practice at Oakdale, Stanislaus county, and from there removed to Pleasanton in July of 1903. Though his residence in his new location has been comparatively brief, he has already established an enviable reputation for professional skill. While living in Michigan he was active in county medical society work, but has not allied himself with similar organizations in California.

By his marriage to Adaline Bigelow, a native of Michigan, Dr. Case has three children, namely: Garfield Sprague, who is a student in the Oakland Polyclinic; Horace Arthur, now a student in the University of California; and Winnifred, who resides with her parents in Pleasanton. In fraternal relations Dr. Case is connected with the Blue Lodge of Masons and the Knights of Pythias. Politically he has been an active worker in the Democratic party, and before leaving the east held a number of local offices within the gift of his party, also acted as a delegate to county and state conventions.

JESSE H. NEWMAN, who is pleasantly located eleven miles northeast of Visalia, was born in Booneville, Mo., in 1857, a son of Judge Jesse G. Newman, whose biographical record appears on another page of this volume. He was reared in Missouri and engaged as a farmer. When twenty-four years old he came as far west as Nevada, where he spent a year, and then returned to Missouri. He remained in his native state until 1884, when he once more came west, this time locating in California, and in Tulare county engaging in the raising of grain and the dairy business. In partnership with his brother, Harry H. Newman, he operates the old Curtis ranch of one thousand acres as well as six hundred and forty acres adjoining, all being devoted to the raising of grain, horticulture and the dairy business. He also owns eighty acres in two different farms near Dinuba, which is devoted to alfalfa and vineyard. Mr. Newman is a very enterprising and progressive farmer, his methods are modern and up-to-date, and he gives to his work that application without which no amount of talent can bring success. For his personal qualities he is held in the highest regard by his fellow citizens.

The marriage of Mr. Newman united him with Miss Elmira Grove, a native of Illinois, and they have four children, all of whom are at home: Edgar, Jesse J. R., Marion and Max. In his political affiliations Mr. Newman is a

staunch Democrat, and in the interests of his party has served as school trustee of the Stone Corral district. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World and Ancient Order of United Workmen, and both himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

ERIE ALANSON MAY. For nearly thirty years Mr. May has lived in the state of California and during this time has been in the front ranks of those in favor of progress and reform. Never has a movement been started, calculated to be of material benefit to his county or state, that has not received his warm personal support. It is doubtful if any man in this section of the county has devoted more time to the needs of the community, or been more responsible for the good accomplished, than he.

A native of New York state, E. A. May was born in Wales, Erie county, February 11, 1847. His father, Robert May, was a native of England, as was his grandfather, also named Robert, who was a successful farmer. Robert May, Jr., learned the trade of a tailor which he followed for some years prior to his emigrating to the United States. On arriving in this country, he first located in Buffalo, N. Y., where he engaged in business as a merchant tailor until 1854, when he removed to Henry county, Ill. There he continued in the same line of business until 1870, the year of his arrival in this state. Going to Modesto he there established himself in business, remaining for several years. He then retired and took up his residence in San Jose, where he died in 1900 at the age of ninety-two years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ann Rowe, was also a native of England. She died in 1855 at the age of fifty-five years. Her marriage resulted in the birth of eight children, all of whom are still living, six having located in California. Five of the sons participated in the Civil war.

Erie A. May was the youngest in the family. His early life was spent in New York, where he was educated in the public schools. Early in the spring of 1865 he enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Ninety-fourth New York Volunteer Infantry and served until being mustered out of the service at the close of the war. Immediately thereafter he joined his father, who was then residing in Henry county, Ill. A year later he located near St. Charles, Minn., and engaged in farming, then removed north of Minneapolis and followed lumbering. Three years later he sold out his various interests and migrated to Canton, Lincoln county, S. Dak. Soon after his arrival he homesteaded and pre-empted three hundred and twenty acres of land, and during the time he was proving up on his entry, he se-







*Paul Neumann*

cured a position as teacher in one of the nearby district schools, but as soon as his title was secured he began the cultivation and improvement of his land, devoting the whole to the growing of grain. In 1875 Mr. May was appointed sergeant-at-arms at Yankton, the state capitol, and directly after the close of the legislative session he was selected to return east as a representative of the farmers, to solicit aid for those who had been impoverished by the grasshopper scourge, this terrible pest having destroyed the crops of the country.

Not being entirely satisfied with the prospects in Dakota, Mr. May sold out in 1877 and came to California, spending the first year of his residence here in Modesto. The following year he located in the vicinity of Poplar, Tulare county, where he has since made his home. From time to time he has added to his first purchase of land, until he now owns two hundred and forty acres of fine land. The entire tract is well improved, and in the carrying on of his stock and farming interests he has equipped the place with all the modern appliances needed in the way of labor saving machinery, etc.

While he has been very busy looking after his own interests, he has, nevertheless, found the time to take an active part in political matters. Being a firm advocate of the People's party, he has worked energetically to further the interests of the party's cause. In 1891, in company with Mr. Gilstrap, he organized the *Tulare Valley Citizen*. The publication office was located in Tulare and this was one of the first People's party papers to be started in the state. For some time he continued to conduct the paper and did much to influence the vote of the people in Tulare county by his able discussions of the important questions of the day. Prior to organizing the paper he was sent as a delegate to the first State Convention of his party, which was held in Los Angeles. He also served as chairman of the county central committee and for one year served as deputy county assessor under Mr. Jeffords. In the fall of 1894 his party nominated him for the office of county treasurer, and at the following election he was successful, defeating two other candidates. In January, 1895, he took the oath of office, serving in a most satisfactory manner until January, 1899.

Mr. May has associated himself with the leading men of this portion of the county and that the ventures in which he has interested himself have proved successful reflects credit upon his judgment. For one year he acted as manager of the Poplar Co-Operative store, and for several years was secretary of the Poplar Irrigation Ditch Company.

While living in Yankton, S. Dak., Mr. May married Martha C. Jones, who was born in Ohio,

a sister of Hon. A. Sheridan Jones, formerly State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Dakota. By this union have been born two children: Howard, now living in Springville, and Iva May, at home. He was formerly associated with the Grand Army of the Republic at Visalia. Both he and his wife are highly esteemed for their many excellent traits of character and have scores of friends throughout the county.

PAUL NEUMANN. Of the many callings at which a man may succeed the world recognizes agriculture as of extreme importance and to-day the honest farmer or rancher can hold his own with the best wherever he may go. Following this line of endeavor with marked success is Paul Neumann, a resident of Merced county, living near Le Grand, a man who has the utmost respect and esteem of his neighbors and acquaintances and one who deserves all the success which he enjoys. In his life work he but follows in the footsteps of his father, Charles Neumann, a native of Germany, who came to New York when quite young. There he took for his wife Miss Abbie Herwig, also of German nativity; the parents still reside in New York state, where, though seventy-two years of age, the father still follows farm pursuits. Besides Paul there is a son, John P., of San Mateo county, and a daughter, Mrs. J. L. Gillette, also residing in California.

Upon his father's farm in central New York, Paul Neumann was born October 25, 1857, and upon this same farm he was reared and lived until twenty-two years of age, when he left his home for the west. Traveling first to Kansas, after remaining there a short time he started in October of that same year for California, locating in Merced county, which has been his home ever since. He first hired out as a laborer on a ranch, following this until he was able to rent two hundred acres of land near his present place. He afterward rented one thousand acres of rich land and finally accumulated enough to purchase his eight hundred and eighty-acre ranch one mile from Le Grand, where he now lives. Besides this ranch Mr. Neumann rents twenty-six hundred and forty acres, which he devotes to grain and stock. The thriving condition of his whole place speaks well for his business ability and worth.

In California Mr. Neumann was united in marriage with Miss Martha A. Mallory, a native of Sonoma county and a daughter of the late J. F. Mallory, a pioneer of that section. This union has been blessed with the following six children: Charles F., Edith A., Mabel M., Lester P., Howard L. and Marvin E., all of whom are still at home. Politically an adherent of Republican

principles, Mr. Neumann has served his party as supervisor of his district for one term, from 1892 to 1896, and has also served as school trustee of his district for several years. He was one of the organizers of the California Grain Growers' Association, and fraternally affiliates with the Odd Fellows and the Fraternal Aid. The success which has come to Mr. Neumann has been richly deserved, as his position to-day is the result of enterprise and perseverance.

---

**WILLIAM CONRAD RAGLE.** In the death of Mr. Ragle Tulare county lost one of its most respected citizens and California an honored pioneer. It is true that much has been said and written of the pioneers, but they are deserving, and with all that has been done in their honor we still owe them a debt of gratitude that will never be repaid. They left homes and loved ones in the east and with a courage worthy the cause braved the dangers and hardships of a trip across the plains, through mountain passes where the only road was a blazed trail to make the way clearer for those who were to follow. They were the advance guard of civilization. To this number must be added the name of Mr. Ragle and no man who came to California in those trying days is more worthy a place in history than he. Not that he became a man of public affairs, nor did he ever pose before the admiring throngs as a prominent man, but he did perform his duties as a citizen, and wherever known his name is revered.

A native of Tennessee, Mr. Ragle was born in Hawkins county, October 15, 1830, and was a son of George and Margaret (Miller) Ragle. The father emigrated from Germany and settled in Tennessee, where he lived the balance of his life. When a young man our subject left his native state and removed to Missouri, locating in Dade county, where he lived until 1852, the year of his departure for California. Upon arrival here he took up his residence in Green valley, Sonoma county, and while living there he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda A. Moffett, who was born in Tennessee, near Fayetteville. Her father, James Moffett, was a farmer in Tennessee, where he died. His wife bore the maiden name of Nancy Mayfield and in later years married the Rev. Jonathan Blair, a more extended account of whom is given in the sketch of James H. Blair.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ragle they continued to live in Sonoma county until 1866 when they came to Tulare county, where the family has since resided and where Mr. Ragle lived until his death. For one year he lived near Exeter, where he was engaged in the sheep business, continuing there until 1869, when he

removed to Dry Creek. In December, 1871, he came to what is known as the Ragle neighborhood, now called Antelope Heights. When the land first came into the possession of Mr. Ragle it was wild and unimproved, but he soon inaugurated a series of improvements that resulted in making his ranch one of the best in Tulare county. At the time of his death, April 21, 1895, he owned five hundred and twenty acres but since then Mrs. Ragle has disposed of two hundred and forty acres and on the balance she and her son are carrying on a successful stock and grain business. Mrs. Ragle is the mother of eight children, as follows: Albert, a farmer near here; Nancy, now Mrs. O. C. Goodin, of Orosi; Margaret, living in Los Angeles county, the wife of George Skaggs; Mary Alice, living at home; George, who is engaged in farming on the old home place; Catherine, who married Joseph Lynn and lives in this vicinity; Arthur, at home, and Rose, now Mrs. William Moore, of Visalia.

In politics, Mr. Ragle was a Democrat, and fraternally belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Religiously, he was an elder and an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Like many of the pioneers, he never had a desire for prominence, but in local matters he could always be depended upon to perform the duties devolving upon him. He took a special interest in educational affairs and for several terms served as school trustee of his district. At his death he not only left a competency but an honored name.

---

**GEORGE C. MURPHY** occupies a prominent place among the representative citizens of Portersville, Tulare county, although he has been a resident of this place but a comparatively brief period. He is a native of Ontario, his birth having occurred in Brockville, January 28, 1866. His father, John Murphy, a farmer by occupation, was a native of the same location, where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Jane Gotkin, was also born and reared there. Of the eight children born of their union six are now living, the only one in California being George C. Murphy, of this review.

Mr. Murphy was reared on the paternal farm in Canada until he was seventeen years old, when he entered upon an apprenticeship to learn the carpenter's trade. Two years later he came to the United States and located at Grand Forks, N. Dak., where he completed his trade under the instruction of his uncle, John Earl. In 1887 he came to Los Angeles, Cal., and worked at his trade for two years. Following this he located in San Jose and engaged as a contractor and builder, meeting with success in his chosen work. From 1894 to 1896 he was located in San

Francisco, when he came to Portersville, and has since engaged in contracting and building. He has met with a gratifying success, among the buildings which he has erected being the residences of J. H. Williams, C. N. Henderson, C. H. Boydson, Farmersville block, First National Bank, Barrett block, and the brick block on Main street, which he owns. In addition to his own residence on Third street he has put up two others there. He is also interested in horticulture, having set out a ten-acre orchard of navel oranges at Sunnyside, to which he gives as much attention as is possible.

In San Jose Mr. Murphy was united in marriage with Theresa Hatton, a native of that city, and the daughter of William Hatton, now a resident of Portersville. They are the parents of one child, Dorris. Fraternally Mr. Murphy was made a Mason in Portersville Lodge, No. 303, of which he is past master, and is high priest of Portersville Chapter, No. 85, R. A. M. He is also a member of Visalia Commandery, No. 26, K. T., and of Islam Temple, N. M. S. Both himself and wife are members of the Eastern Star, of which Mr. Murphy is past patron. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and is now serving as a member of the county central committee, being a member of the executive committee.

**ISAAC SHIRK.** Six miles west of Visalia is located the farm which belongs to Isaac Shirk, who has been a resident of Tulare county since the spring of 1889. He was born near Waterman, Ind., December 12, 1849, the youngest of four sons and the only one who is located in California. His father, Isaac Shirk, Sr., was also a native of Indiana, and was a farmer near Waterman, where he likewise engaged in flat-boating on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. He died of cholera on his twenty-first trip between Wabash and New Orleans. His wife, formerly Sarah Williams, was a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Zachariah Williams, of Pennsylvania, who settled in Edgar county, Ill., and later became the pioneer hotel man in Newport, Ind. Mrs. Shirk died in her home in Indiana.

Isaac Shirk, Jr., was reared on the paternal farm in Indiana, where he attended the district schools and assisted his mother in the home duties. After he attained his majority he became manager of the home place, which he conducted until 1878, when he went to Champaign county, Ill., for a period of two years and engaged as a farmer. He then located in Douglas county, Ill., where he remained until 1888, in which year he came to California. He spent a part of his first year in Napa county, when he came to Tulare

county, and has since made this his permanent location. He purchased his present property, which consists of one hundred and twenty acres, at that time being all pasture land. He has made many improvements and now raises grain and alfalfa, and also devotes some time to stock raising. He is located within six miles of Visalia, his land is well improved and cultivated, and his success as an agriculturist has given him a substantial position in the community in which he resides.

In Woodville, Tulare county, Mr. Shirk married Laura DeWitt, a native of Douglas county, Ill., and a daughter of James DeWitt, who also came to California, where he died in this county. They are the parents of five children, namely: William, Sarah, Hope, Anna and James. Mrs. Shirk is a member of the Christian Church, to which Mr. Shirk gives a liberal support. In his political convictions Mr. Shirk is a staunch Republican.

**PERRY CRANDALL, M. D.** In the latter part of the eighteenth century there came to America many emigrants, driven from their native land by the constant wars which devastated the European countries. Among these were three brothers from Scotland, one of whom was drowned at sea during the passage, the others safely reaching their destination, John Crandall locating in New Jersey, while Charles settled in Rhode Island. Charles Crandall's grandfather was chieftain of the clan of Crandalls of the Highlands, Scotland, while a heavy price had been placed upon the head of his son, Gardner, who was a sailor, by the English government. Charles Crandall remained in the New England states until after his marriage, when he became a pioneer of Ohio, locating in Marion county, where he continued to reside for many years. In his family was a son called Washington Crandall, who was born in Connecticut in 1814, and who removed with his parents to Ohio, where he remained until 1850. In that year he located in DeWitt county, Ill., where his death eventually occurred at the age of seventy-five years. He was a minister of the United Brethren Church, and was faithful to the cause throughout his entire life. He married Anna Jones, a native of Ross county, Ohio, whose people came to that state from Virginia. Her father, Abel Jones, served in the war of 1812. Of this union was born a son, Perry Crandall, in Ross county, Ohio, April 18, 1843.

It was the good fortune of Perry Crandall to receive a good education in the earlier years of his life, attending the public schools in preliminary study, after which he entered Rush Medical College, of Chicago. Later becoming a student

in the Eclectic Medical Institute, of Cincinnati, Ohio, he was a graduate of the class of 1877. Entering upon the practice of his profession he remained so engaged for twenty-two years, locating first in Missouri and afterward in Chautauqua county, Kans. In the latter location he made his home until 1891, in which year he came to California and located in Merced county. His home is in the Bradley Addition, two miles from town, and consists of seven acres, all in fruit. In addition to this property he also owns forty acres in the British Colony, which he leases, and eighteen acres which his son farms. The doctor, in 1899, retired from the active practice of his profession, and is enjoying a relaxation among the pleasant surroundings of his California home.

Sharing the pleasant life of Dr. Crandall is his wife, who was formerly Sarah A. Adams, a native of Missouri, and the daughter of Schockley Adams. Mr. Adams, a native of Georgia, saw active service in the Mexican war, and was one of the party under General Wool, who was surrounded by the enemy and was without food for several days. They were rescued by the soldiers sent out from Fort Leavenworth for that purpose. After the war Mr. Adams located in Missouri and engaged in farming. Mrs. Crandall is a woman of admirable qualities and has made their home an ideal one. Their union has been blessed with the birth of three children: Christopher C., a rancher of Merced county; Alma, wife of G. A. Fitchett, of Merced county; and Anna, the wife of Robert C. Weaver, also of Merced county. In his political views the doctor is broad-minded enough to see something of good in each of the platforms of the parties, but does not conform wholly to any one of them, reserving the right to cast his vote for the man whom he considers best qualified for office. In fraternal orders he is a Royal Arch Mason, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Personally the doctor is a man of many fine qualities, well read and a lover of history, which makes him a very entertaining companion. He is a broad-minded, whole-hearted man, and as a citizen of worth is appreciated by all who have come to know him.

---

ARTHUR ABEL ABBEY. The name which heads this review is that of an old New England family that flourished in the state of Connecticut. It was noted for its pioneers—men of strength and endurance, and the ability to give their best efforts in the upbuilding of a new country. Luther Abbey left his home in Connecticut, where he was born, and located in Elyria, Lorain county, Ohio, and engaged in contracting and building until his death, January 5, 1850,

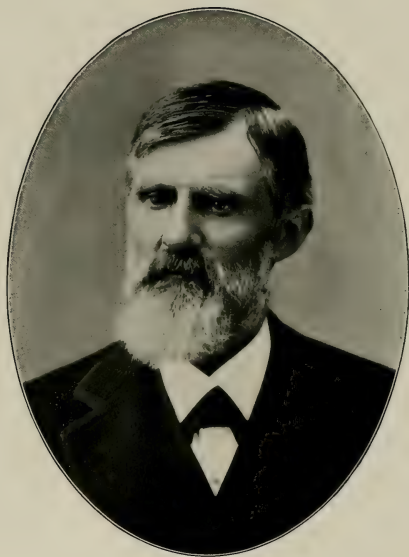
at the early age of thirty-nine years. His wife was in maidenhood Lucy Allen, a native of Massachusetts, and the daughter of Reuben Allen, a pioneer farmer of Lorain county. Mrs. Abbey died in Ohio at the age of seventy-six years. They became the parents of four children, of whom two are now living, namely: Roland, who served in the Forty-second Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry and was wounded at Vicksburg, now residing in Michigan; and Arthur Abel, the second in order of birth.

Arthur Abel Abbey was born in Elyria, Ohio, November 3, 1842, and was reared on a farm near that place until the breaking out of the Civil war, receiving his education in the district school in the vicinity of his home. In October, 1862, he responded to the pressing need for men, and enlisted in Company D, Sixth Ohio Cavalry, being mustered in at Cleveland, Ohio, for one year. He served until January, 1864, in the Army of the Potomac, taking part in the battles of Gettysburg and Fredericksburg, as well as seeing dangerous service in the path of the Confederate army. After an honorable discharge he returned to civic life and once more entered into the life of an Ohio farmer. In 1866 he located in Ausable, Mich., and engaged for two years in the lumber mills of that region, after which he went to Oshkosh, Wis., and followed the same occupation until 1874. In February of the last named year he came to California, to which state he had previously made a trip in 1868, accompanied by his younger brother, Andrew, who continued to make his home here until his death in 1882, in Stockton. Mr. Abbey located at Portersville and engaged in the sheep business, which he continued for two years, when, in 1876, he established a livery stable and conducted it for about six years. He then purchased the grist mill and in partnership with C. A. McLean established the Portersville Flour Milling Company, operated by water power. They eventually changed to the roller process, but sold out in 1886, after a very successful career. Mr. Abbey then engaged in speculating and dealing in real estate for one year, when with Thomas Kelley, he bought eighty acres of orange land, being among the first to set out orange groves for commercial purposes. Later they sold a half of this property, each retaining twenty acres, which Mr. Abbey still owns, while he makes his home in Portersville.

In Portersville, in 1882, Mr. Abbey married Emma Gilmer, a native of Tulare county, and the daughter of Rufus Gilmer, of Visalia, whose biographical record appears elsewhere in this work. Born of this union are five children, namely: Ernest, who was accidentally drowned at the age of nine years; Alner, who died at the







WILLIAM DEAKIN



MRS. E. DEAKIN



age of four years; Rosalind; Lawrence; and Hester. Mr. Abbey is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Grand Army of the Republic, both of Portersville. Politically he is a true-blue Republican and has often been called upon to serve his party in positions of trust and responsibility. In 1901, upon the organization of the present corporation of Portersville, he was made councilman from the third ward, and in 1903 was re-elected for four years as a representative of the same ward.

**WILLIAM DEAKIN.** The late William Deakin is remembered by a large circle of friends to whom he had endeared himself by his kindly manners and strict integrity. He was born at Primrose valley, near Rotherham, England, in 1828, a son of Benjamin and Mary Deakin, the former a soldier in the British army.

William Deakin was reared in the place of his birth, educated in the schools of England, and as he reached manhood learned the trade of a fendermaker (fenders for fireplaces). In 1849 he immigrated to the United States and in St. Louis followed his trade. Hearing much of the Pacific coast and the fortunes made in the mines, he decided to cast in his lot with the emigrants. He accordingly outfitted with wagons and ox teams and started on the overland journey. Reaching Salt Lake he remained there about one year, then continued his journey to California. He took up farming near San Bernardino, where he remained three years, later coming to Fresno county. He hoped to find a satisfactory location on Big Dry creek, but being disappointed in this he settled on Kings river and engaged in the stock business and general farming. His health failing, after a residence there of six years, he removed into the foothills and located at the head of Clarks valley, purchasing land from time to time as success came his way, accumulating about two thousand acres of land. He continued in active business until his death, August 14, 1897, at the age of sixty-nine years. He was made a Mason in Visalia Lodge. He served as justice of the peace for many years on the Democratic ticket.

In 1899 Mrs. Deakin sold the Kings river ranch and also disposed of the other ranch at a good advance. The lady who became the wife of William Deakin was in maidenhood Elizabeth Measley. She was born in Rotherham, England, January 9, 1829, a daughter of John and Alice (Huntington) Measley. The former, who was a rope and twine spinner by trade, was born near Chesterfield, and there his death occurred. His wife, who was a native of the same locality, came to California and passed her last days at the home of her

daughter, Mrs. Deakin, on Upper Kings river.

Mrs. William Deakin was reared in Rotherham, educated in the public schools and became acquainted with Mr. Deakin there. They embarked on the same vessel for the United States in 1849 and were married on the high seas in May of that year. They came to New Orleans, thence to St. Louis. To them was born one child, Eliza, the widow of Peter William Fink, of Kings river. Mrs. Fink has five daughters and one son living, viz.: Alice N., Mrs. Felix Hill, who has four children living; Juliann Marsh, who has five children living; Rose May Geason, who has one child; Augusta E. Street, who also has five living children; Mary Mitchell, who has one son; and Peter Elliott Fink, at home on the ranch with his mother.

Mrs. Deakin is a Presbyterian in religious belief. Since the death of her husband she has looked after her property interests and disposed of both ranches. She spends her summers in San Francisco and the winter months in Fresno, at her home which she purchased at No. 528 O street. Like her husband, Mrs. Deakin has ever extended a helping hand to those less fortunate than herself and of all enterprises that she deems worthy is a liberal supporter. The position held by Mr. and Mrs. Deakin has been attained by their own efforts, good management and an appreciation of the rights of others. In the annals of the state where their success has been made, a monument is erected in the history of the San Joaquin valley that has claimed them as citizens for over fifty years.

**HANS P. PETERSEN.** Worthy of note among the industrious and respected men of the San Joaquin valley is Hans P. Petersen, a keen, wide-awake representative of the agricultural interests of this section. A man of energy and high aspirations, he is in every respect a self-made man and the architect of his own fortune, his prosperity being due solely to his own efforts. As a general farmer and chicken raiser, he has fine success, and his large crops of hay and grain bring him in handsome profits each year. The son of a machinist, he was born December 24, 1861, in Denmark, where his parents, Carl and Carry (Christian) Petersen, were born, lived and died. Their family consisted of seven children, five sons and two daughters, four of whom are living, Hans P. being the third child in order of birth.

Having obtained a substantial education in the common and private schools of his native district, Hans P. Petersen learned the cabinet maker's trade, which he there followed for a while as a journeyman. Immigrating to the United States in search of more favorable opportunities

for bettering his financial prospects, he located at Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1882, and there followed his trade for two years. Coming to California in 1884, he worked on a ranch in Modesto for two years. In 1886, looking about for a place in which to settle permanently, Mr. Petersen was so impressed with the richness and fertility of the soil of the west side of the San Joaquin valley that he secured a position as a farm laborer on a ranch at Hills Ferry, and while thus employed bought one hundred and sixty acres of the land now included within his present home farm. Three years later, in 1889, he gave up working for wages and removed to his own ranch, which lies nine miles southwest of Newman, and has since been farming on his own account. By the exercise of his native industry and good judgment, he has met with most satisfactory success in his labors. He has bought another quarter section of land, having now a valuable ranch of three hundred and twenty acres, on which he raises large crops of wheat and barley. He is also interested in the poultry business, having large chicken yards, houses and incubators, and during the past year raised thirty-three hundred white Leghorn chickens, in this branch of industry, which is a side one, finding profitable returns for the money invested.

In Modesto, Cal., Mr. Petersen married Anna Matsen, a native of Denmark, and they have three children, Carrie, Augusta and Emily. Fraternally Mr. Petersen belongs to Newman Lodge, A. O. U. W., and politically he is a strong supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. He takes great interest in local affairs, and though not an office seeker has served for a number of terms as school trustee in the Occidental district.

---

F. A. TRACY. That absorbing interest which surrounds the men whose strength and nobility have encompassed the civilization of the western slope, of whose trials the conservative easterner knows little, and whose faith in the verity and success of his mission has at times approached the sublime in human nature, assures to the history of this once droning land an abiding place in literature. In no other part of the world has pioneer life offered greater contrasts, sung more alluring songs, or fashioned for man's conquering greater or more discouraging obstacles. To the youth born into the prosperity of the present, the calm, sane and practical life of the struggler for western supremacy represents an inspiring lesson in self-control, self-sacrifice and manliness. Such a one is F. A. Tracy, than whom none in the vicinity of Bakersfield more nearly approaches the typical pioneer.

A native of Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county, Pa.,

Mr. Tracy was born October 21, 1829. August 6, 1850, he arrived at Placerville, Cal., where he engaged in mining with fair success until 1852. During that year he became interested in farming and stock-raising in the San Joaquin valley, Tulare county, in partnership with Hon. Wellington Canfield, thus inaugurating a business association which, from the standpoint of length of years, disinterested loyalty and harmony of understanding, probably has no counterpart on the Pacific coast. Fifty-two years have been recorded on the dial of time since these pioneers joined their interests, yet in all that time no harsh word has been spoken, no sign of selfishness been manifest, nor aught of discord appeared to weaken faith or cast the shadow of disillusionment. From the ranch at Four Creeks the partners changed their base of operations to Fresno county in 1859, and in 1863 came to Kern county to pasture their large herds on the open prairie. In 1872 they began to purchase lands as the market warranted, and at one time owned several thousand acres in what is known as the Canfield precinct, a part being on the Kern river. For years they conducted a large dairy, and are still engaged in ranching, although of late the burden of the responsibility has fallen on others, owing to the somewhat impaired health of both Mr. Tracy and Mr. Canfield.

As proof of his faith in the future of Bakersfield Mr. Tracy has invested heavily in real estate, and has aided in establishing many of the chief enterprises of the town, including the Bank of Bakersfield, in which he is still a director. He is generosity personified, is a liberal contributor to the worthy causes which mark the humanitarianism of the community, and has helped many a comrade out of a temporary slough of despondency. To some extent he has encouraged mining in the locality, and owns valuable properties in Kern and surrounding counties. As a staunch Republican he has upheld the best tenets of his party. Like many stockmen in this section he has had his ups and downs, and in the early days suffered the privation and uncertainty incident to pioneer life. Through all he has maintained that kindness and serenity which is one of the chief causes of his influence and power, for he has carried a happy temperament into the dark places of life.

Not only is Mr. Tracy one of the representative pioneers of Kern county, but through his marriage he became identified with one of the most prominent families which has invaded this western country. January 19, 1875, he married Mrs. Baker, widow of Col. Thomas Baker, founder of Bakersfield, and widely known as the most vigorous promoter of its material welfare that Kern county has known. As a testi-



mony of the kind-heartedness and generosity of his helpmeet, it is pleasant to record that in the early days many a sick person brought to their home owed life to her gentle care and nursing, gratuitously bestowed. Mrs. Tracy stands unique among the early settlers of this section, not only because she brought intelligence and discernment into the wilderness, pursued a life of more than average usefulness and retains undiminished her many recollections of the early days, but because she is the only one living of the few who were here at the time of her arrival. Mrs. Tracy is popular and socially prominent, being a member of the Woman's Club, in the deliberations of which she takes a conspicuous part. Recently she read before that organization a paper, which, for graphic descriptions of the early days, fine command of language, and moderation and accuracy of statement, must remain a classic of its kind.

---

COL. THOMAS BAKER, founder of Bakersfield, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, November 5, 1810, his birthplace being in the beautiful valley extending from Newark to Dresden, through which the Ohio canal runs. A military bent was given to the youthful ambitions of Colonel Baker by the times in which he was educated and the circumstances in which he was placed. He was appointed a colonel in the Ohio State Militia before he attained his majority; but peace became so well assured that he turned his attention to civil pursuits.

Reared on a farm and familiar with surveying, he studied law with the intention of making land law his specialty. Shortly after his admission to the bar he removed to Illinois, where, however, he remained but a short period. The rapid influx of population into the territory of Iowa induced him to go there, and his ambitions as a lawyer were soon rewarded with success. He was appointed the first United States district attorney of that territory and retained the office until the adoption of the state constitution. He was then elected senator, and on the organization of the legislature was chosen president of the senate, becoming under the new constitution *ex officio* lieutenant-governor, the first in that office in Iowa. He was subsequently returned several times to the state senate. No man had a larger share in the early legislation of that powerful state; and many of her important laws on her statute books were devised and drafted by him.

Influenced by the gold excitement and his bias for adventure, he finally determined to emigrate to the Pacific coast. In the autumn of 1850, after the usual tedious and dangerous overland journey made by most men of those days, he

arrived at Benicia, where he remained a few months, when he removed to Stockton. In 1852 he removed to Tulare county, and was one of the founders of the town of Visalia. In 1855 he was chosen representative of that district to the state assembly. During the next fall he was appointed receiver of the United States Land Office, which position he held during the administration of President Buchanan. In 1861 he was elected state senator from Tulare and Fresno counties, and served in the sessions of 1861-62.

September 20, 1863, he arrived on Kern Island with his family, preparatory to commencing his work of reclamation, remarking at the time, "Here at last I have found a resting-place, and here I expect to lay my bones." To him the country was neither new nor strange. He had visited it and explored it, and carefully noted its capabilities years before. He was a man of keen perception, broad views, and comprehended fully the natural resources and peculiar advantages of a country, and systematically set about the prosecution of his work of reclaiming and developing his lands. He was liberal to a fault, and that was with him an almost entire abnegation of self. Often, when his ingenuity was taxed to supply his own wants, he was found willing to aid those who were in dire need, and the stranger was always a welcome guest at his home. His friends, like those of President Jefferson, delighted with his genial manners and hospitality, seemed never to suspect that his store could be exhausted. The leading trait of his character was his uniform good nature and his philosophical placidity and coolness of temper and disposition. Nothing seemed to disturb his equanimity and self-poise. One of his favorite mottoes was: "Time will justify a man who means to do right." He thought it unworthy a rational being to indulge in vain regrets. What ever ills he suffered he wasted no time in brooding over them, and it was this peculiarity of mind or mental training that often gave him the mastery over adverse circumstances and enabled him to extricate himself.

He knew better how to make a fortune than how to keep it. The result was that though several times in his life he might have retired wealthy, fortunes were lost with seeming indifference. His ambition was not so much to acquire lands as it was to develop them, and in this he succeeded to a greater extent probably than any other man in the state of California. His absorbing desire was to see his lands improved and occupied by settlers as soon as possible; and in furtherance of this object he was invariably more liberal than the national government itself. He was the original owner of the town site of Bakersfield and induced the erection of several of

the public buildings there by his liberality, giving away many lots to persons desiring to build. In fact, he was the projector of nearly all the public works and improvements. His great experience, intuitive sagacity, indomitable perseverance and public spirit made him a useful man to his people.

September 12, 1857, Colonel Baker was married to Miss Ellen M. Alverson, daughter of Dr. Laban Alverson, in Visalia. Dr. Alverson, on coming to Kern county from Iowa in 1870, practiced medicine in Tulare and Kern counties, and died here in 1879. By this marriage there were four children, two of whom survive, Thomas A. and Lottie, wife of J. M. Jameson, of Bakersfield. An elder daughter married C. C. Cowgill of Bakersfield, and is deceased, and May married H. A. Jastro. Colonel Baker died November 24, 1872. Mrs. Baker, the widow of the colonel, was married, January 19, 1875, to F. A. Tracy, a prominent pioneer citizen of Kern county.

**THOMAS MCKEE DUNGAN.** An ambitious and energetic young man who holds a high place in the citizenship of Visalia is Thomas McKee Dungan, whose ability has already brought to him the discharge of various public duties. He is a native of Washington county, Va., where his birth occurred January 4, 1874. His father, Thomas Nelson Dungan, was also a native of that state, where he engaged in farming for many years. In 1894 he came to California and located at Exeter, Tulare county, where he bought a ranch and planted it to oranges. He is now retired at the age of sixty-four years, making his home in Exeter in enjoyment of the fruits of his years of active citizenship. While a resident of Virginia he served as a soldier in the Confederate army. His wife, formerly Josephine McKee, also a native of the Old Dominion, died in California, leaving a family of four sons and two daughters, of whom Thomas McKee Dungan is the fourth in order of birth.

Thomas McKee Dungan received his education in the common schools in his native state, where he made his home until 1894, in which year he came to California with his father. With his brother, J. S. Dungan, he established the Bonnie Brae nurseries near Exeter, which have now a capacity of seventy thousand trees, all of citrus fruit. They have made a financial success of their work, having built up a wide patronage through the county. In addition to these interests, Mr. Dungan is acceptably filling the office of county coroner and public administrator, to which position he was appointed in 1904 to complete an unexpired term. To accept this posi-

tion he resigned that of deputy assessor. In Exeter, Cal., Mr. Dungan married Sallie Seabright, a native of Virginia, and born of this union are two sons, Seabright and Lee. Fraternally Mr. Dungan is identified with the Woodmen of the World, and politically adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. He has been and is active in political circles and a successful and helpful future is predicted for him.

**ROBERT DOHERTY.** The most prominent characteristic in Robert Doherty is that of large heartedness, to which he owes practically all of his experiences in life. A study of his successes and failures, of his present prominence as a rancher and dairyman of Kings county, of his remarkable public spirit and adaptability to a crude and pioneer country, reveals in glowing colors this fine and most human of all attributes. Like all men of generous and trustful impulses, his confidence has been misplaced, and his ability to accumulate money, and therefore assume the backing of friends and enterprises has brought disaster around his head. That he is to-day conservatively rated at \$100,000 argues the possession of particularly strong and persevering accompaniments, and without exception he has done as much as any man to improve the general conditions of Kings county. Mr. Doherty lives nine miles southeast of Hanford, where he has a ranch of fourteen hundred acres, one hundred of which are under alfalfa, and the balance is devoted to one hundred dairy and four hundred market stock, and eighteen hundred hogs. He also owns a ranch containing a section and a half on Tulare lake, and is one of the most extensive stock and dairy farmers in this section of the state.

Mr. Doherty's remarkably enterprising life began in County Tyrone, Ireland, June 10, 1840, and for many years was associated with his father, George Doherty, a native of the same part of the country, and to whom he owed much in the way of personal encouragement and practical training. When he was twelve years old, in 1852, his family came to the United States and settled in Great Barrington, Mass., where George Doherty bought property and farmed on a small scale, in 1855 removing to Wisconsin, where he bought a one hundred and sixty acre farm near Mineral Point, Iowa county. In the fall of 1858 a move was made to Nemaha county, Kans., where he took up government land, but, unhealthy conditions prevailing, the family became ill, and in the spring of 1860 the farm was abandoned and a start was made across the plains. The equipment consisted of ox teams and wagons, and the long distance was accom-





*J. E. Thompson*

plished without any of the dangerous experiences which characterized the earlier wanderings of the emigrants. Renting a farm near Stockton, Mr. Doherty lived there until the fall of 1863, when he moved to Stanislaus county, near Salida, where his son Robert helped to locate him, assisted him in the building of his house and made every effort to render his last years happy and contented. He lived to be eighty-two years old, dying a staunch believer in the tenets of the Roman Catholic Church. Politically he was a Democrat. During later life he was comparatively alone, for his wife, formerly Margaret O'Hare, a native of Ireland, died in Wisconsin after rearing eight of her nine children, seven of whom are now living.

Robert Doherty is the second child in his father's family. He remained at home until 1864, when, on account of the drouth killing off large numbers of stock upon which he had depended for a livelihood, he went to Idaho and engaged in mining and prospecting about four years. Not meeting with success, he returned to California in 1868 and took up land on the west side of the San Joaquin river in Stanislaus county. He also rented large tracts of land, from three to five thousand acres, and engaged in grain raising, and in 1873 removed to his present ranch, which he homesteaded, and the next year sold his Stanislaus county farm. In the fall of 1873 he organized the Lake Side Ditch Company with James Guernsey and C. W. Clark, and became its president in 1874. Under his management the ditch with its branches was constructed for ten or fifteen miles, becoming one of the most necessary and useful improvements in the county up to that time. He remained with the company until its interests were thoroughly established, and resigned only on account of pressure of other business. In those days he owned and operated a threshing machine through the county, and as many were poor and trying to get a start in life, he tendered his services upon supposed credit, and in many instances received no remuneration for his services. For several years he was known as one of the largest grain farmers in Kings county, and in 1877 eight thousand sheep were grazing in his pastures and on the mountains. A drouth killed off about half of the sheep in one season, a misfortune which greatly depleted his finances, but which failed to dampen his determination to succeed.

Mr. Doherty's public spirit and ambition have led him to active interest in many enterprises which he alone might have brought to a successful issue, but which, taken in connection with people of less resource and business sagacity, have brought down on his head many severe losses. To accommodate a friend he helped to

build a toll road up the mountain to facilitate the development of certain mines, but although he spent a large sum and devoted two years of his time to the project, he never received a cent in return. On another occasion he took a \$50,000 government contract to fill up the slough at Presidio San Francisco, but this also proved a losing venture and would have completely undermined a man of less financial resource. His stronghold has been in stock-raising, of which he has keen and comprehensive knowledge, and of which he has made a remarkable success. Mr. Doherty has never been particularly interested in politics, but whatever interest he has shown has invariably been for some aspiring friend. The maintenance of friendships has been to him a sort of religion, a unity to be strengthened by sacrifice if necessary, and never to be tarnished by any act or word of his own. No more loyal and helpful and disinterested friend ever invaded the San Joaquin valley, and no more generous upholder of education, improvement and high living ever added to the wealth of a liberal mind, an open purse and a cheerful disposition to its continuous upbuilding. Mr Doherty married Missouri E. Davis, a native of South Carolina, and his family consists of his wife and three children, Rose E., George Emmett and Agnes.

JOHN E. THOMPSON. As the proprietor of an up-to-date general store at Thompson's Corner, three and a half miles east of Crow's Landing, in Stanislaus county, Mr. Thompson's position in the community is one of consequence and he is easily recognized as one of the leading citizens of the neighborhood in which he has resided since 1876. Being a fine mechanic, upon first removing to the locality he opened a blacksmith shop and in connection with conducting a general store, he engaged in the manufacture of wagons, buggies, etc., also doing general repair work. But when the railroad was built through this section he closed the shop and devoted his entire time to the mercantile business. In addition to his other interests he has followed farm pursuits to some extent, and has twenty acres adjoining his store in alfalfa.

Born in Clay county, Ky., April 26, 1839, Mr. Thompson is one of five children born to William Warner and Nancy (Turner) Thompson, being the only son and the youngest child in the family. His mother, a native of Alabama, died when he was an infant. His father was born near Richmond, Va., but at an early date located in Clay county, Ky. After the death of his wife, in 1839, he went west as far as Missouri and purchasing land in Randolph county, followed farm pursuits for a number of years. In 1868 he disposed of his farm interests and moved to Renick,



Mo., where his last days were spent in retirement, at the time of his death having reached the age of eighty-eight years.

It was in the common schools of Randolph county, Mo., that Mr. Thompson was educated, and after leaving school he became apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade in Milton, Mo., and in time thoroughly mastered this useful occupation. In 1856 he left Missouri and for several years worked in the lead mines of Benton, Wis., where he was quite successful from a financial standpoint, and it was in this state that his marriage took place, in 1860. When the war broke out, being a true son of the south, he naturally espoused the cause of the Confederacy and in 1861 he enlisted in the southern army under General Price, but was transferred in 1863 to the ranks of General Pempelton. At Vicksburg he was taken prisoner, but was afterwards exchanged.

At the close of the war Mr. Thompson returned to Missouri and after sending for his wife, turned his attention to farm pursuits in Randolph county, which continued to be his home until 1874, the date of his removal to California, where he has lived ever since. The first two years of his residence in this state were spent at Stockton, as blacksmith for Madison & Williams, manufacturers of plows, implements, etc. He then purchased a shop at Crow's Landing, also opening a general store, and soon he won recognition as a citizen of worth. Years of intercourse in both a social and a business way have only strengthened the ties between him and his neighbors and his success is richly deserved. By his marriage, in LaFayette county, Wis., Mr. Thompson was united with Miss Mary Oldham, a native of Kentucky. Four daughters and one son blessed their union, but the latter is now deceased. The daughters are Mrs. Julia Winters, Mrs. Amanda Carson, Mrs. Nona Roe and Mrs. May Love. The beloved mother passed away in San Francisco. Politically Mr. Thompson is a Democrat and his influence is far-reaching.

**JOHN A. RODUNER.** A very youthful pioneer when he came to California, John A. Roduner, in his manhood years, has achieved a success which made the move of his father a fortunate one. The elder man, also called John, was a native of Switzerland, who came to the United States in 1846, from New York, where he first located, removing to Wisconsin and later to Minnesota. He was a carpenter by trade and engaged in this work in his various locations. In 1863 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, sailing from New York City on the ship *Ocean Queen*, and landing at San Francisco from the ship *Golden Shore*. He

brought his family with him, and located in Stockton, where he followed his trade until 1903. He now makes his home with his son, John A., retired from the active cares of life, at the age of seventy-eight years.

John A. Roduner was born in Minneapolis, Minn., March 10, 1853, and was but ten years old when he accompanied his parents to California, where all his life has since been passed. He received his education in the public schools of Stockton, after which he attended Heald's Business College, of San Francisco. For ten years he followed teaming in Stanislaus, Fresno, Mariposa and Merced counties, first coming to the latter county in the fall of 1869. In 1879 he located upon his present property, which consists of four hundred and forty acres of land, one hundred acres being devoted to the cultivation of barley, while he also raises some alfalfa, and has about eighty-five head of stock. A profitable source of income is an artesian well seven hundred feet deep, supplied with a nine-inch pipe at the top and a seven-inch at the bottom. Twenty-four thousand gallons of water flow from this well every twenty-four hours. In his political convictions Mr. Roduner is a Republican, and fraternally is associated with the Woodmen of the World.

In Merced county Mr. Roduner was united in marriage with Hattie Arthur, a native of Ohio, and they are the parents of ten children, all born in Merced county, and all living: John E., George A., Isabella L., Julia, Elmer, Mary, Neil, Roscoe, Walter and Robert.

**NIELS HANSEN.** Cattle, wheat and barley are the three resources to which Niels Hansen has devoted his energies since coming to California in 1888. As his name and personal characteristics indicate, Mr. Hansen is of Danish ancestry, and was born in the now German dependency of Schleswig-Holstein, northern Germany, November 17, 1870, his parents being Niels and Maggie (Schmidt) Hansen, both natives of Denmark. The elder Hansen was of a migratory turn of mind in his younger years, and came to Mendocino county, Cal., in 1870, leaving his family in Schleswig-Holstein, while he sought to make a fortune in the new world. As a farmer and sawmiller he succeeded fairly well, and returned to Germany in 1877, remaining there until again locating in California in 1881. Continuing his former occupations for five years, he again took up his residence in the country of his birth, and now lives in Schleswig-Holstein.

The second of four sons and two daughters in his parents' family, Niels, Jr., received a fair common school education in Schleswig-Holstein,



and eventually left the farm and engaged in riding for a horse trader for three years. He followed his father's example and came to the United States in 1888, locating in Mendocino City, where he engaged in herding cattle until 1889. Removing to Stockton, he learned the plasterer's and brick-layer's trade, and at the same time took a two-year course at the Stockton Business College. The longing to return to the country overcame him in 1892, and with Grayson as his headquarters he again engaged in herding cattle and in ranching in the foothills. About the same time he became a land owner to the extent of one hundred and sixty acres, and soon afterward took up a similar amount of land near the summit of the coast range. These properties were both in Stanislaus county and were devoted to stock ranching, occupations in which their owner achieved a deserved measure of success. The summit ranch was eventually disposed of, and in 1901 Mr. Hansen leased five hundred and eighty acres and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in the neighborhood. Wheat, barley and cattle are his chief resources, and of all he is reasonably sure of a substantial yearly income.

Mr. Hansen is a Democrat in politics, but has never disturbed the tranquility of his life by aspiring to office. He leads a moderate, very industrious existence, never fretting himself with ambitions which nature never intended him to realize, or longing for more than enough to make life comfortable, sane and wholesome. His little family consists of his wife, who was formerly Minnie Brown of Newman, and who is a native daughter of Germany; and a son, Niels, Jr., representing the third generation to bear that name. Mr. Hansen is an honored neighbor and loyal friend, and is ever ready to aid those to whom fortune has been less kind than to himself.

ASHBEL POST OSBURN is remembered in Springville as a citizen of worth and ability, and one whose best efforts were always given to all movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community in which he lived. He was born in New York state and while yet a lad removed with his parents to the Mississippi valley. His home was first in Ohio and later in Galena, Ill., where he was reared to young manhood. In 1850 he crossed the plains with ox-teams to California, locating in Grass valley, Nevada county, where he engaged in mining for a time. In 1860 he came to Tulare county and settled near Portersville, making that place his home for twelve years. He then disposed of his interests in that locality and located near Globe, where he engaged in raising orchard fruits and the cultivation of a vineyard. He met with suc-

cess in this work, in which he continued until 1901, when he sold out and located in Springville and engaged in a mercantile enterprise. His death occurred December 4, 1903, at the age of seventy-eight years. Fraternally he was identified with the Masons.

Mr. Osburn is survived by his wife, formerly Susan Miles, with whom he was united in marriage in October, 1887. She was the fourth child in a family of five sons and four daughters, and was born March 30, 1830, in Madison county, Ind. Her father, William Miles, was born in New York state in 1801 and came to Indiana and engaged in farming in 1825. Ten years later he located in DeKalb county, Ill., and farmed until 1847, when he removed to Milan county, Tex., and followed the same occupation. Following the westward trend of emigration he came to California in 1852, crossing the plains, and after his arrival in the state located near Healdsburg, Sonoma county, where he engaged in general farming. Just prior to his death, which occurred at the age of seventy-seven years, he came to the vicinity of Portersville, Tulare county. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Allen, a native of North Carolina, died in Illinois. Mrs. Osburn received a preliminary education in the common schools of Indiana and Illinois, and afterward added to her knowledge by a thorough course of reading.

PETER PERKINS DAVIS. As a prominent pioneer of Portersville, and a man of sterling worth and integrity, noted for his business tact and judgment, it gives us pleasure to place before the readers of this volume a brief record of the life of the late Peter Perkins Davis. By birth and breeding a Virginian, he was born, August 27, 1840, in Henry county, Va., which was also the birthplace of his father, Thomas B. Davis. A well-to-do agriculturist, Thomas B. Davis owned a plantation near Martinsville, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits during his active career. His wife, whose maiden name was Martha Coleman, spent her entire life in Virginia.

Attending school through the days of his boyhood and youth, Peter Perkins Davis obtained a practical education in the common branches of study. At the age of sixteen years he began to be self-supporting, securing employment as clerk in a mercantile house. On the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted in the Confederate army, and served under Gen. Robert E. Lee in Longstreet's Corps, Pickett's Division, Kemper's Brigade, being a member of the Twenty-fourth Virginia Infantry. He participated in many important engagements, and was several times wounded. At the close of the war, Mr. Davis

migrated to Missouri, locating in Jonesburg, where he was engaged in the mercantile business for nearly ten years. Coming to California in 1874, he bought land on the Tule river, and embarked in farming, but did not meet with sufficient success in that industry to continue it very long. Locating, therefore, in Portersville in 1880, Mr. Davis resumed his former occupation, opening a general merchandise store. In this undertaking he was exceedingly prosperous, and built up a large and lucrative trade, which he managed until 1894, when, on account of failing health, he sold out. From that time until his death, November 8, 1899, Mr. Davis lived retired from business cares. He acquired a good property, and in 1888 erected the P. P. Davis block, a fine brick building. He was public-spirited and liberal, and very fond of music and children. In politics he was a staunch Democrat, and in religion was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. For a number of years he served as justice of the peace, and at the time of his death was notary public.

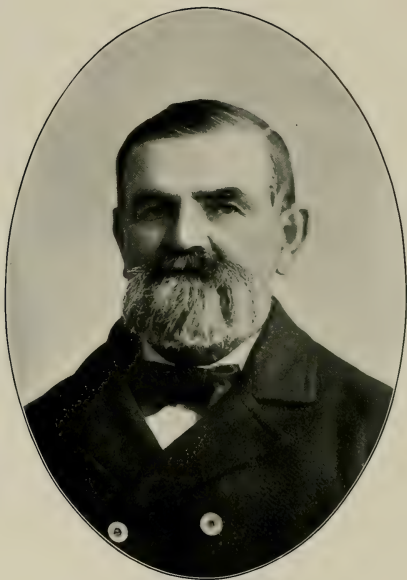
In Warrenton, Mo., Mr. Davis married Lurena S. Howell, who was born and reared in that town. She is a woman of culture and ability, and as administrator of her husband's estate settled his affairs most satisfactorily to all concerned. She owns a ranch of sixteen acres, lying near Portersville, has an attractive home, and has title to three-fourths of the brick block in town. Her father, John C. Howell, was born in St. Charles county, Mo., and was there engaged in tilling the soil until 1874, when he came to California and settled in Tulare county, where he spent his declining years. The mother died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Davis.

**FRANK GIANNINI.** The success which has met the efforts of Mr. Giannini since he made his first purchase of land in Tulare county has left him no reason to regret his removal from his native land. Of Italian birth and ancestry, he was born at Porto Ferrajo, on the island of Elba, off the coast of Tuscany, March 3, 1864, and is the second among three sons, all of whom immigrated to the United States. In the family were also four daughters. His parents, Dominico and Magdalena (Bolano) Giannini, were natives of Elba, where the mother died in 1869; the father is still living on the island and is engaged in general farming pursuits, supplemented by the occupation of a vineyardist. At an early age Frank Giannini gained a thorough knowledge of grape culture and from the age of seventeen years he had charge of his father's vineyard. Meanwhile he often read accounts of California's climate and soil, resembling those of his own land, yet present-

ing to settlers far greater opportunities for the attainment of prosperity than was possible within Italy's borders. As soon as he attained his majority he sold his property and crossed the ocean to the United States, landing at San Francisco with \$1,000 to be used in the purchase of a place. Within a month or more he purchased land near Brentwood and embarked in grain farming, but an experience of two years convinced him that he could not make the investment bring fair returns.

The first visit of Mr. Giannini to Tulare county was made in 1887, but he did not purchase land until 1889. Meanwhile he engaged in farming and the raising of fruits and grapes in Madera and Fresno counties, also from 1887 to 1902 carried on a stock farm and acted as manager of an orchard at Reedley, Fresno county. Meanwhile, in 1889, with two others, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of bare land two and three-fourths miles northeast of Tulare, for which \$20,000 was paid, an apparently exorbitant price for those times, yet the investment has proved profitable in every respect. The entire quarter section was at once placed under improvement, one hundred and twenty acres being planted in an orchard, and the balance in a vineyard. In 1891, by pulling up an occasional vine and setting out a tree, greater profits from each acre were made possible. During the same year (1891) he purchased the interests of his two partners and has since been the sole owner of the orchards. Nor does this property represent the limit of his investments. By purchase he has acquired four hundred and eighty acres adjoining, which gives him an entire section in one body. As previously stated, one hundred and twenty acres of the land is in orchard and vineyard, and he has also put eighty acres under alfalfa. Near Tipton, Tulare county, he also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, and in 1902 he increased his holdings by the purchase of six hundred and forty acres three miles east of his orchard. Of this tract he has three hundred and twenty acres in alfalfa, furnishing an abundance of feed for his herd of about four hundred head of cattle and rendering possible the carrying on of a large dairy business. The section is watered by the canals of the Farmers' Ditch Company, in which he owns six shares. Irrigation is secured on his home place by means of a pumping plant with a sixty-foot surface well that never fails, power being provided by a twenty-horse-power engine, throwing from a thousand to eleven hundred gallons per minute. Buildings provided with all the conveniences for the management of the business may be found on the home place. Drying yards furnish ample accommodation for the drying of the fruit and the packing houses





SYLVESTER NEWHALL

afford the necessary equipment for shipping preparations. There is also a new winery, with a large capacity for the manufacture of wine. During the busy season one hundred and fifty hands are employed in the orchard to care for the fruit and prepare it for shipment. With enterprise and sagacity he superintends all of the employes, oversees all shipping arrangements, maintains a close supervision of the entire property, as well as his other holdings. In spite of all these business responsibilities, he finds time to discharge every duty as a citizen to his adopted country and chosen community. As a stockholder he is connected with the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Tulare, Tulare Milling Company, and other local enterprises have the advantage of his financial aid and influence.

The marriage of Mr. Giannini united him with Miss Louise Lombardi, who was born and reared in Sacramento, Cal., her father, John, having been a pioneer of northern California. One child, Aurena, blesses their union. In politics Mr. Giannini votes the Republican ticket. Fraternally he was associated in former years with the Knights of Pythias and is still active in Masonry. Originally a member of the blue lodge of Madera, he later transferred his membership to the Reedley lodge, with which he is now associated, and in addition he is identified with the Royal Arch Chapter at Tulare.

---

MRS. MARY E. NEWHALL. Prominent among the successful horticulturists of the San Joaquin valley is Mrs. Mary E. Newhall, who since the death of her husband has conducted her large orange interests in a profitable manner. She is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, and a daughter of Mahlon Myers, a native of West Virginia. Her grandfather, Silas Myers, was at one time a planter and owned slaves, but being opposed to the bondage of the negro he removed to Ohio, where he freed his slaves. Settling in Pomeroy, he engaged in general farming and milling for the remainder of his life, although he lived for several years in Carroll county. His son, Mahlon Myers, on reaching manhood, engaged in farming near Pomeroy, but later located near Cleveland, then returned to Pomeroy where he passed his last days. Fraternally he was prominent in Masonic circles, and politically was a Republican, taking an active interest in the welfare of this party. His wife, formerly Rebecca Phillis, was a native of the Buckeye state and spent her entire life within its borders. They became the parents of seven children, of whom three are now living.

Next to the oldest in this family was Mary E. Myers. In girlhood she was adopted by Amos Stoddard, a prominent citizen of Cleveland, and

was taken into his home there, where she was reared to young womanhood, receiving the best of training and educational advantages. In 1861 she was united in marriage with Anthony Stoddard, a native of Iowa, and the nephew of her foster father. They made their home in the east for seven years, when, in 1868, they came to California, locating in San Jose. Mr. Stoddard died in San Francisco. Mrs. Stoddard continued to make her home in San Jose, where she married Sylvester Newhall, a prominent nurseryman and orchardist of the Santa Clara valley. In addition to furnishing stock for many of the larger orchards in the valley Mr. Newhall owned and improved a beautiful place on Lincoln avenue, near the Willows.

A native of the Bay state, Mr. Newhall was born in Lynn and in 1850 crossed the plains to California with ox-teams. Arriving in the Santa Clara valley after several months of weary travel, hardships and dangers characteristic of this mode of journeying, Mr. Newhall became one of the first horticulturists of this section. His business ventures proved successful and in addition to his place at Willows he owned several ranches in different parts of the valley. His death occurred in 1897, at the age of seventy-six years. He left behind him the record of his life in a fair name, stanch integrity, the patriotism and worth of a pioneer, and with the passing years his name will continue to be associated with much that was indicative of the upbuilding and prosperity of the Santa Clara valley. Fraternally he was identified with the Masons and politically cast his ballot with the Republican party.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Newhall continued the ranching interests of the estate. In 1896 she became the owner of a fine place four miles southeast of Exeter, which she has set out with the Washington navel orange, having at this time about eighty-six acres devoted to this fruit. It is considered the banner orchard in this section, nearly every year bearing ten days earlier than any other in the section. In 1901 and 1904 her crop from these trees received the highest price at public auction in the eastern markets. It is undoubtedly through the personal attention which Mrs. Newhall has given her orchards that such results have been attained, one noticeable point being the perfect arrangement of ditches, assisted by a fine pumping plant, by which all parts of the orchard can be irrigated. Situated on her beautiful place is a cave and accordingly Mrs. Newhall has named her ranch Rockhurst, which is very appropriate. While much of her time is spent in San Jose, where she lives at the Vendome hotel, Mrs. Newhall is considered one of the Tulare county residents. Public-spirited and enterprising she takes a keen

interest in the welfare of the community, and can always be counted upon for her support and thorough understanding in all movements calculated to advance the general good. By her personal characteristics as well as by her business ability she has won the respect and esteem of her employees, who give their best efforts to the furtherance of her plans. Politically she is in sympathy with the Republican party, is a firm believer in woman suffrage, and looks forward confidently to the time when politics will be improved in many ways by this movement. In religion she is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

By her first marriage three children were born: Fred, deceased; Bessie, widow of George Hawley, of Capitola; and Grace, wife of William Ryder, of San Jose. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Newhall three children have also been born: Georgie, the wife of E. W. Dunne; Carl; and Belle, the wife of James McKiernan, all being residents of San Jose.

---

PAUL SHEPPA. Wide-awake, energetic and far-sighted, Paul Sheppa is a worthy representative of the dairy interests of Tulare, and well deserving of the high rank he has attained among the men who have distinguished themselves as useful and enterprising citizens. In his everyday life he has labored diligently, and his thrift and industry have met with their legitimate reward. Of German ancestry, he was born, January 25, 1857, in Springboro, Crawford county, Pa., a son of William and Martha Augusta (Schettler) Sheppa, both of whom were born and reared in Bremerhaven, Germany. On emigrating from the Fatherland to this country, William Sheppa settled first in Crawford county, Pa., but subsequently continued his chosen occupation of farming in Erie county, Pa., where he still resides, being now over eighty years of age. Enlisting in 1862, he served until the close of the Civil war as a soldier, being for nearly three years a member of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. While in the army he received a sunstroke. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and a member of the Lutheran Church. His wife died on the home farm in 1902. Nine children were born of their union, seven of whom survive, Paul, of this review, being the fourth child.

Brought up principally in Erie county, Pa., Paul Sheppa, like the majority of the farmers' sons of his day, acquired a limited education in the district schools. Bidding good-bye to home and friends in the fall of 1876, he crossed the continent to the Pacific coast. Locating in Solano county, Cal., he worked as a farm laborer in the vicinity of Dixon for three years. He

subsequently began work for himself on a rented ranch, and afterward bought a farm near Elmira, where he was engaged in grain raising for several seasons, being quite successful. In 1891 he was unfortunate enough to lose \$4,000 worth of grain in the field, it being set on fire by sparks from a passing engine on the nearby railway. Selling out immediately afterward, Mr. Sheppa located sixty miles southwest of Tulare, in Kern county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. Making improvements of a substantial character, he was there engaged in stock-raising, at intervals, for five years, proving up on the property, which is still in his possession. Subsequently settling in Tulare, Mr. Sheppa bought a complete set of boring tools, and has since been extensively employed in boring wells throughout Tulare county, carrying on a large and remunerative business in this line of industry.

In 1898 Mr. Sheppa embarked in the dairy business, beginning on a modest scale, with but four cows, and has since greatly enlarged his operations, having a herd of thirty-two cows, at the head of which he has a fine Holstein bull. In the Russell colony he has sixty-four acres of land, all under irrigation, and sowed mostly to alfalfa. In addition he rents ninety-six acres in the colony, and on this raises some alfalfa, and has a half interest in four hundred and eighty acres of pasture land. He has a large retail milk route in Tulare.

In Solano county Mr. Sheppa married Emeline Connell, who was born on the Platte river in 1864, while her parents were on their way across the plains to California. Her father, Giles Connell, settled in Marin county as a farmer and dairyman. Mr. and Mrs. Sheppa are the parents of eight children, namely: Walter, assisting his father in the dairy; Bertha, at home; Mrs. Della Clements, of Ventura county, Cal.; Leland Stanford; Lola May and Ola May, twins; Ada; and Paul, Jr. In his political affiliations Mr. Sheppa is a Republican, and takes an active part in local affairs. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in Dixon, Cal., and is now a member of Tulare City Lodge, I. O. O. F.; and also belongs to the Fraternal Brotherhood. Mrs. Sheppa is a member of the Christian Church.

---

WILLIAM THOMAS HELLAR. A mile and a quarter northwest of Farmersville, Tulare county, is located the forty-acre ranch of Mr. Hellar, upon which he is engaged in the cultivation of fruit, grain and alfalfa. He is a native of Virginia, having been born in Petersburg, December 14, 1849, but has spent the greater part of his life in California, to which



state he came in 1858, brought by his father, Thomas Hellar. The latter was a native of Ohio, but in manhood located first in Virginia and later in Illinois, engaging in both states in the mercantile business. Upon his emigration to California he chose the Panama route, being a passenger on the steamer *Arizaba*. He made his home in San Leandro, Alameda county, for a short time, then spent a year in San Lorenzo, same county, after which he removed to Haywards, where for thirty years he carried on farming. In 1892 he went to San Francisco and engaged in the hotel business for two years, when he removed to Roseville, Placer county, Cal., where he now makes his home at the age of eighty-two years. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having joined the organization while a resident of Virginia. Politically he is a Democrat. His wife, formerly Eliza Knock, a native of Sheppey Island, England, died in 1875.

In a family of five sons and four daughters William Thomas Hellar is the oldest. After completing his education, which was received in the common schools of Haywards, Cal., he was apprenticed to learn the painter and paper hanger's trade. Subsequently he worked at his trade in San Francisco and Oakland and then spent three years in Sumner county, Kans. Returning to California, he engaged at his trade in Haywards until 1890, when he came to Tulare county and engaged in farming on his present property. He was also interested in fruit-raising and a prosecution of his trade until 1901, but since which time he has devoted his attention entirely to fruit. Twelve acres of his ranch are planted to fruit, while he also owns twenty acres in Placer county, near Roseville.

In Oakland Mr. Hellar was united in marriage with Sarah McCray, a native of Placer county, Cal., and born of this union are four children, namely: Martin C., a resident of Placer county; Grace Virginia, the wife of A. Thompson, of Farmersville; Mary E., of Hanford, Kings county; and Lloyd, at home. Fraternally he was associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically is a Socialist. In his religious affiliations he is a Spiritualist.

---

CHARLES MERWIN COE. The Coe family came originally from Wales, where Henry Coe was born and reared to manhood. He was the first emigrant in the family, locating first in New Jersey and later in New York, where he became a farmer. A man of ability, he won a prominent place in local affairs in his community, joining the state militia, in which he served as major. In his family was a son, Julius,

who was born in Gloversville, Fulton county, the town then being known as Stump City. In manhood he became a glove manufacturer in that place, a pioneer in that line, continuing in that location until 1867, when, on account of failing health, he came to California. He located near Knight's Landing, and later removed to the Mussel Slough country, where he purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres. This property remained his home until his death at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, formerly Catherine Simpson, survives him and makes her home in Hanford, at the age of seventy-eight years. Her father, a native of England, immigrated to this country and became a farmer in New York state. Mr. and Mrs. Coe became the parents of seven children, of whom five are now living.

The oldest in his father's family, Charles Merwin Coe was born in Gloversville, Fulton county, N. Y., March 23, 1847, and was reared on a farm in Jefferson county until attaining the age of fifteen years. He received his education through an attendance at the district and high schools of his vicinity, and although desirous of taking up the study of medicine was constrained by circumstances to learn the trade of glove-making. He became an expert glove manufacturer, and was later traveling salesman for different glove factories in Gloversville, traveling over the middle west, the west and northeast. In 1870 he came to California and located in Vacaville, Solano county, where he made his home for two years, at the end of which time, through the indications that the Southern Pacific Railroad would make settlements in the Mussel Slough district, he came south and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, took a tree claim for one hundred and sixty acres and bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land, all adjoining. He immediately set out trees, put up buildings and began an active improvement of his extensive property. With others he took an active part in the organization of the Lakeside Ditch Company, of which he afterward became a director. Two hundred and forty acres of this property are now under irrigation from that ditch and two hundred and forty under the People's ditch, the land being devoted to alfalfa and grain. The railroad company forced him to pay the price of \$15 per acre, instead of the folder price of \$2.50 per acre. In 1889 he sold this property and located in Tulare county, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres five miles southwest of Visalia, principally bottom land along the Kaweah river. This is under the Farmers' ditch, of which he is a director and was formerly president. Fifty acres are devoted to the cultivation of alfalfa, while the rest is given over to grain and stock, raising Shorthorn

cattle and Berkshire and Poland-China hogs. He has a fine farm, well situated and productive, and fair in natural beauty, being thickly studded with giant oaks. He has added various improvements and gives to its cultivation all the energy and ability of which he is capable.

In Gloversville, N. Y., Mr. Coe married Catherine Flogg, a native of Germany, and they have two children, of whom Leonard, who graduated from the United Medical College of San Francisco and practiced in Fresno, Cal., died in Colorado at the age of twenty-seven years; and Charles Smith, who graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco, is practicing his profession in Palo Alto, Cal. Mr. Coe is a staunch Republican in his political convictions and gives his best efforts to advance the principles he endorses. He is a communicant in St. Mary's Catholic Church of Visalia.

---

**JOHN HAHESY.** Laurel farm, which has been the home of Mr. Hahesy since 1903, comprises one hundred and sixty acres situated three miles west of the city limits of Tulare. With the benefit of previous years of successful experience in different departments of agriculture, Mr. Hahesy is admirably qualified to successfully operate his present property; and, while he has lived here for a comparatively brief period, he has instituted improvements of a valuable nature. One of the most important and expensive of these improvements is the electric pumping plant, comprising a well five hundred or more feet in depth, equipped with a centrifugal pump with a capacity of five hundred gallons per minute. The electric motor is of ten-horse power, but in order to irrigate the entire homestead only five-horse power is necessary, and the motor therefore is not operated at its largest capacity. A reservoir covering one acre of ground completes an irrigation system that is thoroughly modern and practically faultless.

In County Waterford, Ireland, Mr. Hahesy was born January 6, 1852, being one of six children, five of whom are now living. His parents, William and Bridget (Houlahan) Hahesy, were natives of Ireland, and in 1863 brought their children to the United States, settling on a farm near Manchester, Delaware county, Iowa, where the father died in 1866. The mother survived him for many years, passing away in Iowa in the spring of 1904, aged seventy-five years. After the death of his father John Hahesy took charge of the property, afterward remaining at home until he was twenty-one, when he started out in the world to earn his own livelihood. In 1875 he went to the Black Hills, but after prospecting for a time without success he abandoned the mines for the more quiet and less venturesome life of a

farmer. In 1879 he came to California and settled in Tulare county, which has since remained his home and headquarters. During 1883 he returned to Iowa with the intention of staying in that state, but homesickness for the fair climate of the west led him in six weeks to start back to Tulare county, and since then he has had no desire to leave this region.

Having no means with which to take up independent farming, for some time after settling in Tulare county Mr. Hahesy worked for others, but as soon as he had accumulated a sufficient amount to justify renting property he began for himself. While renting the Abbott place near Plano and on Deer creek, he often raised as much as two thousand acres of grain per year. At the same time, until 1886, he operated a threshing machine, and was the first to use a combined thresher in Tulare county. As previously stated he purchased his present property in 1903, and has since brought it to a high state of improvement, having one hundred acres under alfalfa, which enables him to conduct an extensive stock business. In addition he continues to make a specialty of raising grain, and for this purpose rents two adjoining tracts, one embracing a section of land, while the other comprises fourteen hundred and forty acres, the larger part well adapted to the cultivation of grain.

In Tulare occurred the marriage of Mr. Hahesy to Miss Louise Beshears, a native of Missouri. Of their union are four children now living, William Martin, Helen May, John Francis and Charles Jefferson. Educational affairs always receive deserved attention from Mr. Hahesy, who at this writing holds the office of school trustee of the Laurel district. In politics he favors Democratic principles, and has served as a member of the county central committee, but aside from that position he has not been intimately associated with local politics. In fraternal societies he has membership with the Woodmen of the World, Knights of Pythias and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

---

**RICHARD KUKER.** A fund of energy, ability and resource was the capital with which Richard Kuker came to California and undertook the upbuilding of his personal fortunes, while he at the same time gave his best efforts toward the material development of the community in which he now makes his home. He was born in Hanover, Germany, near Verden, July 26, 1838, one of a family of three children, all of whom are living, Mary being the wife of William Mehrstens, located near Exeter, and Henry being still in Germany.

Richard Kuker was reared in his home in Germany, attending the common schools until he was





*A. M. Danin*

fourteen years old, at which age he lost his father. From that time until his emigration to America he found employment on farms in the vicinity of his home. Upon his location in the United States he bought a small farm, which he conducted until 1872. Selling out in that year he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, landing in San Francisco, where he bought two horses and moved by wagon to Sand creek, Tulare county. After two years of general farming he located on his present property, purchasing six hundred and forty acres of railroad land on section 17, township 19, range 27, while he pre-empted eighty acres on section 8, township 19, range 27, and homesteaded eighty acres on section 18, township 19, range 27, now owning the eight hundred acres in one body. Of this tract four hundred acres are under plow and devoted to the raising of grain and cattle. He has improved his property and brought it up to a high state of cultivation, giving the most painstaking attention to all the departments of the work. In his herd of cattle he has some fine graded stock in Short-horns and Durhams.

In Germany, in 1866, Mr. Kuker married Catherine Bienhorn, a native of Verden, Hanover, and born of this union are two children, Dora, the wife of William Starns, of Yokohl, and Sophia, the wife of Axel Anderson, located near Lemon Cove. Mr. Kuker is a member of the Lutheran Church, and politically is an active Republican, having served as an election judge of the Yokohl district and in many ways has given his strongest support to the advancement of the principles he endorses.

**ANDREW MITCHELL DARWIN.** Among the earliest settlers of Fresno county, Cal., Andrew Mitchell Darwin is remembered as a successful stockman and a citizen of worth and integrity. He was born in Jackson county, Tenn., a son of James Darwin, the representative of an old Virginia family of English descent, members of which served valiantly in the Revolutionary war. James Darwin was a farmer in Tennessee, where Andrew M. was reared to young manhood. Deciding to cast in his lot with the pioneers of the more remote west, he crossed the plains to California in 1852, and upon his arrival located at Millerton, Fresno county. For four years following his location in the state he carried on mining, after which he entered land on Kings river and later on Dry creek, where he began the cattle and sheep business. He was one of the first to so engage in business in this section, and one of the first to drive a stake in Fresno county to mark the present site of Fresno. He met with success in his operations, and for thirty years, in partnership with E. C.

Ferguson, was numbered among the most extensive stockmen of the San Joaquin valley. In 1875, on account of ill health, he gave up the stock business and removed to Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, where he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1890, at the age of sixty-nine years. He is interred in the Santa Rosa cemetery, mourned by many friends in both that city and Fresno county, where he was so well known for many years. In Visalia, November 28, 1867, he was united in marriage with Martha J. Patterson, of whom a brief sketch is given in that of Joseph W. Reese, whom she married in 1893. They had one daughter, Addie Cole, who died at the age of two and a half years, after which they adopted a daughter, Georgia, who is now the wife of William H. Bryan, of Fresno.

**J. W. BEARUP.** Through business interests that are not limited to his home town of Madera, but also extend into other parts of Madera county, Mr. Bearup has established a reputation as one of the leading men of affairs in this section of the state. When he came to his present location in 1896 he embarked in the agricultural implement business and has since built up the largest trade of its kind in the county, carrying in stock a full equipment of modern machinery as well as buggies and wagons of the most approved styles of construction. In addition, he is extensively engaged in the grain business, and has warehouses in Madera, Berendo, Talbot and Borden, Madera county, where he has adequate provision for the storage and shipment of wheat and barley.

A resident of California since 1888, Mr. Bearup was born at Wawaka, Noble county, Ind., April 25, 1865, and was the only child of John W. and Jennie (Golden) Bearup, natives respectively of New York and Ohio. His paternal grandfather, James H. Bearup, was a native of New York, but spent much of his active life in Ohio. The maternal grandfather, William Golden, became a pioneer of Indiana and remained there until his death. During the Civil war John W. Bearup left his farm in Noble county and enlisted in the service of the Union, becoming sergeant of Company G, One Hundredth Indiana Infantry. After an active service of more than two years he was honorably discharged on account of physical disability. Afterward he moved from Indiana to Ohio and settled at Wellington. About 1890 he came to Madera, where he is now living retired. While he was still living in Indiana he was bereaved by his wife's death in 1868. For many years he has been an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

On finishing the studies of the grammar and

high schools of Wellington, J. W. Bearup was sent to Ada College at Ada, Ohio, where he remained for a time. Afterward he learned the trade of butter and cheesemaker which he followed in Ohio for five years. After his arrival in California he became an employe of a grain house in Turlock and for two years held the position of foreman. During that period he gained a thorough knowledge of the grain business, which has been of inestimable value to him in his subsequent business operations. Removing to Barendo in 1891, he built a warehouse and engaged in buying grain. In order to command a larger field and engage in business upon a more extensive scale, in 1896 he came to Madera, where he still resides. After coming to this county he married Miss A. M. Crow, who was born in Wisconsin and came to California with her parents, settling in Madera county. Her father, H. D. Crow, was a member of a Wisconsin regiment and served for a considerable portion of the Civil war. Since coming to this county he has been engaged in the mercantile business at Barendo, where he is an influential citizen. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bearup one child was born, Carl G. Bearup.

The Madera Board of Trade is one of the local organizations with which Mr. Bearup co-operates, in that way helping enterprises calculated to benefit the town. Among business men his standing is high and his reputation that of an honorable and efficient man of affairs. Along the line of his business, he holds membership in the San Joaquin Valley Hardware Dealers' Association and takes a warm interest in the organization. The Republican party has had his vote and influence ever since he attained his majority, and since coming to his present place of residence he has served for four years as treasurer of the county central committee. While living in Berendo he was elected justice of the peace for the second district and held the position until his removal to Madera in 1896, when he resigned. By his high principles of honor, unquestioned integrity and persevering industry, he has won the respect and confidence of those with whom he has had business dealings and has gained a place among the leading business men of his county.

HUBERT HEITMAN, D. M. D. It is safe to say that in no professional calling has science shown such marked and rapid advance as in that of dentistry, one of the best-known and most important branches of surgery, as there is scarcely an adult member of the human family but requires its services at some period of life. A comparatively few years ago but rude methods were employed in the care of the teeth, the dentist's principal requirement being a good stock of

physical strength. Patient investigation, careful experiment, aided by modern discoveries and inventions, have since elevated dentistry to an honorable position among the leading sciences of the twentieth century. Prominent among the bright and intelligent young men of California who have acquired a good knowledge of this science is Hubert Heitman, a successful dentist of Merced. A son of Dr. F. W. Heitman, Sr., he was born, May 1, 1878, in College City, Colusa county, Cal., of German descent. His great-grandfather, a life-long resident of Germany, was a trumpeter in the German army, and fought against Napoleon, receiving a gold medal for bravery on the field of battle. The doctor's grandfather, Dietrich Heitman, emigrated from Germany to this country, and took up land in Illinois, where he improved a good farm, on which he resided until his death, in December, 1903, at the venerable age of eighty-three years.

Born and reared on the home farm, in Randolph county, Ill., F. W. Heitman, Sr., received exceptional educational advantages, and was graduated from the Bellevue Hospital Medical College and the St. Louis Medical College, with the degree of M. D. About 1875 he came to California, settling first in College City, where he built up a good practice, and served for a while as county coroner. Subsequently removing to Colusa, he continued there as a physician until his death, in 1882, when but twenty-eight years old. He was a man of wide information, active and public-spirited, and a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. He married Emma Houchins, who was born in Boone county, Mo., a daughter of Samuel Houchins, a native of Kentucky. After his graduation from college Mr. Houchins removed with his family to California, becoming a pioneer of Colusa county. He engaged in farming to some extent, but for a number of years was principal of the Colusa schools, and for two or three terms served as county superintendent of schools. At the time of his death he was serving his second term as county auditor. He was a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Masonic fraternity. Mrs. Emma Heitman is a woman of culture and refinement, and for the past twenty-three years has been engaged in educational work. She has two sons, Hubert, the subject of this sketch; and Dr. F. W. Heitman, who is in partnership with his brother, in Merced. Dr. F. W. Heitman, the youngest son, was born December 12, 1879, in Colusa, Cal. In 1898 he was graduated from the Colusa high school, after which he entered the dental department of Washington University, in St. Louis Mo., from which he was graduated in 1901 with the degree of D. M. D. He had the distinction of ranking the highest in the class winning first honors, and the gold medal. He began the practice of den-



tistry in Colusa, but since 1903 has been in partnership with his brother.

Reared and educated in Colusa, Hubert Heitman completed the course of study in the high school, receiving his diploma in 1897. The following year he entered the dental department of the university of California, where he remained one year, afterwards graduating from the dental department of Washington University in St. Louis in 1901. Beginning the practice of his profession in Colusa county Dr. Heitman remained there until 1903, when, in company with his brother, he settled in Merced, where he is fast building up a good patronage, his skill as a dentist being already recognized and appreciated.

Dr. Heitman married, in Sacramento, Cal., Miss Blanche Peart, who was born in Colusa county, and was graduated from the Sacramento high school. In politics the doctor affiliates with the Democratic party. Fraternally he belongs to Merced Lodge, I. O. O. F.; he demitted from Meridian Lodge No. 100, F. & A. M., College City, and now belongs to La Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M., of Merced; is a member of Merced Chapter No. 12, R. A. M., and of Yosemite Parlor, N. S. G. W. He is a member of the State Dental Association and of the Psi Phi Fraternity.

---

**CLIFFORD H. SLAUGHTER.** While the management of his farm, situated two and one-half miles northwest of Tulare, engrosses much of Mr. Slaughter's time and attention, he yet finds leisure to devote to the duties of his position as superintendent of the Tulare irrigation district, in which capacity he has served continuously since 1895. He is a member of an eastern family, and was born at Elizabethtown, Essex county, N. Y., January 18, 1854, being the youngest child of Theron and Julia (Lobdell) Slaughter, natives of the same county as himself. The paternal grandfather, Abram Slaughter, was likewise a native of Essex county, where the family became established at a very early day. Some of the name served in the war of 1812, also in the first struggle with England. During early manhood Theron Slaughter was employed as an iron miner, but after settling in Iowa in 1854 he engaged in lumber milling on the Mississippi river and eventually bought and located upon a farm near Davenport, in Scott county. There his death occurred when he lacked only five years of having rounded out a full century. His wife also died in Iowa. Of their eight children all but two attained mature years, and four are now living. One of their sons, Fayette, who is now a resident of Marshalltown, Iowa, served during the Civil war as a member of the Thirteenth Iowa Infantry.

Reared on the home farm in Scott county, Iowa, Clifford H. Slaughter attended the public school and academy at LeClaire, but at the age of sixteen left school in order to earn his own livelihood. At first he was employed in the lumbering business in Wisconsin, and from there went to the Black Hills during the first year of the excitement in the mines of that country. After prospecting and engaging in placer mining for three years, he left that region, driving to Fort Pierre and thence going by boat to Omaha, from which point he returned to the Scott county farm. After some years as a farmer near the old home, in 1884 he moved to Clinton county, Iowa, and engaged in farm pursuits near Clinton. From there he came to California in 1888 and settled in Tulare county, where he at once entered upon grain-raising. In 1893 he bought thirty-two acres near Tulare, which he has in alfalfa and an orchard, and sells hay, fruit and dairy products.

The Tulare irrigation district, of which Mr. Slaughter has been superintendent and a director since 1895, embraces three hundred miles of main and lateral canals in Tulare county, and is divided into four sections. The three headgates are respectively from the head of St. Johns, head of the Kaweah, and out of Deep creek. Every improvement has been made in order to meet the requirements of the farmers securing water from the ditch. It is the ambition of the directors to bring their system to a point of development surpassed by none, thereby enhancing the value of all the property tributary to their canals. In politics Mr. Slaughter votes with the Democratic party and at this writing acts as a member of the county central committee. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. While engaged in farming in Iowa he established domestic ties through his marriage April 22, 1885, to Miss Adele Hardt, a native of Scott county, and the recipient of fair educational advantages in that locality. Born of their union are three children, Blythe, Herman and Paul.

---

**BENNET RISING.** Ten miles southeast of Tulare and three miles from the postoffice of Woodville lies the farm home of Mr. Rising, who has made this the scene of his labors ever since coming to Tulare county in 1879. The nucleus of his present possessions he acquired by the purchase of one hundred and sixty acres in section 11, formerly owned by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, and situated on the Tule river. After settling on the place he erected a substantial set of farm buildings and has also made the necessary arrangements for irrigation. At this writing he owns two hundred and eighty acres

of land, on which he engaged in raising grain until about 1894, but since then has made a specialty of dairying and raising stock. To secure hay for his stock he has placed twenty acres under alfalfa, several crops of which may be cut in a year.

In a family of eleven children, all but two of whom attained maturity and five are now living, Bennet Rising was the youngest in order of birth and is the only member of the family to settle in California. One of his brothers, Joseph, served with a Pennsylvania regiment in the Civil war. His father, Martin Rising, was born and reared in Bavaria, Germany. Accompanied by his wife and two children, he crossed the ocean to Pennsylvania and settled in Indiana county, where he engaged in farming near the city of Indiana, and died at eighty-six years of age. While the family were living there Bennet Rising was born February 10, 1852. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Margaretta Young, was born in Bavaria and died in Pennsylvania. Both were devoted members of the Roman Catholic Church.

The boyhood years of Bennet Rising passed uneventfully upon the home farm, in the pursuit of such work as falls to the lot of a farmer's boy. In 1877 he came to California and settled in Yolo county, but after two years as a farmer there he came to Tulare county and settled upon a farm which he still owns and occupies. During his residence in Pennsylvania he was married, in Indiana county, to Miss Maggie Stadtmiller, a native of that state, her father, George Stadtmiller, having immigrated here from Germany during early manhood. Three of her brothers became residents of California, and two of them died in this locality. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Rising comprises the following children: George M. and Joseph H., who assist in the management of the home farm; Florence, who is married and lives at Farmersville, Tulare county; Mabelle, Raymond and Guy, who are with their parents. The family are connected with the Roman Catholic Church of Tulare and contribute to its maintenance and various charities. Though not active in politics, Mr. Rising always gives his support to the Democratic party. Among the many movements which meet his approval may be mentioned the free schools, the work of which he consistently supports, and for many years, while serving as trustee of Surprise district, he was able to do much to promote the interests of the home schools.

---

**THOMAS JEFFERSON GIST.** A successful farmer and dairyman, and an excellent representative of the substantial and highly esteemed residents of Tulare county, Thomas J. Gist is well deserving of especial mention in this biographical work. A native of Tennessee, he was born, July 11, 1856, in Clementsville, Clay coun-

ty, which was also the birthplace of his father, the late Jabez C. Gist. Of English descent, he comes of honored colonial stock, his great-great-grandfather, Christopher Gist, having served under Gen. George Washington in both the French and Indian wars, and in the Revolution, being an aide-de-camp in both, and in the former acting as guide through the Indian country, his name being prominently mentioned as such in the various histories of the United States.

The son of a pioneer farmer of Tennessee, Jabez C. Gist grew to manhood on the home plantation, succeeding to the independent occupation in which he was reared. At the age of twenty-two years he was elected justice of the peace, and served most capably until the breaking out of the Civil war. When his native state seceded, he remained loyal to the Union, resigned his office, and, being a strong abolitionist, freed the slaves which had come into his possession by inheritance. Disposing of his property in that section, he removed to Tompkinsville, Ky., where he continued farming for a number of years. He became active while there in public affairs, and in 1875 was elected justice of the peace. Resigning the office the following year, he came to the Pacific coast, and the following six years was employed as an agriculturist in Woodland, Yolo county, Cal. Coming from there to Tulare county in 1881, he located about three and one-half miles northwest of Tulare, buying a ranch containing eighty acres, and there continued farming until his retirement from active pursuits. Moving then to Tulare, he was an honored resident of this city until his death, May 30, 1903, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He was elected justice of the peace while in this county, and served with efficiency for fourteen years, being elected on the Republican ticket, which he invariably supported. He was a Mason, and a valued member of the Christian Church, with which he united in 1878. He married Kittie M. Marrs, who was born in Kentucky, a daughter of Henry B. Marrs, a farmer, and for many years clerk of the Monroe county courts. She died in Tulare, in April, 1899. Of the ten children born of their union, seven survive, namely: Frank M., a horticulturist in Santa Ana; M. H., of Woodland, Cal.; Thomas J.; Levi, of Los Angeles, blacksmith for the Southern Pacific Railway Company; Jabez R., a stationary engineer, employed by the Southern Pacific Railway Company; Mrs. Luella Sullivan, of Tulare; and James B., assistant cashier in the Los Angeles Central Bank.

A small lad when his parents removed to Kentucky, Thomas J. Gist grew to manhood on the home farm, acquiring a practical education in the district school. Coming with the family to California he completed his studies at the Hes-





*Louis Seligman,*

perian College, and in 1881 came to Tulare county, where for about a year he worked in a lumber yard. He subsequently worked at farming for awhile, being afterward superintendent of the Little Tulare Ditch & Kaweah Canal. In 1886 Mr. Gist purchased his present ranch, lying four miles northwest of Tulare. It contains one hundred and sixty acres of land, all under irrigation from the canal, and on it he has made improvements of a noteworthy character. He has fifty acres of alfalfa, the remainder being devoted to grain and stock, and is carrying on an extensive and profitable business as a dairyman and stock-raiser, his estate being numbered among the best and most productive in the neighborhood. Mr. Gist is one of the leading agriculturists of this part of the county, and is a stockholder in both the Tulare Rochdale Association, and the Tulare Co-Operative Creamery Association.

November 3, 1886, Mr. Gist married Fannie Zumwalt, who was born near College City, Colusa county. Her father, J. B. Zumwalt, emigrated from Missouri to California in 1849, crossing the plains with ox-teams. At first he worked in the mines, and then located as a farmer in Colusa county. In 1878 he settled in Tulare county, about four miles northwest of Tulare, becoming owner of a farm containing a thousand acres, which he managed successfully a number of years. Subsequently removing to Irvington, he lived there retired until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Lydia A. Dewitt, was born in Kentucky, and is now a resident of Tulare. She bore him eleven children, all of whom are living, Mrs. Gist being the fourth child. Mr. and Mrs. Gist are the parents of four children, Cecil, Brooks, Harold and Maurine. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gist are members of the Christian Church, and for fourteen years Mr. Gist has served as superintendent of its Sunday-school. In his political views he is a true-blue Republican, supporting the principles of his party at all times. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and of the American Yeomen.

---

**LOUIS SELIGMAN.** The Seligman family is of German extraction and has been identified with the history of Rhenish Bavaria from a very early period. During the meteoric career of the first Napoleon the regimental commissary of his army was Aaron Seligman, a stock dealer, who delivered meat and provisions to the soldiers on contract. Among the children of this ancestor was S. Seligman, who became a commission merchant in his native Rhenish Bavaria, and who married Helen Frank, a native of the same vicinity, her father, Lipman Frank, having been en-

gaged in business there. Both S. Seligman and his wife passed away, but several of their children survive, the sons being Louis and Emil, of Dinuba, Cal., and Ferdinand, a prosperous lumber dealer at Bingen on the Rhine. The daughters are: Miss Carrie Seligman; Mrs. Hauchen Phillips; Mrs. Sanchen Gutenberg, of Coblenz, Germany; and Mrs. Regina Borg, of Albisheim, Germany. Mrs. Phillips formerly resided in Hanford, Kings county, Cal., where her husband conducted a general merchandise establishment; they now reside in Bingen, Germany, at the home of Ferdinand Seligman.

The second son, Louis Seligman, was born in Albisheim on the Pfirim, eighteen miles from Mainz, in Rhenish Hesse, Germany, July 24, 1851, and as a boy lived with his parents in Albisheim, about twelve miles from Worms. He served an apprenticeship of three years in the lumber trade in Bingen. While he liked his native home he was fond of learning the ways of the world, and in October of 1868 landed in New York City, where he secured employment as a clerk with L. Dreyfuss & Co., at Nos. 292-336 Broadway. Later he held a clerkship with E. Loeb & Co., at No. 9 Charter street, New Orleans. In 1871 he came to California and became clerk with Levis, Sweet & Co., in Kingston, Fresno county, later clerking for Jacob Einstein & Co., in Centerville and Kingston. During the years 1876 and 1877 he managed the clothing department for S. Sweet & Co., at Visalia. In the latter year he embarked in business for himself at Visalia, where he kept the finest goods of that day and town, making a specialty of fine jewelry, fine cigars, musical instruments, sewing machines and fancy goods. February 3, 1897, he brought his stock of goods to Dinuba and with his brother formed the firm of L. & E. Seligman, proprietors of the largest department store in the town. In addition he has stock in the Bank of Dinuba and owns several farms. In politics he has always been independent. When twenty-one years of age he was made a Mason in Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. Since 1873 he has been associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been initiated during that year into King's River Lodge at Centerville, and since 1875 he has been a member of Four Creek Lodge No. 94. Public spirited and capable, he has done much to promote the progress of the various communities where he has resided.

---

**EMIL SELIGMAN.** A long experience in the dry-goods business, beginning with an apprenticeship under successful merchants in Germany, has qualified Mr. Seligman for the capable discharge of his responsibilities as a member of

the firm of L. & E. Seligman, proprietors of the largest department store at Dinuba. A native of Rhenish Bavaria, he was next to the youngest among nine children and was born February 17, 1858. At the age of fourteen he became an apprentice to the dry-goods business at Worms, where he served for three years. The year 1875 found him in California, where he secured a clerkship with the S. Sweet Company at Visalia and later aided in establishing the general mercantile store of Phillips, Sweet & Co., at Hanford, which the great fire there destroyed. Afterward he was employed by Sweet & Co. as manager of a lumber yard at Traver. After three years, in 1887, with Levis, Sweet & Co., he started a general mercantile establishment in a building 40x90 feet.

On the selling out of the business and the dissolution of the partnership, in 1896, Mr. Seligman formed a partnership with his brother Louis and opened a store in Dinuba near his present site. In 1902 they erected a substantial brick double store, 60x80 feet, two floors, with a large warehouse in the rear, 50x80, and here they conduct a department store, making a specialty of general merchandise and hardware. In addition they are interested in farming and own several farms within a radius of ten miles. When the project was first mentioned to start a bank in Dinuba Emil Seligman was enthusiastic in behalf of the plan and in February, 1902, he assisted in the work of organization, at which time he was chosen the first president and a member of the board of directors. While he still remains in the latter capacity he resigned the presidency after a short time, in order to devote himself to the increasing demands of the department store. In politics he favors Republican principles. For eight years he acted as treasurer of the Alta irrigation district. Fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, his connection with the latter order dating from his residence in Traver. It was while living at Traver that he met and was united in marriage with Anna Fry, a native of Switzerland, and of their union they have a family of four sons and four daughters.

---

THOMAS C. GAINES. As a pioneer Thomas C. Gaines has been identified with the history of California for a half century, and has experienced the hardships, dangers and privations incident to such a life. He first came to California in 1850, returning east about four years later, and in 1856 again came to the "land of sunshine and flowers," which had made so great an impression upon him that he could not be satisfied to make his home in the rigorous climate of Wisconsin. In July, 1873, he located

upon his present property eighteen miles northwest of Visalia, paying purchase price twice, the first time buying a squatter's right, and when the railroad claimed it, he bought it from them. He has given energy and thought to the cultivation and improvement of his farm, and has made a success of his work. His life-history is interesting in a volume gathered from the lives of the representative pioneers of the state.

Born in St. Anthony, Canada, in 1830, Thomas C. Gaines was the son of John Gaines, a native of Quebec, who became a farmer in St. Anthony, where he died. His wife, Mary, a native of Canada, is also deceased. Thomas C. Gaines was the youngest of eight children. When about ten years old he went to what was then Dunn county, Wis., where he found employment sufficient to make his living, being dependent upon his own resources. He received but scant education, but in the intervening years has made every effort to acquire that which his youth failed to give him, and has thus become a well-read, well-informed man. He engaged in lumbering principally during his residence in Wisconsin, in 1850 with several comrades crossing the plains on horseback and also by pack animals. After their safe arrival in Hornitos, Mariposa county, Cal., Mr. Gaines found employment in the mines for about eighteen months. Returning east in 1854, he spent some time in Wisconsin, Missouri and Iowa, and in 1856 came via New York and the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco, which city he reached July 4. Going at once to the mines, he was engaged for a time at Placerville and Hornitos, where he prospected, after which he went to Santa Cruz county and engaged in lumbering in the redwood forests. He continued so occupied until 1864, when he once more tried mining in Mariposa county, being located at Mariposa and Princeton, in Colusa county. In July, 1873, he came to Tulare county, and became the owner of his present property. He has since added by purchase to his land, now owning two hundred and forty acres, which he rents to his son, Francis, who owns four hundred and forty acres adjoining. The farm is devoted to general farming and stock-raising.

In Santa Cruz county Mr. Gaines married Mary Vasques, who was born in Alameda county, Cal., but which was then Contra Costa county, to which state her father, Jose Maria Vasques, came after service in the Mexican war. They are the parents of the following children: Lucy, the wife of W. K. Hammond of Fresno; Mary, the wife of Peter Hanson of Stockton; Charlotte, the wife of Fred Emory of Fresno; Amelia, the wife of Scott Gilliam of Fresno; Ellen, the wife of Charley C. Teburg of Oakland; Lena, who married Frank Smith, and Pearl, at home;



A. Frank is farming the old home place and owns four hundred and forty acres adjoining, and leases enough more land to make fifteen hundred acres; Joseph R., the fifth, is also engaged in farming; and Edward, the tenth, is a farmer. The eldest son, Thomas, died at the age of twenty-four years. In his political convictions Mr. Gaines is a staunch Republican and in local affairs is quite prominent, now serving as school trustee of the Townsend district.

---

DENNIS JAMES LOONEY. An experience of two years as manager of the Tracy Publishing Company, publishers of the *Tracy Press*, abundantly qualified Mr. Looney to assume the duties connected with the position of proprietor and editor of the paper, which he purchased February 10, 1903. The *Press* is issued on Saturday of each week and is a six-column quarto, devoted to the interests of the town and surrounding country, independent in politics, favoring the best men irrespective of political affiliations, and maintaining that the welfare of a community depends less upon the success of a party platform than upon the citizenship of men of energy, high principles of honor and progressive spirit.

Near Tracy, Cal., in San Joaquin county, Dennis James Looney was born April 19, 1873, being a son of Daniel J. and Mary (Linnehan) Looney. His father, who was born at Killarney, Ireland, received an excellent education in his native land. After coming to America he settled in New York and was at West Point when the Civil war broke out, whereupon he was appointed to service in the commissary department of the Union army. The only injuries he received in the service were caused by a fall from a horse in the cavalry. At the close of the war he came to California and served as a government guard at San Quentin, Marin county, being stationed there at the time of the attempted assassination of Captain Murphy. At the expiration of his period of service he settled near Bethany and took up a government tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved with a house and other needed buildings. At this writing he continues to make his home on the same farm, but being an invalid is obliged to delegate to others the active management of the land.

In a family comprising three sons and one daughter now living Dennis James Looney is next to the oldest. His advantages for an education were meagre. After attaining the age of fifteen years he could no longer attend school, but was obliged to devote his entire time to work on the farm. However, he was always fond of reading and by self-improvement has acquired an excellent education. In addition to general

farm work he operated a hay press and threshing machine in season, having acquired a knowledge of machinery through working in a machine shop at intervals for two years. After serving for a year as constable in 1902 he was elected justice of the peace of Tulare township, San Joaquin county, on the Democratic ticket, carrying every precinct over his opponent and taking the oath of office January 5, 1903, for a term of four years. Since his election he has had his office in the court room at the town hall. In addition to his duties as justice and as editor of the *Press* he represents the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company of Hartford and to some extent is also engaged in the handling of real estate. In local councils of the Democratic party he wields considerable influence, as is evidenced by his membership on the county and state central committees of the party. In the Native Sons of the Golden West he is connected with Tracy Parlor No. 186, in which he acts as senior past president.

---

EDWARD ELDEN SCRANTON. The mercantile interests of Tulare are ably represented by the enterprising firm of Anderson & Scranton, which has attained a high standing in business circles. Beginning in a modest way, these gentlemen have established one of the most complete and best-stocked dry goods houses in this part of the county, and are conducting a profitable and a rapidly increasing trade. Edward Elden Scranton, the junior member of this firm, was born December 10, 1866, in West Liberty, Muscatine county, Iowa, a son of Irving W. Scranton.

A native of Ohio, Irving W. Scranton began life for himself as a merchant in West Liberty, Iowa. He subsequently removed to Missouri, locating first in Westboro, where he engaged for a time in mercantile pursuits, from there going to Mound City, and there residing until his death. Enlisting in an Iowa regiment during the Civil war, he took part in several engagements, in one battle being wounded. His wife, whose maiden name was Hannah J. Maguire, was born in Pennsylvania, and is now a resident of St. Joseph, Mo. She bore her husband two daughters and four sons, all of whom are living, Edward Elden being the second child.

Having completed the course of study in the district schools of West Liberty, Iowa, and Westboro, Mo., Edward E. Scranton began to earn his own living when a lad of fourteen or fifteen years, for three years thereafter working in a livery stable in his native town. Entering then a store located just across the street from the stable, he was first employed in a modest position, but securing a clerkship by applying for a vacancy, he remained with his employers from 1886

until 1890, giving much satisfaction to the firm, and becoming familiar with the details of the business. Coming to Tulare in 1890, Mr. Scranton secured a situation with F. M. Shultz, for ten years having charge of the dry goods department of his store. Resigning the position in 1900, he formed a partnership with Frank E. Anderson, a brief sketch of whom may be found elsewhere in this biographical volume, and March 15, 1900, they embarked in business under the present firm name of Anderson & Scranton, and by straightforward dealings and honest methods have built up a lucrative trade, their patronage being extensive and lucrative and constantly growing.

In Westboro, Mo., Mr. Scranton married Roberta Hightower, who was born in Nebraska City, Neb., and they have one child, Grace B. Public-spirited and enterprising, Mr. Scranton takes an intelligent interest in local affairs, and is a member of the board of library trustees; a member and a director of the Tulare Building and Loan Association; and one of the directors of the Odd Fellows' building. He was made an Odd Fellow in Westboro, Mo., and is now past grand of Tulare City Lodge No. 306, I. O. O. F.; and a member of the Fraternal Aid. He also belongs to the Tulare Board of Trade. In his religious beliefs he is a Methodist, and is a valued member of the church of that denomination. Politically he supports the principles of the Republican party by voice and vote.

W. H. GRANT. Numbered among the horticulturists of Tulare county is W. H. Grant, who is located on a ranch of thirty-nine acres, of which thirty-five is given over to the cultivation of oranges, all bearing navels. Mr. Grant is a native of Cherryfield, Me., where he was born February 3, 1869. His father, Timothy L. Grant, was a New England farmer. A descendant of patriotic ancestry he enlisted in a Maine regiment during the Civil war and served until its close. His wife, formerly Mary Willie, a native of Maine, is also living, their home being still in that state. The eldest of five living children, W. H. Grant was reared to young manhood in his native state, receiving a good education through the medium of the public and high schools in the vicinity of his home. In manhood he became connected with the George Emory Company, of Boston, who were engaged in getting out mahogany lumber in Central America. He was sent to that country, where he remained for four years, and was then located in the northern part of Minnesota. Finally resigning his position with this firm, he went to Minneapolis, Minn., where he accepted a like position with another lumber firm. In Eveleth, Minn.,

April 16, 1904, he was united in marriage with Eda F. Conway, the daughter of Thomas A. Conway, whose biographical sketch follows. After his marriage Mr. Grant came to California, locating upon a ranch of thirty-nine acres. This is all under irrigation from the Pioneer Ditch, in which company Mr. Grant is interested. He is also identified with the Zante Citrus Association. Fraternally Mr. Grant was made a Mason in Cherryfield, Me., and both himself and wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. Politically he is a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party.

THOMAS A. CONWAY. For only a brief time was Thomas A. Conway a citizen of the vicinity of Portersville, although he had been a horticulturist of Zante since 1893. He came to this locality in 1901, purchasing twenty acres of navel oranges, and engaged in its cultivation and improvement until his death, which occurred February 17, 1904. He was a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, where his father, Thomas, spent his life as a jeweler. Thomas A. Conway worked in a planing mill in Minnesota, acting as foreman for the firm of Smith & Wyman. Deciding to locate in California, he was engaged as a horticulturist in Zante from 1893 to 1901, owning a fifteen-acre orchard of oranges, which he set out. After his location here he remained until his death, one of the successful orange growers of the vicinity. Fraternally he was a prominent Mason and politically was a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. During the Civil war he enlisted for service, and was raised to the office of second lieutenant in the Twenty-first Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry for the period of three years. He was united in marriage with Lane Miller, a native of Naples, Ill., and the daughter of Asher Miller. Her father was a miller by occupation in Naples, where his death occurred. Mrs. Conway died in Minneapolis February 16, 1900. They were the parents of two children, Eda F., the wife of W. H. Grant, and Alice, the wife of Seymour S. Hough, who resides in Eveleth, Minn.

ARCHIBALD YELL HINDS. Since boyhood Archibald Yell Hinds has been a resident of Tulare county, an eye-witness of the development of the country from its most primitive stages to its present prosperous condition, and a participant in many of the movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community. When he first located in the county there were only a few houses upon the present site of Visalia, which city was then known as





ANDREW FLETCHER



MRS. R. D. FLETCHER

Four Creeks. Deer and elk were plentiful throughout the country and even bears were sometimes shot. The mail for the settlers was obtained at Fort Miller and their groceries were brought from Stockton, and all the hardships, privations and dangers incident to pioneer life made up the largest part of their existence. In reminiscence Mr. Hinds often goes back to those early days of the state, and gives to the younger generation a history replete with adventure and excitement.

Born in Crawford county, Ark., November 8, 1837, Archibald Yell Hinds is a son of David and Margaret Ann (Maddox) Hinds, both of whom died in that state. Of their family of seven children, three sons and four daughters, two are living, of whom Archibald Yell is the fourth in order of birth. He was reared in Arkansas and trained to the practical duties which were his as the son of a farmer. April 15, 1852, when he was less than fifteen years old, he started to California with his brother Edward, who died in Exeter, in 1894. They were equipped with ox-teams, provisions and all necessary articles and after crossing the Arkansas river, set out through Texas, via El Paso, Tucson and Fort Yuma, to Los Angeles, and although the train consisted of but five wagons, known as the Van Buren Company, they came through safely without an attack from the Indians, although many atrocities were committed both in front and behind them. In the fall of the year Mr. Hinds drove to Gilroy, Santa Clara county, and engaged in farming for one year. In October, 1853, he came to Tulare county, the present city of Visalia being then known as Four Creeks, and having but three settlers, viz: Richard Chattan, Abram Murray and S. C. Brown, names familiar to all who revere and honor the links which bind the prosperous present to the historic past. He located on what is known as Hinds' prairie, two miles east of Visalia, which land his brother had entered, and here the two resided and engaged in general farming and hog raising. In 1866 he removed to the place which has ever since remained his home, located within one and a half miles of Exeter, and a part of which is under the People's ditch. He purchased the property from C. A. Williston, a sheep grower, immediately after which he began improvements and cultivation, breaking the land and sowing it to grain. In addition to his one hundred and fourteen acres on sections 33 and 34, township 18, range 26, he rented land and carried on his operations on seven or eight hundred acres. He was soon numbered among the successful farmers and stock-raisers in this vicinity and has since continued to merit the prominence which became his in the pioneer days of the state.

Mr. Hinds has been twice married, the first ceremony being performed on the Tule river and uniting him with Elizabeth Lewis, a native of Missouri, who died in Visalia. He was afterward married at Outside creek to Sarah Earsley Buckman, a native of Union, Ky. She came of an old Kentucky family, her father, Clement E., being the son of John Buckman, both of whom were natives of that state. Both were farmers by occupation. Clement E. Buckman removed in young manhood to the vicinity of Fort Scott, Kans., where he followed farming for seven years. In 1865 he immigrated to California, crossing the plains with ox-teams. He brought a band of cattle with him, and his daughter Sarah, then only thirteen years old, rode horseback and helped drive them, her brothers and sisters also helping in the work. The winter was spent at Prescott, Ariz., after which they came on to Fort Rock, now Kingman, where the Indians stole their stock and started to drive them away. Mrs. Hinds and her brother, A. J., himself only sixteen years old, started in pursuit, and as the herder had killed two Indians the others were evidently frightened away, for the cattle were recovered and the party returned to Prescott. In the spring of 1866 they came to California and located in Tulare county upon a farm, where the father died at the age of fifty-seven years. His wife, formerly Savilla Shanks, a native of Kentucky, also died in this vicinity. They were the parents of four sons and four daughters, of whom all but one son are now living. Mrs. Hinds was reared to young womanhood in Tulare county, where the balance of her life has been spent. Of the twelve children born to herself and husband, eight attained maturity, namely: Clement Emery, engaged in the butcher business in Visalia; Clara Josephine, the wife of D. J. Toomey, of Visalia; Ollie Savilla, the wife of G. B. Simpson, of Stockton; Joseph Orville, a farmer in the vicinity of Exeter; James Robert, a butcher of Visalia; Lawrence Buckman; Sarah Margaret; and Mary. Mr. Hinds is a Democrat in his political convictions and has served as school trustee for many years. The family are members of the Catholic Church of Visalia.

**ANDREW FLETCHER.** The name of Andrew Fletcher is associated with the pioneer history of the state of California, he being one of the emigrants of 1850 who laid aside the pick and shovel to assist in the agricultural development of the country. A native of Edinburgh, Scotland, born September 24, 1813, he was brought to the United States by his parents when only five years old. He became a resident of Greene county, Ohio, where he remained until attaining his majority, when he located in Knox



county, Ill. Following the westward trend of emigration he crossed the plains in 1850 by means of ox teams, and upon his safe arrival in Placerville, Cal., engaged in mining on the Feather river. He met with varying fortune for four years, when, in 1854, in company with Joseph Spier, he started the new ditch, bringing the water from the middle south fork of the Stanislaus river for mining purposes. The enterprise necessitated the expenditure of \$1,000,000. but brought about results of incalculable benefit. In 1859 Mr. Fletcher went to Santa Cruz, where he remained until 1873, when he came to Tulare county. Here, in 1878, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Rachel D. Elkins, and made his home upon the farm where she lived until his death, which occurred July 29, 1892. He was mourned by many friends and the community suffered a loss in his demise such as can only be felt when a public-spirited, honorable and upright citizen, a leader in all matters of reform, a social and kindly nature, passes on to the reward which awaits right living. In his political convictions he was a conscientious Republican and gave his best efforts to advance the principles he endorsed.

Mrs. Fletcher was in maidenhood Rachel D. Neal, born in Lincoln county, N. C., May 26, 1834. Her father, Moses Neal, was born in the same state, February 10, 1806, and was a farmer by occupation. He emigrated to Missouri in 1839, locating in Stoddard county, and a year later went to Cape Girardeau county, where he farmed. In 1874 he came to California with his daughter, and died here at an advanced age. His wife, formerly Susan Smith, was born in Pennsylvania, and died in Missouri. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters. Rachel D. received her education in the common schools of Missouri, where she was reared to young womanhood. There she was united in marriage with Louis Elkins, a native of Tennessee, who died in Missouri. They were the parents of two children, Jane, now Mrs. Eaton, and Lee Lindsey, the efficient night watchman of Portersville. In 1874 Mrs. Elkins came to California with her father, daughter and grandson and located near Mountain View, Tulare county. After her marriage to Mr. Fletcher she resided on the latter's farm of one hundred and twenty acres, but since his death she has rented the land.

---

FRANK STEPHEN STANLEY. Prominent among the foremost citizens of Crows Landing is Frank Stephen Stanley, one of the leading merchants in this part of Stanislaus county. A man of great energy, resolution and persistency, he has built up his present fine trade solely by

his own efforts, and is justly recognized as one of the most prosperous business men of the town. A son of Daniel Stanley, he was born November 2, 1861, in Colorado.

Born, reared and educated in Ohio, Daniel Stanley resided in his native state until 1859. Becoming interested to some extent in mining pursuits, he then removed with his family to Colorado, where he remained five years. Locating in Cass county, Iowa, in 1864, he followed his trade of carpenter and builder in that locality for many years, retaining, however, his interests in his Colorado mining property. In 1900, he came to California, and has since lived retired from business cares, making his home in Newman. His wife, whose maiden name was Lois Parsons, also was born in Ohio, and died in Iowa. Four sons and two daughters blessed their marriage, Frank S., the special subject of this sketch, being the third child in order of birth.

But three years of age when his parents removed to Iowa, Frank S. Stanley grew to man's estate in Cass county, obtaining his early education in the district schools. With the zeal and ambition of youth he came to California in 1882, and for six years thereafter was engaged in quartz mining in Tuolumne county. Removing to Stanislaus county in 1888, he worked for two years as carpenter and builder, keeping busily employed. In 1890 he located at Crows Landing, opening a general merchandise store, where he has built up a large and remunerative trade. Enterprising and progressive, Mr. Stanley carries a complete stock of goods, aiming in every manner to please the tastes and meet the demands of his numerous patrons, and he is meeting with great success as a general merchant.

In Tuolumne county, Mr. Stanley married Maggie Jasper, a native of that county, and into their household three children have been born, namely: Lois, Hubert and Teresa. In politics Mr. Stanley affiliates with the Republican party, and though he is interested in local and national affairs, he has never been an aspirant for official honors.

---

J. M. MUGRIDGE. A resident of California but a little over four years, Mr. Mugridge has gained for himself an enviable reputation as a horticulturist and his place is one of the best in this section of the county. To build up and improve a ranch in such a short time requires a great amount of hard labor, but in face of the many obstacles he has had to overcome, our subject has made hosts of friends and is considered one of the leading members of his district.

A native of New Hampshire, he was born in Concord, August 27, 1867, a son of John Y.



and Maria E. (Eaton) Mugridge. The father was also a native of Concord, where he was engaged in the practice of law, becoming one of the best known men in the state. For years he took a leading part in political matters and at one time had the distinction of serving as president of the New Hampshire State Senate. His wife was the daughter of Dr. Leonard Eaton, a graduate of Dartmouth College and a leading physician of the state. Mrs. Mugridge became the mother of two children, Annie, now Mrs. F. L. Pattee, of Boston; and J. M.

Reared in the city of his birth, J. M. Mugridge there and elsewhere received an excellent education. At the age of twenty he located in Colorado, pre-empting one hundred and sixty acres of land in the San Luis valley. The following year he sold out and returned east on account of the death of an aunt. With the intention of entering Dartmouth he spent some time in a preparatory school, but changing his plans he came west again in 1890, locating in Wyoming, where he soon became interested in the sheep business. This occupation he continued to follow for eight years, when he disposed of his business and made a trip east. After a short time spent amid the scenes of his boyhood, he again started for the west, finally going to Old Mexico, where he became interested in growing coffee. In 1900, owing to the unhealthy climate, Mr. Mugridge was compelled to return to California. On his arrival he located in Tulare county, purchasing twenty-two acres of land near Naranjo. In order to become familiar with the growing of oranges he spent six months in Tulare county, at the end of that time beginning the improvement of his own ranch, which is now a very attractive place.

A Republican in politics he is deeply interested in the welfare of his party, but has neither the time nor the inclination to take an active part in political matters, preferring rather to devote his entire time to his own business interests.

**HECTOR BURNES.** The records of the Burness family prove them to have a long and honorable Scotch ancestry. Their most distinguished representative, Robert Burns, whose name is immortal in the world of literature, changed the spelling of the family name to the form by which he is universally known, but other members of the family retained the original spelling. Among the near relatives of the Scotch bard was William M. Burness, a native of Montrose, Scotland, and a manufacturer by occupation. In religion he adhered to the Presbyterian religion, which had been the family faith since the founding of that denomination. Among his children was a son,

John Young, born at Lawrence Kirk, Kincardineshire, near the shores of the North sea. Possessing mechanical ability of more than ordinary extent, he utilized his genius in the starting of the first power loom at Brechin, Forfarshire, not many miles from the place where he was born and reared. The plant which he built up became one of the most important concerns of that city and furnished employment to more than eight hundred hands. His successful management of an undertaking of so great magnitude proved the possession on his part of business ability as well as mechanical genius. With the passing of the years and the approach of old age, he found the responsibilities of the plant greater than his physical strength justified, and he therefore relinquished the management of the works, and in 1893 came to San Francisco, where he has since made his home. In his younger years he possessed a voice of rare melody and power, and his ability as a musician brought him into circles where artistic genius was the open sesame and the sole passport. In his marriage he became allied with an old Scotch family, his wife, Mary Forbes, having been born at Marykirk, near Lawrence Kirk and Montrose, where her father, John Forbes, made his home, following the occupation of a fisherman on the coast of the North sea.

In the family of John Y. and Mary (Forbes) Burness there were seven sons and three daughters, all of whom are living but one son and one daughter. Of the sons we note the following: William M. and John E. are employed respectively as first engineer and chief engineer of the Palace hotel in San Francisco; Thomas N. is an instructor of music and organist in the Dalziel parish church in Matherwell, Scotland; Hector is the representative of Balfour, Guthrie & Co., in the San Joaquin valley, and resides in Fresno; Alexander is connected with the same company at Bakersfield, this state; David died in boyhood; and Robert D. is professor of music and organist in Calvary Church, San Francisco. Hector Burness was born at Dundee, Scotland, January 18, 1859, and attended the Brechin public schools until twelve years of age, when he was apprenticed as a bookkeeper in the Denburn works (founded by his father at Brechin). After three years there he was apprenticed as a banker in Brechin, where he served a term of three years and then continued for about eighteen months as an employee. On resigning that place, he went to London and for four and one-half years held the position of head bookkeeper in a merchant's office.

Leaving England in August, 1884, Mr. Burness came to the United States in order to accept a position previously offered him as head bookkeeper for a large wholesale dry goods house in Austin, Tex. Arriving there, the firm wished

him to wait for a time before taking up the work, but, the position still not being given him, in January, 1885, he came to San Francisco, where his first position was in the auditing department of the Wells-Fargo Company. After three months he resigned to become bookkeeper with Balfour, Guthrie & Co., on the Chowchilla ranch in Merced county. This position he filled for four years. When the company purchased twenty-five hundred acres of wild land in Fresno county, in August, 1889, he was sent to Fresno to take charge of the land and superintend its improvement. Immediately taking up the work, he set out a vineyard and orchard and placed many acres under alfalfa. Some of the land he also laid out in small tracts and sold. However, while some was sold, the company kept increasing their holdings by purchase, until they now have about sixteen thousand acres in the San Joaquin valley, directly under the control of Mr. Burness. Among their properties are the Anita and Las Palmas vineyards of one hundred and sixty acres each, both vineyards of the very best class.

In 1890 Mr. Burness was appointed the company's sole representative in the San Joaquin valley and was placed in charge of their loans, with headquarters in Fresno. Under his direct supervision are the following properties: Pacific and Agricultural Colonization Company's lands, aggregating six thousand acres and including the Anita vineyard of one hundred and sixty acres; Strathmore Land Company, with over four thousand acres of orange land, irrigated by a modern pumping plant; the Balfour, Guthrie Investment Company's holdings of two thousand acres in Stanislaus county, all in alfalfa, and improved with pumping plants, etc.; the Thompson ranch in Napa county, comprising six hundred acres, of which four hundred acres are being reclaimed; and other properties under the control of Balfour, Guthrie & Co. His offices are in the Patterson block, Fresno, while he makes his home on the Anita vineyard, one of the most picturesque vineyards in the entire state, and frequently visited by tourists who have heard of its many attractions.

Besides the numerous responsibilities that come to him as the company's representative in the San Joaquin valley, Mr. Burness finds time to identify himself with other activities, notably the Fresno Realty & Agency Company, which he assisted in organizing and of which he is now a director; also the South Branch Ditch Company, of which he is vice-president and a director; the Kearney Vineyard Syndicate, in which he is a director; and the California Raisin Growers' Association, in which he served as a director during 1901-02 and at the same time held office as its treasurer. After coming to Fresno he married Miss Mary Young, who was born at Almond

Bank, near Perth, Scotland. Of their union are three children, Hector Ian, Thomas Binny, and Mary Anita (the two latter being twins). The family attend the Presbyterian Church and Mr. and Mrs. Burness are active workers in that denomination. His political views are in harmony with Republican principles and he casts his ballot for the men and measures of that party. An active member of St. Andrew's Society, at one time he officiated as president of the organization. While in Sanger he was made a Mason and has since transferred his membership to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. Personally he is a man of rare qualities, combining the honor, thrift and integrity of his Scotch progenitors with the enterprise and keen judgment that are distinctively American traits. Perhaps none of his characteristics impress the stranger more than his excellent judgment, which is evinced in his sagacious control of the lands and loans of his firm and their allied companies. With justice he is ranked among the most influential men in the valley.

---

OLE SVENSEN. The lives of some men, mayhap of the majority, are spent in quiet and contentment, with few events of consequence to any excepting the immediate participants. Not so, however, with the subject of this sketch, Ole Svensen, whose life record is rich in incident and experience, reading like a tale of romance, which at times becomes almost tragical. He has lived and labored in many different countries of the world, has won and lost fortunes, and now, having for thirty-five years been associated with the agricultural prosperity of Stanislaus county, is living retired from active pursuits on his finely improved ranch, lying two miles west of Modesto. A native of Westre Hedemarken, Norway, he was born April 26, 1827, at precisely seven o'clock and two minutes A. M., a son of Swen Reyerson and Maret Reyerson, both natives of Norway.

At the age of eight years, being dependent upon his own resources, he left home, and while a youth learned the stone-mason's trade, which he followed until twenty years old. Emigrating then from Norway, Mr. Svensen sailed for America, landing in New York City, and very soon after went to Wisconsin, where he had a brother, Christian Svensen. In the same year, about 1847, in company with ten Americans, he and his brother went to South America to search for gold, and from there made their first trip to California. Returning to South America, Mr. Svensen and his companions went to Lima city, Peru, and from there to the Andes mountains, where, in the ensuing three months, each of the twelve men in the party made \$15,000 in mining. In 1849 Mr. Svensen made his second trip to Cal-





PERRY LE BLANC

ifornia, locating in Auburn, Placer county, where he engaged in mining pursuits. From 1856 until 1858 he was similarly employed in Shasta county, being very successful. Leaving claims that were then, in 1858, paying him \$12 a day, he went to British Columbia on a prospecting tour. Previous to this time, Mr. Svensen had bought property in San Francisco, giving \$80,000 for the two and one-half blocks of land lying just back of the present site of the Palace hotel. This he subsequently sold for \$280,000, and it is now valued at more than \$15,000,000.

Six months after his arrival in British Columbia, Mr. Svensen joined a company of seventy men, with whom he made an extended prospecting trip, traveling through Alaska, and going to Siberia, where they passed over the Amur province to the great desert of Asia. There the party were engaged in mining for two and one-half years, during which time terrible privations and hardships were endured by the few who survived. At times their only food was grass roots and berries; even black bear, the only game in that region, being scarce. Out of the seventy men that left British Columbia, only fourteen returned, the others having perished from exposure, hardships and starvation, and each of these fourteen men brought back with him from \$5,000 to \$10,000, a sum scarce worth mentioning compared with the sufferings they had endured. Mr. Svensen returned to British Columbia by steamer, from there coming to San Francisco, bringing with him \$18,000 in cash, which was \$262,000 less than he had in his pockets when he left California.

Locating next in Shasta county, Mr. Svensen made \$70,000 mining in a short space of time. With this sum he went to Idaho, where he bought a claim farm, paying Mr. Dodge \$8,000 for the claim, and put in a dam the following winter, which soon washed out; subsequently, selling the claim to a Chinese company for \$6,000, he returned to San Francisco. Deciding to turn his attention to agriculture, he visited different parts of the state, and in 1870 located in Stanislaus county, buying his present home ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, situated two miles west of Modesto. He later bought three hundred and twenty acres additional, but which he subsequently sold. For many years thereafter he carried on farming on an extensive scale, at times renting three thousand acres of land, and in one year, alone, making \$10,000 in raising grain. He continued in active labor until 1898, but since then has rented his ranch, and is now living retired, enjoying the reward of his earlier years of toil. Since he first came to the Pacific coast wonderful changes have taken place, the luxuries of those early days having become the necessities of the present time. For the first apple that he

ate in the Santa Clara valley he paid \$6, and he has paid as high as \$6 for a gallon of milk.

In San Francisco, Mr. Svensen married Rachael Bareg, a native of Norway, and they have one child, Norwena Elizabeth. In his political affiliations Mr. Svensen is independent, voting with the courage of his convictions. He cast his first presidential vote in favor of James Buchanan, and has since supported the candidate which he thinks best fitted for the office.

---

PERRY LEBLANC. The name which heads this review is one remembered by the early citizens of Fresno, Cal., as that of a man who proved a potent factor in the development and progress of this city and the advancement of its best interests. Mr. LeBlanc was a native of Vermilion Parish, La., where he was born in 1839, the descendant of French ancestry, his grandfather having emigrated from France. He was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools. During the Civil war he served in a Louisiana regiment, and in 1868 left his native state and settled in California, locating first in Stockton, San Joaquin county, where he engaged in general farming on the Mokelumne river, cultivating three hundred and twenty acres. In 1874 he came to Fresno county and established a sheep business on the plains and foothills, where he remained for three or four years, then located in the city of Fresno. He became prominent in public affairs, serving first on the city police, later as United States gauger and was afterward superintendent of streets. On account of impaired health he retired from active cares, remaining a resident of Fresno, in which city his death occurred June 3, 1904. Fraternally he was associated with the Knights of Pythias, and politically was a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

In Vermilion Parish, La., in November, 1866, Mr. LeBlanc married Mrs. Sarah J. (Hough) Fitzgerald, who was born and reared in Jasper county, Miss. Her father, Richmond Hough, was a native of Mississippi, where his father lived and died. Richmond Hough became a farmer in young manhood, removing to Louisiana during the Civil war and in 1868 locating in California. He followed farming and stock-raising near Stockton, San Joaquin county, until his death, which occurred three months after his arrival in the state. His wife, formerly Matilda Everett, was born in Alabama and died in Louisiana. Of the ten children born to Richmond Hough and his wife all attained maturity and three are now living. The oldest daughter in this family, Sarah J., grew to womanhood in

Mississippi, where she was first married to John Fitzgerald, a native of Chicago, Ill., and by occupation a conductor on the Mobile & Ohio Railroad. Mr. Fitzgerald died in Mississippi, and in 1866 his widow became the wife of Mr. LeBlanc. Since her husband's death Mrs. LeBlanc has remained a resident of Fresno, where she is held in high esteem by all who have known her throughout the many years spent here. She is the mother of four children, namely: Robert, of Santa Ana, Cal.; Joseph, of Fresno; Thomas, of San Francisco; and Albert, of Fresno. Mrs. LeBlanc owns considerable valuable property in Fresno, where her greatest interests are centered.

**WILLIAM J. McNULTY.** A prominent place among the representative citizens of Fresno county is given to the memory of William J. McNulty, whose efforts resulted in a material upbuilding of the best interests of this section. He was born in Ashland, Ohio, July 19, 1857, the elder of two sons, his brother, Ned B. McNulty, being a prominent dentist in Duluth, Minn. His father, William McNulty, was a native of Franklin county, Pa., who became a pioneer of Ashland, Ohio, where he followed his trade of builder until his death. He married Margaret Pugh, who was born in Mansfield, Ohio, a daughter of Jonathan Pugh, of Virginia. William J. McNulty was reared in his native city, receiving his education in the public and high schools, after which he entered Union College, in Schenectady, N. Y., from which institution he was graduated in 1880. He immediately entered the railroad service, working on the frontier in the Panhandle country on the Texas Pacific Railway, practically living in the saddle among the dangers and hardships incident to such a life. After two years of reconnaissance, location and construction, he secured a position in the United States Government work through Major Wathen of the United States Survey and was employed on the Mississippi Commission work, measuring the discharge of water of the Mississippi river. Following this he was located in Minneapolis, Minn., engaged in the commission business for a short time, but being strongly solicited to return to his former work he engaged on the Missouri Pacific in Missouri and Kansas until his promotion to the position of engineer of maintenance of way on the Iron Mountain Railroad, with headquarters at St. Louis, Mo. The success of his work had attracted more than passing attention from men in like employment, and when the old railroad contractor, George Burnett, was elected superintendent of streets in St. Louis he immediately sought Mr. McNulty as his first assistant super-

intendent. He therefore resigned his position with the railroad and gave his attention to city engineering work, finally receiving the appointment of civil engineer of the board of public improvement for the street department of St. Louis; which office he maintained creditably until a radical change of officials. While in this position he had charge of the construction of the new city hall, and afterward Theodore Link, the architect and superintendent of the Union Depot, sought Mr. McNulty and solicited him to take the position of supervising architect, which he did, having entire charge until its completion, this being the finest depot in the United States. He also did much work for the city and county poor-house asylums, his reliability and integrity in making the actual work equal to the specifications winning for him an unusual degree of confidence. Just before the final completion of the Union Depot Mr. McNulty was offered a position as general traveling agent of the Continental Fruit Express, which he accepted and came to California in the fall of 1894, as inspector and manager of the distribution of cars. The winter of 1894-95 he spent in Florida in this work, and in the spring of 1895 he returned to California, and while engaged with that company making his trips between Sacramento and Los Angeles he became aware of the opportunities which the San Joaquin valley presented to the enterprising business man. In connection with his work the advantages of an artificial ice plant at Fresno were suggested to him, and in the fall of 1896 he resigned his position with the Continental Fruit Express Company and locating in Fresno he organized the San Joaquin Ice Company. He then went east and secured the machinery, the plant being built that winter and put in operation in the following spring. This was the first enterprise of the kind in the San Joaquin valley and in the passing years has proved its worth to the city, county and country. Mr. McNulty became its manager, and after the business was established on a firm basis he established the creamery which is now operated in connection with it. Through his efforts this business was brought to a high state of perfection, he himself sending east for pure-blooded stock, Holstein-Friesian, Jerseys, Guernseys, etc., turning these over to the dairymen, who were allowed to pay for them out of the returns. In this way the herds of the county were immeasurably improved. He established skimming stations—fourteen in number—throughout the county, and until his death gave his attention to this business, which owes its success to his energy, business ability and shrewd judgment. He was taken with appendicitis and was operated upon in Fresno, and three weeks later, August 23, 1901, his death occurred in San Francisco, at the early



age of forty-four years. In Mr. McNulty the community lost a man of stanch integrity and manhood, and one whose influence could only have been exerted for the moral uplift of the people, while as a citizen he was single-hearted in his efforts to promote the general welfare, increase public prosperity and add prestige to his adopted city as a business center of the San Joaquin valley. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, which passed resolutions of respect at the time of his death. Fraternally he was a member of Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., and belonged to the American Society of Civil Engineers. He was reared a Presbyterian in his religious faith, and politically was a stanch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

In Ashland, Ohio, November 27, 1884, Mr. McNulty was united in marriage with May Sprengle, who was born in that city, the third in a family of six children born to her parents. Her father, Louis Jefferson Sprengle, was a native of Frederick, Md., a son of David Sprengle. The latter was a mechanic by occupation, and a native of the same place in Maryland, where his death from cholera occurred in 1832. His wife, formerly Caroline Mary Ann Ruth, was a native of Georgetown, D. C., and a daughter of Capt. Henry Ruth, who served in the war of 1812. One of his sons, Rev. Francis Ruth, was a pioneer Lutheran minister who went to Ohio by horseback and engaged as a missionary for a time. He finally returned to Maryland and induced others to seek a home in the then remote west. Accordingly Mrs. Sprengle, his widowed sister, went with her family across the mountains on horseback and carriage and located in Ashland, where Louis Jefferson Sprengle was reared to manhood. His education was received principally through personal effort and not through an attendance of the public schools, although for a time, while engaged in learning the cabinet maker's trade, he walked fourteen miles to recite to Lyman Andrews, of Ashland. He established the *Ashland Times*, which is still published, promoted manufactories, fire insurance companies, and was a factor in the upbuilding of the city and county. He was a stanch Republican politically, and during the war he served as provost marshal. In his religious convictions he was a Methodist. He died in Ashland, at the age of sixty-four years. He married Sophia Waters Coffin, a native of Bennington, Vt., and the daughter of Frederick Coffin, of the same place, who brought his family to Ohio over the Erie canal and located near Ashland, where he engaged at his work of contractor and builder until his death, which occurred there at the age of eighty-four years. Religiously he was a Presbyterian. His great-grandfather,

James Fay, served in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Sprengle died in the home of her daughter, Mrs. McNulty, September 16, 1904, at the age of seventy-two years. She was a Methodist in her religious convictions, a woman of intelligence and education, and a great assistance to her husband in his literary career. They were the parents of the following children: Ella, the wife of J. E. Stubbs, LL.D., D.D., president of the University of Nevada; Jessie, who became the wife of William Gray Stubbs, and died in Ashland; May C., Mrs. W. J. McNulty; William, a graduate of the McGill Medical College, and a practitioner in Cleveland, Ohio; Martha F., of Fresno; and David Sidney, associated with the Thacker Fruit Company, of Mobile, Ala. Since her husband's death Mrs. McNulty resides at her home at No. 1115 T street, with her two sons, Niel and Hugh. She is a member of the Episcopal Church and the Parlor Lecture Club. Politically she gives her influence for the advancement of the principles of the Republican party.

---

**JOHN CUNNINGHAM.** An enterprising, practical and prosperous farmer of Madera county, John Cunningham is proprietor of an excellent ranch, pleasantly located about five miles south of the city of Madera, where he is largely engaged in general farming, exercising great skill and judgment. Of good financial ability, and a man of industry and wise forethought, he has met with satisfactory pecuniary results in his chosen avocation, and occupies a secure position in the consideration and respect of his fellow-men. A son of Andrew Cunningham, he was born May 3, 1843, in Indiana, of Irish ancestry.

A native of Ireland, Andrew Cunningham was brought up on a farm. Immigrating to America when a young man, he located permanently in Dearborn county, Indiana, where he cleared a farm, and was subsequently actively engaged in business as a general merchant, in addition serving as postmaster. He died in his Indiana home in 1849, when his son John was a lad of six years. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Craig, was also born and reared in the Emerald Isle.

Brought up on the parental homestead, and educated in the district schools, John Cunningham remained at home until after the breaking out of the Civil war. Fired with patriotic enthusiasm, he enlisted in 1862 in Company E, Sixteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Western Division of the Federal army, and took part in various engagements of importance, including the battle at Richmond, Ky., the siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Port

Gibson, and others. Being discharged from service on account of poor health, Mr. Cunningham returned to Indiana. In the spring of 1868 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, disembarking from the ship *Colo* in San Francisco. After mining in the San Joaquin valley for a year, Mr. Cunningham settled as a stock raiser in Fresno county, about twenty-five miles from his present home. Subsequently removing to Madera he kept a meat market in that city, and later engaged in the general merchandise business, being in business about eight years. Purchasing his present ranch of one hundred and fifty acres in 1883, he has since been actively engaged in general farming, including the raising of grain, alfalfa and some stock. In addition to managing the home farm, he also rents other land, carrying on a substantial business as a ranchman.

Mr. Cunningham married, in Indiana, Sarah Whiteford, a native of that state, and of their union six children have been born, namely: Margaret, William E., Russell, deceased; Henry M., Albert C. and Mary A. Politically Mr. Cunningham is a steadfast Democrat, and for many years has rendered efficient service as school trustee.

**PHILIP W. WITTEN.** Among the industrious and thrifty agriculturists of Stanislaus county is Philip W. Witten, who is most successfully pursuing his free and independent occupation of dairyman and ranchman, his farm being advantageously located a short distance east of Crows Landing. A native of Pike county, Mo., he was born near Bowling Green, January 4, 1861. His father, the late Kinsley D. Witten, was born and brought up in West Virginia. Following the march of civilization westward, he located in Pike county, Mo., as a pioneer in 1840, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. He married Annie Elizabeth McCulloch, who was born in West Virginia, and died in Missouri. They became the parents of eight children, four boys and four girls, Philip W. being the fifth child in succession of birth.

After completing his early studies in the district schools, Philip W. Witten acquired a practical knowledge of the different branches of agriculture while living beneath the parental roof-tree, and after the death of his father assumed the entire management of the home farm. Subsequently disposing of his interests in Missouri, Mr. Witten came with his family to California, locating in Kings county, near Lemoore, in March, 1895. Removing to Crows Landing in 1897, he bought thirty acres of alfalfa land, and has since been prosperously employed in dairying, keeping about twenty-five cows, and shipping the products of his fine dairy to Oakland.

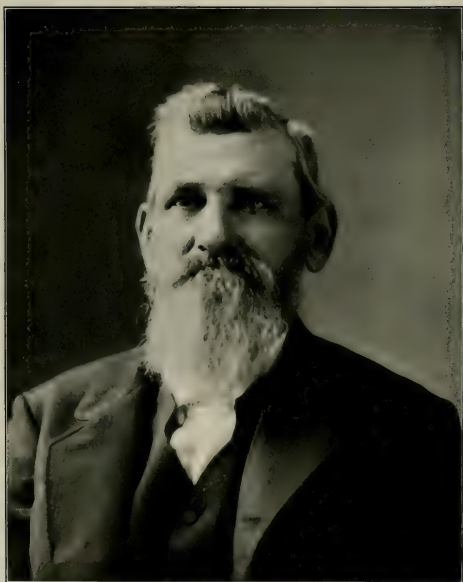
While a resident of Missouri, Mr. Witten married Maggie Lewis, a native of West Virginia, and they have two children, namely: Howard Porter and Beryl Lewis. Politically Mr. Witten is a sound Democrat, never swerving from party allegiance. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and religiously he belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**TOBIA LESNINI.** Conspicuous among the thriving, progressive and successful agriculturists of the San Joaquin valley is Tobia Lesnini, who owns a fine dairy farm and orchard, and in addition to managing it most profitably also carries on the large ranch belonging to L. J. Crow. Energetic, enterprising and especially capable, he has met with satisfactory results in his agricultural labors, and as a man and a citizen has won to a marked degree the esteem and confidence of his large circle of friends and acquaintances. A native of Switzerland, he was born February 22, 1862, in Locarno, canton of Ticino. His father, the late Pasquel Lesnini, was there engaged in farming during his life, and his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Gorjetta, still resides in that locality. He is the third child in order of birth of a family of four children, of whom two are residents of California, a brother, Marx Lesnini, being in Stockton.

Brought up and educated in his native land, Tobia Lesnini began working when young, and there learned the art of dairying, becoming familiar with all of its branches, from the raising of stock to the manufacture of butter and cheese. Immigrating to this country in 1880, Mr. Lesnini came to Stockton, this state, where he embarked in business as a gardener, working first for wages, but subsequently being in business on his own account for four years. Purchasing land at Warnersville, Stanislaus county, in 1890, he carried on general farming most successfully for seven years. Disposing of that property in 1897, Mr. Lesnini returned to Switzerland, and in his native town engaged in mercantile pursuits, at the same time turning his attention to horticulture, becoming owner of an orchard and a grapery. Preferring California, however, either as a place of residence or business, he came back to the Pacific coast in 1903, locating in San Joaquin county, and buying his present ranch of fifty acres. His land is situated on the Stanislaus river, about seven miles from Oakdale, and is admirably adapted for dairy purposes. He raises hay and grain for his cattle, and in his well-kept orchard of four acres he has choice varieties of prunes and other fruits.

In Stockton, Mr. Lesnini married Louise Ver-





Gabriel Chrisman

zarcen, a native of Switzerland, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Adeline, Mary, Peter, Nellie and Herminia. Mr. Lesnini is a loyal citizen of his adopted country and a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

**GABRIEL CHRISMAN.** Distinguished not only as an early pioneer of California, but as a man of sterling worth and integrity, Gabriel Chrisman is well deserving of special mention in this historical work. Like the majority of the people that settled here half a century ago, he came to the state poor in pocket, but rich in energy, courage and perseverance, and has since contributed his full share in developing its resources. For nearly fifty years he has been a resident of Tulare county, his home being near Visalia, and during the time he has faithfully fulfilled all the obligations of an honest man and good citizen, and as such is held in high respect by his neighbors and acquaintances. A son of Job Chrisman, he was born in Lee county, Va., February 9, 1833. Great-grandfather Chrisman, a German by descent, was one of the first men to settle west of the Blue Ridge, Va., where he was killed by the Indians. Nimrod Chrisman, the grandfather, was a Virginia planter, and served in the Colonial wars.

Born and brought up in old Virginia, Job Chrisman spent his early life in his native state. After his marriage he removed to Ohio, and a year later went to Johnson county, Ark., where he took up land, and was engaged in farming and stock raising until after the breaking out of the Civil war, when he was murdered, being shot by a band of marauders, who had first set his barn on fire. He married Elizabeth France, who was born in Virginia, of German ancestry, a daughter of William France, a farmer. She died in Arkansas. Six children were born of their union: Elizabeth died in Arkansas; Henry Tyler crossed the plains to California in 1853, but in 1856 returned to Arkansas, in 1857 he again came to California, but in 1893 went to Missouri, and there spent his last years; William France died in Arkansas during the Civil war, being killed by Jayhawkers; Gabriel is the special subject of this sketch; Millie Jane died in Arkansas; and Josiah served in the Civil war under General Price, subsequently coming to Visalia, Cal., where his death occurred December 31, 1889.

Accompanying his parents to Arkansas when a mere child, Gabriel Chrisman lived in Johnson county until nine years old, afterward residing in Newton county, where he received but limited educational advantages. He remained at home until becoming of age, assisting his father

in the care of the ranch, and afterward worked as a farm laborer for a few years. In 1857, with his brother, Henry Tyler, he came across the plains with an ox-team train, driving a herd of loose cattle. Leaving home on March 25, he followed the old Cherokee trail past the present site of Denver, and thence along the Humboldt and Carson route to Tulare county, arriving in the vicinity of what is now Visalia October 27, 1857, having been seven months and two days in making the trip. Beginning work here by the month, Mr. Chrisman was first employed as a farm hand, and was afterward engaged in milling and lumbering, and in manufacturing rails, of which he made about forty thousand in this county alone. Locating on the Patterson road in 1868, he purchased his present ranch of eighty acres, which was then in its original condition, and at once began its improvement. He broke the land, erected his dwelling house and barns, and assisted in building the Mathews ditch, by which his ranch is irrigated, and has since been prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits, raising grain, alfalfa and stock. His homestead property is advantageously located, being three miles northeast of Visalia, in the midst of a rich farming community.

In Fremont county, Iowa, in 1877, Mr. Chrisman married Polly Chrisman, who was born in Andrew county, Mo., a daughter of Gabriel Chrisman, formerly of Virginia. Two children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Chrisman, neither one of whom is living, Effie O., the eldest child, having died at the age of fourteen years, and Sarah E. living but nine months. In his political affiliations Mr. Chrisman is a sound Democrat, and fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**RUFUS GILMER.** A pioneer of the state and one who has experienced the adversities and profits of the early mining days, Rufus Gilmer, of Visalia, Tulare county, stands as a link between the prosperous present which is the outgrowth of the efforts of unselfish and courageous pioneers, and a past replete with danger, hardships and privations. For fifteen years he has made his home in this city, enjoying in retirement the fruits of his early efforts, this home at No. 118 West Willow street being presided over by his daughter.

A native of Pope county, Ill., Rufus Gilmer was born in Golconda October 11, 1824, a son of Campbell Gilmer. The elder man was a native of Adair county, Ky., who came to Illinois in an early day, locating at Golconda, where he made his home until 1835, practicing medicine. In the last named year he removed to Fort Madison, Iowa, and continued the practice of his pro-

fession until his death. His wife had died when Rufus Gilmer, the oldest in a family of two sons and two daughters, was quite young. This son is the only one now living. He received a rather limited education in the common schools in the vicinity of his home, remaining in the middle west until 1850. In that year he crossed the plains with horse-teams, and upon his safe arrival in California located in the mines at Georgetown, Eldorado county, but which was then known as the Eldorado country. For nine years he followed the occupation of miner, meeting with a success which justified his long continuance in the work. He was principally interested in placer mining. In 1859 he decided to withdraw from the work of a miner and accordingly came to Tulare county and near Visalia located with a herd of cattle. Following this he engaged for fifteen years in the stock business, upon the passing of the fence law disposing of his cattle, after which he engaged in farming. For two years he also conducted a livery stable in Portersville, Tulare county, at the same time that he was interested in farming. In 1889 he returned to Visalia and has since lived retired from the active cares of life.

In Eldorado county, this state, Mr. Gilmer was united in marriage with Ann Harvey, a native of Kentucky, who died in Visalia in the early '80s. They became the parents of five children, namely: Kate, who married William Wright, an engineer on the Southern Pacific Railroad and whose home is at Portersville; Jane, who married W. Cartnell, of Tulare; Guy, in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway; Emma, who married A. Abby, of Portersville; and Eleanor, who married John Cutler and now makes her home with her father. In his political affiliations Mr. Gilmer is a Democrat.

---

GEORGE RICHARD ANDREWS. Liberal and enterprising, George Richard Andrews has made his own success parallel with his efforts in behalf of the general public, giving his aid to advance all movements calculated to increase the general prosperity. He was born in Andrews county, Mo., June 27, 1872, a son of Thomas O. Andrews. The latter was born in Michigan and went to Illinois, where he learned the woolen mill business, after which he located in Andrew county, Mo., as a farmer. In 1873 he came to California and followed mining for two years, when he was joined by his family and located in Ashland, Ore. He became superintendent of the Ashland Woolen Mills, which position he maintained for eight years, after which he engaged in the cattle business in Klamath county, Ore. Returning to Ashland, he engaged as a farmer for two years, then founded a harness

and carriage repository for a like period. Following this he worked in Salem, in the same state, as superintendent of the finishing room of the Salem Woolen Mills. Two years later he engaged with a Mr. Leach in the Capitol City Nursery, until the death of his partner, when he purchased the entire nursery and conducted it for three years. In 1895 he located in Riverside county, Cal., and at Corona is now engaged in horticulture and has an apiary. Thomas O. Andrews was a soldier in the Civil war, serving in the Second Michigan Cavalry, enlisting at the age of seventeen years. He received wounds in the left arm and leg, and was blinded in the left eye from powder burns. He served until the close of the war, participating in the famous march to the sea with Sherman, and many important engagements. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and politically is a staunch Republican. In the line of his present work he is president of the California Bee Men's Association. His wife, formerly Elizabeth S. Lackner, of St. Thomas, Canada, is also living. They are the parents of three sons and three daughters, of whom George Richard Andrews is the second in order of birth.

Reared in Oregon, George R. Andrews received his education in the public and high schools of Ashland. At the age of fifteen years he entered the employ of the Ashland Woolen Mills, where he remained three years, after which he began the study of telegraphy in the Postal Telegraph office in Ashland, and in time became operator and filled positions at Delta, Cal., Ashland, Ore., and St. Helens, Ore., as combination man, until November 1, 1894, when he was transferred to Fresno, Cal., as manager of the Postal Telegraph office, which position he has since held, with the exception of about eight months, when he was engaged in the real estate business, being solicited to return to his old position of manager with liberal inducements. Mr. Andrews has been active in the building up of Fresno, besides his own residence at No. 260 Effie street, having built five other residences. He also owns a small ranch near Fresno, about three miles out on the Santa Fe railroad, which is occupied by the Fresno Brick and Tile Company.

In Fresno Mr. Andrews was united in marriage with Irene Patterson, a native of Illinois and a daughter of William Patterson, a farmer, living three miles north of Fresno. They are the parents of three children, Elaine E., George Eugene and Chester Rowell. Mrs. Andrews is a member of the Christian Church. Mr. Andrews is secretary of the Fresno Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association, being himself a breeder of Barred and Buff Plymouth Rocks. He belongs to the Chamber of Commerce and politically is a staunch Republican, having been nominated



in 1902 as county assessor of Fresno county, but was defeated by a very small majority by the fusion candidate. Fraternally he is prominent, having been clerk for the past eight years of Manzanita Camp No. 160, W. O. W., the largest fraternal lodge in the San Joaquin valley and the fourth largest of this organization in California, having eight hundred members. In 1902 he represented his district at the head camp convention at Cripple Creek, Colo. For eight years he was an active member of the National Guards, having enlisted in December, 1904, in Company F, Sixth California Regiment National Guards of California. He rose from the ranks to the office of sergeant, thence to second lieutenant, and January, 1900, he was elected captain of the company, serving until 1902, when he declined a re-election on account of his other duties. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Fresno, and both himself and wife are members of the Women of Woodcraft.

---

JAMES PORTEOUS. The success which has attended the development of the Fresno Agricultural Works since the establishment of the plant in 1877 is due to the inventive ability, enterprise and sagacious judgment of James Porteous, who, as owner of the plant and inventor of much of its machinery, has every reason to feel a just pride in the growth of the industry which he founded and fostered. Not only is his plant the largest manufacturing enterprise in the San Joaquin valley, but it is the oldest as well. It had its origin in a little wood-working shop established by Mr. Porteous on the present site of the Grand Central hotel, where he conducted business for three years. In 1880 he purchased his present site on Tulare and L streets and erected the first building in the block, where he engaged in the manufacture and repair of buggies and wagons. By degrees his attention was turned to the manufacture of machinery especially needed in his own locality, and from this he drifted into the construction of a general line of machinery, some of which has been sold in South Africa, Australia and other countries.

The prosperity crowning the efforts of Mr. Porteous probably dates from the time when he began to manufacture scrapers for the leveling of ground and building of ditches. The Fresno scraper, as it is known, in the opinion of its inventor has never been equalled for durability, capacity or ease of working. By the adjustment of nuts the dirt may be scattered in layers from one to ten inches deep or left in one heap. A solid bottom is used of 12x $\frac{1}{4}$  plow steel, which stiffens the bowl, prevents it from wearing, and

prevents buckling in hard places. The scraper travels on the bottom when loaded and on the shoes when empty. During two months of 1902 more than five hundred of these scrapers were sold to railroad contractors on one line alone.

One of the special products of the Fresno Agricultural Works is the four-ton North Porteous raisin mill, which has a capacity of from four to six tons per hour for raisins, while as many as eight tons per hour of dried grapes have been stemmed and cleaned in the same time. The raisins are shoveled from the hopper into the cylinder and delivered from the spouts on both sides of the machine directly into fifty-pound boxes and in four grades, usually designated as one-crown or seedless, two-crown, three-crown and four-crown. The machine being open, the raisins are visible at all times except when under the cylinder. Possessing some similarity to this mill is the End Shake North Porteous raisin mill without elevator, the larger size of which, commonly known as the two-ton mill, has a capacity for raisins of about two tons per hour, and is suitable for small packing houses or large vineyards. The North Porteous hand-power raisin mill, made especially for vineyard men, has been shipped to Chile, in South America, also to Australia, South Africa and Europe.

Numbered among the other products of the agricultural works may be mentioned the following: Fresno raisin stemmer, Fresno raisin grader, cap stemmer, an invention of Mr. Porteous, which was the first machine to successfully stem raisins; Fresno differential press, used for pressing dried fruit into fifty-pound boxes; Fresno layer gang press, which is used for pressing layers; the Dryer truck for moving trays; Fresno floor truck for carrying raisins in the sweat boxes to the scales and cars; transfer car and sulphur truck, which affords the most economical way of handling dried fruit; fruit truck for use on drying grounds and in sulphur houses; four-wheel vineyard truck, for hauling among vines and trees; four-wheel cross-reach truck, arranged so that the hind wheels will follow in the tracks of the front wheels in turning among vines; steel truck that can be fitted with side boards; steel cross-reach truck; winery truck; three-wheel vineyard truck; brush burner and steel truck, for use where it is desired to burn the brush from vineyards; brush binder; brush rake; brush cutter; weed cutter; wheeled weed cutter; hard-pan plow, for the hardest kind of work on roads, gravel beds, etc.; vee for making ditches and levees; Fresno vineyard disc, a two-horse disc harrow, which can be instantly adjusted by lever to tear up a patch of weeds and then reset for ordinary work without stopping the team; Fresno vineyard disc reversed, which may be used as a disc, a spader or a vine

cutter; spader, patented by Mr. Porteous, for spading old alfalfa or for vineyards; Fresno disc with vine cutter attached; vine cutter for summer pruning of vines; Fresno two and three-gang vineyard plows; orchard and vineyard bench plow, having wheels inside the plow, thus rendering it possible to get close to vines and trees; Porteous improved tree plow, patented by Mr. Porteous, a two-horse plow with which the ground can be tilled under the spreading branches of fruit trees without injury to the limbs, and especially serviceable for irrigation purposes, as it stirs up the moisture in the ground and does it with perfect safety to the tree; the Porteous header, which renders possible the saving of very short grain; rotary harrow, a device well-nigh indispensable in a vineyard, as it will roll under the spurs and close to the vines without injuring them; and the Fresno cultivator, a patent of Mr. Porteous, and in use in many of the vineyards of Fresno county.

The plant occupied by the works covers one-half block, with large warehouses of brick, machine shop and foundry, and forging furnaces operated by oil, which lessens the cost of operating the plant. In addition to operating this large enterprise Mr. Porteous is interested in orchard and vineyard culture and owns eighty acres of such land one mile from Fresno. In 1902 he built on the corner of Fresno and I streets a brick building, 150x50 feet in dimensions, and three stories in height. With all of his other activities, he has found time to devote to the presidency of the Knob Hill Oil Company at Bakersfield. The Fresno Chamber of Commerce numbers him among its leading members, while fraternally he is a past officer in the lodge of Odd Fellows and a member of the Encampment.

---

CHARLES B. SHAVER, as president and manager of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, has been an important factor in the promotion of this work, which has proved of no little importance in the development of this section. He was born in Steuben county, N. Y., in 1855, a son of John L. Shaver, a native of Delaware county, same state, and the descendant of an old and honored family. The elder man was a miller in New York state until 1864, when he located in Michigan, engaging in farming in St. Louis, Gratiot county, until his retirement. He continued to make his home in that location until his death, which occurred at the age of seventy-four years. His wife, formerly Mary Rose, survives him and now makes her home with her son, Charles B., who was next to the youngest in a family of four children. He received the principal part of his education in the common schools of Michigan, to which state he removed when

nine years of age. He grew to manhood there and at the age of eighteen years engaged in lumbering in the employ of the firm of Whitney & Stinchfield of Detroit, Mich. After some years he became foreman in the woods, in which position he remained until 1882, when he resigned and accepted a position with A. B. Long & Son of Grand Rapids, Mich. While in their employ he assisted in the building of the logging railway and became interested in their mills and lumber plant until 1889. He then resigned and accepted a position with the White Friant Lumber Company, continuing with them for two years, during which he built fourteen miles of logging railway and put in over one hundred million feet of logs. In 1891 he went to south Missouri and built a mill for Boyden & Wyman Lumber Company at Neelysville, and the following year came to California and located at Fresno. With his wide experience in the lumber business he foresaw the possibilities which existed for the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, just organized, and immediately bought an interest in the concern. He at once assumed charge of the construction, completing the surveys and building the flumes from Stevenson creek, where they built a dam sixty feet high, the flume from that place to Clovis, Fresno county, being forty and one-quarter miles in length. It is formed of plank, and required about nine million feet of lumber to construct, at a cost of \$200,000. At the same time the construction of the mills in the mountains was begun and carried to completion, two years being occupied in preparation for this extensive work. They now have two mills operated by steam power, equipped with double bands, dry kilns, railroad locomotive and cars, tug boats and booms, with a capacity of thirty-five million feet per year. They also handle the output of four other mills with a capacity of ten million feet. Their supply of sugar and white pine is practically inexhaustible, as there are twenty thousand acres of this timber around the lake. The planing mills, box factory and dry kilns (operated by steam) are located in Clovis, to which the lumber is brought down by flume, several thousand cords of wood each year being handled. The mills in the mountains are operated from April to December. Their box factory at Clovis is equipped with all modern machinery and is operated the entire year. They employ a force of six hundred men during their busy season, and are an important factor in the industrial development of the country. Their output is shipped to all parts of the world, and the business is extensive and lucrative. Their general office is located in Clovis and their local office in Fresno, both scenes of activity and business enterprise. Mr. Shaver has been president of the company since 1894. He is also a member of the Pine Box and Lumber Company





*Jean Jansen,*

of San Francisco, who have distributing plants on the coast, and of the California Sugar and White Pine Agency of the same city, in both of which he is a director.

In Grand Rapids, Mich., Mr. Shaver was united in marriage with Lena A. Roberts, a native of Pennsylvania, and they have three children, Grace, Ethel and Doris. Fraternally Mr. Shaver is a Mason, having joined the organization in Edmore, Mich., and now belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. He was made a Chapter Mason in Stanton and now belongs to Trigo Chapter No. 69 of this place. He is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 29, K. T., having been raised to this degree in Ionia, Mich., and belongs to the Lodge of Perfection of Fresno, and Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco. He is also associated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and politically is a Republican. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and socially is identified with the Sequoia Club.

**JESSE JANSEN.** Since taking up his residence in Reedley Mr. Jansen has been actively identified with all progressive movements, never hesitating to give of his time and means to build up and improve the place. Self-made, his record is one that the young men of today may read with much profit. Coming to this country when a young man, without money or friends, he has worked his way to the front until today he is not only the foremost citizen of Reedley, but is one of the most influential residents of Fresno county. The soul of honor, his word is considered as good as his bond, and while he has accumulated a handsome competency he has never forgotten to perform his duties as a man and citizen. Generous to a fault, there are many people in this section of the state who would have suffered many privations had it not been for his assistance.

A native of Denmark, Mr. Jansen was born in Bodum, Schleswig, August 21, 1855. His father, Henry Jansen, was a native of the same locality. For many years he followed the sea, being master of a vessel, and in the early mining days he visited the port of San Francisco. He died at his home in Denmark in 1887. His wife bore the maiden name of Anna Christina Olsen and was a native of Jylland, Denmark. She is still living, making her home in Schleswig. By her marriage she became the mother of seven children, our subject being the oldest. His early life was spent in the country of his nativity, where he attended the public schools, supplementing the course in the lower grades by attendance at a private school. At the early age of sixteen years, in 1871, he bade good-bye to

the fatherland and sailed for America. On arriving in California he located in Placer county, where he secured employment on a farm, being paid \$100 for a year's work. After a time he left the farm and went to Lincoln, where he was given work in a meat market, later conducting the market himself. In 1880 he secured a position as foreman of two large ranches in Yuba and Placer counties, where he continued for over six years, having in the meantime leased them. At the end of this time he returned to his home in the old country, and while there was united in marriage with Helen Maria Miller. In 1886, with his wife, he returned to California and again engaged in farming, making a specialty of raising wheat. In 1887 he contracted to dispose of his product to the Pioneer Milling Company, but through the fault of the agent the wheat did not come up to the sample shown and the company refused the whole consignment. Mr. Jansen knew that his wheat was all right and determined to dispose of it. With that idea in mind he went to San Francisco and called on G. W. McNear, who purchased his entire crop and paid more than the contract entered into with the former company. The acquaintance formed with Mr. McNear at that time soon ripened into friendship and Mr. Jansen has since been associated with him, buying millions of bushels of wheat and paying out thousands and thousands of dollars. In addition to his farming and grain-buying interests at that time Mr. Jansen also did considerable insurance writing and dealt in real estate, in 1890 buying sixteen acres adjoining Lincoln, which he still owns.

It was in 1899 that Mr. Jansen located in Reedley and since that time he has been one of the most active business men of the town. Coming here as buying agent for Mr. McNear, he engaged in purchasing the wheat grown in this section of the state, carrying on an extensive grain dealing business. In 1902 he organized and incorporated the Reedley Hall and Store Company, of which he is president. After the disastrous fire of 1902 he purchased the bank corner and erected the Jansen block, which is one of the finest buildings in the town. A year later he organized and capitalized the Reedley state bank, which is now doing a fine business, Mr. Jansen being president of the same. In 1904 he organized the Jesse Jansen Company, for the transaction of a general real estate, brokerage and insurance business. It is his intention to purchase land, divide it into small tracts and sell to those who desire to grow fruit or oranges or beets for the sugar plant.

Mrs. Jansen, who in maidenhood was a Miss Miller, became the mother of seven children, one of whom, Henry, is deceased. The others are: Anna, Helen, Rebecca, Jesse, Jr., Henry and



Norman. In fraternal relations Mr. Jansen is a member of Valley Lodge No. 107, I. O. O. F., the Encampment at Marysville and Citrus Rebekahs No. 120. Mr. and Mrs. Jansen are members of the Lutheran Church and they have generously assisted in building up other churches. In politics Mr. Jansen is a staunch Republican, but has been too busy looking after his own interests to take an active part in political matters.

---

**JOHN BUCHANAN MONROE.** While Mr. Monroe was born in Missouri in 1853, practically his entire life has been spent in California, whither he was brought by his parents in infancy. Residing here for so many years he has been actively associated with many of the movements the result of which has made California one of the greatest states in the Union. Success has crowned his efforts, but while he has accumulated a comfortable competency, he has never neglected his duties as a citizen and when called upon he has always responded.

He is a son of Wesley Monroe, who was a native of Illinois, but lived in Missouri for several years prior to crossing the plains. This memorable trip was made in 1856 with ox teams, six months being consumed in making the journey. He was accompanied by his wife and two children and on arriving here settlement was first made in Butte county, where, near Dogtown, he engaged in farming and stock-raising. Subsequently the family removed to Sonoma county, near Petaluma, where Mr. Monroe followed farming, his ranch being located in Grass Valley. Meeting with excellent success in his operations he continued there until 1865, when he came to Tulare county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is now occupied by his son, John B. Here he engaged in general farming and stock-raising until his death, which took place during a visit to Fresno at the age of fifty-two years. He married Elizabeth Coundray, a native of Tennessee, who died in Madera at the age of sixty-three years: By her union with Mr. Monroe there were born ten children, five of whom are still living.

John B. Monroe was the oldest child and at the age of three years was brought to California by his parents. His early life was spent on his father's farm, attending the district schools and assisting in the farm labors until reaching his majority, when he started out in life for himself. Engaging in the stock business, he ranged his cattle in the foothills until 1884, when he purchased his father's farm. Since then he has added to his first purchase until he now owns five hundred and eighty acres, all in one body adjoining Woodville. Of this one hundred and

fifty acres are devoted to alfalfa, while the balance is used for grazing and general farming purposes. Water for irrigation purposes is secured from the Pioneer ditch, of which Mr. Monroe is the president. For a number of years he has been the only user and occupant of the Woodville ditch and in addition he has a private ditch on his farm which enables him to irrigate every acre of his land. Ever since starting out in life for himself he has been actively engaged in the stock business and for the last ten years he has been interested in the sheep business, now owning between two and three thousand head.

In Visalia Mr. Monroe was united in marriage with Margaret Vincent, who was born in Ontario, Canada, a daughter of Hugh Vincent (see sketch of S. J. Vincent). As a result of this union the following children have been born: Luella Brooks, Mary Elizabeth, Charles C., John Almond, Hugh Wesley, Samuel Adolph, Norvell Vern and Verna Viola.

In politics Mr. Monroe is a Republican. Aside from his service as clerk of the board of school trustees he has never cared to take an active part in public matters, preferring rather to devote his entire time to his own business interests. The results show that this policy has paid him well, for today he is considered one of the substantial farmers in this section of Tulare county. He can write the word "success" in a bold hand on the pages of his history and this success has been attained by the result of his perseverance and determination to succeed.

---

**JAMES DOYLE.** For thirty years Mr. Doyle has been a resident of California, and with the exception of the first two years after his arrival in this state he has been in the employ of the Southern Pacific. Starting in at the bottom he has, by industry and a strict attention to business, been promoted until he now occupies the position of roadmaster, with headquarters in Fresno. His long term of service and his promotion are evidence of the standing he has with his employers. While the nature of his employment has made it necessary for him to live in different places, he has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the town in which he resided and since taking up his residence in Fresno he has been one of the active men in the city, at all times performing his duty as a citizen.

A native of Ireland, Mr. Doyle was born March 19, 1852, a son of Michael and Ellen (Curran) Doyle. The father immigrated to America in 1864, locating in Holyoke, Mass., where the balance of his life was passed. His marriage resulted in the birth of nine children, six of whom are living. Of this family, James



Doyle was the fourth child. His education was obtained in the public schools of Holyoke, Mass., but at an early age it was necessary for him to give up his schooling and enter the cotton mills at that place. Securing a position in the dressing department of the Lyman mill, he remained there until 1875, when he resigned and came to California. His first employment here was with a Mr. O'Neil, a contractor in Oakland, with whom he continued for two years. In 1877 he entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad in Oakland, securing a position in the track department. Three years later, having been promoted to foreman, he was sent to New Mexico, where he continued for six years. As foreman of the yards, he was then transferred to Los Angeles, where he remained for two and one-half years. At the expiration of this period he was again promoted, being made roadmaster with headquarters at Benson, Ariz., where the company kept him for two years. June 23, 1893, he came to Fresno as roadmaster of the Fresno Division. Four years later he was transferred to the Keene district, but in 1899 he returned to Fresno to relieve G. A. Starkweather, who was sent to Ventura. Mr. Doyle now has charge of seventeen sections, all the lines running out of Fresno, making his position one of great importance, as there are hundreds of miles of road under his supervision, the company looking to him for the condition of road beds.

In Chicopee, Mass., Mr. Doyle was united in marriage with Miss Mary Allen. At her death Mrs. Doyle left one child, Kate, who is attending Trinity College. Fraternally Mr. Doyle is a member of the Knights of Columbus. His rise to the position he now holds has been by the direct result of strict attention to business. In Fresno, as in other places where he has made his home, he has a large circle of friends who are deeply interested in his success.

I. W. GOLDMAN. Although not a native of this country, Mr. Goldman has made his home in California for so many years that he is intimately associated with its progress and devoted to its development. As a boy he attended the public schools in Westheim, Bavaria, Germany, where he was born in 1836, and after leaving school he learned the trade of a shoemaker. On coming to America in 1853 he secured employment in New York City, but in 1855 left there for California. The trans-continental railroad had not yet spanned the country and travel was made by "prairie schooners" or by ship. He chose the latter method of transportation and sailed to Panama, where he took passage on the John L. Stevens to San Francisco, landing at

the Golden Gate November 14, 1855. Without delay he was able to secure work at his trade. Carefully saving all that he earned, he utilized the capital thus secured in the establishment of a shoe store about 1857. The first shop was a small affair, with a frontage of twelve feet. Soon the business outgrew his limited quarters and he sought more adequate accommodations, leasing a large store on Kearny street, where he remained in business until 1871. On disposing of that establishment he embarked in the general mercantile business at Pleasanton, Alameda county.

When the railroad was built to Merced in 1872 Mr. Goldman started a general store in that town. About the same time the railroad reached Tulare and he went to that town on one of the first trains. By the aid of a city plat he selected as a site for a store the northeast corner of J and Tulare streets, but the railroad erected a hotel there, and he bought the adjoining lot, subsequently acquiring possession of the corner lot. The frame building in which he opened a general store in the spring of 1873 did duty as a place of business until 1875, when it burned to the ground. Immediately afterward he leased the southeast corner, where a brick building afforded more convenient accommodations than previously enjoyed. A second time disaster overtook him in the loss of all of his stock in the fire of 1885. Forced to seek new quarters, he bought the northeast corner of J and Tulare streets, where he conducted an extensive general merchandise establishment, the largest of the kind in the city. Since the sale of the business in May, 1900, he has devoted himself to the development of property, under the firm name of J. & I. W. Goldman, with office and headquarters at No. 4 Sutter street, San Francisco. In addition to erecting the Goldman Hall in 1887 he has put up other structures, including a substantial brick warehouse, and the Wells-Fargo building.

During all the years of his identification with the mercantile interests of Tulare Mr. Goldman has been a buyer of adjacent lands and now has a tract of more than twenty-eight hundred acres, four and one-half miles north of town, which is now being subdivided into twenty-acre tracts and is known as the Goldman colony tract. A pumping plant has been built on the property sufficiently large to irrigate all of the land. In partnership with his cousin Mr. Goldman owns Paradise orange grove tract of eight hundred and fifty acres, on which an abundance of excellent water is secured by means of pumping plants operated by electricity. The land lies one-half mile from Lindsay, Tulare county, and is being sold for \$100 per acre, including water right, purchasers having the privilege of buy-

ing any amount from five acres up. It has been found by experiments that citrus fruits can be raised there and much of the property is being laid out in orange groves. Besides the properties named Mr. Goldman owns other valuable lands in Tulare county, also in Kern county and some real estate in Fresno, besides his home place in San Francisco. While the management of his lands takes up his attention to a large extent, he also engages in the stock business. Fraternally he holds membership in Fidelity Lodge, F. & A. M., in San Francisco, and in political matters favors the Republican party, the work of which he has promoted by his vote and influence. After settling in San Francisco he married Carrie Rothschild, who was born in New York City, and by her he has four children, Julian, Hilda, Bertie Violet and Blanche Daisy.

---

E. M. CAPURRO. The manager of the Madera Electric Light Company and the Madera Water Company was born in Stockton, this state, April 22, 1864, and is a son of Emanuel and Pauline (Sopania) Capurro, natives respectively of Genoa, Italy, and Mazatlan, Mexico. His father, who was captain of a vessel in Italy, came to California during the great mining excitement of 1849, but did not himself become directly interested in seeking for gold. Instead, he took up the freighting business as offering a more certain income and with his pack trains traveled all through the mountains and into the mining camps, building up a large business in the sale of merchandise to miners. Much of his profits he invested in farm lands, the value of which constantly increased, thus yielding him gratifying returns. For years he made his home in Stockton. On his retirement from business he spent some time in Italy, visiting the friends of his youth and such relatives as remained near Genoa. His death occurred in Stockton in 1888 when he was eighty-two years of age.

In a family of two daughters and one son the youngest was E. M. Capurro, who was educated in the grammar and high schools of Stockton. While still a mere boy he gave evidence of mechanical ability. At the age of nineteen he was apprenticed to the machinist's trade in the machine shop of Farrington & Hyatt, with whom he remained for four years. He then went to Modesto to erect a planing mill for Gilbert & Bennett, and after completing the plant he remained for two years as its superintendent. During the following three years he was master mechanic for the Second Street Cable Company in Los Angeles and superintended the building of their cable road. For about a year afterward he acted as chief engineer of the San Diego cable road, and from there went to San Francisco

as superintendent of the plant of D. Block & Co., trunk manufacturers. Later he was made chief engineer of the electric street railway in Oakland, and was next with the Oman Engine Manufactory in the construction and setting up of its machines and engines.

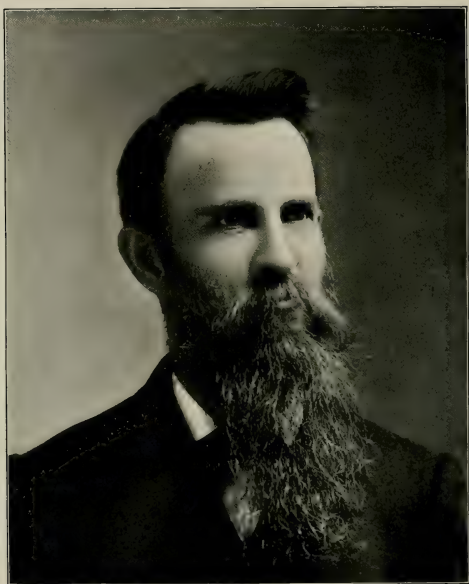
Coming to Madera in 1894 as master mechanic of the Krogh Manufacturing Company, Mr. Capurro completed the electric plant and has since been its manager, meanwhile enlarging it from time to time as the increased business demands. The plant is an exceptionally fine one, carefully and substantially constructed and thoroughly equipped. It has a capacity of one thousand incandescent lights and fifty arc lights. In addition, Mr. Capurro is manager of the Water Company, whose works he constructed. The plant comprises four wells, respectively three hundred and eighty, two hundred and ten, one hundred and ten and six hundred feet deep; also two triple action Krogh pumps with a capacity of eighteen thousand gallons per hour for each pump; one Warrington duplex steam pump with a capacity of thirty-six thousand gallons per hour; with one hundred and ten pounds pressure for fire purposes, and two tandem compounds of sixty horse-power each, oil being used for fuel. The plants are located on E and Fifth streets. To aid in his work Mr. Capurro has invented a number of devices, one of these being a system of alarm by electricity which starts the pumps. Besides his other positions he acts as manager of the Sunset Telephone Company, at Madera. He is a member of the National Association of Marine Engineers of San Francisco and maintains a deep interest in everything pertaining to his chosen field of activity. Politically he is a Republican, while in fraternal matters he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Foresters at Madera, and San Diego Parlor, N. S. G. W.

---

ROBERT J. PADEN. In a history of the San Joaquin valley, with its many prominent citizens and fruit growers, the name of Robert J. Paden is deserving of special mention, not alone as a descendant of distinguished Virginian ancestors, but from the fact that he has gained considerable prominence in his section as a real-estate dealer. As an extensive vine-grower and as secretary and manager of the Sanger Wine Association, Mr. Paden has gained added prominence and is considered a representative citizen in the vicinity of Sanger in Fresno county, which has been his home since 1887.

United by close ties to Van Buren, Ala., it was there that he was born January 15, 1846, a son of John and Nancy (Copland) Paden, the latter also born in Alabama. John Paden was a native





*J. O. Knauer*

of Virginia and his father, also called John, emigrated from Glasgow, Scotland, to that state in an early day, and was prominent in the history of Virginia. The father of Robert J., when a young man, left Virginia and took up his residence in Alabama, where he lived until 1855. He was a farmer by occupation and the closing years of his life were spent in Sharp county, Ark., where he died at the age of sixty-seven years.

The early education of Robert J. Paden was received in the public schools, and he was fourteen years old when his parents moved to Arkansas, which continued to be his home until 1862. During that year he enlisted in the Confederate army as a member of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry and served throughout the war. In 1869 he went to Texas and there engaged in the stock business in connection with farming until 1887, when he came to California and located upon the present site of Sanger, being the first one to live in the town after it was platted. In addition to carrying on farming he became real-estate agent for the Southern Pacific Railway Company and through his efforts in their behalf many important land deals were made. Mr. Paden retired from the real-estate business in 1901, and since then his entire time has been given to his farming interests and to the successful management of the winery with which he is connected. His fine ranch contains one hundred and twenty acres, of which eighty acres are devoted to the raising of wine grapes and fruit. By his marriage, January 30, 1864, in Arkansas, Mr. Paden was united with E. Alice Richie, formerly of Tennessee, and to them six children have been born, as follows: John T.; M. A., the wife of L. C. Vermillion; Frank; Mattie, the wife of Fred Rogers; Callie D. and Ossieolie. Mr. Paden is a member of the Masonic fraternity of Sanger, and of the Independent Order of Foresters.

**FRANK S. KNAUER.** One of the very first to locate in the town of Reedley, Mr. Knauer has been prominently identified with the upbuilding of this thriving town, and since 1888 his wife has acted as postmistress, her husband having been instrumental in having the office established. During these years there have been many changes in this section, as on settling in Reedley Mr. Knauer's was the first house to be erected.

A native of Kentucky, Mr. Knauer was born in Campbell county, October 15, 1853, a son of Elias and Maria Melcina (Brooks) Knauer. The father was born in Pennsylvania, but in pioneer days removed to Kentucky, locating in Campbell county, where he followed his trade, that of a wheelwright and general mechanic. While living in Kentucky he erected many grist and saw mills, being one of the leading builders of the county.

After some years he went to Ohio, where he worked at his trade until 1858, when he migrated to Nebraska. Locating in Brownville, he followed his vocation until the next year, when he outfitted with ox-teams and crossed the plains to California. Going to Yolo county, he settled at what is now the town of Woodland and in 1874 erected the first grist mill in that place. Later he built a saw mill in Lake county and engaged in the lumbering business for a short time, but in 1876 he returned to Woodland, where he died the same year. His wife was born in Kentucky and is now living, about seventy-five years of age. Her grandmother was a sister of the wife of Daniel Boone, the famous hunter and Indian scout. Mrs. Knauer was twice married and became the mother of six children, two by the first marriage and four by the second.

Frank S. Knauer was the oldest child and was six years old at the time his parents crossed the plains. He enjoyed the advantages of the best schools of the state, and after finishing in the public schools of Yolo county he attended Hesperian College at Woodland, where he made a record as a diligent student. His tuition in the latter institution was paid with money which he earned by working in the harvest field. Subsequently he took a one-year course in the state normal at San Jose, after which for five years he was engaged in teaching in Yolo county. In 1888 he came to Reedley as a teacher in the district school. A year later, however, he was compelled to give up teaching on account of disability, resulting from appendicitis. After regaining his health, in 1890, he took a clerical position with The 76 Land and Water Company, and in addition to representing this company he is also the local representative of the California Fruit and Wine Land Company. He is also a notary public, is interested in the insurance business to some extent, and is assistant postmaster at Reedley.

Mr. Knauer was united in marriage with Flora Bierer, a native of Kansas. Ever since coming to Reedley Mrs. Knauer has acted as postmistress, and the family still have in their possession a sack in which the mail was brought from Fresno. The office is now third class and one of the best paying ones in this part of the state. As a matter of interest the records of the office have been preserved and show that the first year, during the month of August, there was only \$1 worth of stamps sold, and for three months the income amounted to but \$2.84. During the past year nearly \$600 worth of stamps were disposed of and many tons of mail matter were handled.

To Mr. and Mrs. Knauer have been born three children: Carmi M., who is cashier in Leonard's confectionery store in Oakland; Charles M., a bookkeeper and acting postmaster at Caliente,

Cal., and Frank LeRoy, who lives at home. Fraternally Mr. Knauer is a member of the Woodmen of the World and Fraternal Aid, and in religion is connected with the Baptist Church. He has never cared to take an active part in political matters, but is a firm believer in the principles advocated by the Prohibition party. Both he and his wife are very popular and have hosts of friends wherever known.

---

**EDGAR GRAHAM HOPE.** Of pioneer ancestry, and a resident of California since his boyhood, Edgar Graham Hope has witnessed wonderful transformations in the face of the country, and has ably assisted in the development and promotion of its industrial progress. His finely improved ranch, a part of which he inherited from his parents, lies about ten miles south of the city of Madera, and is one of the most attractive and productive in the vicinity. A skillful, thrifty and enterprising farmer, he holds a position of prominence among the leading agriculturists of this section of the state, and is a worthy representative of all that constitutes an exemplary citizen. A son of the late Aquilla M. Hope, he was born January 29, 1841, in Kentucky, but was reared in Missouri and California.

Born in Baltimore, Md., Aquilla M. Hope learned the trade of millwright, which he subsequently followed in conjunction with farming in Kentucky for fifteen years. Removing with his family to Scotland county, Mo., in 1844, he was there actively engaged in many industries, working as millwright, farmer and stock-raiser, and as tanner. In 1852 he came across the plains with his family, in an ox-team train, and located in Santa Clara county, where he had the distinction of grinding the first sack of flour made in the Santa Clara Mills. Removing to Contra Costa county in 1853, he remained there two years, being employed in milling and stock raising. The following year he spent in Amador county, and then removed to Westpoint, Calaveras county, where he was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits from 1856 until 1873. Coming then to what was at that time Fresno county with his family, he bought a ranch of one thousand two hundred and fifty acres of land, which is now included within the limits of Madera county, and here followed his free and independent occupation until his death, at the age of seventy-six years. He made a specialty of wheat raising, although for six years he was a sheep raiser and dealer, carrying on an extensive business in that line. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Graham, was born in Virginia, the granddaughter of a Revolutionary soldier. She died at the homestead, in Madera

county, at the age of seventy-nine years, and her body was laid beside that of her husband in the family burying-ground, on the home ranch. She bore her husband ten children, and of these two sons are California farmers, namely: S. D., of Merced, who owns a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres in Madera county; and Edgar G., the subject of this sketch.

Bred and receiving his early education in Scotland county, Mo., Edgar Graham Hope came with his parents to California in 1852, and subsequently lived with them in different places until coming to Madera county in 1873. Subsequently learning the trade of blacksmith, he followed it for twelve years, having a blacksmith shop in Madera. Inheriting from his parents one hundred and sixty acres of the old home place, he is now engaged in farming pursuits, and is meeting with great success. He carries on a ranch of one thousand acres, raising large quantities of wheat, for which his land is especially adapted, averaging about seven hundred pounds to the acre.

Mr. Hope married Elizabeth Edwards, and they are the parents of seven children, namely: George, a merchant in Madera; Frank E., a prosperous farmer, his ranch adjoining that of his father; Marion, a barber in Madera; Edith, wife of S. Crowder; Versa, wife of D. Stevenson, of Oakland; Laura, and Thomas. Politically Mr. Hope is a sound Democrat, but has never been an aspirant for official honors.

---

**GEORGE W. MORDECAI.** The substantial and prosperous citizens of Madera, Madera county, Cal., have no more worthy representative than George W. Mordecai, an extensive landholder, a large sheep and stock raiser, and one of the most successful and best-known farmers of this part of the state. A son of Augustus Mordecai, he was born April 18, 1844, in Virginia, near Richmond. His grandfather, Jacob Mordecai, was a Virginian by birth and breeding, but for many years was a resident of North Carolina. He comes of Revolutionary stock, both of his great-grandfathers having served as soldiers in the Revolutionary army, and is of English descent, the emigrant ancestor of the Mordecai family having come from London, England, to America in the seventeenth century.

Born in North Carolina, Augustus Mordecai removed in early life to Virginia, the home of his ancestors, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. He was a prominent planter, and a man of influence, serving for a number of years as presiding justice of the board of magistrates of Henrico county, Va. He married Rosina Young, who was born in



Virginia, which was also the birthplace of her father, William Young, and she is still living, residing on the home plantation, "Rosewood."

Reared on the home farm, George W. Mordecai received a practical education in the private schools of Richmond. In 1862, in Richmond, he enlisted in the Confederate army, in which he served until the close of the war, taking part in many of the engagements of that conflict. Subsequently going to North Carolina he had charge of his uncle's plantation for three years. Coming to California in 1868, Mr. Mordecai took up and purchased the land that is now included in his present ranch, which was then a part of Fresno county, but is now in Madera county. Engaging in general farming, he has improved a valuable ranch, and as a stock and grain raiser has met with eminent success. He has four thousand acres of land in his ranch and devotes the greater part of it to the raising of grain. He likewise raises much stock, including cattle, sheep and horses, and by sturdy industry and judicious management has acquired a competency. Mr. Mordecai has made several trips to the east, visiting his old home and acquaintances. He has a very pleasant and attractive home, lying about four and one-half miles south of Madera.

Mr. Mordecai married, in Kern county, Miss Louise Dixon, a native of Mississippi and daughter of Judge R. L. Dixon. They have four children living, namely: George W., Jr., an attorney in Madera; Louise; Brooke; and Ethelfleda. Politically Mr. Mordecai is a staunch Democrat, and is prominent in public affairs. For two terms he served as a member of the state legislature, and was nominated as state senator, but was defeated.

**BENJAMIN Y. COLSON.** The varied experiences which have entered the life of Benjamin Y. Colson as a sailor before the mast have in no wise unfitted him for routine duties on land. An intelligent, capable, and energetic man, he has proven his ability as an agriculturist, the steady qualities inherited from his New England ancestry making him a most desirable citizen in any community where he might care to take up his residence. Since his location in Fresno county in the spring of 1886 he has held the position of manager of the Smith ranch, which consists of three hundred and twenty acres of land devoted to general farming, and where he employs three men. The ranch is located six and a half miles from the city of Fresno, in the Malaga district.

Born in New Bedford, Mass., February 27, 1845, Mr. Colson is the son of O. D. Colson. The birth of the latter occurred in Massachu-

setts, August 1, 1819. In manhood he became a tinner, spending the greater part of his life in his native state, though his latter days were passed in Fresno, Cal. He married Amanda Cushman, who was born June 14, 1826. Until he was seventeen years old Benjamin Y. Colson remained at home with his parents, learning the machinist's trade. Attracted by a sea-faring life he then became a sailor and left his native town in 1864 on a whaling voyage. He made one voyage around the Horn on the barque Sunbeam, under the command of Capt. D. C. Barrett and another voyage around East Cape under Capt. Thomas Fisher. He followed this life for twenty years, from 1864 to 1884, during which time he sailed through many seas, visiting many points.

In 1876 Mr. Colson married Annie E. Ellis, of Massachusetts, and in the summer of 1886 he came to California and entered upon the work which has since claimed his attention. To himself and wife were born two children, Marion and Evelyn. Politically Mr. Colson casts his ballot with the Prohibition party and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Pythias, is a Mason and belongs to the Rathbone Sisters.

**JAMES MURPHY.** No great amount of wealth has come to Mr. Murphy. Dame Fortune has brought her gifts to him with niggardly hands, and reverses more than once have wrested from him the gold that he sought in the mines; yet he has sufficient to surround his old age with the comforts of existence, and as he passes the twilight of a busy life in his own little home at No. 612 North Bridge street, Visalia, he can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future with a cheery heart and a sunny spirit. "Owe no man anything" is one of his mottoes, and by following this precept he has kept his financial affairs in a satisfactory condition. His friends are legion, and although death has deprived himself and wife of their children, the kindness of their associates prevents them from feeling alone in the world.

In County Galway, Ireland, Mr. Murphy was born in 1810, being a son of Patrick and Katherine (Tharpy) Murphy, who were born in County Galway and remained there many years, and then removed to County Mayo, where they died, the father being engaged as a farmer and cattle-buyer. Out of a family of eleven children only two sons and two daughters attained mature years. James, who was the youngest of the children, received his education in the national schools of Ireland and at thirteen years of age came to the United States. For a considerable period he lived in New Orleans. During 1846

he went to St. Louis and secured employment. From there in 1851 he crossed the plains to California, landing at Hangtown, where he rested from the fatigue of the long journey. In a few days he proceeded to Georgetown, where he prospected successfully in the mines. A change of location in 1856 took him to the mines of Oroville, Butte county, where at first he was prosperous. Ultimately, however, a flood caused the waters of the Feather river to overflow and in a few hours he suffered a loss of \$25,000. Though left penniless he did not despair, but changed his plan of work and prospected in Deep Diggings. At the time of the Washoe gold excitement in Nevada in 1859 he started for those mines, but changed his plans and prospected in Inyo county, Cal., remaining there some four years.

While Mr. Murphy considered Visalia his home as early as 1859 he did not settle permanently in that locality until 1865, when he leased a tract of land and engaged in raising cattle. At the time that the fence law was passed he owned some five hundred head of cattle, but being deprived of range for them he was compelled to sell at a heavy sacrifice. Afterward for six years he acted as foreman of a ranch. During early days he followed the stone-mason's trade and laid the first sewerage system in Visalia, besides doing other work of a similar nature. Politically he votes the Democratic ticket. While living in St. Louis he married Ann Burns, who was born in Ireland and with him is a faithful member of the Roman Catholic Church. They became the parents of three children, but all died before the family removed from Missouri.

---

**CHARLES RICHTER.** The Richter family, represented in Fresno by Charles Richter, an enterprising and esteemed citizen, came originally from Germany, the emigrating ancestor, John M. Richter, locating in Philadelphia, Pa. He engaged in that location as a merchant tailor until the fall of 1837, when he removed to Springfield, Ill. In conjunction with his mercantile business he also conducted a small hotel, where he had the honor of entertaining both Lincoln and Douglas, as well as Judge Treat. Five years later he removed to Dewitt, Dewitt county, where he followed the same business, and during his residence in the latter place performed the duties of postmaster for twenty-five years. His death occurred in that place at an advanced age. His wife, formerly Annie Hagen, was a native of New Jersey, who died in Dewitt. They were the parents of two children, Albert, who died in San Jose, Cal., and Charles.

The birth of Charles Richter occurred in Philadelphia, Pa., February 20, 1833, and at the age

of four years he was taken to Illinois, where he was reared to manhood. Abraham Lincoln stopped several times in their home in Dewitt, and the first money Charles Richter ever earned was a Spanish quarter which Mr. Lincoln gave him for wading a creek and cutting a fishing pole with the latter's knife. Also while a resident of Dewitt he heard Peter Cartwright preach in Hurley's grove. He received his education in the subscription schools, which were held in a log cabin, with puncheon seats and desks, mud and stick chimney, quill pens and other primitive conditions incident to the day. As he grew to young manhood he assisted his father in the store and postoffice, and after the death of the latter in 1862 he became postmaster and conducted the store also. In the meantime, in 1854, when a boy of twenty-one, he made a trip across the plains to California, traveling by ox teams from Illinois via St. Joseph, Mo., thence to Fort Kearney and Fort Laramie, the only two places on the route where they saw houses and signs of civilization. The journey occupied six months, but the little company arrived in safety, after which Mr. Richter engaged in mining on the Feather river. He continued for three years in that occupation, and met with a reasonable degree of success. In 1857 he returned to Illinois by way of the Isthmus of Panama and took up his home occupations once more. He became prominent in public affairs in Dewitt, being elected township supervisor two terms and also president of the board of trustees of the town for many terms. In 1876 he went to the Black Hills, through the Indian country, where he remained for about four months, then returned to his mercantile business. He eventually resigned the office of postmaster and engaged as a manufacturer of drain tile, carrying on an extensive business until 1885, in which year he was appointed postmaster by Mr. Cleveland. He retained this office for three years, when he resigned and came to California, locating in Fresno, where he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land three miles south of the city and set one hundred and sixty acres of the tract to raisin grapes. Later he disposed of a part of it, continuing in the cultivation of the remainder for three years, when he sold the entire property and for a time continued in the purchase and sale of vineyard property. He also purchased property in Fresno, where he made his home. He now owns two small vineyards three miles east of Fresno. During the first gold excitement in Alaska he went on a prospecting tour to Cook Inlet. For the past eight years Mr. Richter has also been engaged in mining interests in Fresno county, having opened a mine seventy-five miles east of Fresno, near the summit of the Sierra Nevada mountains, where he built





Chas G. Donner

a quartz mill in 1904, which is operated three months of the year by water and the balance by steam power, five miles of ditches having been built to run the water. He also made a road to haul the machinery to the mill, everything being modern and thoroughly up to date. This is known as the Badger Mine, and has proved a success thus far. He is also interested in other mines in the same section.

In Dewitt county, Ill., December 3, 1857, Mr. Richter was united in marriage with Rachel Wilson, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Amos Wilson. The latter was a native of Maryland, an early settler of Ohio, and eventually a farmer in Dewitt county, Ill. Of the eight children born to Mr. Richter and his wife six attained maturity, namely: John A., of Fresno, a vineyardist and deputy United States internal revenue collector; H. W., in business with his father; Viola, the wife of Nathan Trego, of Dewitt; Annie, deceased, was the wife of Charles Leasure; Alberta, the wife of T. W. Fresh, of Fresno; and Ollie, the wife of James McDonald of Fresno. Fraternally Mr. Richter was made a Mason in Amon Lodge of Dewitt, Ill., and now belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. In national politics Mr. Richter is a Democrat, but he cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln, whom he personally knew and honored for the sterling qualities known to all the country.

CHARLES G. BONNER, justly named among the representative citizens of Fresno, is a native son of California, his birth having occurred in San Francisco, February 4, 1869. His father, Charles Bonner, a native of Canada and the descendant of an old and honored New York family, came to California by the Isthmus of Panama in the early '50s and engaged in mining. He also mined in Nevada, and became superintendent of the Gould and Curry mine of Virginia City, being considered one of the best mining experts both in Nevada and California. His death occurred in San Francisco in 1871, and he was buried on Staten Island. His wife, formerly Rosa Gore, was a native of Cambridge, Mass., a sister of Mrs. John Reddington, of San Francisco, and a granddaughter of ex-Governor Gore of Massachusetts. She came to California in an early day and died in San Francisco. Of their three children Charles G. Bonner was the only son and the youngest child. He was reared in San Francisco and received his preliminary scholastic training in the schools of that city, after which, in 1885, he entered the University of California, graduating four years later with the degree of B.S. In the same year he came to Fresno and purchased a vineyard and entered at once upon a horticultural career. He

set out what is known as the Bonner vineyard eight miles east of Fresno, where he owns a six hundred and forty acre tract, of which four hundred acres are in vines and trees, while the balance is devoted to alfalfa and stock. This property is in the hands of the Bonner Vineyard Company, which was incorporated in 1892 with Mr. Bonner as president. From this modest beginning Mr. Bonner began buying and shipping, and has since put up a packing house commensurate with the business transacted, putting in necessary equipments in the shape of a raisin seeder and stemmer operated by steam, etc. In 1890 Mr. Bonner also formed a partnership with James Madison, of San Francisco, in the packing and shipping of fruit, this firm being incorporated in 1903 under the style of Madison & Bonner, of which Mr. Bonner is secretary and local manager. They own five acres of the Bonner vineyard at Locan's Spur, and five acres of land for the packing plant and necessary equipments, etc. They ship by carloads direct to eastern markets, their business being the leading one with the exception of the Seeding Trust, and has proven of commercial importance to Fresno.

Mr. Bonner has been twice married, his first marriage occurring in Boston, Mass., and uniting him with Louise Tripp, of Massachusetts, who died in San Francisco. She left one daughter, Beatrice Louise. His second marriage occurred in San Francisco and united him with Marie Walters, who was born in Sierra county, Cal., a daughter of J. C. Walters, a pioneer of the state, who resides in Sierra county. He was one of the founders of the Walters Colony in Fresno county. Mrs. Bonner is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Fraternally Mr. Bonner is associated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and Native Sons of the Golden West. He belongs to the Chamber of Commerce and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

NATHAN O. MILLER. About three miles southwest of Le Grand is the grain and stock ranch belonging to N. O. Miller, who is conceded by all to be a man worthy of the highest respect and esteem, and the owner of seven hundred and fifty acres of as fine land as may be found in the county. He is a son of Jacob and Mary (Singleton) Miller, both natives of Indiana; the former came to California in 1850 with ox-teams. Upon reaching his destination, he went at once to Placer county, where he mined two years, with good success. He returned home in 1852, and eight years later returned with his family by way of the Isthmus of

Panama. Landing in San Francisco, they located first in Santa Clara county, where Jacob Miller purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land, part of which he set out in an orchard, remaining there until his death, at the age of fifty-five years. Surviving him were his wife and seven children, as follows: Sarah; Stephen J., of Gilroy; Scott, of Eureka; Mrs. Josephine Ross, of Modesto; Alice; Nathan O., and William E.; the mother died in 1901 at the advanced age of seventy-four years.

Nathan O. Miller was born in Santa Clara county, November 13, 1861. His early education was received in the common schools, and supplemented by a course in Heald's Business College, in San Francisco, after which he spent three years as foreman of a sugar plantation in the Hawaiian Islands. Returning once more to Santa Clara county he was engaged as an orchardist for six years, finally trading his property for the ranch he now owns. By his marriage in 1899 he was united with Fanny E. Harrison, also a native of Santa Clara county, daughter of Eli and Mary (Hobson) Harrison. The former was born in Massachusetts in 1831, a son of James Harrison, an Englishman, Mrs. Harrison being a native of Illinois. In 1852 Eli Harrison journeyed from New York by way of the Isthmus to San Francisco, going first to the mines and then to Santa Clara county. He had the distinction of being one of the first orchardists to locate in Santa Clara county, and also of being one of the prominent men who had Elm Rock Park set aside for San Jose. He owned about thirteen hundred acres of land in the San Joaquin valley. He served the Republican party as public administrator. Mr. Miller is a Republican who never swerves from the doctrines of that party. He was a member of Palo Alto Parlor, N. S. G. W.

---

JOHN C. RORDEN. As president and general manager of the Selma Land Company, which was incorporated under the laws of the state of California August 3, 1900, with principal place of business in Selma, Fresno county, John C. Rorden is thoroughly conversant upon all the advantages of this section, having been a resident of this immediate vicinity since 1888. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of land adjacent to Selma on the east, conducts a dairy of fifty head of cattle, has eighty acres in alfalfa, and one hundred acres of unimproved land near by.

Born May 28, 1864, in Schleswig, Germany, also the birthplace of his parents, Mr. Rorden is the fourth child born in a family of nine, eight of whom were sons. His father, Heinrich F. Rorden, was for many years captain of a sail-

ing vessel, but spent the latter part of his life in retirement in his native land. He married Tinne D. Jensen, who still survives him, residing in Germany. Acquiring a common school education in Germany, after leaving school Mr. Rorden emulated the example of his father and went to sea. For three years thereafter he was a sailor on the William English, and during this time he made two trips around Cape Horn to Valparaiso, in addition to visiting the principal ports of England, Holland, France and other parts of Europe. In 1883 he decided to abandon sea life and settle permanently in the United States. Locating in Mendocino county, Cal., he was employed for a brief time in the lumber mills. On account of ill health, he went to the hospital at San Francisco, where he received treatment, and while recuperating engaged as cook in a hotel, subsequently spending one year in the United States laundry of that place. His next place of residence was Vallejo, and during his six months' stay there, he learned the barber's trade and then followed this occupation for some time in San Francisco and in Alameda. Returning to San Francisco in 1885 he worked in the Grand Central barber shop in that city for three years, and September 28, 1888, he found a desirable business opening in Selma, in Fresno county, and, opening a barber shop in the Whitson hotel, he began business in his own behalf. He subsequently removed his shop to Front street and in connection, purchased a saloon which he afterward sold, but continued to conduct the shop until 1902.

In October, 1901, Mr. Rorden decided to engage in the real estate and insurance business, and at that time he purchased an interest in the Selma Land Company, and has been president of this company ever since. During the first year of his connection with this firm, over a quarter of a million dollars' worth of land changed hands through its efforts. The company acts as land agent, buying, selling and renting lands, also lending money at lowest rates of interest, making a specialty of looking after town and country property for non-residents. But the main object of the company is to induce homeseekers to settle there, presenting arguments to show that in the six townships of choice lands directly tributary to Selma, there is room for a population of fifty thousand people.

Aside from his interests already mentioned, Mr. Rorden owns considerable stock in the Selma Creamery, in the Farmers' Bank, of which he is a director, and in the Selma Improvement Company. He is quite active in politics, using both his vote and influence in behalf of the Democratic party. In fraternal circles he is a valued member of the Foresters of America and



Woodmen of the World. By his marriage in Selma he was united with Miss Georgia Levis, a Wisconsin lady, and their home is made happy by the presence of three children, Dora, Cleo and Helen.

---

MRS. ANNIE QUINLAN. Woman's ability to manage important industries is no longer questioned by those who were once skeptical concerning her breadth of mind and the wisdom of her judgment in commercial affairs. As illustrating the possession of these qualities, mention belongs to Mrs. Annie Quinlan, who has built up a valuable business in the raising of orchard and vineyard supplies. Her homestead is attractively situated on East avenue, about four and one-half miles from Fresno. The most prominent feature of the place is the modern residence, which is lighted from a gas plant in the house, and supplied with hot and cold water in every room. Surrounding the home, and forming a picturesque environment, may be seen large orchards and vineyards, which during the season are laden with fruits and raisin grapes.

Mrs. Quinlan was reared near Hillsboro, Montgomery county, Ill., of which her parents, Luke and Margaret (Kealy) Shelly, were early settlers, her father having improved a farm there and engaged in the stock business until his death. The family numbered five sons and five daughters, all of whom attained maturity and five are now living. Two sons are in Australia, one in St. Louis, and one (Luke) in Fresno. Mrs. Quinlan was next to the youngest in the family and received such advantages as the district schools afforded. When a young girl she was married in Hillsboro to Michael Quinlan, who was an employe of the Wabash Railroad, but after coming to California in 1877 was for seven years a foreman on the Southern Pacific road. On resigning in 1884 he bought forty acres on what is now East avenue near Fresno and here built a small frame house. The land was set out in vineyard and orchard, Mrs. Quinlan having personal supervision of all the work. After three years an additional purchase was made, comprising one hundred and forty-five acres at Malaga Station, formerly owned by Colonel Forsythe. Thirty-five acres of the tract had been put under alfalfa, ten acres were in figs and pears, and one hundred acres in raisins, forming one of the oldest vineyards in Fresno county and one of the most celebrated as well. Few vineyards had yielded as abundantly. In one year seventy-five tons of raisins were shipped, while at other times the harvests had been almost as large. Mrs. Quinlan is also the owner of forty acres on Cedar avenue, which is under cultivation to seedless Sultana raisins,

olives, walnuts and small fruits. The orchards are cared for under contract and Indians are engaged to pick the fruit. In addition she has a number of head of cattle and hogs on her place and has proved as efficient in the care of stock as in the management of her land.

In the family of Mrs. Quinlan there are eight children, namely: Mamie, Gregory, Sylvan, Cecelia, Margaret, Martin, Thomas and Luke. All have been educated in St. Augustine's Academy. On the organization of St. John's Church Mrs. Quinlan became one of its charter members and has since been a faithful attendant of its services. In national politics she adheres to Democratic principles. Woman's suffrage finds an earnest champion in Mrs. Quinlan, who believes firmly that women who are obliged to pay taxes upon their property should not be subjected to taxation without representation. She keeps in touch with horticulture in all of its branches and holds membership in the Raisin Growers' Association.

---

N. ROSENTHAL. The mercantile interests of Madera have an able representative in Mr. Rosenthal, resident member of the firm of Rosenthal & Kutner. Although a native of Germany, born February 8, 1853, he is a patriotic American, and especially loyal to the state of California, where he has made his home since 1876, and where he has gained a host of warm personal friends. The foundation of his present knowledge of the dry goods business was gained through an apprenticeship of three years to the trade, and at the expiration of his time he worked in different parts of his native land. During the year 1876 he arrived in California and coming to Fresno, entered the employ of Kutner, Goldstein & Co., with whom he remained about twelve months. At the expiration of that period he went into business for himself in the same town, opening a cigar and tobacco store. In 1879 he established himself in business in Phoenix, Ariz., where he conducted a general mercantile store. However, while engaged in business there, he still considered California his home state, and in 1886 disposed of his Arizona interests, since which time he has resided in Madera.

Shortly after the fire of 1886 Mr. Rosenthal built a small frame store room and in it he inaugurated a mercantile business. At first his stock of goods was small, but as his sales increased he enlarged the stock to meet the demands of the trade. On the corner of Yosemite and D streets he erected a two-story structure, 30x80 feet in dimensions, which was one of the first brick stores in the city. This has since been enlarged, so that it gives an area of 30x100 feet for the accommodation of the stock of general

merchandise. However, after a time even the increased space proved insufficient, and he then bought out the dry goods store of Sweet & Co., a few doors below the old stand, and moved his merchandise to the new quarters, where he carries a full line of dry goods and clothing. In the older building he has a full equipment of groceries, hardware and furniture. Since 1885 the business has been conducted under the firm title of Rosenthal & Kutner, his partner being J. Kutner, who has charge of the San Francisco office and resides in that city.

On the organization of the Commercial Bank of Madera Mr. Rosenthal became one of its charter stockholders and has since served upon its board of directors. Included in his other interests is the ownership of thirty-eight acres in the heart of Madera, consisting of three hundred lots, and all the buildings formerly owned by the old Madera Flume and Trading Company, among these buildings being a sash and door factory, 170x300 feet, operated by Watkins & Thurman. Since the organization of the board of fire commissioners of Madera he has held the office of clerk and been very active in its workings. He is a member of the Madera Chamber of Commerce and an enthusiastic supporter of all enterprises for the benefit of the city. In politics he votes with the Republican party. While in Phoenix he was made a Mason and is now connected with Madera Lodge No. 280, F. & A. M., Fresno Chapter No. 69, R. A. M., and the Order of the Eastern Star. His marriage united him with Hattie Price, who was born and reared in San Francisco and is the daughter of a pioneer family of that city. Their only child, Thekla Rosenthal, is a graduate of Miss Hamlin's Seminary in San Francisco.

---

JOSEPH Y. NELSON. A successful and highly respected citizen of Fresno county is Joseph Y. Nelson, who, sixteen years ago, became the owner of his present ranch, which consists of forty acres of as good land as the section affords. The family which is represented by Mr. Nelson in California has long been connected with the agricultural interests of Essex county, Mass., where father and grandfather, both named Daniel, were born, lived and died. The father married Mary Hoyt, also a native of that section.

Born June 22, 1849, in Essex county, Mass., Joseph Y. Nelson was reared to manhood upon the paternal farm, his inheritance of the thrifty qualities of the New Englander being added to by years of practical training. In 1876 he came to California, locating in Yolo county, where he carried on farming for two years. He then went north to Oregon and followed the same

pursuits in eastern Oregon from 1879 to 1882. The following year he once more located in California, then becoming a resident of Fresno county. A few years later he purchased his present property of forty acres and with the passing years has brought it to a high state of cultivation, twenty-five acres being given over to the cultivation of wine and raisin grapes, while the remainder is devoted to orchard and general farming pursuits. He has made a success of his work and is known throughout as a man of ideas, practical methods and an enterprising spirit.

The marriage of Mr. Nelson occurred in Yolo county in 1877 and united him with Alice Creason, of Missouri. They are the parents of two children, Frank and Aimee. In his political convictions Mr. Nelson adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

---

MARION M. VINCENT. One of the enterprising and progressive business men of Merced is M. M. Vincent, who is carrying on a substantial business as a blacksmith and carriage manufacturer. A man of energy and capability, he has won acknowledged success in his industrial efforts, and stands high among the esteemed and respected residents of the city. He was born September 27, 1861, on Flores, the most western of the Azores, on which his parents, John and Mary Isabelle Vincent, spent their entire lives, being employed in agricultural pursuits. He is the second child in succession of birth of a family of six children, of whom five are living, all being residents of California.

Coming to Tuolumne county, Cal., in 1871, when but ten years old, M. M. Vincent completed his early education in the public schools, and subsequently worked as a farm laborer in that county until 1888. Locating then in Selma, he served an apprenticeship of three years at the trades of carriage-maker and blacksmith, and then started in business on his own account, remaining there until 1897. In that year, Mr. Vincent removed to Merced, and has since been actively identified with its industrial prosperity. Buying out the Jack Richards plant, he has greatly enlarged it, having now a separate blacksmith shop and carriage manufactory, and has built up an extensive and remunerative business. In his shops he has machinery of the most modern approved patterns, including saws and planes of various makes and styles, and in his smithy has installed a George Barcus horse-shoer for holding fractious horses. He has also a gasoline engine of eight horse-power, and a Henderson patent cold-tire setter. Among his manufactures of importance are wagons, carriages, plows, har-





*S. A. Parlier Mary M. Parlier*

rows, etc. Mr. Vincent also deals largely in agricultural implements, representing Porteous, of Fresno, and Thompson & Diggs, of Sacramento, and many eastern manufacturers. In the sale of gasoline engines and pumping plants, he represents the Samson Iron Works, of Stockton.

In Selma, this state, Mr. Vincent married Emma M. Wasgatt, who was born and brought up in Maine. In fraternal organizations Mr. Vincent is active and prominent, being officially identified with a number of secret societies, namely: the Woodmen of the World, of which he is past consul; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is past grand; of the Encampment; and of the Knights of Pythias, of which he is a past officer. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, and belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he is a deacon.

**ISAAC NEWTON PARLIER.** In the above-named gentleman we find the founder of Parlier and one of the most substantial citizens of the county. A native of Illinois, he was born in Washington county, October 22, 1842, a son of Isaac and Catherine (Hall) Parlier, both of whom are now deceased. The father was born in Georgia, but on reaching man's estate he moved to Illinois, locating in Washington county, where he engaged in general farming. Later he went to Belleville, the same state, where for several years, or until his death, he was interested in the flour milling business. His wife, a native of Alabama, came to California and died here at the home of her son. By her marriage with Mr. Parlier she became the mother of six children, only two of whom are now living, Isaac N. and Allen, the latter residing in Los Angeles.

Isaac N. Parlier was but a youth when his father died, so he was unable to secure much of an education, as he was compelled to assist in the work of the farm. In the fall of 1873 he came to California, locating in Stanislaus county, where he rented land and engaged in farming. Three years later, in the fall of 1876, he disposed of his interests there and settled in what is now Parlier, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres and also purchasing railroad lands and four hundred acres of desert. On a portion of this land Parlier now stands, he having laid out and named the town. The year after coming here Mr. Parlier was foreman of the Center-ville and Kingsburg Irrigation ditch, assisting in the construction of the main ditch, and for many years was president of the company, but of late years he has practically devoted his entire time to general farming and stock-raising. Eighty acres of his farm are devoted to a vineyard, one of the finest in the county. Aside from his

other interests, in company with Mr. Hayhurst, he operated a general store in Parlier for several years with success. On coming to California he was a stranger without money or influence, but by industry and frugality he has accumulated a handsome competency. He practically built up the town of Parlier and has been at the head of nearly every enterprise calculated to be of material benefit to the community.

In Illinois Mr. Parlier was united in marriage with Mary Laird, who has become the mother of nine children, as follows: Eliza Catherine, now Mrs. David Fett; Charles Allen; Carrie Ann, now Mrs. John Thomas; George W.; Nora, now Mrs. Osterhout; William W., of Reedley; J. Bert; Mary-Ada, and Lula Grace.

Fraternally Mr. Parlier is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being associated with the lodge at Modesto, and also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of Fresno. In politics a Democrat, he is deeply interested in the welfare of his party, but has never cared to take an active part in public affairs, preferring rather to devote his time and attention to his own and to the interests of the town where he has made his home for so many years. The only public office he has ever held is that of postmaster, being the present incumbent.

**ROBERT D. HANNAH.** Numbered among the respected residents of Merced is Robert D. Hannah, who, as proprietor of an up-to-date livery stable, is carrying on a thriving business. Possessing an unlimited stock of energy and perseverance, he has labored with untiring diligence since beginning life's battle on his own account, and by industry and good management has met with marked success in his undertakings. A son of J. M. Hannah, he was born, November 28, 1853, in Randolph county, Mo. His grandfather, Robert Hannah, was born and reared in Tennessee, but in early life followed the march of civilization westward, becoming a pioneer settler of Randolph county, Mo. He was a man of great honesty and affability, well liked and popular in the community, and was familiarly known to both old and young as "Uncle Bobby."

A native of Tennessee, J. M. Hannah lived there until a boy of thirteen years, and then went with his parents to Missouri, where he assisted his father in the pioneer labor incident to clearing a farm. On beginning life for himself, he was employed in tilling the soil in Randolph county, but subsequently engaged in general farming in Macon county, Mo. In 1870 he migrated with his family to California, and the following spring located in Merced county, buying one hundred and sixty acres of land on Dry creek. Afterward

removing to a farm on Merced river, he was there employed in agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1886. He married Sarah J. Peeler, the daughter of John Peeler, a Missouri farmer, and she is now a resident of Merced. Of the thirteen children born of their union, eight grew to years of maturity, and six are living.

The third child in order of birth of the parental household, R. D. Hannah was educated in the district schools of his native state, and while young became familiarly versed in the various branches of agriculture, his father proving an apt instructor. Locating in Merced county in the spring of 1871, he followed farming on the home ranch for several years. Taking up his residence in Merced in 1889, Mr. Hannah purchased an eight-horse team and four wagons, and for eight years was employed in teaming and freighting between that city and Mariposa. Starting in the livery business in July, 1897, Mr. Hannah was located on Main street for five years, and was quite successful in his operations. Removing to the corner of Alameda and Eighteenth streets in 1902, he took possession of the fine new stable which he had erected, and has here continued the business with excellent results. The stable is 80 x 80 feet, containing fifty-six stalls, and is well furnished and equipped. Mr. Hannah has accumulated a good property, and built an attractive residence in the city.

In Merced, Cal., Mr. Hannah married Fannie D. Daniel, a native of Macon county, Mo., and they have four children, namely: Luther Daniel, Elbert Lee, Zella Lou and Homer Reuben. Politically Mr. Hannah is an adherent of the Democratic party, and fraternally he belongs to Snelling Lodge No. 121, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand. Mrs. Hannah is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**CURTIS T. FORREST.** Numbered among the successful young ranchers of Merced county is Curtis T. Forrest, who is located three miles southeast of Le Grand and engaged in the cultivation and improvement of two thousand acres of land. This property he has accumulated since coming to this location in 1903. Since that time devoting his attention to the raising of wheat, barley, cattle and hogs, his financial success is the result of painstaking and methodical effort and the ability to execute as well as plan. Born in Oakland, Cal., December 4, 1879, he is a son of Curtis T. and Flora J. (Stocker) Forrest, both pioneers of California.

His father, Curtis T. Forrest, had four children, all of whom were born in Oakland: Curtis T.; Flora, wife of Charles Anderson of San Francisco; Bessie S., and Newell. The father died in 1891, aged about sixty years. His widow

survives him, and married J. W. Stevens of San Francisco. They now make their home in Oakland.

Curtis T. Forrest was reared in his home in Oakland, and after receiving a preliminary education in the public schools of that city entered Stanford University, where he completed a course calculated to prove of material benefit in whatever line he should attempt for his life-work. He came to Merced county to look after his own and the property interests of the family, and has since been engaged in farming.

**RIENHOLD H. G. KAEHLER.** Many of the thrifty and enterprising residents of Merced county are of foreign birth and breeding, who have brought from their homes across the sea those habits of industry and energetic perseverance that have won them success in their undertakings. Prominent among this number is Rienhold H. G. Kaehler, a well-known and prosperous business man of the city of Merced. A son of George Kaehler, he was born, June 9, 1862, in Kiel, Prussia, which was likewise his father's birthplace.

A machinist by trade, George Kaehler was for many years master mechanic of a manufacturing establishment in the Fatherland. As a soldier in the Danish army, he was in active service during the Revolution of 1848. Immigrating to this country, he settled in California, and is now a resident of Merced. He married Josepha Ferdinand, a native of Silesia, Prussia, and they have three children living, namely: George, a wholesale dealer of liquors, in Fresno; Rienhold H. G., the subject of this review; and Max, of Los Banos.

Endowed with excellent mental ability, Rienhold H. G. Kaehler obtained a good education in his native city, and at the age of fourteen years began learning the trade of manufacturing and distilling liquors, at which he served an apprenticeship of four years. Shipping then as purser on the Chinese cruiser Nankin, he sailed through the Chinese waters, and along the coast of Japan, visiting ports of both countries. Coming to San Francisco in 1884, Mr. Kaehler was employed as a clerk in that city for awhile, and then went to Seattle, Wash., as manager for the firm of Walter Brothers & Co. Returning to San Francisco, he remained there two years. Locating in Merced in March, 1888, he established a wholesale liquor business, representing the Rainier beer in Merced county for the Seattle Brewing Company, and being agent for the James D. Pepper whiskey. Mr. Kaehler has acquired a large property in this locality. He has built several business houses, but has disposed of all excepting a brick store building, 25x95 feet. He likewise



erected a number of residences as an investment for his money, and of these he has sold all excepting the one in which he now lives. Purchasing land in this vicinity, he improved it, setting out an orchard of twenty acres, and this, likewise, he sold at an advantage.

Mr. Kaehler married, in San Francisco, Blanche Wallinfels, a native of that city, and they have two children, namely: Rienhold and Norman. Fraternally Mr. Kaehler is a member of the Druids and of the Foresters. Politically he is a Democrat.

---

CHARLES E. JOHNSTON, M. D. Since his location in Visalia, February, 1899, Dr. C. E. Johnston has risen to a place of prominence among the physicians of the city and won the commendation of all who have had occasion for his services. He is a physician of the physio-medical school, having graduated from an institution of this character in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1896, with the degree of doctor of medicine, after which he was variously located until his settlement in Visalia.

The family of which Dr. Johnston is a member belongs to the old southern family of Johnstons, represented in the Confederate army by Gen. Joseph Johnston. Mathias Johnston was a native of Scotland who, upon his immigration to America, settled in Maryland, later removing to Delaware, thence to Ohio, where he engaged as a farmer until his death at the age of one hundred and one years. He was a patriot and served in the Revolutionary war. In his family was a son, Joseph C. Johnston, who became a farmer in Ohio, later removing to Missouri, where he followed the same occupation. Inheriting from his patriotic father a staunch love for the Union he remained loyal in a state of much disaffection. He was a strong Union man and a member of the Missouri State Militia. He made his home in Missouri until his death, which occurred at the age of eighty-two years and seven months. He married Paulina McCauly, a native of Tennessee and daughter of John McCauly, also a native of that state and a descendant of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He died in Tennessee at an advanced age. Mr. Johnston died in Missouri, leaving a family of five sons, of whom four live in California: James L., a retired physician of Los Angeles; Samuel W., a bridge contractor of Los Angeles; Clark F., a merchant of Stockton; and C. E., the subject of this review, who was born February 8, 1869, in Russellville, Mo.

The youngest in his father's family, C. E. Johnston was reared on the paternal farm, attending the public schools while he received practical training which has left its impress upon his

character. He remained at home until attaining the age of nineteen years, entering, in 1889, Hooper Institute, in Clarksburg, Moniteau county, Mo., where he took a literary course. Deciding to enter the professional ranks he then became a student in the Physio-Medical College, at Indianapolis, Ind., from which institution he was graduated in 1896. He began the practice of his profession with Dr. T. J. Martin, in Lewisport, Ky., remaining in this connection for one year, when he located in the city of his birth for a like period. In 1898 he came to California and in Los Angeles engaged in medical practice with his brother for a short time, following this with a removal in February, 1899, to Visalia, where he has since resided. He has made a success of his work since locating here, having built up an extensive general practice, while he gives much of his time and attention to chronic diseases, making a specialty of this line.

In Indianapolis Dr. Johnston married May Crompton, a native of that city, and born of this union is one daughter, Madge. Fraternally Dr. Johnston belongs to the Knights of Pythias Uniformed Rank, and the Foresters, Fraternal Aid, Fraternal Brotherhood, Order of Lions and Order of Pendo. He is a member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically is an active Republican.

---

OLE JOHN OLSEN. Many hundreds of miles from his native Norway, where he was born November 12, 1865, Ole John Olsen has found unsuspected opportunities, and has well applied the useful and practical abilities with which his countrymen are generally endowed. His farm of one hundred acres three and a half miles north of Newman has not been won without much of struggle and deprivation, but his occupancy of the same since 1900 has proved him to be a conscientious and progressive farmer, saving always more than he spends, and looking forward to increasing his landed possessions. Half of his farm is under alfalfa and wild grass, and he is maintaining a dairy of thirty-five cows, and engaging in alfalfa raising and general farming.

Mr. Olsen's father, named Ole, followed the occupation in which his son is engaged, but never wandered from his shut-in and limited horizon. His ancestors had been born in Norway, and to him its mountains and fjords were objects of endless delight. He gave his son a practical common school education, and trained him in all that had to do with the successful operation of a farm in the lowlands. The young man was twenty-four years old when he stepped from the gang-plank of his steamer in New York, and thereafter he worked as a laborer in the metropolis until 1890, in which year he came to

San Francisco, securing employment on a ranch along the Merced river. Six months later he went to Yolo county and there spent the summer, locating in the fall of 1892 near Crows Landing, where he worked on ranches until 1900. He then purchased his present place of one hundred acres, where, as heretofore stated, he lives alone, with the exception of the help required to run his dairy. Mr. Olsen is a Democrat in politics, and is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a steady, thorough going rancher, thrifty as regards expenditures, and an example of unflagging industry. In his neighborhood he is esteemed for his honesty and fair business dealings, and for his strict attention to his farm, his dairy and the general responsibilities which surround him in his adopted state. He is fortunate in having many of his countrymen as neighbors, and in having learned so quickly and well the language of his foster country.

**ALVA E. SNOW.** A man of sterling qualities, and a lawyer of ability and skill, Alva E. Snow is a citizen of prominence and influence, who for four years rendered excellent service as district attorney of Fresno county. He comes of distinguished stock, being a Mayflower descendant, and the representative of one of the most ancient and honored families of New England. His immigrant ancestor on the paternal side was Nicholas Snow, who came from England to America, and married, at Plymouth, Mass., prior to June 1, 1627, Constance Hopkins, who came over with her father, Stephen Hopkins, on the Mayflower in 1620. Nicholas Snow died in Eastham, Mass., November 25, 1676. His descendants were for many generations active in the management of the public affairs of Plymouth county, Mass., which was the birthplace of Mr. Snow, and of his father, the late Harvey Snow. Capt. Prince Snow, Mr. Snow's grandfather, was born, and lived and died in Plymouth county. He was a seafaring man, and was also engaged to some extent in agricultural pursuits.

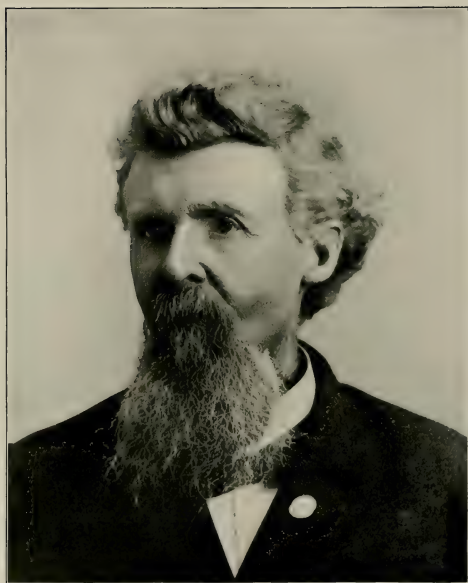
Succeeding to the occupation in which he was reared, Harvey Snow was a New England farmer, and was likewise employed in mercantile pursuits in Mattapoisett, Plymouth county, Mass., where he reared his family. He died at the age of sixty-five years. He was held in high respect as a man and a citizen, and served as selectman, and as school trustee. He was liberal in his religious beliefs, and a member of the Universalist Church. In politics he was a Republican. His wife, whose maiden name was Marion, was born near Sheffield, England, and now resides in Fresno, with her son Alva, the eldest and only surviving child of her family of three girls and one boy.

Born October 13, 1861, Alva E. Snow was brought up in Plymouth county, Mass., obtaining his early education in the grammar and high schools of Mattapoisett, and at the Taber Academy, in Marion, Mass. After his graduation from Tufts College in 1887, with the degree of A. B., he entered the Harvard Law School, and in 1889 was admitted to the Massachusetts bar. Coming immediately to California, Mr. Snow settled in San Francisco, where for about eighteen months he was with the firm of Herman & Soto, attorneys-at-law. Locating in Fresno January 1, 1891, he practiced his profession two years, and then served two years as deputy district attorney under Firman Church. The Republican nominee for district attorney in the fall of 1894, Mr. Snow was elected for a term of four years, having the distinction of being the first Republican district attorney of Fresno county. Taking the oath of office in January, 1895, he served until January, 1899, at the same time being in partnership with G. C. Freman as head of the law firm of Snow & Freman. As deputy district attorney Mr. Snow succeeded in convicting the train robbers, Chris Evans and his partner Sontag, securing life imprisonment, and also conducted the prosecution of Sanders, the noted forger. He was successful as district attorney, having conducted several cases of importance, and established an enviable reputation as an able prosecutor. He is now busily engaged in a general practice of the law, having an extensive and lucrative patronage.

In Fresno Mr. Snow married Dora P. Colson, who was born and bred in Plymouth county, Mass., where her father, Owen D. Colson, was a well-known merchant. In 1903 Mr. and Mrs. Snow revisited their old New England home, and afterward made a trip to England and the continent, traveling throughout Europe. Fraternally Mr. Snow was made a Mason in Marion, Mass., and is now a member of Fresno Lodge No. 274, F. & A. M.; and of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, in which he is a past officer. He likewise belongs to the County Bar Association. Politically he is a straightforward Republican. Mrs. Snow is a member of the Congregational Church.

**HARRY W. R. THORNTON.** One of the successful, interesting and well-posted business men of the Los Banos district, and whose pioneer experiences embrace practically all of the phases which made of the early days of California a picturesque and unusual addition to the world's history, is Harry W. R. Thornton, a pioneer of 1852, and known as a successful miner, stage-route driver and manager, hotel proprietor and general rancher. Mr. Thornton was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, June 6, 1839.





*S. F. Dickenson.*

In 1845 he accompanied his family to Burlington, Iowa, and in 1848 removed to Knox county, Ill. His trip across the plains with horse-teams in 1852 was a welcome diversion in a life hitherto devoid of any particular promise, and once in California, a creditable ambition led him to visit practically all the large mining centers, which, however, failed to net him expected gains. His experiences in these communities all through the northwest were oftentimes startling and always impressive.

Mr. Thornton's interest in mining ceased in 1869, and the following year he went to the South Sea Islands, returning to California and Gilroy in the fall of 1870. In 1876 he undertook the management of the old Hotel Los Banos, at Los Banos. When the new brick Hotel Los Banos was completed by Miller & Lux, he leased the same and conducted it with signal success from 1891 until June, 1903. Selling out and retiring from the hotel business, he devotes his energies to the improvement of his three thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Los Banos, part of which is under irrigation. He also owns property in Volta, and has bought and sold lands in different parts of the county. His land is devoted chiefly to raising alfalfa and stock, and his improvements are modern. Mr. Thornton possesses to a marked degree the characteristics which insure popularity, confidence and influence, and his successful financial undertakings bespeak a broad knowledge of the rules and amenities of business life. He is a Republican in politics, and though never active from the standpoint of office-seeking, takes a keen interest in the political ambitions of his friends, in good government, and the best possible educational advantages. He married in San Jose, in 1876, Jane Potter.

---

**SAMUEL FRANCIS DICKENSON.** The pioneer experiences of the past years of California have formed a large part of the life of Samuel Francis Dickenson, an esteemed resident of Fresno county, being located on a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres in the vicinity of Conejo. He was born in Jackson county, Mo., March 13, 1837, a son of Gallant D. Dickenson, who was born in Tennessee and reared in Virginia. In young manhood he returned to Tennessee, where he was married in 1828, and in 1832 located in Jackson county, Mo., and engaged in farming and stock-raising. Deciding to become a pioneer in the more remote west, he came to California in 1846, crossing the plains by means of ox-teams. They left Missouri in April and arrived in California in September. Mr. Dickenson located in Monterey, where he engaged in the lumber business, the following year mak-

ing the first brick ever made in California, which was used in the construction of the Dickenson home, which is still standing in Monterey. In June, 1848, Mr. Dickenson went to the Dry Diggings, now Coloma, Cal., and mined until October of the same year, when he engaged in mining at Mokelumne Hill. The following year he located in Stockton, San Joaquin county, where he purchased property and engaged in real estate operations, the renting of property and loaning of money, having brought away with him from Mokelumne Hill five hundred pounds of gold. In 1851 he removed to Tuolumne river, at Dickenson ferry, which was named for him, and there followed farming until his death in 1869, at the age of sixty-three years. His wife, formerly Isabelle McCreary, a native of Tennessee, died in San Jose in 1877. They were the parents of four sons and two daughters, of whom Samuel Francis Dickenson was the fifth in order of birth.

A rather limited education was received by Samuel F. Dickenson through an attendance of the common schools in the vicinity of his home, after which he engaged in the raising of stock, locating in 1856 in the vicinity of Snelling, Merced county. He engaged in loaning money and speculating until 1868, when, on account of the dry weather, he removed to the mountains with some stock he owned, the greater portion of which he lost. On his return to the San Joaquin valley he found employment on various ranches for nine months, after which he engaged in the cattle business with a partner, J. T. Stockard. Two years later he sold out with a profit of \$40,000. With the proceeds he bought the Bearfield farm of four hundred acres on the Merced river, but the death of his partner induced him to dispose of his interests to the widow. He then loaned his money for a time, and about 1871 purchased nineteen hundred and twenty acres on Mariposa creek, twenty miles east of the city of Merced, where he engaged in sheep raising and farming until 1883. He disposed of this property, but continued to follow the sheep business while he made his home in Merced. In 1885 he located in Fresno county, purchasing his present property, which consists of one hundred and sixty acres, where he carries on principally the interests of an extensive dairy. He is interested in the Co-operative Creamery and takes a keen interest in all that tends toward the development of the country.

In Sacramento, March 24, 1870, Mr. Dickenson was united in marriage with Laura Burton, who was born in Missouri October 20, 1848. Her father, Major Charles Burton (who won his title during the Indian wars), was a native of Virginia and removed to Kentucky and thence to Missouri, in the vicinity of Paris engaging in

farming and stock-raising. In 1854 he crossed the plains with ox-teams, and in the same year returned to Missouri. Five years later he drove cattle to California and upon his safe arrival located in Sacramento county, where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Lucy Nelson, was a native of Virginia and a direct descendant of Thomas Nelson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. She also died in Sacramento county. Mr. and Mrs. Dickenson have one son, Clarence F., who was born March 12, 1871. He was educated in the medical department of the University of California, from which he was graduated in 1894, with the degree of M. D. He has since become a surgeon of prominence, in 1900 accepting the position of assistant surgeon and being sent to the Philippine Islands. He is now at home on a leave of absence. He also went to the Kadiak Islands, Alaska, for the Alaska Commercial Company as surgeon, on the C. G. White schooner, was wrecked off Wood island, Alaska, in a freezing gale, in April, 1895, and the members of the crew were frozen nine days before they were rescued. Without the necessary instruments for the work, Dr. Dickenson was compelled to use such as could be manufactured for him by a blacksmith, amputating limbs, etc. Out of the eleven he lost but one man, the papers recounting vividly the heroism as well as the skill of the brave surgeon. Mr. Dickenson is associated fraternally with the Masons, being a member of Merced Lodge, F. & A. M., of Merced, and Merced Chapter No. 12, R. A. M., of the same place. Politically he is a Democrat.

**JOHN H. FIELD.** Among the leading horticulturists of Madera county John H. Field is given a prominent position. He was born in Columbia, Mo., February 14, 1856, a son of John H. Field, Sr., a native of Richmond, Ky., who left the familiar scenes of his young manhood and located in Missouri, where he became prominent as a farmer and stockman and as a merchant in the town of Columbia. He died near Mexico at the age of fifty-seven years. He was connected with the Hardin family on the maternal side, an old family of Virginia. John H. Field, Sr., married Frances Provines, a native of Kentucky and a sister of Judge R. R. Provines, a pioneer of San Francisco.

Educated in the common schools of Columbia, Mo., John H. Field later took a course in the state university and was graduated in 1877. Having received special training as a surveyor and civil engineer he followed that line of work for fifteen years, five years in the government service on the Mississippi River Commission, and ten years in the employ of various railroads. During the

time he surveyed on all the principal roads between the two mountain ranges, being located in Colorado after 1879.

About 1895 Mr. Field decided to locate in California and upon going to Fresno county, he entered the employ of E. A. Elliott of Fresno, and in the interest of the latter served as superintendent of different ranches throughout that section. In 1904 he purchased forty acres on the Green section, one and one-half miles south of Madera, which he is preparing to put into fruit and alfalfa and making other improvements for a home place. By his marriage, Mr. Field was united with Ida Lee Price, a daughter of R. Price, and of this union two children, Marie and Price, have been born. In his political opinions, Mr. Field allies himself with the Democratic party.

**CHARLES PAGE.** An active and enterprising citizen of Bakersfield, Charles Page is the owner of a well improved ranch in Kern county, and was for many years successfully identified with the agricultural interests of this section of the state. Moving to this city when his children were young, that they might have good educational advantages, he has since resided here, and is now night watchman in the Bakersfield Iron Works. The descendant of an old New England family, he was born August 11, 1843, in Oldtown, near Bangor, Me., which was the birthplace of both his parents.

Like many boys brought up near the coast, Charles Page had a great desire to go to sea, and at the age of fourteen years ran away from home in order to accomplish his desire. Shipping as cabin-boy on a vessel bound for the Pacific coast, he sailed around Cape Horn to San Francisco, where he arrived in 1857. Soon after landing he found an old friend of his father's, and this friend made him driver of a wagon carrying supplies to the Fremont mines, in Mariposa county, a position that he held two years. During the excitement that followed the finding of gold along the Fraser river, he and his friend went there prospecting, and remained there a number of years, being engaged in mining during the summer, and in lumbering during the winter seasons. Returning to California in 1867, Mr. Page rented with his father-in-law a ranch in Monterey county, about four miles from Salinas, but was not successful in its management. Going then to Peachtree valley, in the same county, he took up land, and for seven years was there engaged in raising cattle and horses. The ensuing seven years he was employed in lumbering in Santa Cruz county. Locating in Kern county in 1880, Mr. Page took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in the artesian belt, about thirty-two miles from Bakersfield, and in the



three years that he lived on his ranch he did much work in ditching, boring wells, etc., adding improvements of value to the place. Subsequently removing with his family to Bakersfield in order to better educate his children, he has since resided there, and has worked much of the time at carpentering.

In 1867, Mr. Page married Elizabeth Ann McMullen, a native of Tazewell county, Ill., and they are the parents of four children, namely: John C., Edna Davis, Ida and Marion L. Politically Mr. Page is a Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

---

THOMAS RANSOM BREWER. Although a resident of California since 1877, it was not until the spring of 1885 that Mr. Brewer took up his residence permanently in Selma, Fresno county, and at that time he opened a drug store which is first-class and up-to-date in every way, and to this business he has devoted himself assiduously ever since. In addition to always keeping on hand a line of fresh and pure drugs, he also handles numerous fancy articles, stationery, notions, etc., found in every first-class drug store. It may be said of Mr. Brewer that he is a pharmacist of unusual ability, and before going into business on his own behalf he received special training in this line of work. His three years' apprenticeship to W. S. McCartney of Selma, and H. H. Brown of Stockton, Cal., was followed by a thorough course in the California College of Pharmacy in the latter place, and he subsequently became a registered pharmacist, being thoroughly competent to fill all prescriptions entrusted to him.

He was born April 28, 1867, in Salem, Dent county, Mo., and his father, James H. Brewer, a native of the same state, conducted a drug store in the above-named city for a number of years. In 1861 he enlisted in Company D, Fifth Missouri Cavalry, was later transferred to the Forty-eighth Infantry, and participated in the great internecine conflict, being mustered out of service in 1866. He fought a number of notorious characters engaged in guerrilla warfare, among them the James boys and Quantrell. He died in Salem about 1872. By his marriage he was united with Virginia Matthews, a Missouri lady, and three children blessed their union. Of these, the eldest was a son and the two younger were daughters. In 1877, a few years after the death of her husband, Mrs. Brewer and her family came to California. Purchasing eighty acres of railroad land, adjoining the present site of Selma on the northeast, she engaged in farm pursuits, subsequently planting a vineyard. It was in this vicinity that she reared her children and

has lived ever since, being at the present time a resident of Fresno.

In his youth Thomas R. Brewer had exceptional educational advantages. His common school education, gleaned from the common schools of Fresno county, was followed by a complete course in the Stockton Business College, from which he graduated, entering at once upon his career in the drug business. He was united in marriage with Miss Myrtle H. Cullom, formerly of Arkansas, and they have one child, whom they call Aileen. In fraternal circles, Mr. Brewer affiliates with a number of orders, among them Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. E.; Selma Lodge No. 55, K. of P.; and Woodmen of the World, of Selma. A strict adherent of the Democratic party, he has filled various positions of trust and is quite active in politics. For eight years he was a member of the city council of Selma, and during this time he served four years as chairman of that honorable body. In 1891 he was chosen tax collector for this irrigation district, and rendered excellent service. It will readily be seen from the foregoing account that Mr. Brewer occupies a place of prominence among the successful business men of Selma, and is regarded as one of the rising young men of this section.

---

JOHN J. KROG. An esteemed business man of Fresno, John J. Krog is associated with the firm of Krog, Lauritzen Company as vice-president and is an important factor in its upbuilding and development. He is a native of Jutland, Denmark, where he was born December 25, 1861, a son of J. C. Krog. The elder man was also a native of that locality, where his death occurred at the age of fifty-eight years. He engaged in the manufacture of brick as a means of livelihood. His wife, formerly Johanna Lund, was a native of the same place, where she also died, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were members of the Lutheran Church, and highly respected citizens of their native community. Of their seven sons five are now living, the eldest being John J. Krog, of this review.

Reared in Denmark, John J. Krog received his education in the common schools of that country, which he attended until he was fourteen years old. He was then apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmith in Alminde, where he remained for four years, then worked as a journeyman throughout Denmark. In 1883 he came to America, and June 28 located in Fresno, which had then but thirty-five hundred inhabitants. He engaged at his trade as a journeyman for several years when he established a shop of his own on Inyo street between H and I streets, conducting the same successfully for two years. He then

purchased an interest with James Jacobsen on I street and moved his business to that location for two years, when he purchased the entire business and continued alone until May, 1903. In that year he bought an interest with Ahrensberg and Lauritzen and assisted in the incorporation of the H. Ahrensberg Company, which continued for a brief time, when Mr. Ahrensberg retired from the firm. It was then reincorporated under the title of Krog, Lauritzen Company, with Mr. Krog as vice-president, and Mr. Lauritzen as president. They have one of the largest manufacturing of carriages, wagons, agricultural implements, etc., in the San Joaquin valley, their place of business being at the corner of H and Fresno streets, where they own a lot 75x150 feet in dimensions. Mr. Krog has also built a residence in the city, which is located at No. 219 Magnolia avenue, and also owns a twenty-acre ranch near Reedley.

In Fresno, Cal., Mr. Krog was united in marriage with Annie Anderson, a native of Copenhagen, Denmark, and they are the parents of five boys: Jens, Jesse, Alfred, Howard and Walter. Fraternally Mr. Krog is associated with the Royal Arcanum, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Dania Society of California, of which he is past grand president. He is a Lutheran in religion and politically casts his ballot for the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**ANDREW KINKADE.** In the vicinity of Visalia, Tulare county, is located the ranch of one hundred and sixty acres which was originally entered by Andrew Kinkade, one of the early pioneers of this section. He was born in Missouri September 20, 1824, and in his native state grew to manhood and married in 1848. Attracted to the west by the manifold opportunities held out to the pioneer, he crossed the plains in 1852 and upon his safe arrival in California located in Sacramento and remained about two years, and then in Pacheco valley, near Martinez, Contra Costa county, where he engaged as a laborer. He remained in that locality until the fall of 1856; then removed to Tulare county and took up a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres located four miles southwest of Visalia. Upon this property he engaged in the raising of cattle, hogs and other stock until his death, which occurred March 28, 1863. He was a successful ranchman and a worthy and esteemed citizen, leaving to his family the inheritance of a good name and a competence won through a right use of opportunities.

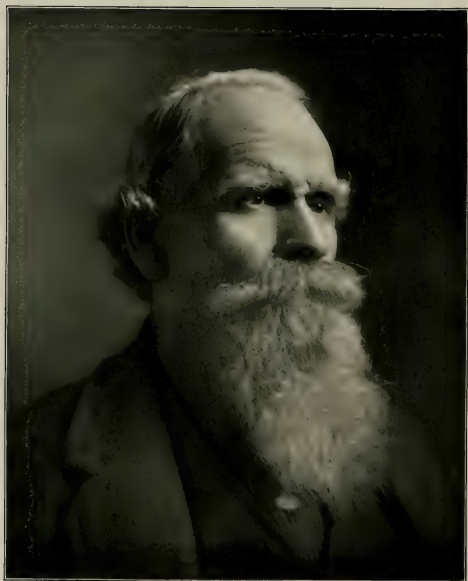
Mr. Kinkade is survived by his wife, formerly Ellen Allnutt, who was born in Montgomery county, Md., near Washington, D. C. Her

father, George Allnutt, was also a native of Maryland, where he engaged in farming until his removal to Missouri as a pioneer of that state. He located in Boone county, where his death occurred. Two sons were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Kinkade: James Harvey, the eldest, is now located on the home property with his mother, and George died in infancy, while crossing the plains. Since her husband's death Mrs. Kinkade has entered eighty acres adjoining the original property, and also three hundred and twenty acres in the vicinity of Goshen, Tulare county. The entire property is given over to a successful stock business and general farming.

**E. H. HOAR.** In the mental attributes of the district attorney of Merced county may be noted the influences of heredity. Members of the Hoar family have always displayed intellectual gifts of a superior order and have possessed a culture frequently observed among descendants of the colonial residents of New England. To a striking degree his father, Rev. Samuel Everett Hoar, exemplified these traits and mental attainments, and had his physical strength equaled his intellectual acumen, his would have been a life of rare usefulness and success. However, notwithstanding the handicap of ill-health, he accomplished much in the brief period that destiny spared him to family and friends. Born near Boston, he was a cousin of the late United States Senator Hoar, who is recognized as one of the most distinguished and conservative statesmen in our nation. As a boy his acuteness of perception, fine mind and religious temperament led him to prepare himself for the ministry, and after having graduated in belles-lettres at Dartmouth College he was ordained as a Presbyterian minister. A constitution none too robust became impaired through overwork in the discharge of his ministerial duties, and he came to the Pacific coast in the hope that the genial climate might prove beneficial, but after preaching for a short time he was obliged to seek another occupation. He then opened a successful mercantile business in San Francisco, which he carried on for some time, meanwhile suffering loss by fire, but rebuilding and continuing in business. Some years later he sold out, and after a few years spent in farming in Kern county, went to Arizona for his health, but the change failed to benefit him and he died in Tucson when the subject of this sketch was nine years old.

After coming to California Rev. Samuel Everett Hoar married Martha Jane Price, who was born in Fort Smith, Ark., and accompanied her parents across the plains with ox-teams during the '50s, settling among the pioneers of Placer





GEORGE D. WOOD

county. After the death of Mr. Hoar she was again married, becoming the wife of Edward Jackman, a leading and successful attorney of Merced. Mr. Jackman was born and reared in England and received exceptional advantages as a law student in London, but was led to seek his fortune in the mines of California in 1849, coming from England via Cape Horn to San Francisco and working in mines in this state and the south of Oregon. Success, however, failed to reward his persistent efforts, and he then returned to the law, gaining admission to the bar of California and engaging in practice at San Rafael. From there he removed to Merced and conducted a large general practice until his death about 1894. Since then his widow has made her home in San Francisco.

The eldest of three children, E. H. Hoar was born in San Francisco, December 3, 1871, and at the age of eleven years accompanied his mother to Merced, where he was a student in the grammar and high schools. Later he took a commercial course in Heald's Business College at San Francisco. In 1894 he received an appointment as official reporter of the superior court of Merced county and continued to fill this responsible position until 1902, when he resigned to accept the nomination for district attorney. During the years of his service as reporter he had devoted all of his leisure hours to the study of law and had been admitted to practice before the supreme court in 1896. Having gained a wide acquaintance and many warm friends during the period of his service as reporter, he proved an admirable candidate for the office of district attorney, to which he was nominated in 1902 by the Democratic party. His election with a majority of six hundred and fifty is a striking proof of his popularity among the people, and the efficient manner in which he discharges every duty as district attorney justifies his selection for the post.

The marriage of Mr. Hoar united him with Jane Elizabeth Berriman, who was born at Grass Valley, Nevada county, this state, and is a graduate of the schools of that county. Her father, Nicholas Berriman, a native of England, came to California at the time of the discovery of gold and was one of the early miners in Nevada county. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Hoar consists of three sons, Fred Emerson, Lawrence Bradley and George Everett. Fraternally Mr. Hoar is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of the World, and is a member of Yosemite Parlor No. 24, N. S. G. W., of which he is past president. Through his service on the board of trustees, he has been active in the work of the Merced Methodist Episcopal Church. It is often said that every man has his hobby, and if Mr. Hoar cannot be classed among

the exceptions to this rule, he would probably acknowledge having a special fondness for the study of psychology. When at leisure from professional and official work he enjoys spending a few hours in the study of this science, to the intelligent mastery of which he is admirably qualified by reason of his keenness of perception and breadth of intellect.

GEORGE D. WOOD. Among the sturdy pioneers of the San Joaquin valley, Mr. Wood has performed his part in its development. A native of Ohio he was born fourteen miles north-east of Portsmouth January 21, 1829. His father, Abner, was a native of the Empire state, being a son of another Abner, who was born in England and who came to the United States at a very early day, locating in Ohio, where he became a prominent agriculturist. The father was reared in Ohio, where he lived until 1840, when he removed to Illinois, locating in Clark county, where he engaged in farming until his death six years later. His wife bore the maiden name of Nancy Calvert and by her marriage she became the mother of nine children.

George D. Wood was reared on his father's farm. When not otherwise employed he attended school a few months during the winter season, but in those pioneer days the youth was educated at home instead of in a schoolhouse, his learning being obtained principally in the field. In the fall of 1855 he migrated to southwest Missouri, where he lived one year, when he outfitted with ox-teams and crossed the plains to this state. His first location here was in Sutter county, west of Marysville, where he resided until July, 1860, when he came to Fresno county, thus becoming one of the very first settlers in this county, there being at the time less than four hundred voters here, and many of these were horse-thieves and cut-throats or Mexican bandits. After living for a time near Kingston Mr. Wood purchased eighty acres and here he resided until his death, February 13, 1905, devoting his time and energies to the tilling of the soil and raising of cattle. At one time he was extensively interested in the cattle and sheep business, but owing to failing health he was obliged to give up active business several years ago, and thereafter lived a retired life.

February 17, 1848, in Illinois, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Wood and Lucy Childers, who was born in Indiana. To this union were born eight children, namely: Nancy E., deceased; Mills C., who resides near the home place; Mrs. Sarah Jane Lewis; Henry L., deceased; Mary A., now Mrs. C. J. McCullah; Job Albert, who lives in Lemoore; Lucy Emma, now Mrs. George L. Lewis, of Selma; and Harriett

Minnie, deceased. Minnie Violet Wood, a daughter of Mills C. Wood, makes her home with her grandparents, to whom she is as dear as one of their own children.

Prior to the formation of the Republican party, Mr. Wood was a Whig, but after it was merged into the Republican party he was a staunch supporter of the principles advocated by this grand old organization. He was a man of considerable prominence, and at one time filled several local offices, including that of road master. He was also a school trustee for twenty-five years, always doing all in his power to promote higher education and to improve the facilities for teaching the young. When a boy his father's house was used as a meeting place for the followers of the United Brethren Church, and he himself became an active member of that denomination. Mr. Wood made a success in life and but for the loss of his eyesight he would have accumulated a large fortune. However, he had enough to make his declining days comfortable and leave his family free from care. The family are highly respected and have a large circle of friends.

**ISAAC HENRY WASH.** Among those who have come to Fresno within the last decade is Isaac Henry Wash, the owner of a fine sixty-acre farm eight and a half miles southeast of Fresno, where he is profitably engaged in the raisin business, having twenty-six acres of bearing vines. A worthy descendant of a distinguished family of Virginia, the lineage of Mr. Wash is traced back to John Wash, the great-grandfather, who fought in the Revolutionary war under Washington. He was a native of Virginia, as was also his son, John Wash, Jr., who died in that state about 1847. From there the family moved into Kentucky, and it was within the borders of the latter state that both parents of Mr. Wash were born. His father, John Martin Alexander Wash, was born in 1820, and his wife, whose maiden name was Annie Adams, was born November 8, 1822. Some time after marriage this esteemed couple went west and settled in Lewis county, Mo., where the father died July 24, 1844. During his life he followed the occupations of farmer and miller, and was so engaged up to the time of his death. He left but two children, Isaac Henry and Lucy, and the latter is now deceased. In 1855 the mother contracted a second matrimonial alliance, this time with Enoch Hansborough, who died in 1863. His widow now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Annie Mathiesen, of Billings, Okla.

Born October 20, 1841, six miles from La-grange, Lewis county, Mo., Mr. Wash spent his boyhood in the vicinity of his birthplace. His

education was limited. At sixteen he left home to make his own way in the world, and the following year found him in Texas. While there he followed the cattle business for three years in Collin county, and in 1861 went to Montague, following similar work. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in Company F, Fourteenth Texas Cavalry, as a private, and served until December 31, 1862. Participating in the battle of Murfreesboro, Tenn., during which he fell, he was left on the field for dead. At this time he was serving under division commander General McCown. Being picked up by Federals, he was taken to their hospital and afterward returned to Texas. He subsequently returned to Marion county, Mo., and followed farm pursuits there for a couple of years. November 7, 1865, he was united in marriage with Mary S. Taylor, who was born in Missouri in 1844. The year following their marriage, the young couple moved to Knox county, and this continued to be their home until 1890. Disposing of his farm in December of that year, Mr. Wash came to California, locating for a time near Fresno, but in the spring of 1891 he purchased the farm which is still his home and which to-day ranks among the best improved in his vicinity. He has made many improvements on this place. Of his children, one is deceased and the others are all residents of Fresno county. They are as follows: Samuel J.; Annie H., wife of R. L. Rutherford; George, deceased; John J.; Henry M.; Mary L. and Nadine Belle; the latter two, together with Samuel J., are still at home. The family worship at the Malaga Baptist Church. Mr. Wash united with the Baptist Church in 1857. His political preference is given to the Democratic party and he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having been made a Mason in Knox county, Mo.

**LAURITZ LAURITZEN.** The manufacturing interests of Fresno are given added prestige by the business known as the Krog, Lauritzen Company, an incorporation engaged in the manufacture of carriages, wagons, agricultural implements, etc., as well as carrying on general blacksmithing. The president of this concern is Lauritz Lauritzen, who was born near Apenrade, Schleswig, Germany, October 6, 1867, the youngest in a family of two daughters and one son, and the only one in America. His father, Laue Lauritzen, was a sailor who, in 1849, left his ship at San Francisco and with three brothers engaged in mining for eight or nine years. He met with success and finally returned home with sufficient means to purchase a ship, when he engaged in a coasting trade until his death at the age of fifty-two years. His wife, formerly Mata Crag, was born in Schleswig, Germany, the de-



scendant of an old family of that section, where her death also occurred.

Lauritz Lauritzen was reared in the old seaport town of Gjenner, receiving his education in the common schools. At the age of fifteen years he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade after the completion of which he continued at his trade in different parts of Germany. In November, 1880, he came to America, locating in Racine, Wis., until July of the following year, when he came to California and in Fresno entered the employ of H. Ahrensberg. At a later date he worked for G. Brainard for four years, in the location of his present business, purchasing then an interest with H. Ahrensberg on K street. He eventually bought the lot on the corner of Fresno and H streets, where he began the manufacture of carriages and followed a general blacksmithing business. In 1903 the business was incorporated under the title of H. Ahrensberg & Co. Shortly afterward Mr. Ahrensberg retired from the firm, when it was incorporated as the Krog, Lauritzen Company, with Mr. Lauritzen as president. Their business has continued profitably since and is one of the important industries of the city of Fresno. Mr. Lauritzen has also built a residence at No. 180 Valeria street.

In Fresno Mr. Lauritzen was united in marriage with Anna Christine Jorgensen, a native of Shelland, Denmark, and they are the parents of three children, namely: Louisa, Laura and William. Fraternally Mr. Lauritzen is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging also to the Encampment, and the Dania Society of California, of which he is ex-president. He is a Republican politically and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, taking an active interest in all public movements which have for their end the enhancing of the general welfare.

**GEORGE S. CLEMENT.** The property of Mr. Clement, an esteemed citizen of Tulare county, is located four miles southwest of Springville and consists of six hundred and sixty-four acres of land given over to the raising of horses and cattle. He has two acres of oranges and considerable hay and pasture land, and by his conservative yet progressive methods is numbered among the representative farmers of this section. Born near Grand Rapids, Mich., October 23, 1856, he was a son of Jacob Clement. The latter was a native of New York state, who came to Michigan in an early day and worked in the timber lands and farmed for a livelihood. In 1866 he removed to Iowa and in 1868 to Lincoln, Neb., where he took up land. His death occurred in that location. His wife, formerly

Emily Jane Gault, was born in Michigan, and died in that state. They were the parents of two children, a son and daughter, of whom George S. was the elder of the two. He received his education in the common schools of his native state, and in Iowa and Nebraska, remaining in the latter state until 1881. In the last named year he came as far west as Boise City, Idaho, where he worked on a ranch for one year, returning in 1883 and finding employment on a farm in Michigan. He remained in that section for four years, when, in 1887, he came to California and located on the Tule river just above Daunt, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres, to which he added by purchase until he owned one thousand acres. This he sold in 1901 and purchased his present property of six hundred and sixty-four acres, where he is engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising.

In Leighton, Mich., September 15, 1887, Mr. Clement was united in marriage with Effie May Cronk, a native of that state. In his political convictions he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**MARTIN P. KNUDSEN.** One of the recently-established dairv enterprises near Los Banos is that of Martin P. Knudsen, owner of twenty acres of land a mile from town, and since April, 1904, conducting a dairy of seventeen cows. Mr. Knudsen had a great deal of practical business experience before embarking upon his present venture, all of which he is bound to use to increase his dairving project. He has his own separator, as well as other conveniences known to the modern and up-to-date dairyman, and finds his work profitable and congenial.

Born in Sobv, Aeroe, Denmark, May 18, 1864, Mr. Knudsen is the fifth child in order of birth in a family of eleven children, six of whom are living. Three of the four who are in America reside in San Francisco. He comes of seafaring stock, and both his father, Peter Knudsen, and his grandfather, were in the coasting trade for many years, owning their own vessels, and continued so employed until old age incapacitated them for that vocation. Peter Knudsen lived to be fifty-two years old, and his wife, formerly Anna Maria Petersen, continues to live on the old home place in Denmark. The family are faithful in their attendance and contributions to the Lutheran Church.

Martin P. Knudsen was educated in the public schools of Soby, and early found it to his advantage to start upon an independent life: accordingly, with the example of his forefathers before him, he chose the sea, and followed it for a couple of years. Finding he did not have the

same liking for this occupation as his father had, he quit the sea and located on a farm for one year, but in the spring of 1882 he immigrated to the United States, soon afterward arriving in Merced county, Cal., where without money and with no recommendation save good health and energy, he secured a position with Miller & Lux, in whose employ he remained four years. He also engaged in farming, and was the first man to set a plow in what is now Plow Camp, in 1885, a part of which he now owns. In 1886 he went to Hills Ferry, where he was employed on a farm for three years, and while there married, in 1889, Christine Rasmussen, of Denmark. Soon afterward he conducted a boarding-house and saloon at the Ferry, moving four months later to Newman, where he bought a house and lot and engaged in his occupations of boarding-house and liquor business. In November, 1899, he located in Los Banos and erected a large house, which he opened up under auspicious circumstances, but which four days later burned to the ground. He then engaged in the liquor business until 1904, in which year he sold out and bought his present place of twenty acres a mile south of Los Banos. He has built a comfortable and commodious residence, and has modern improvements on his ranch.

Mr. Knudsen takes a keen interest in Democratic politics, and is interested in the cause of education and good government. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Newman, and the Ancient Order of Druids, of Los Banos. He proposes to give his children, Peter and Christine Maria, the best advantages within his power. He is genial and generous when called upon to further charitable or other undertakings.

**JOHN MILTON IRWIN.** In no branch of agriculture is a more thorough knowledge and greater business capacity needed than in that pertaining to the breeding, raising and buying and selling of cattle; and in this industry no one has met with more deserved success than John Milton Irwin, a well-known and prosperous stockman of Tulare county, residing four miles east of Visalia, on the Morgan estate. A man of venerable years, he has had a wide and varied experience in life, and by his excellent character and straightforward business course has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has had dealings. A native of Alabama, he was born in Madison county, January 12, 1828, a son of the late John and Elizabeth (Logan) Irwin, both natives of Tennessee.

Removing from his native state to Alabama, John Irwin was a shoemaker in Madison county

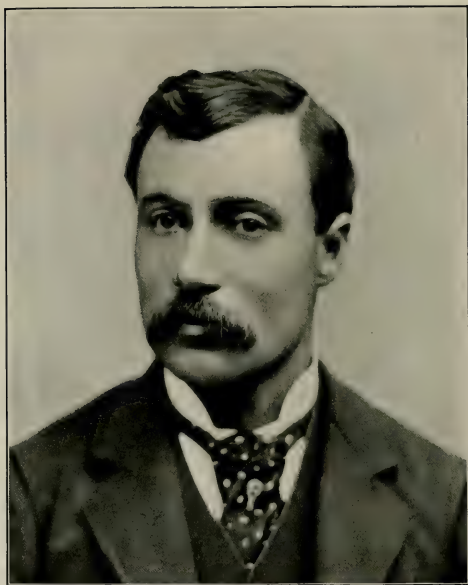
for many years. In 1838 he migrated to Missouri, becoming a pioneer of Franklin county, where he began to clear a farm, and also worked at his trade until his death, which occurred within a few months after his arrival.

The fourth child in a family consisting of four sons and three daughters, John M. Irwin received his education in the district school, and subsequently engaged in tilling the soil for a few years. Thinking to get rich much more easily and quicker in a country rich with gold, he came across the plains to California with ox-teams early in the '50s, and for a while worked with pick and shovel in the Mud Springs mines. His labors not proving as remunerative as he had anticipated, Mr. Irwin worked for three years in a sawmill, after which, in 1859, he located in Tulare county, near Visalia, where he worked as a farm laborer for a number of seasons. In 1867 he embarked in the stock business, having for his partner Mr. Woods, who died in 1896. Until 1878 Mr. Irwin and his partner dealt principally in hogs, but since that time he has bought and sold cattle only. He is not a householder, but since 1892 has resided at the Morgan home. Politically he is a sound Democrat, never swerving from party allegiance.

**GEORGE MARCHBANK.** As the efficient superintendent of the Mid Vale Land and Fruit Company, composed largely of Pennsylvania capitalists, who own one of the largest and most productive fruit ranches in Madera county, Cal., Mr. Marchbank is filling a position of prominence and has proved to be exceptionally well fitted for the place. He has twenty men under his supervision and in the management of this ranch he has shown excellent judgment and executive ability of a high order. The three hundred and twenty acres comprising his ranch are devoted almost wholly to fruit culture. Here one finds extensive orchards of peaches, apricots, figs, almonds and a few orange groves, besides large vineyards of raisin grapes and thirty acres of alfalfa. In the fall of 1897 Mr. Marchbank became superintendent of this ranch and the excellence of the various products of the place is attributed largely to his efforts, as he personally directs all laborers, and employs only the best methods of raising and caring for the fruits.

A descendant of Scotch parents, and himself a native of Scotland, born December 23, 1857, Mr. Marchbank was reared on the farm which belonged to his parents, George and Jessie (Campbell) Marchbank, both of whom spent their entire lives in Scotland; educated in his native land, at the age of twenty Mr. Marchbank came to America and for three years served as deputy United States surveyor in the territory of Utah.





*James W. Ryce*

He was afterward located for fourteen months in Minnesota and a short time in Oregon, engaged in similar work, and in 1884 he took up his residence in California. In 1886 he went into Fresno county and for a time was in the employ of the George W. Mead Company, and was subsequently raisin inspector for the Co-Operative Packing Company of Madera county. Receiving the offer to superintend the Mid Vale Land and Fruit Company, in Madera county, he at once assumed the duties of his present position. Aside from casting his vote in favor of Republican candidates Mr. Marchbank takes little interest in politics. Fraternally he affiliates with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He has two children, Marion A. and Margaret C.

**JAMES W. RYCE.** The name Ryce is well known in Fresno county, where for many years, the family have resided, and James W. Ryce is considered one of the substantial farmers in the county. Born in Scotland December 30, 1855, he is a son of Andrew C. Ryce, also a native of that country. Coming to the United States in 1866 he located in San Francisco, where he secured employment as a bookkeeper. During the time he lived in the city he was also interested in many mining speculations, being secretary of several companies. On account of ill health he was compelled to seek a change of climate and in 1880 came to Fresno county, where he purchased a section of land five and one-half miles southwest of Selma. Soon after locating here he erected what at that time was the finest residence in this section of the state, naming it The Palace. Engaging in farming and stock-raising on a large scale, he continued to make this county his home until his death at the age of seventy-one years. He also purchased a section east of Selma and a half section near Reedley, but these he later sold. The orchard of eighty acres which Mr. Ryce set out on his land was the first to be planted in this locality, but the venture did not prove a success on account of insufficient water. A year or so afterward he replanted forty acres and his orchard now ranks among the best in Fresno county. In 1885 he disposed of his land in Alameda county and invested the proceeds in property in the valley. With others he was interested in the building of a hotel in Kingsburg, a structure which was destroyed by fire a few years later. In 1890 he went to Scotland on a visit, and on his return to California found that his affairs had been badly managed, so much so that out of the once handsome property that he owned he retained only forty acres. He died in San Francisco at the home of a daughter, Mrs. T. P. H. White-law. His wife, who bore the maiden name of

Margaret Wilson, was also a native of Scotland, and was born in 1831. She is still living, making her home with a daughter, Mrs. Robert Kennedy, in Fresno. By her union with Mr. Ryce she became the mother of nine children, six of whom grew to maturity.

James W. Ryce was the fourth child, and the only son who grew to maturity. He accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, and for several years was associated with his brother-in-law, Mr. Kennedy, in the sheep business, but in 1878 he engaged in farming with his father. In 1890 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land of his father and became interested in the growing of grapes and also raised considerable stock. He now has a dairy of forty cows. His ranch, which is one of the best equipped in the county, is supplied with all modern appliances, including a steam plant which is used for cutting wood, pumping water and other purposes. In addition to his farming interests he is a director in the Farmers' Bank of Selma, and is president of the Selma Co-operative Packing Company.

Near Visalia Mr. Ryce was united in marriage with Jessie B. Rice, a native of the state, and to them have been born six children, Andrew C., Jessie B., Elizabeth, Flora, James W., Jr., and Margaret, all of whom are living at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ryce are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, he being an elder of the same. In politics he is a Republican, but he has no desire to take part in public affairs. He has made a success of his labors and is one of the popular men in the county.

**WILLIAM H. MILLS.** A well-known pioneer family of Tulare county is that of the Mills', now represented by the widow of the pioneer and three sons, one at home with his mother and two located on ranches in the neighborhood of their childhood's home. William H. Mills, deceased, is remembered as a man of enterprise and ability and one of the successful farmers of this section. He was born in Atlanta, Ga., March 15, 1821. As a young man he removed to Missouri, where he made his home until 1849, when he crossed the plains with mule-teams. Arriving in California, he engaged in mining in Hangtown until 1851, when he returned to Missouri and was married. With his wife he left Missouri April 18, 1852, and arrived in California in August. He was one of the strong and forceful pioneer citizens, his greatest efforts having been given to the stable pursuit of farming throughout the greater part of his life in the west, although until the fall of 1856 he followed the precarious fortunes of a miner in Eldorado county and at Cedarville. Locating in Tulare county he en-

gaged in general farming and stock-raising among the pioneer conditions which existed then, and took up land upon which he made his home for many years. In November, 1880, he located on the property now owned by his wife, consisting of one hundred acres two miles west of Farmersville. This he cultivated and improved for sixteen years, winning a competence for himself and family. His death occurred on this ranch June 25, 1896, at the age of seventy-four years, six months and ten days. Politically he adhered to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

The marriage of Mr. Mills united him with Louisa Jane Lawless, who was born in Saline county, Mo., March 13, 1833. Her father, Bird Lawless, was a native of Kentucky, who removed to Howard county, Mo., and later to Saline county, where he engaged as a farmer and stockman. In 1850 he crossed the plains to California and mined for a year, in 1851 returning to Missouri, and in the following year bringing his family back to California. He located in Sacramento, where he bought an extensive ranch, later disposing of this and in the fall of 1856 locating near Visalia, Tulare county, where he took up land. He engaged in farming and stock-raising until his removal to Farmersville, where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Lizzie Scott, a native of Kentucky, also died in California. Mrs. Mills received her education in the common schools of her native state, where, in Saline county, she was married February 5, 1852. Born of this union are three children, namely: Merritt T., William A., and Charles H., the two first named being located on ranches in this vicinity, while the last is with his mother.

DR. JOHN C. COOPER. During the year 1876 Dr. Cooper came to California and in 1879 established his home in Fresno, where, in January of the following year he opened an office and has since engaged in the practice of dentistry. For a time he occupied rooms on H street, but now has his office in the Cooper building, a brick block, 50 x 100 feet two stories in height, erected by Baker & Johnson, at No. 2030 Mariposa street. In addition to this property he owns the exposition building, 26½ x 150 feet, two stories, constructed of brick, and located on J street between Fresno and Tulare; also the Molor brick block, 75 x 75, which in 1901 he erected on Fresno, between J and K streets. Other buildings which he erected have since been sold.

Dr. Cooper was born in Rutherfordton, N. C., February 23, 1857, a son of J. O. and Sarah (Hardin) Cooper, also natives of North Carolina. Of their eleven children all but two at-

tained mature years and seven are now living, John C. being fourth in order of birth. In 1876 he took up the study of dentistry, and, in 1878 opened an office at Winters, Yolo county, but the following year came to Fresno, of which he is now, in point of years of practice, the oldest dentist. He is a charter member of the Mid-winter Fair Dental Congress, and in politics is a staunch Democrat. The public school system has always had a staunch friend in him, and at this writing he is a member of the board of education of Fresno. After coming to Fresno he married Miss Mary Hopkins, who was born in San Jose, Cal., and by whom he has two daughters, Edna and Susie. Mrs. Cooper is a daughter of Rev. I. L. Hopkins, member of an old Connecticut family and for many years a minister of the Methodist Episcopal denomination in California. About 1879 he settled in Fresno county, where for years he labored in the interests of the church, but finally removed to San Jose, where his death occurred.

THOMAS EDWARD BACON. As a pioneer among the primitive conditions, hardships and dangers of the early days, Mr. Bacon recalls the events which have marked the progress and development of Fresno county. He was born in St. Louis county, Mo., September 9, 1838, the fourth in a family of children born to his parents. His father, William Bacon, is mentioned at length in the biographical sketch of James A. Bacon, of Orosi, which appears in another part of this volume. Thomas Edward Bacon was reared in his birthplace until attaining the age of eleven years, when he started to Texas with his father. Instead of completing the journey a stop was made in Arkansas, where, in Crawford county, the elder man engaged in farming. For ten years Thomas E. remained upon the paternal farm, receiving his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home. On September 2, 1858, he married Lucinda Strawn, a native of Crawford county, Ark., and the following year they came as far west as Tucson, Ariz., with ox-teams, spending the winter in that place. In 1860 the journey was completed to Visalia, Tulare county, shortly after the arrival locating on the St. John's river, seven miles northeast of that city. In 1861 Mr. Bacon went to Mariposa county and engaged in the wood business for four years, in January, 1865, locating in the Kings river bottom about two and a half miles below old Scottsburg. He engaged in the raising of hogs and cattle and met with success in the venture. In 1868 he bought a section of land nine miles northeast of the present site of Centerville, which he improved and utilized in stock-raising. He remained in



that location for sixteen years, when he sold out and moved to Academy, on Dry Creek, where he bought a residence and twenty acres of land, this move being for the purpose of educating his children in what was then the best school in Fresno county. He still follows the cattle business on the Upper Kings river, where he owns a stock ranch. In 1902 he located in Fresno, purchasing his present residence at No. 251 Clark street. In addition to his ranch on Upper Kings river he owns in partnership with his son-in-law, J. G. Simpson, a large herd of cattle on Dry creek.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bacon were born the following children: Amanda R., the wife of Dr. B. W. Doyle, of Fresno; Amelia, the wife of Wesley B. Hazelton, of Sanger; John A., in the stock business in the vicinity of Fresno; Frank, in the stock business at Academy; Laura B., the wife of J. G. Simpson, of Academy; and Ida M., a teacher in the Fresno schools. Mr. Bacon served as school trustee for several terms in the Fancher Creek and Academy districts, and takes a strong interest in the development and progress of educational matters in the community. He is a Democrat politically and served as deputy assessor in the same localities for thirteen years and as a member of the county central committee. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he is ruling elder, and fraternally is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

---

**MATTHEW CORRIGAN.** A well-known rancher of Stanislaus county, Matthew Corrigan was born in Ireland February 6, 1838, a son of Patrick and Rose (Riley) Corrigan. The elder man was a mason and farmer by occupation and died at the age of seventy-eight years. Matthew Corrigan remained at home until 1857 when he went to Australia and there secured employment on a farm, where he remained for thirteen years. In 1870 he came to California and made his home in San Francisco for two years, during a part of that period working on the big Second street cut. In 1872 he came to Stanislaus county, during the ensuing eight years working for wages on the Booth ranch. In the meantime, in 1874, he entered eighty acres of land which formed the beginning of his home ranch, later purchasing one hundred and sixty acres, the property being located six miles southeast of Oakdale. In addition to his own land he rents one hundred and sixty acres which is devoted entirely to the cultivation of grain, while he raises only enough stock to supply his home. He has met with a noteworthy success during his residence in California, and at the same time that he has risen financially he

has won the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

In Australia Mr. Corrigan married Mary Haslett, a native also of Ireland, and of this union were born six children, namely: Agnes, the wife of P. H. Gleason; Rose; Mamie; Matthew; Emma, the wife of James L. Goodyear; and Albert. Mamie and Emma are graduates of the high school of Oakdale, as Mr. and Mrs. Corrigan believe thoroughly in a proper equipment for whatever line of work is to be taken up. Mrs. Agnes Gleason graduated at the Stockton Business College and for two years taught her home district, giving general satisfaction as a teacher. In the interests of the community Mr. Corrigan has served for twenty years as school trustee. Politically he is a Democrat and fraternally is associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

---

**A. L. NELSON.** As senior member of the firm of Nelson Brothers, of Fresno, A. L. Nelson stands high among the business men of this city. He is a native of Port Leyden, N. Y., where he was born July 30, 1868, a son of John Nelson. The latter took his family to Saint Ansgar, Iowa, in 1869, and there engaged as a farmer for a time, thence removing to Clitherall, Ottertail county, Minn. He there improved a farm on the prairie lands where he made his home for ten years. In 1887 he came to California and located at Fowler, Fresno county, where he died at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, formerly Hannah Steck, also died in that location. They were the parents of six sons and two daughters, all of whom are living, fifth in order of birth being A. L. Nelson, of this review.

A. L. Nelson was reared to young manhood in Iowa and Minnesota, receiving his education in the district schools in the vicinity of his home. He remained on the paternal farm until 1886, when he went to Manti, Utah, and made his home on a farm while he attended school for a time. His parents having located at Fowler, Fresno county, Cal., he came to the state in 1889. He began at the foot of the ladder so far as resources were concerned, finding employment on various ranches and vineyards, until he had accumulated sufficient means to enable him to engage in horticulture independently. He was employed for a time in a packing house until, with his brother Andrew, he engaged in a vineyard which they purchased together at Fowler. In 1898 they located in Fresno and bought out Dow & Ross, who were conducting a cigar store and billiard hall on Mariposa street, and under the firm name of Nelson Brothers have continued

in the business since. On June 29, 1903, they located at No. 1039 J street, their present place of business, conducting one of the finest and largest billiard halls and bowling alleys in the San Joaquin valley, the billiard hall being equipped with ten Brunswick tables made in Chicago, Ill., for their special use, and the six alleys all fitted up complete in every detail, the whole forming the most attractive place of amusement in Fresno. They also carry on an extensive cigar business. For one year (1902) Mr. Nelson was associated with J. E. Mitchell, in the growing, packing and shipping of dried fruits and raisins, the firm being known as Nelson & Mitchell. The partnership was dissolved and since that time Mr. Nelson has given his entire time and attention to his present business.

Mr. Nelson lives at No. 807 N street, where he has built a handsome residence, presided over by his wife, formerly Sadie Simpson, a native of Missouri, whom he married in Fresno county. She is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Nelson is associated fraternally with the Knights of Pythias, of which he is past chief chancellor and ex-representative; the Improved Order of Red Men; Woodmen of the World, and Fraternal Brotherhood. He is a Republican in national politics but locally reserves the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office. He belongs to the Chamber of Commerce and is active in all movements pertaining to the general welfare of the city or county.

**ZEPHANIAH DANIEL BEALL.** Two miles east of Lemoore, Kings county, is the valuable ranch of Z. D. Beall, one of the most highly respected of the horticulturists who are achieving success in this locality. In a neighborhood where manly traits and a progressive spirit are appreciated for what they are worth, and where the standard of work and life is high, this horticulturist is thoroughly at home and personally popular, exerting an influence for moral and material excellence. Mr. Beall has twenty acres under vines and fourteen under trees, representing assorted fruits, and his improvements are in accord with his practical and painstaking methods.

Born in Ripley county, Ind., March 18, 1852, he was reared to country life on his father's farm, and remained under the family roof until twenty-two years of age. As the years passed he more and more realized the limitations by which he was surrounded in an already over-tilled country, and his ambitious spirit naturally turned to the west, where so much awaited the touch of energy and resource. Arriving in California in the fall of 1875, he added to his some-

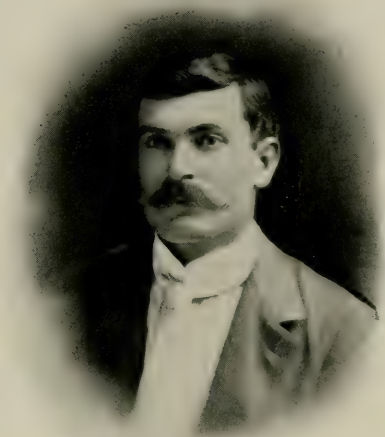
what depleted finances by working on a farm in the vicinity of Visalia for a couple of years, afterward renting land and working for farmers in the country around Lemoore for about five years. He was frugal and industrious, and in 1882 was in a position to become a land owner on his own responsibility, and purchased his present ranch, at that time a barren plain. He soon ascertained that his land was adapted to fruit culture, and he gradually set out trees and vines, and prepared for his present large fruit industry. He has a pleasant and comfortable home, at the head of which is his wife, formerly Jennie Beaver, whom he married in 1901. Mr. Beall is a Democrat in politics, but has never been willing to accept local office. For years he has found recreation in fraternal lodges, and is a member of the Foresters and the Woodmen of the World. He is a genial and considerate neighbor, carries with him an impression of earnestness and sincerity, and has the faculty of making and retaining friends.

**P. J. S. MONTGOMERY.** Among the foremost citizens of Tulare county is P. J. S. Montgomery, manager of the extensive property of Paige & Monteagle, and himself a large landholder, and an agriculturist of prominence and influence. Thrown upon his own resources when but a boy, he successfully made his own way, steadily climbing the ladder of attainments, and in the following brief record of his active career may be found a forcible illustration of what can be accomplished by industry, determination and enterprise. A son of R. F. Montgomery, he was born, November 18, 1857, at Social Circle, Walton county, Ga. His paternal grandfather, David F. Montgomery, who came from Scotch-Irish ancestors, was a planter in Newton county, Ga., residing there until his death, at the age of eighty-five years. He was a man of exceptional integrity and worth, and a member of the Baptist Church.

A life-long resident of Georgia, R. F. Montgomery early learned the trade of builder, and also studied architecture. He served during the Civil war as captain of Company A, Nineteenth Georgia Regiment, and was five times wounded in battle. He subsequently continued as an architect and builder for many years prior to his death, which occurred August 2, 1902, at the age of seventy-two years. He married Mary A. Middlebrooks, a daughter of Isaac Middlebrooks, a planter. She died in Georgia at the age of sixty-five years. Of the children born of their union three grew to years of maturity and two are living.

The second child of the parental household,





*S. L. Heisinger.*

P. J. S. Montgomery was brought up during the exciting times of the Civil war in Social Circle, and necessarily had but limited educational advantages. At the age of eight years he entered a mercantile and banking institution as errand boy, and gradually worked his way upward to positions of importance and trust. At the age of fourteen years he had charge of the books, and six years later was made special partner in the business, being given a guarantee and a certain per centage of the gains. His health failing, Mr. Montgomery sold out his interests in the institution in 1884 and went to New Mexico to recuperate in the saddle. Engaging in the cattle business on his own account, he purchased a large range on the Vermejo river, and through his out-door life and his long horseback rides he recovered his former physical vigor in a few years. In Colorado he became acquainted with Mr. Morton, of the firm of Paige & Morton, and he persuaded Mr. Montgomery to come to California for a visit of two months. Therefore, in 1890, having disposed of his New Mexico property he came to Tulare. Mr. Morton, the superintendent of the lands belonging to the firm of which he was partner, sold out to Mr. Paige in 1891, and Mr. Paige induced Mr. Montgomery to accept the position of manager and superintendent of the estate. He has since continued in this capacity, and has control of three large ranches. The home ranch, called Vineyard, contains seven hundred and fifty acres of vines, and is well equipped with packing houses and everything necessary for caring for the large quantities of grapes harvested each season. Adjoining this ranch is a vast orchard of seven hundred and fifty acres, devoted principally to the culture of prunes, peaches and pears, while near by is the Mitchell ranch of eight thousand acres, a large stock farm, on which is raised grain, alfalfa and stock. The vineyards and orchards belonging to Paige & Monteagle are the largest in the San Joaquin valley, and give employment to about eight hundred people during the busy season, while on the Mitchell farm about twenty hands are employed. One thousand acres of this ranch are already sowed to alfalfa, and Mr. Montgomery intends to sow three thousand more, devoting one-half of it to this valuable product. The home ranch lies within one and one-half miles of the city limits of Tulare, and is finely improved, and has all of the latest and most modern machinery and appliances, including a telephone and electric light system.

Mr. Montgomery likewise owns much valuable real estate in this part of the state. In the foot hills, about twenty-three miles east of Delano, he has a stock farm of twenty-five hundred and sixty acres; at Semitropic, Kern county, he has a ranch of six hundred and forty acres, which

he is converting into a dairy farm; on the Tule river he owns a small farm; and in Tulare county he has a well-stocked sheep range. He also has one-tenth interest in the El Mirador Orange Land Company at Lindsay, of which he is a director and vice-president. This company owns an orange tract in Lindsay having four thousand acres of land, which is being laid out and sold. Mr. Montgomery is also interested in the Tulare Lumber Company, of which he is president; is a member and president of the Mountain View Oil Company, operating in Devil's Den country; and is second vice-president of the Tulare Board of Trade, and one of its executive committee. In 1898 he was appointed by Governor Gage a director of the Twenty-fourth Agricultural District of California, and four years later was re-appointed for another term.

July 3, 1884, in Trinidad, Colo., Mr. Montgomery married Ruth Norma Lacy, who was born in Cleveland, Texas, and was educated in Colorado, being graduated from the Trinidad Convent, and later at Wolf Hall, Denver. Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery are the parents of three children, namely: Carl Lacy and Orland Franklin, attending the Tulare High School, members of the class of 1905; and Rex Kenneth. Politically Mr. Montgomery is a Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Woodmen of the World. His family are members of the Christian Church.

---

SAMUEL L. HEISINGER. Coming to the state but a few years ago without money or influence, Mr. Heisinger started at the very bottom of the ladder as an employe in orchards and vineyards, but at that time he had something better than money or friends—determination to make a success. With this idea firmly fixed in his mind he observed keenly all that was transpiring about him, rapidly learning the ins and outs of the fruit business. As a result he is now the owner of one of the finest vineyards in the San Joaquin valley and is looked upon as one of the most influential young men of the county. A son of William and Magdalena (Lierman) Heisinger, he was born in Lafayette county, Mo., December 14, 1870. His father, who was a native of St. Louis, engaged in farming in Missouri for many years, but finally removed to Kansas, where he died April 13, 1883. His wife, who was a native of Germany, is still living, making her home at Elmonte, Cal. She became the mother of nine children.

Samuel L. Heisinger was the second child in a large family. His education was received in the district school near the home farm. On reaching man's estate he engaged in farming in Kansas, where he lived until 1888, when he re-

moved to Nebraska. There he continued farming until 1892, the year of his arrival in California. Coming at once to the San Joaquin valley, he secured employment in the orchards and vineyards. After a year spent in the vicinity of Hanford he located near Selma, and was variously employed until 1898, when he purchased forty acres of land, which he still owns. From the first his venture met with success and in 1900 he bought the Loretta Vineyard of one hundred and sixty acres, five miles east of Selma, one of the best properties in the valley, and here he makes his home. In addition to this property, in partnership with O. W. Stearns, he owns considerable land near Mendota. They also have options on other lands, it being their intention to develop the property by artificial irrigation, it now being barren land.

Mr. Heisinger has taken an active interest in local enterprises and is now serving as one of the directors in the Co-operative Packing Company, of Selma, is president of the Masonic Temple Association of the same place, and a director of the Rochdale Company, of Selma. By his marriage with Lena F. Martin, who was born in Missouri, two children have been born, Lawrence L. and Lena, both of whom are at home. In fraternal relations Mr. Heisinger is a member of the Woodmen of the World. In politics he is a Republican, but cares little for public life, preferring to devote his time to his own business interests. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and for the past eight years Mr. Heisinger has been superintendent of the Sunday School.

---

**WILLIAM H. HARTLEY.** Industrious engaged in the prosecution of a calling upon which the support and wealth of our nation so largely depends, William H. Hartley, of Merced, is meeting with eminent success, and is contributing his full share toward the agricultural advancement of Merced county. A typical representative of the courageous and energetic pioneers of California, who braved the dangers and hardships of life on the extreme frontier of civilization, he has been an important factor in developing the wonderful resources of this state, and in the grand transformations that have taken place within its limits, he has been an active and influential participant. A son of Henry Hartley, he was born in Lancastershire, England, March 26, 1834, coming from an ancient and honored English family.

Born and reared in Yorkshire, England, Henry Hartley spent his early life in his native land, being first employed in mercantile pursuits, and afterward being connected with the management of the Government railways. Immigrating with

his family to America in 1842, he located in Lowell, Mass., where for nine years he was assistant foreman in a cotton mill. In 1851, accompanied by his two sons, John and William H., he started for California. Sailing from New York to Chagres, Panama, he crossed the isthmus on foot, and subsequently spent three months in Panama. Boarding the steamer *Golden Gate*, he arrived in San Francisco in April, 1852, and went directly to the mining fields in the northern part of Eldorado county. The climate, however, did not agree with him, and after an illness of three months, he returned to Lowell, Mass., where he resumed his former employment in the cotton factories, having eight or nine men under his supervision, and continued there until his death. His son John remained in California, and died, in 1870, in Sacramento.

Coming with his father and brother to California in 1852, William H. Hartley followed mining for two years, and then located in Stockton, where he and seven others owned an interest and engaged in freighting and forwarding goods to the mines for delivery for the Chinese Commission Company. This company built up a very large and profitable business, employing many men and teams, continuing until the extension of the railway, in 1870, to Modesto. Mr. Hartley then located in Merced county, where he kept a number of teams that he let out to farmers, receiving a good income from his venture. He also rented land, and embarked in grain raising. Being successful, he soon began investing in lands in this section of the state, and is now a large property owner, and one of the extensive and prosperous agriculturists of the county. He has a valuable ranch of two thousand three hundred acres near Merced; a ranch of six hundred and forty acres in Livingston; and at Turner, on Bear creek, he owns a farm of eight hundred acres. He superintends the most of his land himself, raising principally wheat and barley, the staple grains of the county. In the early days, when he first began farming, he used to harvest large crops, which he sold for good prices. He has valuable residential property in the city, and a pleasant and attractive home.

Mr. Hartley was interested in the construction of the Crocker-Huffman Canal, but has sold out his shares in the enterprise. He possesses great financial ability, and was one of the organizers of the Merced National Bank, which was reorganized as the Commercial and Savings Bank, and later changed to the Commercial Bank, of which he is vice-president, and a director. Until the Granger warehouse was sold, he was president of the company which owned it. He is also a stockholder in the Fountain City Milling Company, and is serving as its president.



In 1869, in Lowell, Mass., Mr. Hartley married Frances L. Otis, a native of that city. Mr. Hartley is a Republican in national politics, and takes a genuine interest in local affairs. For one term he served as county supervisor. He attends the Presbyterian Church, toward the support of which he contributes liberally.

**WILLIAM McDONALD.** Of an active and enterprising disposition, endowed by nature with a resolute will and an unlimited stock of energy, William McDonald began life for himself when a mere lad, and has met with deserved success in his undertakings, his failures and reverses being so slight and obscure that no mention of them is necessary. Well-known in the business circles of Merced county, he has the distinction of being the longest-established blacksmith in the city of Merced, and one of its most thriving and esteemed residents. Coming of Scotch ancestry, he was born, March 12, 1853, in Galt, Ontario, a son of Sweden McDonald.

Born and bred in Scotland, Sweden McDonald immigrated to Canada, locating in Galt, Ontario, where he was in the government employ as a railroad contractor until his death, in manhood's prime. He married Ellen Bell, who was born in Kelso, Scotland, and died in Michigan. Seven children were born of their marriage, three of whom are living, William, the subject of this sketch, being the sixth child in order of birth, and the only one residing in California.

Forced by adverse circumstances to begin the battle of life for himself when but nine years of age, William McDonald left home and worked at anything a boy could do for three years. Going to Harrison, Ontario, in 1865, he served an apprenticeship of three years at the blacksmith trade, and then went to Buffalo, where, for a few months, he was employed in the Erie Railroad shops. Locating in Grand Rapids, Mich., in December, 1868, he remained there until the spring of 1869, when he came to California in search of employment. For a year he worked in San Francisco and Oakland, and then followed his trade in Merced during the summer of 1870, and in Saint Helena, Napa county, the ensuing winter. In the spring of 1871, Mr. McDonald returned to Merced, where the city lots were just being placed for sale. Buying a lot on Main street, he erected a frame building, and established the pioneer blacksmith shop and carriage manufactory in the place. Meeting with success from the start, he has greatly increased his business operations, now owning and occupying two buildings fronting on Main street. In addition to his smithy and carriage works, Mr. McDonald has a turning, painting and machine shop, and is carrying on an extensive business.

He handles agricultural implements, representing the McCormick Harvester Company, the Moline Plow Company, Fisher Brothers' wagons, and deals in Racine carriages and buggies. He also manufactures plows, harrows and cultivators, employing in his shop and factory from nine to thirteen men. Mr. McDonald has exercised keen intelligence in accumulating and investing his money, is a shareholder in the Commercial Bank of Merced, and is largely interested in valuable property in Stockton, and in Mariposa and Mendocino counties. In Merced he owns a fine residential property.

Mr. McDonald married first, in Mariposa county, Phoebe Branson, a native of this state. She died in early womanhood, leaving four children, namely: John, employed with his father; Mrs. Nancy Price, of San Francisco; William, of San Francisco, and Tracy, wife of James Garibaldi, of Merced. Mr. McDonald married for his second wife, in Merced, Agnes Dunn, who was born near Hastings, Minn., and of the two children born of this marriage but one is living, namely: Morris Ellsworth. Politically Mr. McDonald is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Democratic party, fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**GEORGE A. HATFIELD.** The position of agent for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company in Fresno is efficiently filled by George A. Hatfield, one of this city's most enterprising and liberal citizens. He was born in Meadow Creek, Whitley county, Ky., September 4, 1865, the second of three children born to his parents. His father, G. B. Hatfield, was also born in Whitley county, Ky., where his grandfather, a Virginian descendant of English ancestry, removed in an early day. G. B. Hatfield was reared on a farm and in manhood engaged as a successful merchant, first in Kentucky and afterward in Attica, Kans. He also farmed in the latter location and during the Oklahoma race he located in Woods county and engaged as a farmer and stockman. He is now a merchant at Elkton, where he is residing at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Brown, of Whitley county, Ky., was the daughter of Henry P. Brown, who migrated from Virginia to Kentucky, where he attained an advanced age, and died in Kansas in 1887.

George A. Hatfield was reared in his native state until attaining the age of seventeen years, attending the common schools and also having one term at Oberlin College. On account of his health he came as far west as Wellington, Kans., in 1884 and entered the employ of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company, begin-

ning as assistant agent, later as relief agent at different points on that division, his headquarters being at Attica, the terminal of the railway during the building of the Amarillo and Medicine Lodge lines. He remained there for three years, when in 1887 he was transferred to Barstow first as cashier, then agent, where he remained until 1892. He was then promoted to the position of traveling auditor of the Santa Fe, with Southern California headquarters in Los Angeles. Following this he traveled throughout California for seven years, after which he engaged as freight agent in Los Angeles for eighteen months. In 1902 he was transferred to Fresno in the capacity of local freight and passenger agent, which position he is now holding.

In San Bernardino, Cal., Mr. Hatfield was united in marriage with Susie H. Davidson, the ceremony being performed August 20, 1897. She was born in Clinton, Mass., a daughter of A. S. Davidson, who settled in San Bernardino, where he is now living retired from the active cares of life. They have one child, Homer. Fraternally Mr. Hatfield is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and belongs to the Chamber of Commerce of Fresno. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**ALFRED GILMAN CLOUGH.** The county assessor of Merced county has the distinction of being the son and grandson of pioneers of 1849 and is himself not only a native of California, but also of the county where he now makes his home. His father, A. W., was born in Hopkinton, N. H., being a son of Gilman Clough, of New England ancestry. At the time gold was discovered in California he was a young man, ambitious to get a start in the world and eager for adventure. At once he decided to join the throng of gold-seekers on the coast. Taking passage on a vessel he sailed around Cape Horn and landed in San Francisco, September 20, 1849. From there he proceeded at once to Mariposa county and took up the work of mining, which engaged his attention for several years. On abandoning that occupation he began to work at the blacksmith trade, which he followed at Hornitos, Mariposa county, and at Phillips Ferry on the Merced river. In 1874 he went to Merced and conducted the Mariposa hotel until his retirement from business cares. His death occurred in 1891 when he was sixty-two years of age.

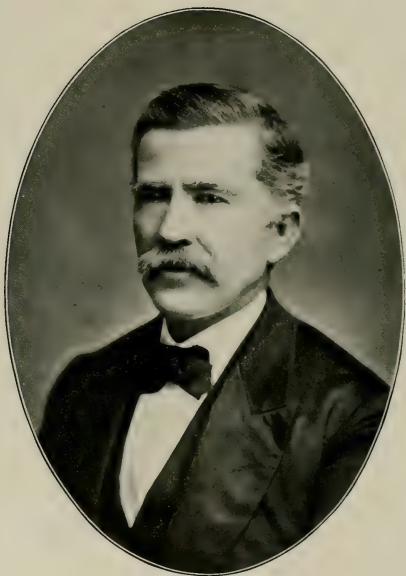
After coming to California A. W. Clough married Thirza Phillips, who was born at Mineral Point, Wis., and died at Merced, Cal., in 1902. Her father, John Phillips, was a native of England and in 1849 crossed the plains to California,

where he met with indifferent success as a miner. Soon afterward he started Phillips Ferry in Mariposa county. Returning east overland in 1851, the next year he brought his family to California and settled at the Ferry, but later went to Hornitos, Mariposa county, where he engaged in stock-raising and farming until his death in 1864. In the family of A. W. and Thirza Clough there are four sons, namely: A. G., of Merced; E. F., who is a manufacturer of acetylene gas machines at San Jose; C. W., a real estate dealer in Watsonville; and S. B., who is connected in business with his brother at San Jose.

The earliest recollections of Alfred Gilman Clough are associated with the locality where he has always made his home. He was born January 3, 1857, and passed the years of youth at Hornitos, where he attended the public schools. At twenty years of age he came to Merced and for two years worked in a livery barn. In 1879 he bought a furniture business on Main street, where he engaged in the sale of house-furnishing goods and also conducted an undertaking establishment. Reliable as a business man, and honorable in every transaction he won the confidence of associates. From the time of attaining his majority he has voted with the Republican party and maintained a warm interest in its success. On that ticket in 1892 he was elected county coroner and public administrator, and two years later was re-elected to the office, which he filled from January, 1893, to January, 1899. Meanwhile he had been called to another office, his election as county assessor taking place in 1898, when he was elected by a majority of one hundred and thirty-two. At the expiration of a term in that office, in 1902 he was elected by a majority of one hundred and ten over his opponent. In order that he might devote his entire attention to his official duties in 1901 he disposed of his furniture and undertaking establishment, and since then has given his time wholly to work connected with the assessorship.

The first marriage of Mr. Clough took place in Merced in 1879, his wife being Mary E. Tinney, who was born in New York state and died at Merced in January, 1892. Two children were born of their union, namely: Alfereta, the wife of L. E. Gosner, of Salinas; and Winslow T. The present wife of Mr. Clough is a native of Merced county and bore the maiden name of Mary A. Blunt. By this union there are two daughters, Lucile and Ruth. It has always been characteristic of Mr. Clough that he has maintained an interest in educational affairs and is a staunch friend of the public-school system. For seven years he served as a trustee of the city schools and during the period of his service the west side school was erected, a work in which he aided materially. On the organization of Parlor No. 24,





W. R. Shannon

N. S. G. W., he became a charter member, but has not retained his membership in the body. Fraternally he holds membership in the Woodmen of the World, the Knights of Pythias and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which latter lodge he is past master workman.

**JUDGE WILLIAM R. SHANNON.** Although he is now living a retired life, Judge Shannon has been very active. A '49er, he spent several years in the gold mines of this state and took a prominent part in the affairs of those early days. Prior to coming to California he was a soldier in the Mexican war and also saw active service in the Rebellion, thereby being a veteran of two wars, a record that few men can equal. Born in Kentucky January 15, 1825, the judge is a son of George Shannon, who was a member of the Lewis and Clark expedition. At that time he was but a boy of sixteen years and ran away from home to join the party. The expedition started in 1802 and during the winter of 1804-5 camped at the mouth of the Columbia river. Mr. Shannon was the youngest member of the party, but it is said he performed the duties and labors of a man, never shirking any task that was assigned him. At the Little Missouri river he was wounded in the left leg by a bullet and later the leg was amputated at the military post of Bellefontaine, Mo. On the return of the expedition to the east, Mr. Shannon again took up his studies in Lexington, where he attended the common schools. Later he was graduated from the Philadelphia law school and practiced in Lexington until 1828, when he moved to St. Louis. During this time he served on the circuit bench. Eventually he settled in St. Charles, Mo., where he lived until his death in 1836. His father, George Shannon, was born in Philadelphia and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, being raised to the rank of captain. He lost his life in Belmont county, Ohio, freezing to death while hunting.

George Shannon, Jr., married Ruth Price and to them were born seven children. Mrs. Shannon died in St. Charles. Judge W. R. Shannon was the youngest child. After finishing his common school education he attended the Belmont Institute, at St. Clairsville, Ohio, and during 1840-41 he attended school at Edwardsville, Ill. Prior to the breaking out of the Mexican war, he was appointed private secretary to his uncle, Wilson Shannon, who was the United States minister to Mexico, and while in his uncle's office he began reading law. Leaving that country before war was declared, Judge Shannon enlisted in Company I, Willock's Battalion of mounted volunteers, from Marion county, Mo., and remained in the service for the suc-

ceeding sixteen months. He was then discharged and returned to Ohio, where he remained until February 14, 1849, when he started for California, coming via Cape Horn. For four years he followed mining, but upon hearing flattering reports of the advantages offered young men in Texas, he migrated to that state and settled near Dallas, where he engaged in the practice of his profession and also carried on quite an extensive cattle business, spending many months looking after his interests on the frontier. The judge took an active part in public affairs and in 1855 was sent to the Texas legislature, being returned repeatedly and serving continuously until 1887, excepting the time spent in the Civil war. When the war broke out he enlisted in the Confederate army, serving as captain, but was later promoted to the position of lieutenant-colonel of the Tenth Texas Infantry. Twice during the war he was severely injured, first at the battle of Mission ridge, where his left leg was broken by a bullet, and during the campaign in and around Atlanta his right foot was crushed. These severe injuries made it physically impossible for him to longer continue in the service, so he secured his honorable discharge and returned to Texas, taking up the practice of law at Weatherford, where he made his home until 1887, when he disposed of his interests there and again came to California. For a time thereafter he lived in Ventura, but on account of ill health he was obliged to change climates and a year later located in Fowler, where he is now living, honored and respected by a large circle of friends. In addition to his office as justice of the peace he owns a tract of land adjoining the town on which, in a quiet way, he carries on general farming.

While living in Texas Judge Shannon was united in marriage with Nannie J. Sweatt, a native of Wilson county, Tenn., and to them were born six children, Wilson, who lives in Texas; one who died in infancy; Willie, deceased; Ruth, Mrs. E. G. Hoag, of Fowler; Sallie, deceased; and Nannie E., Mrs. G. E. Giffen, of Tulare county. All his life a staunch Democrat, Judge Shannon has been an active worker. Fraternally he is a Mason, having attained to the Royal Arch degree.

**NIS JOHNSON.** Associated with the grocery firm of Graff & Co., Nis Johnson has done much toward the building up of a fine trade throughout the city of Fresno and vicinity. He was born in Germany, April 9, 1863, a son of N. Johnson, a farmer in the same vicinity, where his death occurred in 1904. His wife, formerly Ellen Hansen, was also a native of the same locality, where she died early in life. They

were the parents of three sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. Nis Johnson is the youngest in this family, and was reared to young manhood on the paternal farm, receiving his education in the public schools. When eighteen years of age he decided to locate in America and accordingly came to San Francisco, arriving in August, 1881. For two years following he was engaged in farm work in San Mateo county, after which he worked in the vicinity of San Francisco until 1887. With the proceeds of his years' work he came to Fresno and in 1889 established a grocery store on the corner of Inyo and H streets, under the firm name of H. Graff & Co. Later they removed to the Wiener block, on Tulare street, where they added a hardware stock and proceeded to build up a trade in this line. Outgrowing the second location in 1901, they removed to the Patterson block, which was just then completed, and where they have since been located. They now conduct the most extensive grocery store in Fresno and at the same time carry one of the finest stocks of hardware in the San Joaquin valley, catering to an extensive trade in both departments. Their building is 64x150 feet in dimensions, occupying two floors, while they have also two warehouses on the Southern Pacific Railroad, one of brick, 50x125 feet, and the other of frame, 40x72 feet. They have nine wagons for delivery, and carry on both a wholesale and retail business. The business was incorporated as H. Graff & Co., of which Mr. Johnson is a director and vice-president, and manager of the hardware and implement department. In addition to this Mr. Johnson has other interests in the city, being the owner of residence property, also his home at the corner of San Joaquin and Forthcamp avenues.

In Fresno Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Catherine Kruhl, a native of Germany, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Ellen, Mamie, George, Myrtle and Nis Albert. Fraternally Mr. Johnson is associated with the Knights of Pythias and the Danish Brotherhood of America, of which he is past president. He is a Lutheran in religion. Active in the development of the city of Fresno, he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and gives his best interests toward the growth and prosperity of this section.

---

CARROLL C. CASTLE, D. D. S. The many valuable discoveries and improvements made in dentistry during the past few years have elevated it to a distinct and separate science, and in the great advancement that has been made America has taken the lead. Quick to take advantage of all new methods used in the practice of his profession, C. C. Castle, of Merced, has acquired an

enviable reputation as a skillful and up-to-date dentist, and since locating in this city has built up a large and lucrative practice. A native of Illinois, he was born, January 14, 1872, in Knox county, near Galesburg, a son of Rufus A. Castle. He is of German descent, the name in the Fatherland having been spelled Cassell, as was the division of Germany, Hesse-Cassell, in which the family originated. The doctor comes of honored colonial ancestry, one of his forefathers having fought in the Revolutionary war. His grandfather, Reuben Castle, was born in Greenbrier county, W. Va., and when a young man migrated to the western frontier, traveling on horseback through the hunting-grounds of the Indians, who had held the country for centuries, and were not pleased with the advances of the pale-faced strangers. Locating in Knox county, Ill., in 1832, he took up wild land, and improved a homestead, on which he subsequently spent his life.

Born and bred on the home farm, in the Prairie state, Rufus A. Castle laid a substantial foundation for his future education in the public schools, and afterward continued his studies at Knox College, in Galesburg, until the breaking out of the Civil war. Enlisting then in the Eighty-third Volunteer Infantry, he served under General Grant until the close of the conflict. Returning to Knox county, he established himself as a farmer near Galesburg, and was there prosperously employed in agricultural pursuits for a quarter of a century. Removing to California in 1890, he located first in San Jose, from there going to Healdsburg, where his death occurred, in August, 1900. He was public-spirited and patriotic, and a faithful member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He married Alice Va. Boylan, who was born in Ohio, left an orphan at an early age, and now resides in San Francisco. Of the three children born of their marriage, two are living, namely: C. C., of this review; and Reuben R., who was graduated from the dental department of the San Francisco College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1904, receiving the degree of D. D. S.

After leaving the district school, C. C. Castle entered the Galesburg high school, where he received his diploma in 1891. Subsequently becoming interested in life insurance, he represented the Prudential Life Insurance Company in Galesburg for fifteen months, and then went to Peoria, where he continued with the company as assistant superintendent until 1893. In the fall of 1897, having decided to enter upon a professional career, he entered the dental department of the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill., and was there graduated with the degree of D. D. S. in 1899. Dr. Castle immediately located in Tonica, LaSalle county, Ill., where he practiced his profession a short time. In January, 1900, he located in Merced, and has since won a most satis-



factory patronage. His office is furnished with all the modern machinery, implements and devices used by dental experts and authorities.

Dr. Castle married, in Merced county, Rose D. Hooper, a daughter of Clayton Hooper, a pioneer of this county, and they occupy a modern residence, which he erected on Twenty-second street in 1902. The doctor is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his political affiliations is a Democrat. He belongs to the Merced Lodge, I. O. O. F., and to the Woodmen of the World.

---

**WILLIAM H. COOK.** The earliest recollections of Mr. Cook are associated with the San Joaquin valley. Many wonderful changes have been wrought since the days of his childhood. Often he has seen wild horses and antelopes in large droves roaming unmolested through the wild grass which grew in undisturbed luxuriance on every hand. As a boy more than once he was present at round-ups on the present site of Merced. The only transportation facilities were such as could be secured on the stage running between Stockton and Mariposa, the route lying via Snelling, which was then the county-seat. In 1872 the county-seat was moved to Merced, which has since then attained a distinctive place among the cities of the valley.

A native of California, Mr. Cook was born in Stockton, August 17, 1858, being a son of Josiah C. and Maria (Sheridan) Cook, natives respectively of Virginia and England. As early as 1852, while still a single man, the father crossed the plains to California and engaged in farming and stock-raising in San Joaquin county. From there in 1863 he came to Merced county and settled ten miles east of Merced, where for many years he made a specialty of raising cattle and sheep. Meanwhile he also bought and developed a mine in Mariposa county, known as the Green Valley mine, and this property he still owns, in addition to a quartz mine at Hornitos. The year after he crossed the plains Miss Sheridan made the same trip, starting from Missouri and proceeding with a band of immigrants to the coast. Of their marriage five sons were born, namely: William H., of Merced; John Franklin, who died in Humboldt county, this state; James and Benjamin, who are living in Merced county; and Archibald, a resident of Stockton.

Fortified with such advantages as the common schools offered, William H. Cook began to earn his livelihood at seventeen years of age, his first employment being in the harvest field. In 1878 he settled on two hundred and forty acres lying on Bear creek, ten miles east of Merced, and there he raised grain and stock. Meantime he had gained prominence as a local Democratic leader,

with sympathies in favor of the free coinage of silver. Without being a candidate for any office, in 1894 he received the nomination for county auditor at the Populist convention to which he had been a delegate. There were two other candidates for the position, but he won by a large plurality. In January, 1895, he assumed the duties of the office. At the expiration of his first term he was again nominated by the Populists and indorsed by the Democrats, winning again by a fair majority. When his second term had expired, in 1902, he was renominated on the Democratic ticket and elected by a majority of two hundred and eighty-seven, to serve until January of 1907. In point of years of service, he is the oldest incumbent of a county office, and his service has not only been long but eminently satisfactory. Devoting his entire time to the work of auditing, he has proved himself a painstaking, efficient and trustworthy representative of the people, and has carefully conserved the interests of the taxpayers wherever possible, especially through his labors in fighting illegal claims.

The union of Mr. Cook and Rosa Demick (daughter of Nelson Demick and a native of Ohio) was solemnized at Turlock, in 1878, and terminated with her death ten years later in Merced county. Two children comprise their family. The son, W. H., Jr., is a plumber in Merced, while the daughter, Mrs. Nettie Mav Hollister, lives in Fresno. On the organization of the Woodmen of the World at Merced Mr. Cook became one of the charter members of the lodge and is still identified therewith. After coming to Merced he identified himself with the lodge and encampment of Odd Fellows, but is no longer active in the latter. As past president of Parlor No. 24, he was officially connected with the Native Sons of the Golden West.

---

**ROBERT H. SRONCE** is named among the representative citizens of Fresno, Cal. He was born in Newton, N. C., August 9, 1877, a son of William A. Sronce, of the same vicinity, and the descendant of an old Virginia family who had early removed to North Carolina. William A. Sronce was a carriage manufacturer in Newton, where he now resides, retired from the active cares of life. His wife, formerly Jane Cobb, a native of North Carolina, died early in life. Of a large family of children three attained maturity and are living, Robert H. Sronce being next to the oldest.

Until he was eleven years old Robert H. Sronce remained in Newton, N. C., when he came to Riverdale, Fresno County, Cal., in company with an aunt, Mrs. Robert E. Sronce, her husband becoming a large farmer and stock-raiser in that location. He made his home with

his aunt until attaining maturity, attending the public and high schools of Fresno, graduating from the latter in 1894. He then entered the Fresno Business College, from which he was graduated in 1895, after which he entered the employ of the Philadelphia Shoe Store. He remained for a time in that connection, when he became a salesman in the employ of W. Parker Lyon, with whom he continued until 1900. In the last-named year he engaged in business for himself, forming a partnership known as Sronce & Dick. They handle wall paper, paints and picture frames, doing a wholesale and retail business at their store at No. 1157 I street, having a building 25x75 feet in dimensions, and occupying three floors. They also engage in contract painting and decorating, having twenty-two employees.

In Fresno Mr. Sronce was united in marriage with Anna Fitzgerald, a native of Woodland, Yolo county, Cal., and the daughter of a pioneer of the state. Fraternally Mr. Sronce is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Foresters of America, Fraternal Brotherhood and Woodmen of the World. He belongs to the Chamber of Commerce and is active in all movements pertaining to the upbuilding of the city and county. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles of the Democratic party.

---

**WALTER RUSSELL ROBB.** Nestling under the snow-capped Sierra Nevada mountains, in Tulare county, is located the picturesque villa of Orosi, already famous for its products of tree and vine. In this vicinity is the well-developed fruit ranch of Walter Russell Robb, who is engaged as a horticulturist and viticulturist. He was born in Amherst, Nova Scotia, October 20, 1860, a son of Alexander Robb, founder of the Robb Engineering Company, Limited, of Amherst, Nova Scotia, which is now one of the leading steam engine works in Canada. Mr. Robb was one of the chief promoters of the Amherst Boot and Shoe Company, another of the leading Canadian manufactories. He was preeminently a successful as well as a self-made man, and in addition to his personal interests took an active part in every movement pertaining to the general welfare. He was prominent in political and educational matters and a prominent actor in the confederation of provinces of the Dominion of Canada in 1867, taking an active interest in the Free School bill. In religion he was a member of the Presbyterian Church and an earnest worker in all of its branches. His wife, formerly Emeline Logan, was born in Amherst Point, Nova Scotia, a daughter of David Dickey Logan, the representative of an old New England family which came originally from

Scotland. Mrs. Robb survives her husband, still making her home in Amherst. She is the mother of four sons and one daughter, of whom David is president and Aubrey is superintendent of the Robb Engineering Company, Limited; Frederick (who was accidentally drowned in Nova Scotia) was for many years financial manager of the Robb Engineering Company; Walter R. is the subject of this review; and Margaret A. is the widow of the Rev. D. McGregor, for many years pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Amherst, Nova Scotia.

In his native city Walter Russell Robb was reared to manhood, receiving his education in the public and high schools of Amherst and the Amherst Academy, finishing his education in Delhouse College, in Halifax. For several years following the close of his school work he was connected with the firm of A. Robb & Sons and managed the stove and hardware branch of that business. On account of ill health Mr. Robb retired from active business life and assisted his father in operating a large farm near Amherst, in which they met with gratifying success. In 1891 Mr. Robb located in California, his first year in the west being spent in Southern California and in traveling. In 1892 he came to Orosi, Tulare county, and purchased his present ranch of twenty acres, to the improvement and cultivation of which he has since given most of his attention, and being for a time engaged in the nursery business. His ranch is entirely given over to the cultivation of fruits, raising principally peaches, prunes, figs, plums and oranges, his plums being shipped green to the eastern markets. He now owns a residence in Fresno, where he intends to spend the winters on account of better educational advantages for his children, who are attending high school.

In Halifax, Nova Scotia, Mr. Robb was united in marriage with Lizzie Powell, a native of Montreal, and the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Robb) Powell, formerly of Montreal. They became the parents of four children, of whom Marguerite and Alexander are living. William died in Nova Scotia at the age of two and a half years, while Ivy died in California in infancy. Mr. Robb is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

---

**J. EARL POGUE.** A native son of the Golden West, Mr. Pogue was born in Tulare county, Cal., October 17, 1867, a son of James W. C. Pogue, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume. J. E. Pogue remained at home and attended the public schools, receiving a fair education, his elementary training being supplemented by attendance at the Visalia Normal. After completing his schooling he as-





G. HERMINGHAUS

sisted his father in the work of the ranch until reaching his twenty-first year. A year later, in 1880, he opened the first store at Lemon Cove, which he has since conducted, meeting with marked success in his mercantile ventures. When the store was first opened it was under the firm name of J. W. C. Pogue & Son; later a brother, Thomas A., became interested in it and the firm was known as J. W. C. Pogue & Sons until July 1, 1894, when J. W. C. Pogue was bought out and the firm is now Pogue Brothers. The small structure that was first used has been replaced by a modern store building, two stories high and built of block and brick, the brick being burned in Lemon Cove, where a fine quality of clay can be found.

The first floor of the building is devoted to store purposes and also contains the rotunda and dining room of the Lemon Cove hotel, which is conducted by J. E. Pogue. The second floor is used for general hotel purposes and is one of the best in this section of the county. In addition to his mercantile and hotel business, Mr. Pogue is also quite extensively engaged in horticulture, owning twenty acres of land, which is set out with oranges. He has also been interested in general farming, he and others of the family farming over four thousand acres at one time, but since his mercantile business has increased to such proportions it has been impossible for him to devote much time to outside matters.

Since 1889 Mr. Pogue has served as postmaster of Lemon Cove, the name being changed in the same year from Lime Kiln. Being deeply interested in fraternal societies, he holds membership in the Woodmen of the World and is also affiliated with the Native Sons of the Golden West, being associated with Visalia Parlor. While Mr. Pogue is a young man, he has made for himself a splendid record. In this section of the county where he is best known he is honored and respected. His business ventures have proved successful and although his time has been utilized in building up his mercantile interests, he has ever been found ready to do his part as a citizen. Young and full of life, he favors progress, and may be depended upon to put his shoulder to the wheel whenever necessary.

**GUSTAVE HERMINGHAUS.** In the death of the above-named gentleman, Fresno county lost one of its most prominent citizens and the family a most kind and indulgent father and husband. The United States is indebted to Germany for many of her sturdy pioneers and to this class of citizens Gustave Herminghaus belonged. His life was a success, and the results of his labors will live for many years.

A native of Germany, Mr. Herminghaus was born on the Rhine, March 5, 1820. His father brought the family to America and settled near St. Louis, Mo., where he cleared a farm and resided until his death. On this farm Gustave Herminghaus was reared. When the work of the farm allowed he improved the opportunity and attended the district school, but in those days the youth's education was limited to a few terms in the winter. In 1850, in company with others, Mr. Herminghaus crossed the plains, the party bringing cattle through to California. On arriving here he settled on the McCosma river, where he engaged in mining until his removal to San Jose. From there he continued to Penoché, where he hunted game for the New Idra quicksilver mines at New Idra. Later he engaged in the sheep business at Penoché. About 1867 he located near White's Bridge, where he purchased and also entered land and improved a fine place, becoming one of the largest sheep owners in that section of the valley, at one time owning ten thousand head. In 1895 he sold his sheep and rented the land to H. Miller, of Miller & Lux. It is now rented to Isaac Bird of Merced county, manager of Chowchilla ranch. Two years later, in 1897, Mr. Herminghaus came to Fresno, where he continued to reside up to the time of his death, November 18, 1904, at the age of eighty-four years.

In San Jose, in 1884, Mr. Herminghaus was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Spangler, who was born in Crescent City, Del Norte county, this state, a daughter of William Spangler, who was born in Philadelphia, Pa., a son also of William, who was a manufacturer in the Quaker City. The father of Mrs. Herminghaus came to California in 1849, via the Panama route. For several years he followed mining in this state and then removed to Portland, Ore., where he engaged in the livery business. Later he removed to Idaho and still later to Walla Walla, Wash., where he was a United States mail contractor. Finally he settled in the Willamette valley, Ore., and engaged in the stock business near Eugene. Subsequently he located on the Pitt river, where he continued in the stock business until his removal to Gilroy, Santa Clara county, where he followed general farming. In 1870 he went to Penoché and engaged in teaming to the New Idra mines. Later he again went to Oregon, but in a short time returned to Santa Clara county, engaging in teaming at San Jose. His next location was in Fresno, where he lived but a short time subsequent to his locating in Stockton, where he is still living at an advanced age. He married Mary Hardin, a native of Arkansas, who came to California in the '50s and died at Penoché. She was the mother of ten children, six of whom are still living, Mrs. Herminghaus

being the second child. By her marriage Mrs. Herminghaus has two children, Bertha Genevieve and Victoria Pearl.

Mr. Herminghaus' life is a splendid example of what may be accomplished through perseverance and industry. His ranch at White's Bridge, on the San Joaquin river, contains about sixteen thousand acres, all in one body, fenced and improved. In addition to this property he erected thirteen residences in Fresno and built a brick business house which is three stories high and modern throughout. This property was accumulated in a few years. In youth and young manhood he knew what poverty was, but that same poverty was the stepping stone to his success, and hard work, energy and perseverance brought him a deserved reward for his many years of toil. This review of the life of Mr. Herminghaus carries with it encouragement and an example for the young men who start in life with no capital save manliness, courage, persistency of purpose and a willingness to work.

---

CHARLES A. SCHWEIZER. A successful and popular business man, Charles A. Schweizer is located in Fresno, conducting the most extensive and best equipped harness establishment in Fresno county. He was born in St. Paul, Minn., December 29, 1861, a son of Bernard Schweizer. The elder man was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, where he learned the trade of wagon maker. He immigrated to America and journeyed to Chicago, where he remained for a few months, locating about 1854 in St. Paul, Minn., which was then only a landing place for the boats of the Mississippi river. There he bought a lot and built a residence, for a livelihood engaging first in a saw milling enterprise, later building and conducting a wagon shop, and finally following the butcher business, the last named occupation demanding his time and attention until his retirement from the active cares of life. His death occurred in St. Paul in 1899, at the age of seventy years. He was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, having assisted materially in the erection of the first Catholic Church in St. Paul. Politically he was a Democrat. His wife, formerly Bernardina Staudacher, also a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, died in St. Paul in 1903. Of the seven children born of this union six are living, Charles A. being the third in order of birth.

Charles A. Schweizer was reared in St. Paul and received his education in the public and high schools of that city. From boyhood he assisted his father in his business and when sixteen years old was apprenticed to learn the trade of a harness maker and saddler, working with Charles Friend, who conducted the oldest estab-

lished and most extensive business of its kind in that city, the firm still occupying a leading place in such work. He served a three years' apprenticeship with Mr. Friend, and remained six months after its termination, when he went to Keokuk, Iowa, and later to Des Moines, of the same state. Gradually working his way westward, he was employed for a time in Omaha, Neb., then in Cheyenne, Wyo. In the latter place he was located from 1881 to 1887, engaged at his trade. He then came to California, and for six months following his arrival was located in San Francisco employed at his trade. Coming to Fresno in August, 1887, he established a shop of his own at No. 956 I street in partnership with Charles A. Kramer, the firm being known as Kramer & Co. For sixteen months they continued in partnership, when Mr. Schweizer bought Mr. Kramer's interest and since that time has continued alone. In the great fire of 1893 Mr. Schweizer's shop was burned to the ground, the loss but half protected by insurance. The fire occurred Saturday night and Monday morning he had rented the store which he now occupies at No. 2020 Mariposa street, restocked immediately, and by the following Saturday opened for business once more. His business is the oldest of its kind in Fresno and has developed to lucrative proportions, manufacturing nearly all of the harness which he sells, harness supplies and saddlery goods. He has bought residence property in this city, owning a home at No. 817 M street.

In Cheyenne, Wyo., Mr. Schweizer was united in marriage with Mary Ternes, a native of Luxembourg, Germany, who came to Wisconsin with her parents when only three years old. Fraternally Mr. Schweizer is associated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Woodmen of the World, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and is active in all movements pertaining to the general welfare of the community.

---

WILLIAM GASS COLLINS. A resident of California since 1874, William G. Collins has been actively engaged in the sheep business since 1876. He was born in Rhea county, Tenn., March 20, 1848, the son of James Pierce and Susan (Darwin) Collins. The former was born in Virginia, a son of Henry Collins, an early settler of East Tennessee and a farmer in Rhea county. During the Civil war he was a strong Union man. Mrs. Collins was a daughter of James Darwin, a native of Virginia, who was also an early settler of East Tennessee and whose



ancestors served in the Continental army. Both Mr. and Mrs. Collins died in Tennessee.

The third in order of birth in a family of seven children, five of whom are living, W. G. Collins spent his boyhood and youth on the paternal farm, attended the pioneer subscription schools and engaged in farm work until 1874, when he decided to come to California, believing that this state held out better inducements for young men. He located in Fresno county upon his arrival in the state and in 1876 engaged in the sheep business with his brother, Alfred S., and since that time they successfully handled thousands of sheep. They began by buying one thousand sheep, ranging them on the plains and in the foothills. As opportunity offered they increased their herds, having as high as eight thousand at one time. For a time these brothers were engaged in merchandising at Dry Creek post-office, with another brother, J. D. Collins, the present sheriff of Fresno county. A. S. and W. G. Collins raised considerable grain on eight hundred acres of land near Collis, which they later sowed partly to alfalfa and set out an orchard. They entered land and also homesteaded a tract near Academy, which was their home for several years. In 1902 they sold out and quit the grain business, and W. G. Collins erected a comfortable residence in Fresno at No. 1625 I street, where he resides. The brothers still maintain their sheep industry on Big Dry creek, near Academy.

William G. Collins was united in marriage with Lillie Rogers, who was also a native of East Tennessee, and they have two children, Sidney and Emma. Mrs. Collins is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In politics Mr. Collins is a Republican and on national issues has always worked for the party. Public-spirited, enterprising and self-made, he has worked hard to be able to give the comforts of the home his family now enjoy and establish in the county of his adoption an enviable reputation for strict integrity and honor.

**B. A. GARDNER.** Throughout his long and well directed life B. A. Gardner has exerted an influence for good, has represented the strong and capable men in American country life, and has given his practical good judgment to the development of western conditions from early pioneer days up to the present time. His mind is a storehouse of valuable information concerning the rise of the west from its crude conditions under Spanish dominion, and he has passed through the various stages of its awakening with observant eyes and intelligent brain. Mr. Gardner located on his present stock ranch of twenty acres in 1898, having an unrivaled location ad-

joining Los Banos, north of the park. His ground is all in alfalfa, and he is conducting a dairy of Durham cattle.

Mr. Gardner comes of an old eastern family, established in Rhode Island prior to the birth of his paternal grandfather, Levi Gardner, who married in his native state, and became a pioneer of Chenango county, N. Y. Job Gardner, the father of B. A., was born in Chenango county, and married Esther Chapman, a native of the same county. The oldest son of this union, L. B., is a retired jeweler of Santa Rosa; D. P., the second child, is a resident of Klamath county, Ore.; and the youngest son, T. M., is a carpenter of Santa Rosa. The youngest of these children is now sixty-five years old. The father was a man of much enterprise, evidenced in both his early and later life. He was a trustee of the first free school in New York state, a position encumbered with much responsibility and disension, owing to the trend of popular opinion. He conducted a large dairy and general farm, but was ambitious of brighter prospects, and determined to profit by the experience of his brother-in-law, J. S. Chapman, who had already established himself on the coast. Therefore, in the spring of 1853, he set out with a spring wagon and horse-team for Illinois, and in April, 1854, became one of a party which crossed the plains with two wagons and four yoke of oxen to each wagon. Coming by way of Salt Lake City, he arrived in Eldorado county, Cal., September 3, having been five months on the way. In October, 1855, he went to Santa Clara county, and in December, 1858, to Santa Cruz, purchasing a farm in the Pajaro valley, upon which he lived until his death, January 15, 1857, at the age of fifty-three years. His wife survived him for almost half a century, her death occurring April 30, 1902, at the age of ninety-one years and one month.

B. A. Gardner was one of the first pupils in the first free school of New York state. There he laid the foundation for his subsequent liberal researches. He was seventeen years old when the family started across the plains, and he drove a bull-team, and after reaching this state engaged in mining in Eldorado county. In 1855 he went with the family to Santa Cruz, assisted in the cultivation of his father's three-hundred-acre farm, and experienced the disappointment of having to relinquish their claim, owing to its being a portion of the Castro grant. In 1875 he located in Sonoma county, and in 1877 came to the west side of Merced county, where he bought a farm, which he operated for three years, and then turned it into an orchard and vineyard. Disposing of the same he located on and improved a place near Fresno, where he remained four years, when, on account of his

wife's health he bought a farm in Monterey county and proceeded to raise grain for twelve or fourteen years. In 1898 he came to his present place, which is a finely improved and profitable property.

In Watsonville, December 4, 1870, Mr. Gardner married Mary Driskell, who was born in Keokuk, Iowa, a daughter of James Driskell, a pioneer of California, and prominently identified with agricultural interests in the state. Mrs. Gardner was reared in Oregon from her seventh year, coming to California at the age of fifteen. She is the mother of four children, namely: Mannie, the wife of J. C. Myers, of Los Banos; Anna, the wife of William Wisenor, of the vicinity of Los Banos; Clarence and Loran Arthur. Mr. Gardner is a staunch Republican, but has never taken any part in the local deliberations of his party. He has served as a member of the school board for several years. Both himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church, and he was formerly superintendent of the Sunday-school. Mr. Gardner is highly esteemed in his neighborhood, and wherever he has lived has made many friends and enjoyed the prominence due a man of his earnest, generous, and painstaking nature.

ROBERT F. JACK, a successful agriculturist in the vicinity of Parlier, Fresno county, was born in Hamilton county, Tenn., February 22, 1854. His father, Robert Jack, was a native of the same state, where he engaged as a coal miner until his death. His wife, formerly Jane Martin, was born and died in Tennessee. They had a family of one son and two daughters, Robert F. Jack being the youngest. He received his education in the common schools, upon the completion of which he came to California with a brother-in-law, J. M. Heiskell, arriving in 1869, when he located in San Joaquin county. For a time he worked at farming and in 1872 bought land near Oakdale, Stanislaus county, which he cultivated for eleven years. In 1883 he came to Fresno county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in the vicinity of Parlier, two miles east of that place and four miles west of Reedley. He raised wheat until the organization of the ditch companies, which gave him sufficient water, when he devoted the greater part of his land to horticultural interests. He has planted forty acres to vines, twenty acres to alfalfa and two acres to trees, the balance of the one hundred and twenty acres which he now owns being devoted to the cultivation of hay and grain. He also owns stock in the Growers' Winery at Parlier.

In 1888, at Oakdale, Cal., Mr. Jack was united in marriage with Susan P. Heiskell, a native of Eldorado county, Cal., and they have one son,

Tyler H., who is attending the high school of Reedley. Politically Mr. Jack is a Democrat and is active in the counsels of his party. He has been a delegate to the county and state conventions, and a member of the county central committee.

JOHN HENRY JANSON. The president and manager of Chesnutwood's Business College of Fresno, Cal., John Henry Janson, has been largely instrumental in bringing the commercial course to a high grade of excellence. He is well and widely known and esteemed for his business qualities as well as for the integrity and honor of his manhood. Born in Nevada City, Cal., August 15, 1872, he is a son of John Janson, who came around Cape Horn to California in the spring of 1850, going thence to Nevada City, where he engaged in mining. He met with success in his venture, but eventually engaged in farming near that city until his retirement, when he located in Santa Cruz, where his death occurred in 1899, at the age of seventy-seven years. Fraternally he affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife, formerly Charlotte C. Johnson, came to California in an early day, and she now makes her home in Paso Robles.

John Henry Janson was the only child born to his parents. He was reared in Nevada City until attaining the age of eighteen years, attending the public schools and preparing for the profession of a teacher in Nevada county. On account of the impaired health of his father he was compelled to take charge of the farm until 1892, in which year he entered Chesnutwood's Business College, in Santa Cruz. In June, 1893, he was graduated from this institution, after which he was employed as an expert accountant. In 1896 he was asked to take a position in the college from which he had graduated, filling the chair of penmanship and bookkeeping with rare efficiency. He also became financially interested in the institution, being one of the incorporators in 1898, and was then elected to the office of president, which he has since filled. Under his presidency the college assumed a prominent place among business institutions of the Pacific coast, being now considered one of the finest in California. Up to 1901 Professor Janson was identified with the Pacific Coast Business College, of San Jose, in which he was secretary and a director until he sold out in the last-named year. In June, 1904, Chesnutwood's Business College was established in Fresno, the school opening in September of that year with an enrollment of eighty pupils. In five months' time the number increased to two hundred students, who are accommodated in the Hedges





Charles Victor

Frank Victor

building. They teach a thorough commercial course and stenography, and hope to establish a normal course upon the occupation of their new building. Thousands of young people have gone from these colleges into splendid positions of trust and responsibility.

In Santa Cruz, Cal., Mr. Janson was united in marriage with Mabel Ora Smith, a native of Vermont, a graduate of the Santa Cruz high school and Chesnutwood's Business College. They have one son, Herbert Browning. In August, 1904, Mr. Janson removed to Fresno from Santa Cruz, where he had made his home for several years. For the seven years prior to his removal he acted as president of the Young Men's Christian Association, which position he resigned at that time. He is still a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Santa Cruz, as well as of that of Fresno. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Pythias, of the Uniformed Rank, and Knights of the Maccabees, being first past commander of Santa Cruz. Politically he is a Democrat.

---

FRANK VIETOR. Fresno county is the home of many German-Americans who have been important factors in the work of developing this part of the state. Active and industrious, they have labored earnestly for the advancement of the county, realizing that as the country developed they were reaping their reward. Born in Germany March 30, 1838, Mr. Vietor is a son of John Vietor, also a native of the same country. He came to the United States in 1848, locating in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he followed his trade of weaver. In 1860 he removed to Connersville, Ind., where he engaged in the merchandise business until his death. Prior to his emigration he married Gertrude Altman, who survived her husband several years, but finally died in Cincinnati. Her marriage resulted in the birth of four children, two daughters and two sons, Frank being the second child. He was ten years old when his parents came to this country. His education was received in the Catholic schools of Cincinnati, and later he engaged as a huckster, disposing of his produce to the grocery stores and to the general public, having a stall in the public market. In 1861 he sold out and came to California, at first locating in Red Bluff, where he engaged in a general teaming and hauling business. While following this vocation he had many thrilling experiences. He was the first man to haul government goods to Klamath Lake, Oregon. While on this trip he was guided by Captain Jack, an Indian, who later was the leader of the terrible massacre at the Lava Beds. Tiring of this life, which was very trying, he went

to San Jose in 1869 and there followed the same line of business for several years. At one time he hauled flour from the mills at Los Gatos and also hauled lumber from the Big Basin. In 1872 he went to what was known as the Kimball tract, Contra Costa county, where he had charge of farming interests. Later he removed to Staten Island, in the Mokelumne river, where he acted as superintendent for Hagan & Tevis, continuing until the fall of 1881, when he came to Fresno county and in partnership with George M. Edmunds his present ranch was purchased. The tract at the time comprised three hundred and twenty acres, but the new owners cut it up into small tracts and sold all but one hundred and fifty acres which were divided between the two partners, Mr. Vietor taking eighty acres, while Mr. Evans came into possession of the balance. Since then he has followed farming and also engaged in the raisin business to quite a large extent. He has also taken a prominent part in outside enterprises, being one of the organizers of the Fowler Fruit & Raisin Packing Company, incorporated, he being the vice-president and general manager for five years and under his personal direction the business was made a success. With others he is interested in one thousand two hundred acres of land on the west side of the San Joaquin valley, and also owns a third interest in eighty acres on the McCall road.

While living in San Jose, Mr. Vietor was united in marriage with Miss Barbara Kuhn, who is a native of Germany, and to them have been born two children: Edward, in the butcher business in Fresno; and Katie, now the wife of Otto Loesch, who lives near Fowler. A staunch Republican, Mr. Vietor has been active in the affairs of his party, being for several years a member of the county central committee. The family are members of the Catholic Church and wherever known have hosts of friends who join in wishing them many years of happiness and continued prosperity.

---

LEWIS C. KEELEY. A resident of California since 1880, Mr. Keeley has become one of the leading grain farmers of Tulare county, his success in life being the result of his own well-directed efforts. While he has succeeded in accumulating a competency, no man in the county is more liberal and he never fails to respond when called upon to support a movement, either financially or otherwise. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Chester county, December 22, 1856, a son of Henry and Martha Elizabeth (Peck) Keeley. The father was also born in the Keystone state, where he followed farming and surveying. For many years he was in the employ of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad



as a civil engineer, his duties in this capacity taking him to all parts of the state. He is still living, making his home in Youngstown, Westmoreland county, Pa. His wife, who bore him six children, died in 1900.

Lewis C. Keeley remained at home and attended the district schools of Westmoreland county, whither his parents removed soon after his birth. At the age of twenty-one he started out to make his own way in the world, spending the first six months in Iowa, and subsequently locating in Tulare county, Cal., where he has since made his home. On first coming to the county he purchased land and engaged in the raising of grain, which business he has since followed with success. For several years he has been associated with his brother, John H., and together they have carried on one of the largest grain businesses in the county, at times having five thousand five hundred acres under grain. From time to time Mr. Keeley has added to his first purchase of land until he and his brother now own two thousand acres in and around the town of Lindsay. In addition to their grain interests the brothers have a stock ranch near Woodville, where they raise horses and cattle. Their ranch is well equipped with modern appliances for carrying on a large business, and besides having two combined harvesters, they also own many other labor-saving implements. The home place, which is located three miles southwest of Lindsay, is among the finest places in this part of the county.

Fraternally Mr. Keeley is a member of the Odd Fellows, but the lodge at Woodville of which he was a member has given up its charter and he has not associated himself with any other lodge. In political belief he is a Democrat and takes a deep interest in the welfare of that organization. Aside from holding the position of school trustee he has never held public office, but while a member of the board he made a hard fight for a much larger schoolhouse than was planned. As a result the district now has one of the largest and finest school buildings in the county, which gives ample room for the large attendance.

---

JOHN H. KEELEY was born in Pennsylvania in 1858. In 1879 he located in Tulare county, Cal., where for many years he has been associated in business with his brother. By his marriage with Charlotte, daughter of Julius Orton, five children have been born, namely: Lizzie, John, William, Ralph and Julius.

Mr. Keeley has never cared to take a prominent part in political matters, but is deeply interested in educational affairs and is now serving as trustee of the Lindsay school district. He

and his most estimable wife are highly respected for their many sterling traits of character and both have a large circle of warm personal friends.

---

JAMES SHARPE TANNAHILL. Born in Huntingdon county, Quebec, Canada, November 17, 1848, J. S. Tannahill is a son of John and Marian (Caldwell) Tannahill, the former born near Glasgow, Scotland. At an early day he immigrated to Canada, settling in Huntingdon county, where he cleared a farm of one hundred and fifty acres. In 1850 he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama, but after one year returned to his home in Canada, where he had left his family, and where he died a few days afterward, from a fever that he had contracted while in the west. His wife, who was also born in Scotland, became the mother of two sons and five daughters. She died at the old home in 1881.

James S. Tannahill was reared on his father's farm in Canada, making it his home until reaching his twenty-first year, when he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a miller. Two years later, in 1871, he migrated westward and finally reached California. Soon after arriving here he located in Redwood City, San Mateo county, where he secured employment as a carpenter, after conducting a mill for one month, being compelled to make the change on account of ill health. Continuing to make his residence in Redwood City until 1891, he then removed to Fresno county and engaged in ranching. During the years he lived in San Mateo county he owned and operated a planing mill and followed contracting and building most of the time. Many of the finest residences in that place and at Menlo Park were constructed by him.

The first three and one-half years of his residence in Fresno county Mr. Tannahill devoted his attention to farming and growing grapes, but at the expiration of that time moved into the city of Fresno and has since been following general contracting and building, now being one of the leading builders in the San Joaquin valley. Among the more prominent residences that he has erected may be mentioned the Kearney mansion, the home of James Brown and others. He has also erected for himself a nice home at No. 442 Blackstone avenue.

While living in San Mateo county Mr. Tannahill was united in marriage with Isabelle Stewart and to them have been born seven children, namely: Marion, Archibald, Leslie, Norman, Jennie, Wallace and Gertrude. Politically Mr. Tannahill is a staunch Republican and while he does not care to take an active part in public affairs, he is deeply interested in the questions of the day, and while living in Redwood City



was for three years a member of the city council. In fraternal relations he holds membership with the Improved Order of Red Men and the Order of St. Andrew. Starting at the bottom of the ladder, he has gradually forged his way to the front and by the exercise of his own efforts has accumulated a comfortable competency and has attained a position of influence in the state.

---

GEORGE F. STANIFORD. A prominent place among the business men of Fresno is accorded George F. Staniford, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and one of the enterprising and substantial citizens of this city. He is a native of Rockport, Mass., where his birth occurred March 2, 1855. His ancestors were of English descent who located in the colonies and were active as patriots during the Revolutionary war. His father, Daniel Staniford, was born in Ipswich, Mass., in which state he engaged in farming for many years, finally removing to Brooklyn, N. Y., where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Caroline Fawcett, was born in New York City, the child of English parents. Her father, William Fawcett, was a master mechanic in England and came to America to superintend the launching of the first steamboat, the Clermont, for Robert Fulton. He followed his trade in New York City, where his death occurred. Mrs. Staniford died in Brooklyn, leaving a large family of children, four of whom were born of her first marriage to Frederick Weber, a banker of New York City, and five children by her union with Mr. Staniford. Of the four children, only two are living, both being residents of San Leandro. Of the second marriage all the children are living, the only one in California being George F., of Fresno.

George F. Staniford made his home in Massachusetts until he was fifteen years old, removing at that time to Brooklyn. He received his education in the public schools of Rockport and Salen, and after locating in Brooklyn he attended a commercial college. Entering business life, he filled the position of bookkeeper for the Montauk Insurance Company for six and a half years. In 1878 he came to California and locating at Riverside improved an orange grove and vineyard, a ten-acre tract, which he sold two years later. He then located in San Francisco and entered the insurance business as bookkeeper, retaining the position for six years, then engaging as traveling special agent for the City of London, Scottish Union and National, and the Home Mutual Fire and Marine Insurance Companies. During this period he located his home in Fresno, bringing his family here in 1890, in which year he established an insurance business in this city,

a local agency for many of the old line companies. In 1898 he sold his business and in July of the same year became associated with the Raisin Growers' Association, having assisted materially in its organization. He became chief clerk and held the position until September, 1903, subsequently holding other positions with the association until December, 1904, when he accepted the secretaryship of the Chamber of Commerce, which has five hundred and twenty members, being the largest business men's association in the San Joaquin valley. In 1904 the Chamber built the Chamber of Commerce building, which is given over to conventions, etc., as well as containing a complete exhibit of California products. They had a magnificent exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904, where the county took the grand prize and several gold and silver medals.

Mr. Staniford has built a beautiful home at the corner of Belmont and Van Ness avenues, which is presided over by his wife, formerly Virginia Lee Jamison, whom he married in Fresno. She is a native of Stanislaus county, and the daughter of Harvey Jamison, a pioneer of that county, and a highly respected citizen, who ably filled the office of county assessor of Stanislaus county for many years, and who is remembered for his many good qualities of head and heart. Mr. and Mrs. Staniford have two children, Kenneth Jamison and Warren Paul. Mrs. Staniford is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Fraternal-ly Mr. Staniford affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, Fraternal Brotherhood, and the New England Society of Fresno, which he served as president. Politically he is a staunch Republican and has served as a member of the county central committee.

---

THOMAS STILWELL, an esteemed resident of Exeter, was born in Illinois, March 26, 1866, a son of Hiram Stilwell. The latter was a native of Indiana and a farmer by occupation. When but a mere boy he left his native state with his parents, and removed to Illinois. In 1860 he went to Denver, Colo., during the gold excitement, but returned to Illinois the same year, where he remained until the fall of 1868. He then moved to Missouri, where he remained until 1880, when he went to Kansas. In 1882 he crossed the plains to Oregon and then came to California in 1885, and settled near Farmersville, and later at Camp Badger, where he was engaged in stock-raising until his death, which occurred May 10, 1896. His wife, formerly Ann Howard, a native of Indiana, survives him, now making her home near Exeter. They were the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter, all of whom attained maturity. Thomas

Stilwell being the second in order of birth. He was reared in Illinois, Bates county, Mo., and Neosho county, Kans. In 1882 he came to California and began farming and stock-raising, which double occupation he has since followed. He now has a residence on the Portersville road upon his ranch of four hundred acres, all devoted to the raising of graded cattle, Short-horns, etc., while he rents four hundred and eighty acres which is planted to grain. He married Emma Pickett, and they have one daughter, Agnes Lowell. Mrs. Stilwell is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, of Visalia. Fraternally Mr. Stilwell is identified with the Woodmen of the World.

Mrs. Stilwell is a daughter of Dr. Daniel LaF. Pickett, who was born in North Carolina, January 28, 1828, of Quaker parents. He attended a medical college in North Carolina, from which he graduated with the degree of M.D., after which he practiced in his native state for some time. He then went to Missouri and spent the winter of 1849-50 and thence, in 1850, crossed the plains by means of ox teams. He made his home in various places on the coast, spending some time in Oregon and Nevada. Eventually he came to California and bought a farm near Farmersville, Tulare county, where he practiced medicine in connection with his horticultural interests for many years. About thirty years ago he gave up the practice of his profession. In 1884 he homesteaded a ranch on the Portersville road, where he made his home until his death, January 2, 1905. Fraternally he was a prominent Mason, and politically cast his ballot with the Republican party. He served at different times as clerk of the school board, filling that office at the time of his death, and had also acted as justice of the peace. His wife, formerly Catherine Josephine O'Brien, was a native of Ireland, and died in San Diego. They had no children, but reared as their own, Emma Pickett, now the wife of Thomas Stilwell, who gave to them the care and affection of a daughter.

---

JEFFERSON D. STATHAM. The son of a pioneer, Jefferson D. Statham was born in Fresno county, August 21, 1862, and reared among the primitive scenes and conditions incident to the early days of the state. His father, Albert H. Statham, was born in 1832 in Virginia, from which state he emigrated in boyhood to Arkansas, whence he participated in the Mexican war as drummer boy. Deciding to locate in the remote west where opportunities were more abundant, he crossed the plains in 1852, taking the southern route through Texas (in which state he met his wife) and upon his safe arrival in California

located on Arkansas Flat, on Kings river. He engaged in the stock business and also teamed to Stockton, San Joaquin county, in 1868 entering land and moving on the plains. He located his home a half-mile from Centerville, where he bought three hundred and twenty acres and followed the raising of sheep. He eventually bought land in the vicinity of Sanger, Fresno county, and also at Lone Tree, owning about twelve hundred acres, when, in 1876, he located in Fresno and later sold his land. He first engaged in the livery business in this city, and followed that with a meat market, finally engaging in a real estate enterprise. In 1886 he removed to Los Angeles, where he purchased property and made that city his home until his death in 1900. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and one of the founders of the church in Fresno. His wife, formerly Serepta Akers, was a native of Arkansas, who died in 1870. They became the parents of the following children: George, located in Montana; James, engaged in the real estate business in Fresno; Jefferson, of this review; Albert, of Los Angeles; Marvin, who died in Fresno; and Rosa, the wife of C. G. Hinds, of Alameda.

Until he was fourteen years old Jefferson D. Statham was reared in Centerville, where he attended the district school, and after his location in Fresno in 1876 he completed his education in the public schools. At the age of sixteen years he began work for himself, farming and teaming in various localities in the San Joaquin valley. Two years after his marriage, which occurred February 14, 1883, Mr. Statham went to Pendleton, Ore., where he engaged extensively in the stock business, dealing in both cattle and horses. He remained in that location for four years, when he returned to California and settled in Madera county. He followed the butcher business and the raising of stock in Raymond until 1896, when he located in Fresno county, purchasing a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres located one mile northeast of Conejo. This ranch is under irrigation from the Emigrant and Fowler Switch ditches, and is devoted to alfalfa, where he is also engaged in stock raising—cattle, horses and mules,—being largely interested in bringing cattle from Arizona. In addition to his own property he also rents land. In 1898 he bought a small ranch at the corner of Church and East avenues, where he made his home until 1902, when he moved into Fresno. He owned the southwest corner of Mariposa and M streets, and in 1904 put up the Mariposa Hotel, a commodious and comfortable hostelry which covers nearly four lots. His personal interests are entirely given over to the raising of stock.

Mrs. Statham was in maidenhood Ida Helm, a





MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH MINGHETTI

native of Princeton, Mariposa county, and the daughter of Allen Helm, who was a native of Missouri. His father located in that state and later crossed the plains to California in 1852. He followed farming in Merced county and also in Mariposa county, his death occurring on one of his ranches in the latter county in the fall of 1876. Brought to the state in 1852 Allen Helm became a farmer in manhood near Merced, now owning a farm and stock ranch in the lower foothills in Mariposa county. His wife, formerly Melvina Smith, a native of Arkansas, was a daughter of William Smith, who crossed the plains to California and settled near Centerville, where his death occurred. Mrs. Helm died in Fresno county February 28, 1873, leaving two children of the three born to herself and husband, Mrs. Statham being the eldest. Mrs. Statham is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Politically Mr. Statham is a Democrat.

**JOSEPH MINGHETTI.** A native of Switzerland, Mr. Minghetti was born in that country May 24, 1836, a son of Joseph and Lucy (Marzorini) Minghetti. The father was a shoe-maker by trade and also followed farming to some extent: His union with Miss Marzorini was blessed by the birth of six children. Both the parents are deceased.

Joseph Minghetti was the oldest child and is now the only one living. His education was obtained in the common schools of his native country, where he later engaged in farming until 1856, when he went to Australia. After remaining there five years he went to New Zealand, where for the same length of time he worked in the gold mines. In 1866 he returned to his native country and three years later immigrated to the United States. For a time he lived in Iowa and Nebraska, working on the railroad for three years. At the expiration of this time he made another trip to his old home, but the following year, 1875, returned to this country and located in Fresno county, near Kingsburg. There he took up one hundred and sixty acres of land and engaged in the raising of cattle and general farming. In 1885 he sold that place and located on the ranch that has since been his home, which consists of five hundred acres, two miles south of Conejo. It is one of the best farms in the valley and here he conducts a very successful stock and dairy business, having about one hundred milch cows.

Mr. Minghetti was united in marriage with Catherine Kelley, a native of Ireland. Both are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Minghetti is a Republican in politics. He has never cared for political honors, preferring to devote his

whole time to the building up of his business, a policy which has proven successful, as today he is one of the leading agriculturists of Fresno county and an influential citizen. Starting in life without a dollar, he has labored hard to accumulate a competency and that he has accomplished his aims reflects much credit upon his industry and ability. Both he and his estimable wife are popular with a large circle of friends and are welcome visitors in the homes of the leading people of the county.

**CHARLES W. MUSICK** is the secretary of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, one of the most extensive industrial interests of this section. He is a native son of the state, his birth having occurred in Yolo county, May 8, 1863. His father, James J. Musick, was born in Missouri and reared to young manhood on a farm. In 1849 he became a victim to the gold fever and crossed the plains to California, where he engaged in mining on Feather and Yuba rivers. Later he sought the less uncertain fortunes of a farmer, locating in Yolo county and later in Napa county. In 1881 he came to Fresno county and began the manufacture of lumber, locating and purchasing timber lands on Pine Ridge, which he continued to purchase until he owned about two thousand five hundred acres. He built a mill on this tract on what is known as Musick Meadows, under the firm name of J. J. Musick & Sons. Their mills were operated by steam and with a capacity of twenty-five thousand feet per day. He conducted the business successfully until his death, which occurred in 1891. He was a man of strong convictions, a Methodist in religion and a Republican in politics. His wife, formerly Mary W. Gardner, was a native of Arkansas, who came to California in the early '50s. She survives her husband and makes her home in Pasadena, Los Angeles county, Cal. They became the parents of six children, of whom three sons and two daughters are living. One son, H. L., a resident of Pasadena, is also interested in the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company.

Next to the oldest of the living children of his parents, Charles W. Musick was reared on his father's farm in Yolo and Napa counties, receiving his education in the public schools. He located with his parents in Fresno in 1881, after which he took a commercial course in the Stockton Business College, from which institution he was graduated in 1888. In that year he assumed active management of the J. J. Musick & Sons lumber concern. Upon the death of his father in 1891 the firm became known as Musick Brothers. The business was successfully conducted until 1893, when the mill was burned



down. They did not rebuild, as they had already become interested in the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, and had assisted in the organization of the old Pine Ridge Flume and Irrigation Company, which was later absorbed by the former company. In 1894 he began giving his attention to the business in Fresno and in 1898 he succeeded his brother (who resigned in that year), to the office of secretary and director, which he has since held. (For more complete details concerning the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, refer to the sketch of Charles B. Shaver, which appears elsewhere in this volume.)

In Amador county, Cal., Mr. Musick was united in marriage with Eva M. Marchand, a native of Oakland. Fraternally he is identified with the Native Sons of the Golden West, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and is active in all movements pertaining to the development of the city, county or state.

---

**CAMILLA RANCH.** Orange growing in California is perhaps the most profitable of all the outdoor pursuits that have made the Golden State so attractive to the homeseeker; certainly it is the most alluring. There is a nameless something about an orange grove that appeals to the man from the east, satisfying to the full the longing that fills his heart when his mind's eye draws its picture of California. The orange grove is not the alpha and omega of California attractions by any means; nevertheless it is the first thing the man from east of the Rockies hopes to see.

"But how can I get an orange grove unless I go to California," is the plaint of one man. Another says, "I want an orange grove, but I cannot leave here now, and I want it ready to support me when I get there. What am I to do?" The Camilla Ranch Company answers both these questions. In fact the Camilla Ranch Company came into existence for the exact purpose of meeting these and other "long-felt wants" of the orange industry. And it was in response to the scores of letters in this vein from eastern friends that the Camilla Ranch Company evolved its unique proposition.

Briefly, the Camilla people have put forth a proposition something like an interchangeable mileage book. It is good for land or it is good for dividends. If you cannot look after your land now, draw dividends on your investment. When you are ready for your land, hand in your stock, get your deed and the land is yours. Simple, isn't it? And you can do this when you

want to, in a month, a year, two years or five years. When you want to, not when somebody else wants you to. No restrictions. It is all at your option. When you get your deed the land is absolutely yours—no strings tied to it.

The Camilla Ranch Company is the absolute owner of one hundred and ninety-five acres of the choicest and most fertile orange land in Tulare county, the banner orange growing district of the state. The property is fully equipped in every way, with its own wells and pumping plant, houses, barns, live stock and implements, and is today a paying property. Its earnings for 1905 will approximate \$25,000, which would pay the handsome dividend of sixteen and two-thirds per cent. on \$150,000. The property is situated at Lindsay, in the heart of the Tulare orange district. There is no finer nor more productive orange property in all of California.

Nine years ago one hundred and twenty acres of this property were planted to navel and Valencia oranges and the condition of this fine grove today is sufficient evidence of the care and good management it has had. It is well known as one of the best and most productive groves of that region of splendid orange properties.

The property has three fine wells from which water for irrigation is pumped by electric power. By means of large underground pipes the water is conducted to the various parts of the ranch as required. The efficiency of the Camilla irrigation system is well known to everyone in the Lindsay district. This irrigation system will at once be incorporated and stock issued, free of charge, to the purchasers of Camilla orange land, in the ratio of one share to every acre. The owner of a Camilla orange grove is thus assured of all the water required for his trees, at a minimum expense.

The Lindsay district's greatest advantage in the growing of oranges lies in the early ripening of all citrus fruits, due to the higher elevation and extreme dryness of the climate. The rich, sedimentary soil, which requires no fertilization, also plays its part in bringing the Lindsay orange to the perfection which distinguishes it. The navel orange in the Lindsay district is ready for the market early in November, six weeks ahead of the southern fruit.

The Lindsay oranges, navels and Valencias, will average a net profit to the grower of not less than \$1 per box in the packing house, and often far more. In order to be conservative, we estimate the yield for Camilla ranch at only two and one-half boxes to the tree for navel and four boxes for Valencia oranges, and for the other forty-seven acres at one box per tree. We estimate the net price in the packing house at only \$1 per box, though such a low price, with one



exception, has not been known in the history of Lindsay.

Thus we have for Camilla Ranch 8,800 navels, 22,000 boxes, \$22,000; 4,400 Valencias, 17,600 boxes, \$17,600; and for the other forty-seven acres planted later, 5,500 trees, 5,500 boxes, \$5,500. Total gross profits, \$45,100. From this deduct cost of working ranch as above, \$6,800; net returns, \$38,300.

The yield of fruit, and consequently the profits, will continue to increase for the next ten years or more.

---

COLUMBUS WATSON ELLIOTT. Very early in the history of the United States Andrew Elliott came to this country from Scotland and settled in Maine, where he built and operated a grist and saw mill at New Portland, remaining in the same town as long as he lived. He was a man of sturdy principles, irreproachable character and a devoted member of the Baptist Church. After his death the mill was managed by his son, Robert, who was born in New Portland and continued there until his death. Afterward the old mill descended to the hands of his son James, who like himself had been born and reared in New Portland, and this third owner of the mill not only superintended its management, but also followed the millwright's trade and built mills in different parts of Maine. After retiring from business affairs he turned the mill over to the charge of his son-in-law, D. Butler, and it still remains in the family. In religious belief James Elliott was a Universalist. At the time of his death he was seventy-four years of age. By his marriage to Rebecca Kasley, who was born in Maine and died there at the age of seventy, he had three children, of whom Columbus Watson was second in order of birth, and he and a sister are the only survivors. He was born at the old home place in New Portland, Me., June 17, 1841, and received a common-school education in the town, after which he was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade.

On leaving home in 1867 Mr. Elliott went to Minnesota, where he engaged in the building business at Lakeland, Washington county. From there he came to California in 1873 and endeavored to secure work in San Diego, but the building business was dull, so he sought other employment. Going thirty-two miles east of that city he began to farm a raw tract of land, but at the end of a year he had nothing but debts to show for all his hard work, so he decided it would be wise to seek another location. Packing his blankets, he proceeded to the Julian mines, where he worked for two years. With the money thus secured he returned to his ranch and remained there three years, paying off all of his

indebtedness by 1879. During that year he came to Tulare county and settled at Cross Creek, where he followed the carpenter's trade. In 1880 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land at \$5 an acre and two years later settled on the tract, at once beginning the improvement of the wild land. Not a tree was in sight and no buildings had been erected, but it was not many years before the place had taken on a homelike appearance under his capable oversight and constant care. For three years he gave his attention entirely to raising wheat, but since then he has raised other kinds of grain and has also made a specialty of the stock business. A small part of the land has been sold, but he still owns one hundred and forty acres, situated six miles southwest of Dinuba and four and one-half miles north of Traver.

The marriage of Mr. Elliott was solemnized at the Snedeker home near Smith Mountain, Fresno county, and united him with Laura Snedeker, who was born in New Orleans, La., of German descent, came to California in 1873, and died in Tulare county on the home farm, February 22, 1904, leaving to mourn her loss Mr. Elliott and their four children, Amy, Etta, Claudia and Ira. Among the people of his community Mr. Elliott is highly esteemed for his qualities of mind and heart that have contributed to his success and have made him a progressive and public-spirited citizen. Though not active in politics, he has been a pronounced Republican ever since attaining his majority, and in 1894 he was his party's candidate for county supervisor, but, not desiring the office, he refused to enter into the work of the campaign, yet, notwithstanding his indifference, he lost only by two votes against two opponents, a fact which proves his popularity among associates and acquaintances.

---

A. H. GREELEY. A native son of California, Mr. Greeley was born in Dutch Flat, Placer county, October 7, 1865, a son of J. F. Greeley, whose sketch appears on another page of this work. A. H. Greeley was reared in Truckee until reaching his fifteenth year, attending the public schools of that place. In 1881 he came to Fresno and secured a position as clerk in a store, in this way working his way through the public schools. In 1885 he entered the State Agricultural College at Manhattan, Kans., where he remained for four years. On returning to California he resumed clerking, but soon after, in company with Herbert Bishop, started a grocery store in Fresno under the firm name of Bishop & Greeley. Later he sold out and entered the employ of F. J. Burleigh as a bookkeeper, continuing at this for eight years. At the expiration of this time,

in 1901, Mr. Greeley established himself in the grain business. Since then he has gradually enlarged his business until now he is one of the leading wholesale commission dealers in Fresno, dealing in dried fruit, raisins, grain, live stock, nuts, beans, onions, potatoes, etc. At Clovis he has erected a large and well-equipped packing house, while his office and salesrooms are located at No. 1925 Tulare street, Fresno.

In Oakland, Mr. Greeley was united in marriage with Miss Ella Brownell, who was born at "The Oakes," near Stockton, a daughter of Russell G. Brownell, who is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and one of the pioneer settlers of California. To Mr. and Mrs. Greeley have been born three children: Albertha, Edna and Margaret.

Fraternally, Mr. Greeley is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. In politics he follows in the footsteps of his father, being an ardent supporter of the men and measures of the Republican party. He has been prominent in the affairs of the county, at one time was a candidate for the office of county tax collector, but was defeated by but two hundred and seventy votes. This was considered a remarkable record, as the county is strongly Democratic.

Mr. Greeley has made his own way in the world since reaching young manhood. He worked his way through school, but has never regretted the time and money spent in securing an education. Today he is looked upon as one of the leading young men of the county, but while he has been very busy looking after his own affairs he has never neglected his duties as a citizen.

**LEWIS N. LAIRD.** A native of Illinois, Mr. Laird was born in Jefferson county, near the town of Mount Vernon, October 25, 1849. His father, Joseph Laird, migrated from his native state, Kentucky, to Illinois in 1816. Locating in Jefferson county he engaged in farming and also taught school several terms. After several years he removed to Kansas, but soon returned to Jefferson county, where he continued farming and where his death occurred at the age of fifty-one years in 1869. He married Emma Allen, a native of Kentucky, who died in Illinois in 1880. Eight children were born of this union, Lewis N. being the youngest boy and the fourth child. As soon as old enough he assisted his father in the work of the farm, his education being limited to attendance at the district school during the winter months. In those days the youth's training was more in the line of hard work than in study, but Mr. Laird, in latter years has read extensively and is now a well-posted man. After the death of his father he engaged in farming near Ashley, Ill., where he remained until 1882, the year of his arrival in California. Locating on his present

place he purchased eighty acres of land which adjoins the town of Parlier. The entire tract is highly improved, twenty acres being devoted to a vineyard, fifteen acres to trees, and the balance to alfalfa and general farming.

While still a resident of Illinois he was united in marriage with Miss Pocahontas Glazbrook, who was born in Tennessee April 21, 1858. To Mr. and Mrs. Laird have been born seven children, namely: Nora, now Mrs. J. R. Baird; Andrew; Annie, who is attending the State Normal school at San Jose; Mary, a student in the high school in Reedley; Orlie, Bessie and Edgar, all at home.

Mr. Laird and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he being one of the trustees. In politics he has always been a Republican, but has never cared to take an active part in public affairs. Starting out in life without money, Mr. Laird has been successful, and now that he has reached old age he and his wife are enjoying the results of his hard labor. Both are very popular and have hosts of friends.

**LOUIS WEGNER.** Merced has no more earnest or practical advocate of progress than is found in its popular and successful builder and contractor, Louis Wegner. This typical German-American, who, since 1902, has been a helpful and influential member of the board of trustees of Merced, is a native of Preetz, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, where he was born October 29, 1859, next to the youngest in a family of seven children, four of whom are living. Of these, two sons and one daughter are in America, William being a carpenter in the employ of his brother Louis. For generations Schleswig-Holstein has been the home of this family, and on one of its fertile farms the paternal grandfather was born and passed his entire life, the same region being the birthplace also of John Wegner, the father of Louis, who left the farm and engaged in the carpenter and builder trade at Kiel. He was an energetic and resourceful man, worked up a large trade, and was well known for his thrift and ingenuity as a workman. In early life he married Margaret Tiedemann, who was born in Hanover, and after whose death at an advanced age, he retired from active duties, his last years being spent with his son in Merced, Cal., where his death occurred at the age of seventy-six years.

Louis Wegner lived in Preetz until 1869, and then removed to Kiel, where he attended the public schools and graduated from the high school. At the age of sixteen he apprenticed to his father as a carpenter, and further qualified for his life work by taking a course at the architectural school at Eckernförde, from which he





*A. C. Halladay*

was duly graduated at the expiration of three years of steady application. The following year, in 1879, he entered the army, becoming a soldier in Company 3, Thirty-first German Infantry, later being transferred to One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry, in the latter serving as drum major, and attaining the rank of sergeant. Receiving his honorable discharge after three years of military service, in 1882, he came to New York in September, and thence to California, where he joined his brother in carpenter work in Merced.

Possessing the grit and determination of his race, and realizing the opportunities by which he was surrounded, Mr. Wegner soon made his influence felt, not only as a builder, but as a promoter of general improvements. From carpenter work he advanced to contracting and building, an occupation which he has followed uninterruptedly in Merced and vicinity since 1884. Many of the best residences and public buildings in the town and county are due to his combined effort as architect and builder. He drew the plans for the Wolfsen house, erected the Gillett, James King, George Koehler, and other residences, the Koehler home being one of the finest in Merced county. Dixon's drug store was both designed and built by him as was also his own commodious and modern residence at No. 619 Twenty-third street.

Before leaving Kiel Mr. Wegner was united in marriage with Benedicta Nicholzen, a native also of Schleswig-Holstein, and who died in Merced. His second marriage was celebrated May 11, 1896, his wife being Hedwig Wallenfels, a native of San Francisco, and daughter of Frederick Wallenfels, who was born in Frankfort, Germany. Mr. Wallenfels lived four years in New York after immigrating to America, and in 1873 came to San Francisco, where he engaged in the insurance business for the balance of his life. His wife was formerly Francisca Greenthaler, who at present lives in Mill Valley, and who is the mother of two children, the youngest of whom, Blanche, is the wife of Rheinhold Koehler of Merced. For years Mr. Wegner has taken an active interest in Democratic politics, although he entertains exceedingly liberal views regarding local political undertakings. He was a member of the county central committee, and in 1902 was elected a member of the board of trustees of Merced, and chairman of the street committee. During his term of service marked improvements have been noted, including better kept sidewalks and the laying of cement walks. He insists upon cleanliness in the streets and alleys, and of innovations of a substantial and lasting nature. Mr. Wegner is a firm believer in the benefits of municipal ownership, and is working hard to secure city possession of the water-

works and electric lighting plant. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Merced, of which he is past grand, the encampment of which he has been chief patriarch for three terms; the Woodmen of the World; and the Druids, of which he is a past officer. In religion, as on other subjects interesting the human race, he is broad and tolerant. Mr. Wegner is deservedly popular with his business, social and political associates, and is regarded as a man of high ideals. He is genial and approachable, generous in his contributions to causes meriting his assistance, and considerate and thoughtful of the men who are in his employ.

ANTONE CHARLES PALLADINE. A native of sunny Italy, Mr. Palladine was born in that far away country July 25, 1854, a son of Caesar and Maria Louisa (Falvelia) Palladine. The father was born in France and was a colonel in the French army. After resigning his commission he removed to Italy, where he married and where he resided until his death, at the age of seventy-eight years. He became a very wealthy, influential man, and made his home near the city of Rome. His wife was born in Italy, and there her death occurred. She became the mother of nine children.

A. C. Palladine was educated in his native country by the Jesuit fathers and was graduated as a civil engineer. Coming to the United States in 1885 he first located in San Jose, Cal., where he was engaged in wine manufacturing for ten years, conducting the Pacific Wine Company. Later he was employed by C. Carpy & Co., until 1893, when he joined an Italian colony and located in Madera, where he acted as manager of the winery and vineyards, the latter comprising one thousand five hundred acres. In 1902 he came to Kingsburg, where he has since made his home. For a time after locating here he acted as manager of the winery of the Italian-Swiss Colony.

While living in San Jose Mr. Palladine was united in marriage with Kate Eagan, a native of county Clare, Ireland, and a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Casey) Eagan. Mrs. Palladine came to California with an aunt. To this union have been born four children, Chester, Ben, Katie and Walter, all living at home.

Mr. Palladine is quite prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Masons, having joined the order in Rome, where he also attained to the Scottish Rite degree. He is also a member of San Jose Lodge No. 242, I. O. O. F., the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Foresters. In politics he is independent, voting for the candidate who, in his opinion, is best

qualified for the office. Since coming to Fresno county he has met with splendid success, taking advantage of opportunities as they presented themselves. Both he and his estimable wife are highly respected and have a large circle of friends.

---

**WILBUR F. CHANDLER.** For fifteen years a resident of Fresno county, Wilbur F. Chandler has become known as one of the successful men of this section, and one whose efforts have been given toward the upbuilding and promotion of all movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community. He was born in De Witt county, Ill., in 1855, and is descended on the paternal side from one of three brothers who left Wales at an early date for a home in America, settling in Massachusetts. He is a son of Hiram and Rachel (Manlove) Chandler, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Ohio. In 1852 his father removed to De Witt county, Ill., where he followed farming until his death. His wife also died in that locality. In the common schools of that county Wilbur F. Chandler received his mental training, and at the same time was instructed in the practical duties which fell to his lot as the son of a farmer. He remained at home until 1889, when he came to California as he was a firm believer in the advantages of the west over the east, especially to the young men of ambitious temperament.

Locating at once in Fresno county, Mr. Chandler purchased one half section of land three miles north of Selma, and his interests have since been centered in this locality. Planting two hundred and fifty acres of this tract in vines, he subsequently sold all but about one hundred and fifty acres, and of this only a small portion is reserved for orchards for family use, the remainder being one extensive vineyard of the Muscat or raisin grape. That this venture proved a success is demonstrated by the following figures: In the year 1902 the first crop consisted of one hundred and eighty tons and when sold averaged \$71 per ton; the second crop yielded sixty-four tons and averaged \$65 per ton. After deducting the cost of raising, this leaves a good profit, fully justifying all expenditures. In 1898 Mr. Chandler purchased a half interest in the Home Oil Company, which at the time of its incorporation had a capital stock of \$100,000, worth \$100 per share. After being connected with the company for several years he disposed of his holdings and turned his attention to the Kern Oil Company, of which he is president. This company operates along the Kern river, where it owns four hundred and eighty acres of land. The company was incorporated with a capital stock of \$100,000, each share worth \$1, but the value has now increased

to \$5. In addition to his connection with the above company Mr. Chandler is a director of the Associated Oil Company of San Francisco, which conducts operations in Kern and other counties and was formed by the consolidation of a number of minor companies. This company was incorporated in January, 1902, with a capital stock of \$40,000,000, shares valued at \$1 each, and at the present time \$18,000,000 worth of stock has been issued, showing the demand for shares to be unusually large. The output of oil is four hundred and ninety thousand barrels per month, or over one hundred car loads per day. Mr. Chandler also owns a two-thirds interest in the Pittsburg Oil Company, which has one thousand acres in Kern county, and aside from his interest in these oil fields he is identified with the Farmers' National Bank of Selma, of which he is a director.

Mr. Chandler was united in marriage in Illinois with Edna M. Goble, a native of that state. Several children, all sons, blessed this union, and five are living. They are named as follows: Howard H.; Chester W., who died at the age of ten years; Clayton I.; Ray L.; Roscoe; and Charles. One, the fourth child, died in infancy. Politically a Republican and one of the most active men in his party in this locality, Mr. Chandler was their choice for assemblyman in 1900, serving one term, at the end of which time, in 1904, his re-election followed. He is particularly active in educational work, having served twenty-three years as a trustee, a greater part of this time as clerk of the board.

---

**W. D. COATES,** as manager of the Sperry Flour Company, is demonstrating his ability as a business man, his keen and far-sighted judgment resulting in a success for the company and a personal success, which places him among the representative men of this section. He was born at Peru, La Salle county, Ill., November 1, 1848, a son of John Coates, of Norristown, Montgomery county, Pa. The elder man, before the Black Hawk war, located in La Salle county, Ill., and engaged as a grain merchant, having a large warehouse located on the Illinois River. It was a receiving point for wheat up to the time of the railroads, and he carried on an extensive business for many years. His death occurred in that location in 1863. He was prominent in all local affairs, taking part in all movements calculated to advance the general welfare. He served in the Black Hawk war, which occurred after his location in Illinois. His wife was a descendant of the Russell and Bull families of New England. Their only son was W. D. Coates, who, at the age of twelve years, enlisted in the navy and served un-



der Commodore W. D. Porter on the gunboat Essex, being located for five months, in 1862, in the Mississippi River. He received his education in the high school at Peru, and on attaining manhood went south and assumed the managership of an ice company, with headquarters at Memphis, Tenn. He came to California in 1875 and located in San Francisco, where he remained for fourteen years. He then came to Fresno and was identified with the Fresno Milling Company as bookkeeper, this company afterward being absorbed by the Sperry Flour Company. Mr. Coates became manager of the latter, and has since conducted its affairs with profit. The mill at Fresno is new and modern in every way, being the first mill in California operated by electricity; it has a capacity of five hundred barrels per day, employs a large force and adds greatly to the industrial life of the community.

In Memphis, Tenn., Mr. Coates was united in marriage with Kate Dixon, a native of Jackson, Miss., and they are the parents of four children, namely: Frank, a traveling salesman, located in Portland, Ore.; Lee, associated with the Roeding Fig Company, of Fresno; William D., Jr., attending the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia; and John, at home. The family are members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Coates is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and socially is identified with the Sequoia Club.

---

DAVID COWAN SAMPLE. The success achieved by David Cowan Sample has been the result entirely of his own efforts, for he came to California with nothing but courage, energy and ability as a foundation for the competence he hoped to win. Beginning at the bottom of the ladder he has not only acquired wealth in the shape of real estate, grain lands, stock, etc., but is honored and esteemed as one of the first citizens of Fresno county—liberal, public-spirited and enterprising, and one who is always eager to give his best efforts toward the upbuilding and progress of his adopted state. Born in Lexington, Miss., February 12, 1849, he is a son of Isaac Sample, a native of South Carolina, and the descendant of an old Scotch family. The latter removed to Lexington, Miss., where he engaged in farming until his death when his son was a child. His wife, formerly Mary H. Dulany, of North Carolina, was a daughter of Daniel Dulany, of the same state, who served in the war of 1812 as a colonel. He was a large landowner in Mississippi, where his death occurred. Mrs. Sample also died in Mississippi, leaving a family of three sons and one daughter, of whom David Cowan was the youngest.

His father's plantation, the "Cypress," was

about nine miles from Lexington, and there David Cowan Sample was reared to young manhood. He received his education in the private schools of Lexington. At the age of fifteen years he left school and home and joined the Confederate army as a scout under General Forest, furnishing his own horse, and serving until the close of the war. The home plantation was devastated, the slaves and stock gone, and farming implements destroyed, so Mr. Sample found employment as a clerk. After one year he once more entered a private school in Lexington, where he remained for a like period, when he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, in company with Major and Mrs. Thomas P. Nelson. He went to Dry creek, where he worked for wages for two years, when he went into the sheep business for himself. He met with success and began at once the purchase of lands, now owning eighteen sections of land, on the plains and foothills, farming land on Dry creek, and stock ranches on Sails and Holland creeks. He farms about three thousand acres of grain land, and in the Holland creek country has some small lemon and orange groves, the land being peculiarly adapted to the cultivation of oranges. The land is of such quality that tomato vines grow all the year round. He is also largely interested in stock raising, dealing in Shorthorns, Durhams, and full-blooded and high-grade stock. His range is all under fence and is modern and improved in every way, his home being located on Dry creek, nineteen miles northeast of Fresno. In the meantime he became interested in property in Fresno and is still identified with many business enterprises of this city. He is president of the Carl & Sample Carriage Company, the most extensive and modern enterprise of its kind in the San Joaquin valley. In January, 1904, he was one of the organizers of the Fresno Meat Company, of which he is acting as president and manager. The packing house, which was built two miles west of Fresno, was consumed by fire in January, 1905, but they are now rebuilding the plant, which is the most extensive business in the valley. The offices of the company are located in the Barton Opera House, at the corner of Fresno and J streets, where they carry on a large wholesale and retail business. He was also an organizer of the Tahipathy Power Company, of which he is acting as president. This is established in Blue Canon, on the middle fork of Kings river, where the company expect to erect a modern power plant to distribute power throughout the San Joaquin valley. There is a fall of thirty-three hundred and sixty feet in a twenty-three-foot stream at lowest water. This is the most extensive water proposition in the country and bids fair to be a revolutionary force in the San Joaquin valley. He was also

one of the originators and organizers of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, and put the first money into the proposition. They at once began surveys, but on the eve of construction the panic of 1880 induced them to dispose of their plans. The project was afterward completed and is a great credit to the county.

In Millerton, Cal., Mr. Sample was united in marriage with Sallie Cole, who was born in Solano county, Cal., the daughter of William T. Cole. He was a native of Missouri who crossed the plains in 1849 and became a pioneer of the San Joaquin valley, now making his home on Dry creek. Mr. and Mrs. Sample became the parents of eleven children, namely: William C.; Maude, the wife of John Shipp, of Fresno county; Thomas N., who graduated from Cooper Medical College in 1901, is practicing medicine in Fresno and is now county physician; Mary, the wife of J. A. Blasingame, of Fresno county; Annie; Estelle; David C., Jr.; Sallie; Fillmore; Ruth; and Harry, all but the first four named being residents of their parents' home. Mrs. Sample is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Sample affiliates with Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and has served as a member of the county central committee. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and is active in all movements which have for their end the advancement of the community.

GEORGE M. KOHLER occupies a prominent place among the enterprising business men of Fresno. The sterling qualities of his citizenship and the character of his ability are an inheritance from Danish ancestors, his birth having occurred in Denmark in 1844. He made that country his home until he was eighteen years old, when he came to America and located in California. He became a farmer near Borden, Madera county, where he remained for some time, then removed to Fresno and engaged in the butcher business. He was the pioneer in this work and met with gratifying success. Eventually he went into the hotel business and opened the Kohler House on I street, which he conducted for five years. Disposing of these interests he lived retired for several years, when he engaged in a restaurant on the same street, establishing what is now known as the City Bakery and Restaurant, and with the profits of a few years he and his wife built the Kohler apartment house. This was an innovation in Fresno and for a time was known as Kohler's white elephant, but it very shortly proved a success, as did also the flat building which they put up—the first of the kind in the city of Fresno. At the time of

the laundry strike in 1901 Mrs. Kohler, with keen business judgment and discernment, saw an opportunity which she at once took advantage of, by fitting up the Kohler Laundry, which has grown to its present proportions under her splendid management. It is modern in all its appointments, operated with steam and equipped with the most modern machinery. It has its own pumping plant and soap works, and is now the largest enterprise of its kind in the San Joaquin valley, giving employment to fifty hands. The entire corner of K and Merced streets has been built up by Mr. Kohler and his wife—nearly six lots, covering an area of 150x250 feet. They have been most important factors in the upbuilding and progress of Fresno, and both rank among the representative business citizens.

Mrs. Kohler was formerly Lottie A. Pickford, a native of Taunton, Mass. Her father, Oliver Pickford, of Manchester, England, located in Massachusetts and in Taunton operated a stationary engine. Later he removed to Trempealeau county, Wis., where he followed the same occupation combined with farming. During the Civil war he volunteered in a Wisconsin regiment but was rejected. In 1875 he came to California and located in San Luis Obispo county, where he followed his work of engineer, and eight years later (in 1883), located in Fresno and following the same occupation until his retirement, being now seventy-six years old. His wife, formerly Mary Ann Hooley, also a native of Manchester, England, is the granddaughter of John Aslem, the inventor of calico printing. (Aslem street, in Nashville, Tenn., is named for the family.) Mrs. Pickford is still living at the age of seventy-seven years. They became the parents of three daughters and five sons, of whom Mrs. Kohler was the eldest. She spent her childhood days in Wisconsin, attending the public schools of that place, and in 1875 came with her parents to California and passed several years in San Luis Obispo county. In 1883 she came to Fresno and the same year became the wife of George M. Kohler. She has proven a worthy helpmeet and has given to their combined success the ability, energy and enterprise which are hers by inheritance and training.

Both Mr. Kohler and his wife are prominent in the fraternal circles of the city, Mr. Kohler being a member of the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World, United Artisans, Danish Brotherhood and Knights of the Maccabees. Mrs. Kohler is a member of the Ladies of the Maccabees, Women of Woodcraft, United Artisans and Fraternal Brotherhood. Both belong to the Episcopal Church, and politically are true-blue Republicans. Mr. Kohler is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and is active in all movements cal-

culated to advance the general welfare. The comforts and benefits of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Koehler have been given to three orphan girls, who have been reared to womanhood as members of the household, and who are now married and well settled in life.

WILLIAM M. AMER. On the organization of Madera county and at the first election held therein, May, 1893, Mr. Amer was elected on the independent ticket to the office of county treasurer, receiving a plurality of seventy-eight votes over three opponents. On the 28th of the same month he took the oath of office and entered upon its duties. At the regular election in 1894 he was elected by a majority of two hundred and fifty-three. Four years later, on the expiration of his first regular term, he was re-elected by a majority of three hundred and seventy-four. A further evidence of his popularity as an official is shown by the fact that in 1902, at the close of his second regular term and his election for a third term, he received a still larger vote, having a majority of about five hundred. At the last two conventions of the Democratic party in Madera county he was nominated without opposition. When his present term expires, in January, 1907, he will have served for a period of almost fourteen years. When he first became county treasurer the office was located in a business block, but later was removed to the old Russ house, and in January, 1902, was transferred to the new court-house.

The Amer family is of English extraction. Richard Amer, son of William Amer, was born in Herefordshire, England, and grew to manhood upon his father's farm. Seeking a home amid the newer scenes and greater opportunities of the United States, he crossed the ocean and settled in the then frontier regions of Pottawattamie county, Iowa. In those days Omaha had not been founded and Council Bluffs, now the county-seat of Pottawattamie county, was an insignificant hamlet. With his wife, who was Fannie Sellwood, a native of England, in 1852 he started across the plains, and while on the plains, in the then territory of Colorado, their son, William M., was born, August 25 of that year. The family remained in Colorado for a time, and in 1858 removed to Utah, where the mother died. In 1860 the other members of the family came to California and settled in Stockton, where the father engaged in freighting until his death in 1873. Of his five children three are living: John, a farmer near Oakdale; William M., of this review; and Sarah, wife of S. B. Robinson, near Ferndale, Humboldt county, this state.

From the age of almost eight years William M. Amer was reared in Stockton. As a boy he

was obliged to earn his own livelihood. He had neither prestige nor influence to aid him in getting a start. Eagerly accepting any work that offered living wages, he endured many hardships and faced many discouragements in his early days. Little by little he worked his way toward independence. For a time he engaged in farming near Roberts Ferry in Stanislaus county. In 1886 he came to what was then Fresno (now Madera) county and after working on the Adobe ranch for two years he was chosen manager for the company that owned the property. The Adobe estate comprised more than twenty-two thousand acres and its management entailed many responsibilities. After two years as superintendent, Mr. Amer removed to Fresno Flats and engaged in raising stock for a year. From there he removed to Madera and resumed farming. During 1890, while engaged in field work, he lost his left hand in a harvestér, but continued farming for three years more, notwithstanding his loss.

In Modesto, Stanislaus county, in 1876, Mr. Amer married Catherine Garner, who was born in Illinois and in 1859 accompanied her parents to California. To their union six children have been born, namely: George, who is a farmer in Madera county; Burt, who acts as deputy county treasurer; Myrtle, Elmer, Millie and Katie. The fraternal organizations to which Mr. Amer belongs are as follows: Fraternal Brotherhood; Woodmen of the World, in which he has held official positions; Lodge and Encampment of Odd Fellows, also the Grand Lodge of the same body, and he is past grand of the Madera Lodge.

WALTER SCOTT SMITH. Untiring in his efforts, Walter Scott Smith has proved himself an efficient city official, under whose superintendency there has been a great advancement and improvement in the streets of Fresno. He is a native of Benton county, Mo., where his birth occurred January 23, 1870. He is the descendant of an old Virginia family, his grandfather, a native of that state, being a physician and surgeon in the army. He practiced medicine in Tennessee and in Benton county, Mo. In his family of children was a son, G. C. Smith, who was born in Tennessee and accompanied his parents to Benton county, Mo., in which state he followed farming for a means of livelihood, later locating in Hickory county, where he now makes his home. His wife, formerly Mary Frances Davis, is a native of Benton county, Mo. Her father, Stephen Hamilton Davis, was an extensive farmer in Missouri, from which state he emigrated to California in the '60s. He located in Mariposa county as a miner, but later returned to Missouri, his death occurring in Benton coun-

ty. Mr. and Mrs. Smith became the parents of five sons and two daughters, one son, E. R., being a contractor and builder, and at the present time is engaged in the construction of the new pumping station for the Standard Oil Company between Bakersfield and Point Richmond. Another son, Stephen H., is a foreman in the employ of E. R. Smith. Walter Scott Smith is the fourth son and the fourth child, and was reared in Benton county until attaining the age of seventeen years, attending the district school. He also attended the schools of Kansas City for a time, and in 1891 came to California and located in Fresno, and entered the employ of his brother, E. R. Smith, working at the carpenter's trade for about two years, when he entered the police department, where he remained for several years. On November 6, 1902, he was appointed superintendent of streets of Fresno, since which time he has held the office, and under his management a marked improvement has taken place, new cement sidewalks being laid all over the city, also asphalt pavement, etc. Mr. Smith is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and is active in all movements pertaining to the advancement and upbuilding of the city. Fraternally, he is associated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Fresno, and Modern Woodmen of America. Politically, he is a Democrat.

#### CAPT. WILLIAM WALLACE MACHEN.

A man of strong personality, William Wallace Machen holds a prominent place among the representative citizens of Fresno, where he has made his home for nearly twenty years. He is a native of Barnsley, Yorkshire, England, where he was born February 17, 1836, the second in a family of seven children, of whom six are living, he being the only one on the Pacific coast. His father, W. W. Machen, was a manufacturer of cotton and linen goods in Barnsley, as was also his grandfather. The former brought his family to America in 1845 and located in Milwaukee, Wis., where a landing was effected by small boats at what was known as Walker's Point, no pier having yet been made. He was one of the first settlers of Black Earth, Wis., which was peopled by a colony from England. He remained in that location for about a year, when he removed to Janesville, Wis., at that time a crossroads, where he bought and sold lands. Removing to Dunkirk, Dane county, Wis., he farmed for twenty years, and upon his retirement from active duties located in Dallas county, Iowa, where his death occurred at the age of eighty-four years. His wife, formerly Ann Hoag, was also a native of England, and died in Iowa at

the age of sixty-six years. Two sons fought in the Civil war, Charles F. serving in the Thirty-second Wisconsin Regiment, and being accidentally killed at Waupun, Wis. William Wallace Machen was also in the army, answering the first call in April, 1861. As the quota was full he enlisted in Company D, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in August 10 of that year. His regiment was sent to Washington, where they camped a quarter of a mile east of the Capitol building, thence they were sent to Chain Bridge and to Arlington Heights, on Robert E. Lee's plantation. In the beginning of 1862 they participated in the second battle of Bull Run, at Antietam, South Mountain, the Wilderness, and at Gettysburg, where his brigade opened the battle. His regiment continued in active duty to Appomattox and the surrender of Lee's army. Mr. Machen was wounded three times, first at the battle of Gaines Mill, the first day of the battle of the Wilderness and at Cold Harbor, all flesh wounds received in the neck, hip and foot. He participated in the Grand Review at Washington as aide to Gen. Henry A. Morrow. From the ranks Mr. Machen was promoted to the position of captain of his company, which was mustered out of service July 14, 1865, of the original one hundred and sixty-eight who enlisted only fourteen remaining.

Upon the close of the war Capt. William W. Machen returned to Dane county to take up again the peaceful pursuits interrupted by civil strife. He had made his home in Wisconsin from the age of nine years, receiving his education in the primitive schools of the time (where the desks were puncheon slabs laid on pins put in the walls, puncheon seats, etc.), and in young manhood followed the training given by his father as a farmer. He engaged in agricultural pursuits near Dunkirk until 1868, when he removed to Dallas county, Iowa, where he bought new land, improving a farm of three hundred and twenty acres. He became prominent in public affairs in the county, filling the offices of county commissioner and county recorder, the latter for a term of four years. Deciding to locate in the more remote west, he came to California in 1886 and began farming thirty-five hundred acres of land, which now adjoins the city limits of Fresno. He continued in that occupation for thirteen years, conducting as many as six ten-horse teams with combined harvesters, averaging ten acres to the team. His departure from agricultural pursuits was through his nomination in 1892 on the Republican ticket as county recorder. He was defeated by eight votes in favor of the Fusion candidate. Two years later he was re-nominated and elected over the Fusion candidate by a majority of three hundred and fifty-six votes. In January, 1895, he took



the oath of office and continued to discharge the duties efficiently until 1899. Since that time he has engaged in the oil business, in 1898 organizing the Commercial Oil Company with himself as president. They located oil lands in Coalingo, where they put down two wells that were failures. They then leased a piece of railroad land where they put down eight wells, all of which are producers, they being the first to get a flowing well in section 31. They have since operated in this field and have made a gratifying success of the enterprise. In 1904 Mr. Machen resigned from the office of president, as he did not care to spend so large a portion of his time away from his home, and sold his holdings to the Associated Oil Company. He also organized a company in Bakersfield, in 1899, known as the Comet Oil Company, with himself as president, and they operated on sections 4 and 28, putting down eight wells, all of which are producers. This company has since also become a part of the Associated Oil Company. Mr. Machen owns a one-third interest in sixty acres adjoining the lands leased by the Commercial Oil Company and in Fresno owns a handsome residence at No. 103 Glenn street.

In Dane county, Wis., October 2, 1865, Mr. Machen was united in marriage with Sarah L. Bishop, a native of Cayuga county, N. Y., and they are the parents of seven children, namely: Edward L., of Fresno; Clara, the wife of DeWitt Blaisdell, of San Francisco; Arthur I., of Sacramento, Cal.; George E., of Fresno; Elva; Carl and Myrtle, the last three named being at home with their parents. Mrs. Machen is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Fraternally Mr. Machen is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., having been made a member of this latter organization in Stoughton, Wis. He belongs to Atlanta Post No. 145, G. A. R., of which he is post commander. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and is ex-member of the county and state central committees.

STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS HOGAN. From January, 1902, until January 1, 1905, when he resigned, Mr. Hogan acted as superintendent of the Cain Fruit & Nursery Co., managing a ranch of two hundred and forty acres, much of which he put under alfalfa, while one hundred and twenty-five acres are in prunes, peaches, apricots, etc. During the busy season he employed as many as ninety hands. He also raised large numbers of cattle and hogs.

Born in Adams county, Ill., July 27, 1856, Mr. Hogan is a son of George W. Hogan, the latter

born near Covington, Ky., a son of George Hogan, a farmer who died in that state. George W. Hogan settled in Adams county, Ill., and followed the occupations of farmer and miller, operating both saw and flour mills, which were run by water power. He removed to Knox county, Mo., where he spent ten years, then went to Chariton county, near Old Brunswick, and finally to Kansas City, where his death occurred. For eight months he served in the state militia of Missouri. His wife, formerly Sarah Ann Owen, was a native of Washington, D. C., and a daughter of Edward Owen, who came from Scotland, the country of his birth, and located in the capital city. He engaged in the hotel business, but finally removing to Illinois, followed farming in that state and Missouri until his retirement from active life. His death occurred while he was an inmate of the home of G. W. Hogan. Mrs. Hogan died in Linn county, Mo., leaving a family of five sons and four daughters, of whom one son is deceased.

The youngest child in the family of his parents, Stephen A. Douglas Hogan was reared in Missouri, having removed with the family in January, 1859, from their home in Illinois. He attended the common school in the vicinity of his home and at the same time received the practical training which fell to his lot as the son of a farmer. In manhood he began farming for himself in Chariton county, from which location he removed in 1882 to Benton county, Ark., there following farming and the cultivation of nursery stock, setting out the nursery himself and following this business until 1888. He came still farther west in that year and located in Tulare county, Cal., where for four years he engaged in the cultivation of grain on a large scale. Not meeting with the success anticipated he accepted the position of superintendent of the Comstock ranch for S. Sweet Company, which position he held for six years and seven months, when he resigned to take charge of a tract of one hundred and sixty acres south of Visalia for the Bank of Visalia. This he subdivided, made roads, built bridges and put in numerous improvements, holding it until the greater part was sold, doing all this in four months. He then took charge of the Evansdale Fruit Company orchard for a period of six months, and following that work accepted the responsible position of superintendent of the Cain Fruit & Nursery Co. Upon resigning this position Mr. Hogan removed to Visalia.

In Chariton county, Mo., Mr. Hogan was united in marriage with Angie Dunkel, a native of McDonough county, Ill. She is a daughter of Henry Dunkel, a native of Pennsylvania, who removed to Illinois and afterward to Missouri, where he followed farming for a livelihood. His

wife was formerly Susie Hosler, of Pennsylvania. Six children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hogan, namely: Susie (the wife of C. S. Warren, of Modoc, Cal.), Roscoe, Minnie, Travis, Uda and Esther Pearl. Mr. Hogan is a Democrat in his national politics. Locally he is interested in the election and support of the candidates best qualified for public office. For one term he held the office of school director. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, while his wife belongs to the Royal Neighbors.

---

**JOHN A. NEU.** A resident of Fresno since 1893, John A. Neu has become one of the leading business men of the city and has also been prominently identified with its upbuilding, having served for two years as president of the Chamber of Commerce, in which position he was able to carry out developing work which resulted in much good to the city and county.

A native of Wisconsin, Mr. Neu was born in Madison, June 30, 1863, a son of M. and Christine (Klieff) Neu. The father was for a time engaged in mercantile business in Madison, but later sold out and located on a farm. Some years thereafter he returned to Madison, where he died. His wife bore him seven children, four of whom are still living. Of this family John A. was the second in order of birth. His boyhood was spent in Madison and on the farm, but at the age of twelve he started out to make an independent livelihood, and since then he has never received help from anyone. Securing a position as an office boy in the Singer Sewing Machine Company's store at Madison, he worked there for several years, being promoted first to the position of salesman, later being made a collector and still later was appointed special agent. In the meantime he had left Madison and gone to Milwaukee, and for several years he traveled out of that city, making towns in Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, as a representative for a large wholesale confectionery establishment. At the end of four and one-half years he re-entered the employ of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, finally being made manager of their branch office at Elkhart, Ind., where he remained until 1890, when he came to California as manager of the store in the city of Oakland. This position he filled for six months, when he was made special agent, with headquarters at Sacramento. In 1893 the company sent him to Fresno as manager of their store in this city. Soon afterward he enlarged his business and put in a stock of pianos and musical instruments, and in 1895 he disposed of the sewing machine business, since which time he has devoted his entire time to the building up of his present extensive piano and music busi-

ness, having the largest piano house in this section of the state. All the leading makes are carried in stock, including Weber, Fischer, the Behning, Kohler & Chase, and many others. His store and show rooms occupy two floors, 150x25 feet.

After coming to Fresno Mr. Neu married Miss Lola A. Avila, who was born in San Francisco. Mrs. Neu is very popular in Fresno and has done much to assist her husband in the prosecution of his business. Mr. Neu is a prominent member of the Chamber of Commerce, having formerly been connected with the board of trade. At the time the Chamber of Commerce was organized he was appointed a member of the executive committee, and in January, 1902, was elected president of the organization. This position he filled for a term of two years, and was very active in promotion work, often devoting time to that work that should have been used in his own business. It was during his term of office that the Chamber erected its building near the Southern Pacific depot. This structure is 42x66 feet in dimensions, and is used for exhibiting purposes, a fine display of Fresno county products being on exhibition there all the time.

Fraternally Mr. Neu is a member of the Elks, in which he is Loyal Knight; the Woodmen of the World, and the Knights of Columbus, being grand knight in the last-named organization. In politics he is inclined to the Democratic party, especially in national affairs, but in local matters believes in voting for the man whom he thinks is best qualified for the office. In 1905 he was a candidate for the office of Mayor of Fresno.

---

**J. F. GREELEY.** A pioneer of California and a resident of the San Joaquin valley for the past twenty-five years, J. F. Greeley is now living retired on his twenty-acre ranch adjoining Fresno on the west. He was born June 30, 1830, in Rochester, Vt., the sixth child in a family of seven born to Robert and Desire (Hosford) Greeley. Robert Greeley came of Scotch ancestry. In addition to following his trade as contractor and wheelwright, he also carried on farming. He enlisted for service in the war of 1812, but the struggle ended before he saw active service.

The education of J. F. Greeley was received in the common schools of Vermont. At an early age he left school to fill a clerkship in a general merchandise store, and while so employed heard much of the wonderful discovery of gold in California. At the age of nineteen he decided to cast in his lot with the tide of emigration, and came to this state via the Isthmus of Panama. He embarked from New York on the old steamship Uncle Sam, crossed the Isthmus by tow-



boats and re-embarked on another vessel for California. He almost despaired of reaching his destination, however, as the boat took fire and endangered the lives of all the passengers. Arriving in San Francisco, which was then a tented city, with but fifty cents in his pocket he was ready to accept any honest employment to replenish his exchequer. Anxious to reach the gold fields, but having no money, he accepted a position, at a lucrative salary, in Mount Gregory, Eldorado county, as clerk in a general store which furnished supplies to the miners.

Leaving Mount Gregory with five thousand dollars in gold, Mr. Greeley engaged in the enterprise to flume the middle fork of the American River, and while thus employed saw pans of gold weighing twenty-seven pounds taken from pockets. The high waters swept everything away before the work was completed and he abandoned the task, poorer in pocket. For a time afterward he bought gold dust. At American bar he also engaged in a general mercantile business successfully for four years, when the floods once more laid waste the work of years. He then went to Dutch flat and opened a hotel. For four years he served as constable, and also was deputy sheriff, during which time he saw exciting times during the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad through the mountains. He enlisted in the Home Guards, becoming enrolling officer.

Some time later Mr. Greeley started a general store at Truckee and served two terms as postmaster there. He experienced the season of lawlessness which called into existence the famous Vigilance Committee known as "601." After eleven years in Truckee, he located in Fresno, in 1880, at which time there was but one brick house on Mariposa street. He engaged in work as a carpenter for a time, and lived in a house which stood on the present site of Barrett & Hicks' hardware store. He then purchased the twenty acres of land upon which he still resides. The orchard which he set out was drowned out by heavy rains, and he later set out a vineyard of raisin grapes. Still retaining his home place, he spent three years in Selma as agent for the Union Ice Company, and also manufactured carbonated waters, after which he went to Portersville and engaged in the same business for that company. While doing business in that city he made a trip to his ranch and there met with an accident which crippled him for life. While pruning some tall poplar trees he fell and injured himself, since which time, 1895, he has been unable to engage in any work, though he has managed the work on the ranch.

In Auburn, Cal., in 1861, Mr. Greeley was united in marriage with Margaret O'Bay, a daughter of James and Mary (McCullen) O'Bay. The former located in Canada in 1810, later went

to Montpelier, Vt., and still later to Rochester, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Greeley have been born four sons: William Henry, of Fresno, an expert mill mechanic, is married and has two sons, Harry and John; Clarence Eugene, also engaged in mill work, has one son, Irwin; Albert H. is mentioned on another page of this volume; and Edward Foster, also of Fresno, is an insurance solicitor; he has one daughter, Esther. In politics Mr. Greeley has always been a Republican. For many years he was an active Odd Fellow, joined the order when there were but fourteen lodges in the state, has passed all the chairs of the lodge and was also a delegate to and an active worker in the Grand Lodge.

---

EDWARD P. HUGHES. A successful ranchman and one of the oldest settlers of the Malaga district, Fresno county, Edward P. Hughes is numbered among the pioneers of the state. In Independence county, Ark., he was born September 7, 1835, a son of Thomas Hughes, a native of England. The latter came to the United States in 1816 and settled in Morgantown, N. C., where he engaged in the trades of tinner and coppersmith. Later he located in Arkansas, and in 1849 crossed the plains to California and settled in Los Angeles. After a short residence there he went to the Sandwich Islands, returning to California in 1853, when he went to the mines in Calaveras county. His death occurred in this state at the age of seventy-four years. His wife was Sarah Elizabeth McGuire, a native of Scotland.

Until he was seventeen years old Edward P. Hughes remained in his native state, and in 1853 crossed the plains to California via Pike's Peak and Carson City, and located at Murphy's Camp, in Calaveras county. For the ensuing five years he was interested in mining, after which he located in San Joaquin county and engaged in farming, until 1864. He was there married to Elizabeth C. Smith, who was born in Platte county, Mo., February 3, 1848. She was the daughter of James C. Smith, a native of Tennessee, who married Harriet Melcina Boone, a grand-niece of Daniel Boone, her father being a nephew of the famous Kentucky frontiersman. Mrs. Hughes' parents crossed the plains in 1852 and located in San Joaquin county, shortly after which her father returned to Missouri and brought back with him a large amount of live stock. He then engaged extensively in stock raising, becoming widely known throughout the valley, his cattle ranging as far south as Fresno county. He died at the age of seventy-eight years. In July, 1880, Mr. Hughes came to Fresno county, and in October of the same year settled in the Malaga district on his present

property, becoming the owner at that time of one hundred and sixty acres, though he has since disposed of all but forty acres. At that time there were no settlers between his ranch and the city of Fresno, and he is now the oldest settler of the locality. The first year of his residence there he raised grain, while the next year he planted his vineyard, which is one of the oldest in that section. He has led an active and busy life, and has won a competence through his well directed efforts.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were born nine children, of whom Edward Aaron, the eldest, died at the age of three years. The others are: Burt L., Harriet Melcina (the wife of W. W. Boust, of Fresno), James C., Bessie L., John P., Thomas E., Richard L., and Edith.

---

GEORGE S. BLOSS, SR. Among the liberal and public-spirited men of Merced county, George S. Bloss, Sr., occupies a prominent place. He was born in Bethlehem, Conn., November 26, 1847, a son of George T. and Emily (Brown) Bloss, both natives of the same city, the former being of French and the latter of Scotch ancestry. The paternal ancestors of Mr. Bloss settled in Killingsworth, Conn., upon their removal from France, and in that state George T. Bloss followed farming for a livelihood, remaining so occupied until his death at the age of forty-one years. George S. Bloss spent his boyhood days on the home farm, attending the local schools of his section, while at the same time he received the practical training of a farmer's son. In manhood he engaged in farming pursuits, remaining a resident of his native state until he was thirty-six years old.

Deciding to locate in the west, Mr. Bloss came to California in 1884 and purchased land in the vicinity of Atwater, Merced county, where he engaged in the raising of stock and grain, having had broad experience in this line in his New England home. He has prospered in his efforts and is to-day the owner of two sections of land in Merced county, one section at Atwater, comprising the home place, of which one hundred and seventy-five acres is devoted to alfalfa and the balance to grain; while the other section is ten miles distant and is given over entirely to the cultivation of grain and the raising of cattle. In addition to his agricultural pursuits he has taken an active interest in a corporation known as the Fin-de-Siecle Investment Company, which was organized in 1899, with Mr. Bloss as president. This company purchased the estate of John W. Mitchell, who died November 26, 1893, at which time Mr. Bloss took up the duties of administrator, to which office he had been appointed, and gave his undivided attention to this work until

1899. The careful manner in which he executed the trust reposed in him has won the approval of all connected with the vast estate. This estate formerly contained one hundred and seventeen thousand acres, but is now reduced to ninety thousand and comprises land in Stanislaus, Merced, Madera and Fresno counties, devoted to stock and grain raising. The Fin-de-Siecle Investment Company held this property intact until August, 1904, when they sold their interests as follows: one-third to the Bloss Land and Cattle Company; one-third to Crane Brothers Company; and one-third to the Geer-Dallas Investment Company. Mr. Bloss has shown business ability, shrewd judgment, and a practical knowledge in his management of the affairs intrusted to him, and has ably demonstrated the fact that conservative methods may yet be progressive ones.

Mr. Bloss has been married twice, his first union having taken place in 1873, when Ella Stone, formerly of Woodbury, Conn., and niece of the late John W. Mitchell, became his wife. She died in 1893, leaving two children, of whom Edna is the wife of Julian Thorne, of San Francisco, and George S., Jr., is a prominent stockman in Merced county and director of the Commercial Bank of Merced. February 2, 1904, Mr. Bloss was again married, being united with Mrs. Edna (Thompson) Hull, whom he had known from early childhood, her birthplace having also been Bethlehem, Conn. In addition to his varied business interests Mr. Bloss is a director of the Security Bank of Merced, and exercises a broad influence in the matter of progress and reform throughout the county. He is a man of public spirit and is held in the highest esteem by all with whom he has come in business or social contact.

---

GEORGE TAYLOR FRANKUM. Five miles east of Portersville, Tulare county, in the Rosedale Colony, is located the ranch which belongs to George Taylor Frankum, an enterprising and substantial orange grower of this section. A native of Russell county, Ky., he was born August 12, 1855, a son of William Frankum. The latter was a native of the same state, who, in 1857, removed as a farmer to Jasper county, southwestern Missouri, near Carthage, where his death occurred April 19, 1866. During the Civil war he enlisted in 1862 in the Union army, serving until 1864, when he was discharged on account of a fever which settled in his left arm leaving him a cripple. His wife, formerly Elizabeth McClure, also a native of Kentucky, died in Missouri in 1874, when about fifty-four years old. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter, of whom George

Taylor Frankum was the second in order of birth.

A rather limited education was all that George T. Frankum was enabled to obtain through an attendance of the primitive schools of the early day, on account of the war. In 1870 he went to Denton county, Tex., and engaged as a cowboy throughout the state, working on the range for a time, after which he commenced driving on the trail. He remained so occupied for five and a half years, in 1876 going to Colorado and engaging in mining in San Juan county for seven years. Following this he was located in Pendleton, Ore., in the same occupation, where he remained until 1891, in which year he came to California and settled near Portersville. He bought ten acres six miles east of the city and planted it to oranges, and in 1902 bought his present property of thirteen acres, where he has since engaged in the nursery business, raising orange trees.

In Missouri Mr. Frankum was united in marriage with Mollie Watkin, a native of that state and they are the parents of three children, namely: Clarence, Nettie and Claudie, all at home. Fraternally Mr. Frankum is a member of Portersville Lodge No. 303, F. & A. M., and the Woodmen of the World. Politically he was a Republican but is now a staunch advocate of socialism. He owns one share in the Rochdale store of Portersville, and is interested in every way in all movements which tend to develop the resources of this section.

---

H. C. WARNER is remembered in Fresno as a successful business man and one who proved himself an important factor in the commercial upbuilding of the city and surrounding country. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, June 22, 1849, a son of Christian Warner, who emigrated from Germany and became a merchant tailor in that city, where he engaged in active business for many years. Upon his retirement he continued to make that city his home, and still resides there at an advanced age. He is a Lutheran in religion and politically is a staunch Republican. Of his three children, all of whom are deceased, H. C. Warner was the eldest. He received his education in the public schools of Cincinnati, which he attended until attaining the age of fourteen, when he was apprenticed to learn the jeweler and watch-maker's trade. When twenty years old he came to California on one of the first trains that ever crossed the continent. Upon his arrival he engaged in business in San Diego for one year, and following this he spent the same length of time in Castroville, Monterey county. He then located in Gilroy, Santa Clara county, and established a jewelry business, as

well as practicing as an optician. He made that city his home until 1880, when he located in Fresno and established the first permanent jewelry business in this city, being located on Mariposa street, in the building now occupied by C. H. Reige. He first purchased a frame store building, but later put up a brick building, and was established in that location for many years, but finally sold and removed to a place on J street, near the corner of Mariposa. He was the first optician in this city, having taken a course in San Francisco, and was very successful in his work.

Mr. Warner was a citizen of worth and integrity, who won the highest appreciation from his fellow-townsmen. He was active in the Baptist Church as trustee and treasurer, and politically was a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Watsonville, becoming a member of Lodge No. 247, of this city, and was also a member of Trigo Chapter No. 69, of this place, and a charter member of Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., having been made a Knight Templar in Visalia Commandery. He also belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star. His death occurred June 25, 1897, at the comparatively early age of forty-eight years.

In Gilroy, Cal., January 25, 1873, Mr. Warner was united in marriage with Laura Bennett, a native of Sonora, Cal. She is the eldest of three children now living. Her father, William C. Bennett, was a native of New Preston, Conn., and the son of Joseph Bennett, a miller of the same place, where he also died. The paternal ancestors were patriots in the Revolutionary war and were active in colonial development. William C. Bennett came to California in 1849, via Cape Horn, and immediately sought the mines at Sonora. He finally located in Salinas valley, where he engaged as a farmer, and later went to Gilroy, near which city he engaged in the raising of grain. Removing to Merced he spent the last years of his life at that place, his death occurring from the effects of an accident at the age of sixty-eight years. Fraternally he was a Mason and politically was a staunch Republican. He belonged to the Presbyterian Church. His wife, formerly Abigail Noble, was a native of Maumee, Ohio, and came to California via the Isthmus of Panama in the early '50s. She died in Fresno in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Warner, at the age of forty-seven years. Mrs. Warner spent her childhood in Gilroy, where she was married, and in 1880 became a resident of Fresno. Since her husband's death she has conducted the business under the old name, her son, Albert O., acting as manager of the establishment, which is now located at No. 1819 Mariposa street. She

has three children, namely: Albert O., who graduated from the high school and from the University of California with the degree of Ph. G., and who later took a course in optics; Edna F., the wife of Dr. R. B. Cockrill, of Fresno; and Frank Edmund, who graduated from a New York College with the degree of Doctor of Optics; later he passed the state board examination and is now a practicing optician. For many years Mrs. Warner was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and is an active member of the Parlor Lecture Club of Fresno. She is a member of the Baptist Church.

**LAWRENCE C. ELFERS.** Two and three-quarter miles southeast of Conejo, Fresno county, is located the ranch which belongs to Lawrence C. Elfers, one of the successful and prominent men of this section. He is a native son of the state, his birth having occurred in Oakland August 30, 1866. His father, Archibald D. Elfers, was a native of Germany, who came to California in 1854 and located in Marysville, where he engaged as a miner. Later he removed to San Francisco and engaged in the brewery business and the manufacture of cigars. In 1870 he went to Stanislaus county and in the vicinity of Crow's Landing engaged in farming until 1892, when he removed to Alameda, where he is now living retired. His wife, Catherine, is also a native of Germany. They became the parents of twelve children, eight of whom attained maturity, four sons and four daughters, of whom Lawrence C. was the tenth in order of birth.

Lawrence C. Elfers received his education in the common schools of California, after which he engaged in farming in Stanislaus county, where he remained until 1901. Locating in Fresno county in that year he purchased his present property, consisting of three hundred and thirty acres, which he has since devoted to the cultivation of alfalfa and the raising of stock. He has added many improvements to his property, in 1901 building a fine residence on the ranch, and has installed a pumping plant, operated by a gas engine, drawing water from a well one hundred and seventy-eight feet deep, for irrigation purposes. He is a director in the Immigrant Irrigation Ditch, and still owns an interest in a warehouse at Crow's Landing.

In Stanislaus county, Cal., in 1891, Mr. Elfers was united in marriage with Georgia Albina Kinnear, a native of Canada. Her father, James Kinnear, a native of Scotland, came to California in 1865, and now makes his home three miles west of Modesto, Stanislaus county, where he is engaged in the raising of stock and alfalfa. To Mr. Elfers and his wife have been born

three children, Irma Catherine, Cecil Raymond and Louie Roderick, all at home. Fraternally Mr. Elfers is associated with the Woodmen of the World, of Selma, and politically is a staunch advocate of the principles of the Democratic party.

**JOHN THOMPSON.** Recent years have witnessed the subdivision of many large tracts of grain land into small fruit farms, and the property which Mr. Thompson acquired by purchase in 1902 forms an instance of this nature. Three years after buying the land he moved thereto, hence is a newcomer in his vicinity, but possesses thorough familiarity with the soil, climate and the fruit-growing business, and is in every respect sufficiently experienced to justify the belief that he will reap success in his new venture. By birth he is of English nationality, born in Yorkshire, March 4, 1865, being next to the youngest in a family of four sons and four daughters who lived to mature years. His parents, Thomas and Jane Ann (Tindall) Thompson, were born, reared and married in England, and there continued to reside until death, the father following during all of his active life the occupation of a boot and shoe-maker.

Until nine years of age John Thompson attended public school, but at that time he was put to work and had no further opportunities for acquiring an education. The wages which he received were the smallest, being but \$15 per year, and his work the most arduous and wearing, but with the optimism of youth he endured hardships with a cheerful face and steadfast heart. At the age of seventeen years he came to the United States in the hope of bettering his condition. At first he settled near Jacksonville, Ill., where he worked as a farm hand for three years. During 1885 he came to California and established his headquarters at Fresno, meanwhile working as a farm hand wherever opportunity offered. In those days he had many discouragements, though he found steady employment as soon as he was located. Finally he was fortunate in securing employment in orange orchards with F. G. Berry, under whom he remained for fourteen years as a permanent assistant, in full charge of Orangedale, a farm of seventy acres under cultivation to citrus fruits. With the savings of those years he purchased the property which is now his home, comprising twenty acres three and one-half miles northeast of Sanger in Centerville district, in a locality adapted to fruit culture. Here he has a vineyard of fourteen acres, besides two acres in oranges, two acres in peaches and two in alfalfa. A neat residence adds to the homelike attractiveness of the fruit farm, and it is the owner's





*J. Q. Byers.*



hope to make other improvements from time to time, as his means permit.

After coming to California Mr. Thompson remained a bachelor for fifteen years. In 1900 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Lizzie Weldon, a native of Texas, and by this union there are two children, Fulton G. and Fannie Lois. Besides his home place Mr. Thompson is interested in the Del Rey packing house. Fraternally he is connected with various organizations, including the Knights of Pythias at Fresno, and in political affiliations he sympathizes with Republican issues and principles. Industry and perseverance have helped him out of poverty into a position of independence. A high sense of honor, displayed in transactions of every nature, has brought him the confidence of associates. Being of a quiet and home-loving disposition, when other duties permit he finds his greatest happiness in his home and the society of wife and children; notwithstanding this, he neglects no duty as a citizen, but in his new home, as in former locations, may be depended upon to support movements for the benefit of the people.

---

**JOHN QUINN BYERS.** Since his twentieth year John Q. Byers has lived on the farm which he now calls home, and where he is conducting an extensive stock business, in addition to a dairy and wood business. Skirting the San Joaquin river, and located four miles northeast of Crow's Landing, he has five hundred and twenty acres, all admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is required. As a pioneer of 1853 the genial owner enjoys an esteem in the community commensurate with his well-balanced and industrious life and with the steadiness and success with which he has pursued his time-honored occupation. That the farm is his by inheritance in no wise detracts from his ability to have earned it had the necessity presented itself, for his management evidences those solid traits of character which are bound to win their possessor a realization of his expectations.

Born in Preble county, Ohio, August 24, 1833, Mr. Byers' family was established in the Buckeye state by his paternal grandfather, Isaac, who was born in Virginia in 1802, and who brought to the wilds of Ohio a knowledge of blacksmithing and bell manufacturing intelligently pursued for many years. Of an equally ambitious and courageous nature, his son, William, the father of John Q., sought a larger field of activity in Delaware county, Ind., where his wife, formerly Jane Quinn, died when her only son, John, was about two years old, and from where he removed to Morgan county, Mo., his last

home in the middle west. In 1853, when John was twenty, his father came with him to the coast, driving an ox team, and bringing a herd of cattle as a nucleus of the intended large stock-raising business. Soon after arriving in the state he settled on the river farm since in the possession of the family, homesteading a hundred and sixty acres, and remaining there until his death, February 11, 1889, at the age of eighty-six years and ten months. On this same farm his second wife, Elizabeth (Malcomb) Byers, died December 27, 1882, aged sixty-six years.

To the original purchase William Byers added as success came his way, and was able to leave to the care of his son five hundred and twenty acres of good land, which is devoted entirely to stock raising and pasturage of cattle. To J. Q. Byers the land represents all that he has accomplished since he started out in life, and the pride which he naturally feels is reflected in the judgment of everyone privileged to witness the work of his hands. He married into one of the pioneer families of the state, Miss Mary Elizabeth Bishop being a daughter of Eli Bishop, who first came to California in 1858, when his daughter was three years old. Again he crossed the plains in 1875, and died at Modesto, Cal., where he had lived retired for several years. Mr. and Mrs. Byers became the parents of ten children, one of whom died in infancy. The others are: Mrs. Amanda J. Allen; William Eli; Mrs. Frances E. Patchett; John Cleveland, who was accidentally drowned April 22, 1892, aged eight years; Mary Bell, Isaac Q., Edna E., George F. and Cordelia Ann. Mr. Byers is independent in politics, and in religion is a member of the Adventist Church. Though well along in years, and in a position to practically retire from active life, Mr. Byers still maintains his interest in the smallest details of his farm, encouraging by his precept and example the happy band of youthful workers who are preparing to follow in his footsteps.

---

**GEORGE LARSEN.** Born in Horsholm, Denmark, May 15, 1866, George Larsen inherited from a long line of Danish ancestors those sturdy qualities which have made these people citizens to be desired in any country. His father, Jorgen Larsen, was in the Danish army, and was so severely wounded in the battle of Saukelmark that he was incapacitated for five years. He died in Horsholm in 1870. His wife, formerly Charlotte Oleson, survives him and still makes her home in Denmark. Of their six children five are living, three sons having located in the United States, of whom Ole and Peter participated in the Civil war, in which both lost their lives.

George Larsen was the youngest in the family of children born to his parents. He was reared

in Copenhagen and Horsholm, receiving a very limited education in the common schools, for at eight years of age he went to work on the farm. He continued in that work and also learned the butcher business, combining work at the two until he was seventeen, when he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade. He continued in Copenhagen for three years, after which he traveled throughout Denmark and Germany, eventually working for thirty months in the largest iron works in Denmark. In 1892 he came to Fresno, Cal., without a dollar, but with a good trade, plenty of muscle and good health, and an energy and determination which could only bring him success eventually. For seven months following his arrival he was employed in a vineyard, then worked at his trade for a year, after which he established a shop of his own, going in debt \$485 for machinery and tools. He met with deserved success and in 1896 built a shop on his lot 50x150 feet in dimensions, and two stories in height, the first floor the manufactory and the second a store-room. He manufactures plows, wagons, carriages, etc., being specially well-known for the quality of the plows he turns out. He has also built a comfortable residence at No. 1407 Fresno street, where he makes his home.

Mr. Larsen was united in marriage in Fresno with Marie Jensen, a native of Copenhagen, and they have five living children, namely: Halvor, Edward, Ollie, Roy and Otto. Mr. Larsen belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, of which he is ex-president, the Dania Society of California, of which he is past president, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.

---

ADIE B. EVANS, as superintendent of the San Joaquin Ice Company, is giving his best efforts toward the advancement of the company's interests and the increase of general business in Fresno and vicinity. A native of Huntingdon, Pa., he was born August 15, 1867, the youngest in a family of nine children, of whom four are living. His father, J. W. Evans, was an ordained minister of the Baptist Church. He was a native of the vicinity of Tredga, Wales, but became a pioneer of the Schuylkill valley, where he studied for the ministry. He was later located at Cambria, Huntingdon, Irwin Station, Philipsburg, and in Dividing Creek, N. J., about 1892 coming as far west as Nebraska, where he was stationed at Beatrice. In 1895 he came to California and now resides in Fresno. His wife, formerly Rebecca Bowen, is a native of Wales. They are the parents of four children now living.

Adie B. Evans received his education in the public schools of his native state, and Keystone

Academy, Factoryville, Pa., from which institution he was graduated in 1887. He then took a commercial course in Wood's Business College, and as a bookkeeper came to California in March, 1889, following this work in Fresno for one year. Going to Bakersfield, Kern county, in 1890, he entered the employ of Miller & Lux as bookkeeper and manager of their store on Button Willow ranch. Following this he served one term as deputy county clerk of Kern county under F. W. Craig, his time of service expiring after four years, January 1, 1899. In April of the same year he returned to Fresno and entered the employ of the San Joaquin Ice Company at the time of its organization, holding the position of bookkeeper until the death of the superintendent, W. J. McNulty. In August, 1902, he was elected to succeed the late superintendent, and has since discharged the duties of this office with efficiency and energy. This company has one of the largest manufacturing plants of Fresno, comprising a cold storage plant with a three thousand ton capacity, an ice machine with a capacity of fifty tons per day, and a one hundred and eighty horsepower steam engine. The plant is located on the Santa Fe railroad and on a spur of the Southern Pacific, their products being shipped throughout the valley, to every important city and town from Modesto to Bakersfield. This company has also engaged extensively in the manufacture of butter and cheese, having a creamery at Fresno, with a capacity of six thousand pounds per day, and a cheese factory at Selma, with a large capacity and modern plant. They have fifteen agents in Fresno, Kings and Tulare counties, and also receive cream from Madera county. This company are largely engaged in the cattle and dairy business, and have been the means of enlarging this industry to an appreciable extent. They took the initiative in importing from the east pure bred cattle—Holstein, Jersey and Guernsey, placing them with the dairymen and allowing them to pay from the returns, charging no advance, and paying the regular market price for butter. This enterprise required a capital of \$100,000, but has been the means of bringing to the county and company a vast increase of business, adding to the prosperity of the farmers of the community, and proving an important factor in the development and upbuilding of the best interests of the general public.

In Green Grove, Lackawanna county, Pa., Mr. Evans was united in marriage with Carrie M. Lowrey, a native of Dundaff, Susquehanna county, that state, and a daughter of Wright Lowrey, a farmer of that locality. They are the parents of two children, Elma and Mildred. Mr. Evans is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and has served on its executive committee. Frater-

nally he is associated with the Knights of Pythias, the Uniformed Rank of the Knights of Pythias, and in the line of his business belongs to the California Creamery Operators' Association. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

---

CHARLES M. McCARDLE. The McCardle family has been prominent in the pioneer history of this section, where James McCardle located many years ago. He was a native of Belfast, Ireland, at the age of thirteen years leaving his home and going to Liverpool, England, from which port he shipped as a sailor before the mast. His first long trip was around Cape Horn and up the Pacific coast, and his second trip was made in the fall of 1848. Arriving in San Francisco he left the vessel, going first to Sacramento, thence to Tuolumne county, and later locating in Mariposa county, where for some years he followed both placer and quartz mining. He finally engaged in a mercantile enterprise and also the raising of stock, becoming prominent in Fresno county, where he located in 1873. In 1874 he was elected constable, when he removed to Fresno, and was later elected deputy sheriff. In 1884 he resigned that office and bought an interest in what was known afterward as the Smith & McCardle Lumber mill at Pine Ridge. This business he continued successfully until his death, which occurred in 1898. Politically he was a staunch Democrat and took an active part in the workings of this party in Fresno county. Fraternally he was a charter member of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., at Millerton, the pioneer lodge of this organization in the county, and in this he served in all the offices. His wife, formerly Ellen G. Baley, was a native of Missouri, and the daughter of Judge Gillum Baley, who came to California across the plains with ox-teams in 1852. Judge Baley engaged in mining until 1859, when he returned east and brought his family back to California across the plains. He located them near Chowchilla, Mariposa county, where he followed mining for a time, then removed to the old toll house of Fresno county, where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He was elected county judge when the county seat was at Millerton, and held the office two terms; the county seat was afterward removed to Fresno. He then located in this city, where he engaged in the mercantile business until his death at the age of eighty-five years. His wife, formerly Parmelia Myers, survives him, making her home in the city of Fresno, at the age of eighty-five years. Mrs. McCardle is also living, residing upon her ranch in the Arizona Colony. She is the mother of three daughters

and four sons, of whom Charles M. McCardle, the subject of this review, is the third in order of birth.

A native son of the state, Charles M. McCardle was born at Fine Gold (now O'Neils), fifteen miles above Fort Miller, November 7, 1869. He was reared and educated in Fresno, and at the age of thirteen years was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade, serving four years in this capacity. He continued at his trade for three more years, being employed at the Fresno Agricultural Works, then followed the lumber business for about four years. He then accepted a position in the grocery of R. B. Parker, maintaining a clerkship until his nomination for the public office which he now holds, that of county recorder. The memorable fight of 1902 attracted considerable attention in this section of the state. The general returns gave Barstow, the Republican candidate, the election by eighteen votes, when he obtained a certificate and assumed the duties of the office. Mr. McCardle filed contest and secured a recount, which gave to him the election by forty-eight votes, according to the superior court, and in the supreme court he was awarded over one hundred votes in majority. He then assumed the duties of the office, entering upon the work November 18, 1904, and although but a short time has elapsed he has already given evidence of the ability and integrity which have won him the esteem and respect of all who knew him in his past career.

In Fresno Mr. McCardle was united in marriage with Olivia R. Vogel, a native of Illinois. Her father, Jacob Vogel, was formerly engaged in the mercantile business in Clinton, Ill. He came to Fresno in 1886 and became prominent in business affairs, now serving as a director in the First National Bank, of this city. He now resides in Fruitvale, Cal. Mrs. McCardle received her education at Stanford University, and is a woman of culture and refinement. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. McCardle is a Democrat politically and is associated with the Native Sons of the Golden West through membership in Fresno Parlor.

---

CHARLES W. BARRETT. The Barrett family was established in America prior to the Revolutionary war, in which the great-grandfather of Charles W. Barrett, an esteemed resident of Fresno, Cal., was a participant. The name was prominent in Maine, where F. A. Barrett was born, and whence he removed to New York City, and engaged as a builder. In 1861 he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and located as a contractor and builder in San Francisco, working at this business in different sections around the bay until his death in

1799. His wife, formerly Agnes Berry, was born in New York state, the descendant of an old New England family. She survives her husband and now makes her home in Fresno. Of their three living children Charles W. Barrett is the eldest, his birth having occurred in New York City May 11, 1859.

Brought to California in 1861 by his parents, Charles W. Barrett was reared to manhood in San Francisco, where he received his education in the grammar and boys' high school. He studied bookkeeping while attending the public schools, and at the age of fifteen years learned the plumber's trade. Deciding to locate in Fresno, he came to this city in 1882, and entered the employ of the Donohoe-Fanning Company, with whom he remained four years. He then established his present business, which has since grown to large proportions, locating first on J street and later removing to 1035 I street. The firm, which is known as the Barrett-Hicks Company, was incorporated in 1895, with Mr. Barrett as president, and today they carry on the most extensive hardware business in the city of Fresno. Their wholesale and retail establishment, where they display general hardware, stoves and tinware, is 50x150 feet in dimensions, while the shop is 35x150 feet, and is three stories in height. Their warehouses are located on the Southern Pacific Railroad. This business has proved one of the chief enterprises of Fresno, and has added much to the commercial prestige of the place.

Mr. Barrett was united in marriage in San Francisco with Minnie Thomas, a native of Philadelphia, Pa. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, of which he is past master, and also belongs to Trigo Chapter, R. A. M., of this place; Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., and is also associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a Republican in his political convictions, and is a member of the First Presbyterian Church. Mr. Barrett is a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce, belongs to the Retail Hardware Association of the Pacific coast, and is a member of the Master Plumbers' Association.

H. H. SARRINGHAUSEN is a farmer of Fresno county, located within four and a half miles of Reedley, and engaged in general agricultural and horticultural pursuits. He was born in Ripley county, Ind., December 28, 1869, a son of Conrad Sarringhausen, who came from Germany to the United States in an early day and became a farmer in Ripley county, where his death occurred in 1872. His wife, Maggie, also a native of Germany, died in Indiana, leaving a family of five sons and three daughters, of whom H. H. Sarringhausen is the youngest. He re-

ceived a limited education in the common schools of his state, and in the passing years has added to the foundation he then laid by broad reading and observation, which have given him a place among the well-informed men of the community. He worked on a farm in Indiana until 1883 when he came to California and located in Fresno and found employment in a planing mill. Following this he bought his present ranch near Reedley in 1886. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres located four and a half miles southwest of Reedley, forty acres being in vines, four acres in trees and forty acres in alfalfa, while the balance is devoted to grain. He also owns stock in the packing house at Parlier, and is a member of the Parlier Packing Association. He owns stock in the Reedley State Bank, and is prominent in business affairs in that town.

Fraternally Mr. Sarringhausen is identified with the Woodmen of the World, of Reedley, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

JOSEPH PARKER LANE was born in North Carolina, a son of John Lane, a native of the same state, who removed to Tennessee when his son Joseph was but a few months old. His mother was a niece of Noah Macon, United States Senator from North Carolina. In Knoxville Joseph P. Lane was given the benefit of a good education, supplementing his public school learning by a thorough study of law, later being admitted to the bar of that state. At the age of twenty-two he removed to Texas, locating near the present city of San Antonio, and there he practiced law to some extent. In 1849 he came to California, the journey being made with a pack train through Sonora and Mazatlan to Los Angeles. From the latter city he went direct to Stockton and engaged in trading in the mines. In 1850 he located in Stockton and in partnership with Nathan Fairbanks, opened a wholesale liquor store after the big fire.

In Stockton Mr. Lane was united in marriage with Ann Mary Barnett, who was born in Hayward county, Tenn., November 6, 1851, a daughter of Bird B. Barnett, a native of Carroll county, that state. Mr. Barnett was a large planter and tobacco grower. He married Martha Walker, who was born in Charleston, S. C. In 1848, with his family, Mr. Barnett located near St. Joseph, Mo., where the winter was spent. The following summer they continued on to Salt Lake, intending to reach the coast that year, but on arriving in the latter place it was too late in the fall to attempt the journey across the mountains, so they remained in that city until the following spring, when they continued their jour-



ney, reaching California in July, 1850. The first settlement was made on Weaver creek, where Mr. Barnett opened a hotel, which he conducted until the following year, when he removed to Stockton, shortly afterward buying a ranch three miles from that city. There in addition to farming and stock-raising he conducted a hotel, which was extensively patronized by the early settlers. Besides this property he also owned a large ranch on the Calaveras river. He died when over eighty years of age, at the home of a daughter, Mrs. C. D. Reynolds, in Calaveras county. His wife passed away in Stockton, where they had lived continuously for twenty years, after having spent about six years in Mariposa county.

After his marriage Mr. Lane continued in business in Stockton until 1855, when he disposed of his interests and with his wife removed to Monterey county, where he purchased a farm adjoining the town of San Juan and engaged in the stock business for four years. While there he served as justice of the peace and took a prominent part in county affairs, also serving two terms as supervisor. Subsequently he removed to Mariposa county, locating on Little Mariposa creek, where he engaged in the cattle business until 1868. From that year until 1870 he was interested in the sheep business, but at the end of that time sold out and came to the San Joaquin valley, settling near what is now known as Lane's Bridge, ten miles east of the present site of Fresno. In this section he resumed the stock business and as the years passed accumulated about seven thousand acres of fine farming land. In all his business ventures he met with success, and at the time of his death was considered one of the most substantial men in this section of the state. He was accidentally killed December 15, 1879, his death causing deep regret among his many friends. Since his death Mrs. Lane has carried on the business. She became the mother of five children, namely: Joseph Adolphus, of Fresno; Mary, now Mrs. Liddell; Edward, who is engaged in farming near Fresno; William Henry, who resides in Santa Cruz county; and Frank Mark, a graduate of the State Normal school at San Jose and now principal of the Hawthorne school in Fresno. Her children remained on the farm until they were all married, after which, in 1897, she moved into Fresno, where she has since resided. During her residence here she erected her home at No. 1652 N street, besides which she also owns several thousand acres of land on the San Joaquin river, which is rented. Mrs. Lane is an active member of St. James Episcopal church and is very popular with all her acquaintances, being one of the few pioneer ladies living in the city.

In politics Mr. Lane was a Democrat, but he

never had the time nor inclination to take an active part in public matters, though none had the interest of his county at heart more than did Mr. Lane. He was at all times ready to give of his time and means to further any movement that was calculated to be of material benefit to the county or state. His life was a success and in his history there is much that could be read with profit by the young men of the present day. He met and overcame all obstacles, and was ever willing to give credit to his wife, who was at all times a worthy helpmeet.

---

GEORGE S. BAMBAUER. As one of the live and progressive agriculturists who are continuing the work of upbuilding begun by their pioneer sires, George S. Bambauer commands consideration from his fellowmen in Stanislaus and Merced counties, more especially because of the wholesome ambition and energy which is characterizing the management of his farms six miles south of Newman, one comprising forty and the other fifty-five acres. Extended mention is given the early struggles and subsequent success of his parents, in another part of this work, and it is sufficient here to locate him as the third in a large family, and one of the most zealous in keeping the children together after the rather premature death of his father. With a common school education to back him, he removed from the farm in San Joaquin county, where he was born August 7, 1862, to Merced county with his mother, managing a ranch in the Cottonwood district, below the canal. His ambition to become an independent land owner was realized in 1894, when he bought his present farm of forty acres, and later added the farm near by. His land is under alfalfa and pasture, and a dairy of eighty cows offers abundant opportunity for a model and paying milk and butter enterprise. Mr. Bambauer owns stock in the New Era Creamery, to which he sells his products, and he is otherwise identified with the business interests in his immediate neighborhood.

As becomes so broad-minded and public-spirited a man, Mr. Bambauer is interested in the political outlook, and an earnest promoter of the principles and issues of the Democratic party. He has been called upon to represent his district in county and state conventions, and has always done so with distinct credit to those who honored him with their preference. His genial and kindly manner causes him to be a welcome addition to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Woodmen of the World, and his sociability and good fellowship are further recognized in his home, where hospitality and sympathy await the many friends of the family. Mrs. Bambauer was formerly Mary Alzina De Mont,

who was born in Oakland, and who is the devoted mother of three children, L. Lloyd, Stephen and an infant son. Mr. Bambauer's career presents many points of encouragement for aspiring land owners and developers, for he is an acknowledged practical and reliable man, depending solely upon the gifts with which nature has endowed him, and striving always for the best possible of attainment in his line.

G. P. CUMMINGS. The position of esteem and respect occupied by G. P. Cummings has been won by sterling traits of character rather than by influence. Irrespective of party lines he was chosen by the board of supervisors as county assessor in 1900, and performed the duties incident to his office with the same efficiency and thoroughness which had previously characterized his work as deputy county clerk and acting clerk of the board of supervisors. A native of Warren county, Tenn., he was born near McMinnville, May 30, 1856, the youngest in a family of ten children, all of whom attained maturity, he being the only one located on the coast. The family came originally from Virginia, which was the birthplace of his father, G. P. Cummings, Sr., the youngest child born to Col. Joseph Cummings, who went to Virginia from Scotland and won his title in the war of 1812. Colonel Cummings engaged in farming near Spencer, Van Buren county, Tenn., after the war of 1812, his death occurring in that locality at the advanced age of ninety-nine years. G. P. Cummings, Sr., followed the occupation of farmer and was also sheriff of Van Buren county, whence he removed to the vicinity of McMinnville. He served in the latter location as district assessor, and also engaged as a farmer until his death, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Plumlee, was a native of Virginia and the daughter of John Plumlee, who took part in the war of 1812. Her death also occurred in Tennessee.

G. P. Cummings, Jr., received his education in Burritt College, Spencer, Tenn., and in 1876, when nineteen years old, began teaching, which occupation he followed for nine years, in time winning a place on the county board of teachers' examiners, of Warren county. Deciding to locate on the Pacific coast, he came to California in 1885 and in Fresno county taught school at Eastin (now in Madera county). In 1887 he came to the city of Fresno and secured employment as clerk in a grocery establishment, where he remained for one year, when he entered into business for himself. He was located on I street, and the firm was known as Cummings & Higgins. This enterprise was continued successfully until 1894, when they sold out and dissolved partnership. For a time he was employed as traveling salesman, but

on January 1, 1899, he was made deputy county clerk under George W. Cartwright, and was the clerk of the county board of supervisors from that time until July 30, 1900. Upon the last-named date he was appointed by the board of supervisors to fill the unexpired term of J. W. Ferguson, county assessor. This office he filled acceptably until January, 1903, when he retired and engaged in the real estate business under the firm name of Murdock, Cummings & Murdock, being located on Tulare street. January 1, 1904, they dissolved partnership and he then accepted a position with the county recorder, to make abstracts of mortgages for county assessor. On the 1st of February, 1904, he was appointed under sheriff by J. D. Collins, since which time he has discharged the duties of that office.

Mr. Cummings' home, at the corner of O and Kern streets, is presided over by his wife, formerly Bettie Smartt, a native of Warren county, where they were married. She was a daughter of George M. Smartt, a farmer of Tennessee, and a granddaughter of William C. Smartt, a patriot in the war of 1812, who emigrated from Virginia to Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Cummings are the parents of four children, namely: Bonnie Jean, George, Annabel and G. P., Jr. Mr. Cummings has taken an active interest in educational affairs in Fresno, and for five years has served as a member of the city board of education. During the building of the high school, the Park Avenue, and the remodeling of the Emerson school, on K street, he served as secretary of the board, and was an important factor in the progress of the school system. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; the Independent Order of Foresters, of which he is past chief ranger; Knights of Pythias, of which he is past chancellor commander; Woodmen of the World; and St. Andrew's Society. Politically he is a staunch Democrat, having served as a member of the county central committee.

ELMER E. GRAHAM. A native of Iowa, Mr. Graham was born in Birmingham, May 22, 1862, a son of Joseph and Margaret (Walters) Graham. The father was born near Zanesville, Ohio, a son of Joseph, a native of Virginia, who was an early settler in Van Buren county, Iowa, where he was a successful farmer and stock raiser. Joseph, the father of Elmer E. Graham, was engaged in general merchandise business in Birmingham until 1894, when he retired from active pursuits and is now living on a farm adjoining the city where he was for so many years a successful figure in the mercantile world. His wife was born in West Virginia, and by her marriage became the mother of four children, two of whom are living. She died in Iowa in 1881,



Elmer E. Graham received a fair education in the public and high schools. Between the ages of eighteen and twenty years he served an apprenticeship at the cabinet maker's trade, and in 1882, went to Minneapolis, Minn., where he secured employment in the railroad depot as assistant depot master. Seven years later he engaged in the restaurant business in the same depot, which business he followed for some ten years. In addition to his stand in the Union depot, he had several other restaurants, and at one time was conducting a large and profitable business. While living there he spent several winters in California, and in 1894 purchased twenty-one acres of orange land near Portersville, in the Sunnyside district. Ten acres of this he set out in oranges, while the balance was devoted to peaches and prunes. Up to 1902 he continued his residence in Minneapolis, coming to California each year to look after his property interests. In that year he disposed of part of his business interests in the east and located here permanently. In 1904 he set out six acres to grapes and otherwise improved his possessions, and since then he has set out more orange trees, and now has one of the finest ranches in this section of the county. He was one of the organizers of the Sunnyside Water Company and has served as president and director from the first. The company has three wells, all connected, which furnish water for irrigating nearly two hundred acres. The wells being about one hundred and sixty feet deep are never failing. He is also interested in the Zante packing house, being a director of the association. In addition to these interests he is engaged in the restaurant business in Minneapolis, owning the Powers' restaurant, which is located in the Powers' mercantile company's large department store.

While living in Minneapolis Mr. Graham married Della G. Alguire, who was born in Montreal, Canada. In politics he is a Republican, and fraternally is a member of the Royal League. His success in life is the result of his own well-directed efforts. While he has lived in Tulare county but a few years, he has attained a position of prominence both in the business and social world. He and his wife are highly esteemed, and have already a large circle of friends.

**JULIUS A. MILTON.** Located upon his ranch of forty acres three miles west of Reedley, Fresno county, Julius A. Milton is engaged in horticultural pursuits and meeting with success in his work. He was born in Rutherford county, N. C., April 18, 1848, a son of Lindsay F. Milton, a farmer of the same state, and grandson of Cornelius Milton. The latter was a planter and farmer of Virginia, who, during the Revolutionary war, removed to North Carolina and engaged

in agricultural pursuits until his death. Lindsay F. Milton also died at that location, as did his wife, formerly Sallie Fortune, a native of North Carolina. They were the parents of seven daughters and one son, all but one now living. Julius A. Milton was the youngest of this large family of children. He received his education in the common schools until 1864, when at the age of sixteen years he enlisted in the Confederate army as a courier on the staff of General Barrington, Hampton's Corps of cavalry. He served eighteen months, and upon the close of the war remained in his native state until June, 1869, when he started via the Isthmus of Panama for California. He arrived in San Francisco July 3, when he located at Farmington, in the San Joaquin valley, and rented land upon which he engaged in ranching. In 1891 he came to the vicinity of Reedley, Fresno county, and purchased his present property, eighteen acres of which he planted to vines, four acres to trees, while the balance is devoted to alfalfa. He carries stock in the Growers' Winery at Parlier, and is interested in all movements pertaining to the general welfare of the community in which he makes his home.

In Stockton, San Joaquin county, Cal., Mr. Milton was united in marriage with Josephine Martin, a native of that county, where she also died. She left one son, Frank T., who is located on property adjoining his father on the east. In Calaveras county, Cal., Mr. Milton married Blanche Schrack, and they are the parents of two children, Clay and Susie. Fraternally Mr. Milton is identified with Farmington Lodge No. 297, I. O. O. F., and politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

**HAROLD V. ARMITAGE**, agent for the Wells Fargo Express Company, of Fresno, Cal., was born in Bowling Green, Ky., October 4, 1867, the eldest of two children born to his parents, Valerius and Sarah (Hess) Armitage. His father was left an orphan at an early age, growing to manhood in Bowling Green, whence he crossed the plains in 1849, via Council Bluffs to Portland, then south to California. He engaged in mining for two years, then returned east by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Locating again in Bowling Green he engaged in the hotel business until his death. He was a soldier in the Mexican war, serving in the First Indiana Regiment of Volunteers. Fraternally he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Armitage is a native of Bowling Green, Ky., and the daughter of Alexander Hess, who was engaged in the hotel business at that place until his

death. She is residing in the old home in Kentucky.

Reared to young manhood in Bowling Green, Harold V. Armitage received his education in the public schools and Ogden College, graduating from the latter institution in 1885. The following year he came to California, securing employment with the Wells Fargo Express Company in San Francisco, in the purchasing and supply department. He remained in the main offices for several years, the last year being in the superintendent's department, when he was transferred to Fresno as clerk, coming to this city in 1889, when there were only about five thousand inhabitants. He continued as chief clerk until 1892, when he was made cashier, and in 1896 was made agent, which position he has since held. From a small office requiring the services of three men the business has grown to such proportions that twelve men are needed, and thus the entire attention of Mr. Armitage is required in the discharge of his duties. The office is located at No. 1038 J street. In 1902 he built a comfortable home at No. 455 Neilsen avenue.

In Fresno Mr. Armitage was united in marriage with Ella Daly, a native of Millerton, Fresno county, Cal., and the daughter of Judge R. H. Daly, who was county judge at the time the county seat was removed from Millerton to Fresno. They have one daughter, Helen Elizabeth. Mrs. Armitage is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Politically Mr. Armitage is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and is active in his efforts to advance the general welfare of the city and county.

---

ALBERT B. CLARK. Among the prominent men of Fresno mention belongs to A. B. Clark, who has been active for a number of years in the development of the natural resources of this county and the upbuilding of its best interests. He was born in Fort Madison, Iowa, October 10, 1858, the descendant of an old Maryland family prominent in the history of the country, his grandfather having taken part in the war of 1812. His father, John H. Clark, a native of Maryland, went to Indiana when a boy and learned the trade of a tanner. When of age he began farming at Rising Sun, and later was a pioneer of Fort Madison, Iowa, where he engaged in the manufacture of shoes with the firm of Clark & Elschrode. This business he continued for several years, when he removed to the vicinity of West Point, Iowa, and again engaged in farming. In the fall of 1870 he removed to Eldorado, Butler county, Kans., and homesteaded property, as well as purchasing land, and there

followed farming and stock-raising until 1882, when he came to California and located in Modesto, Stanislaus county. He made that city his home after his retirement from active cares, his death occurring in that locality in 1890, at the age of seventy-seven years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he had been identified throughout his entire life. Following the example of his patriotic ancestors, he enlisted for service in an Iowa regiment during the Civil war, but was rejected on account of an injury to his shoulder. His wife, formerly Edith E. Emerson, was a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Asa Emerson, who died early in life. She still survives and makes her home in Oakdale, Cal. Six children were born of this union, four of whom are living. By a former marriage Mr. Clark had four children, one now surviving, two sons, Frederick and Emer, having come to California as farmers, where both died in 1890.

A. B. Clark was the eldest child born to his parents. He was reared in Lee county, Iowa, on the paternal farm, and attended the public schools. In 1870 he went to Kansas and attended Ward's College, at Wichita. Deciding to locate on the Pacific coast, he came to California in 1875, and settled near Stockton, where he engaged in farming in various parts of San Joaquin county for several years. He met with fair returns from his work and finally purchased five hundred acres near Modesto, Stanislaus county, renting adjoining land, which gave to him a farming area of three thousand acres. He still owns the five hundred acre ranch located six miles west of Ceres, now in the Turlock Irrigation district, a twenty-foot ditch running through the entire place. Since 1887 he has rented the land to the same tenant. In 1887 he moved to Kings river, three miles south of the present site of Reedley, where he rented a farm of five thousand acres and began the raising of grain. He continued in that location until 1893, and in the meantime set out three hundred and twenty acres of vines on contract, at the end of three and a half years becoming the owner of one hundred and sixty acres. Following this he gave his attention to his vineyard for two and a half years, after which he once more took up general farming, renting two thousand acres northeast of Reedley. Four years later, in September, 1899, he removed to Fresno, and in 1901 built the residence which he has since made his home. He sold his large vineyard in 1903, but still owns several smaller ones, as well as farming lands near Reedley, and two hundred acres two miles south of Parlier, one hundred and sixty acres of which is in orchard and vineyard. During his long period in the work Mr. Clark has improved about six hundred and forty acres of vineyards, and has been an important factor in the development of that industry.





WOOLSEY WEYANT



MRS. S. L. WEYANT

In Modesto, Stanislaus county, Cal., Mr. Clark was united in marriage with Susie Crispin, a native of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and the daughter of Frank Crispin, a farmer, who settled in Modesto in 1883. He was associated with the Society of Friends. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Georgia and Eva. Mr. Clark is prominent fraternally, having been made a Mason in Reedley and now belongs to Los Palmas Lodge, of Fresno, and Trigo Chapter, R. A. M.; Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., of which he was eminent commander in 1903 and '04; Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco; Fresno Lodge of Perfection, and Rose Croix Chapter. Both himself and wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star, of which Mrs. Clark is past matron. Politically Mr. Clark is an advocate of the principles of the Republican party.

**WOOLSEY WEYANT.** During Mr. Weyant's residence in Fresno county, from 1894 until his death, October 10, 1902, was demonstrated his character and ability. He was born October 25, 1837, near Ft. Montgomery, N. Y., and was reared and educated on Iona Island, in the Hudson. He learned the vineyard business there, and for twelve years was engaged in propagating and growing vines for a Dr. Grant. In 1869 he removed to Nebraska and settled fourteen miles west of Lincoln, where he homesteaded and improved a farm, eventually adding three hundred and twenty acres adjoining, upon which he raised grain and stock. He then removed to Lincoln and embarked in the grocery business for a few years, then began buying and improving business and residence property and selling at advanced figures.

In 1894 Mr. Weyant sold out his holdings and came to California and at once settled in the Eggers Colony, where he purchased forty acres, which he set to vines and built and improved a comfortable home place. He added forty acres which he also improved, and continued actively interested as a vineyardist until his death. The lady who became the wife of Mr. Weyant was formerly Saloma Louisa Rhodes, a native of Rockland county, N. Y., and a daughter of William and Permelia (June) Rhodes, the former a native of England, and an only son of William Rhodes, and a native of Staffordshire. Mr. Rhodes settled in New York and found employment in a wholesale establishment, but subsequently he removed to Haverstraw and engaged in manufacturing silk covered wire, later embarking in a farming enterprise, and then his death occurred. His wife was a native of Rockland county, N. Y., a daughter of Ethiel and granddaughter of Ethiel June, who was a Revolutionary soldier. She died in 1884 in New York

state, on the farm where she was born. Mrs. Weyant was reared and educated in her native state and near Ft. Montgomery met and, February 24, 1855, was united in marriage with Woolsey Weyant. They became the parents of ten children, nine of whom reached maturity: Woolsey, engaged in the oil business in Texas; Oscar, in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in San Francisco; Luther, a vineyardist in the Eggers Colony; Charles, likewise engaged in the Jefferson Colony; Sidney, employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad at Beaumont, Cal.; Eva, wife of Frank Naden, of Fresno county; Ella, who married T. J. Alexander and resides in Temperance Colony; John, a vineyardist in Eggers Colony, and Aretes, in the same place.

Mr. and Mrs. Weyant gave their children such school advantages as the times afforded. They were members of the Methodist Church and in politics always stanch Republicans. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Weyant has continued to reside on the home place and carry on the vineyard. She has purchased four lots, and erected a cottage in Fresno on Clark street. Mr. Weyant had purchased one hundred acres of land in Texas at what is known as Pierce Junction, six miles from Houston, and since his death oil has been discovered on this property, making it very valuable. Though a resident of Fresno county but a few years, Mr. Weyant became identified with the business interests of the county, and by his straightforward manners, strict integrity and public spirit soon made a host of friends. Mrs. Weyant has ever extended a helping hand to those less fortunate than herself and now in the afternoon of a well-spent life can enjoy the comforts that the passing years have brought to her.

**JOHN H. COCHRAN** is well known throughout Fresno county, where he has been engaged for fourteen seasons in operating a threshing outfit. Disposing of these interests in the fall of 1903 he settled on the property upon which he now makes his home. He was born in Plymouth, N. H., March 22, 1844, a son of David Cochran, a native of Ireland, who came to the United States in an early day and located first in Massachusetts and later in New Hampshire. In 1851 he went to Derby Center, Vt., where he followed farming until his death. His wife, formerly Mary Burk, was born in Nova Scotia and died in New Hampshire. They were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom John H. was the second child.

John H. Cochran received his education in the common schools of Plymouth, N. H., after which he engaged in farming on the home place with his father. In 1866 he secured employment with

the Boston, Concord & Montreal Railroad Company, and later became engineer. He remained in that connection for five or six years, then was employed by the Mount Washington Railway for the ensuing five years. Following this he was engaged as stationary engineer for two years, working principally in sawmills. In 1882 he came to California and located at Stockton, San Joaquin county, where for two seasons he ran an engine in threshing. He then came to Fresno county and ran an engine for William J. Berry for five seasons. In 1889 he took up the business for himself, equipping himself with a threshing outfit and in partnership with Samuel Kline, which partnership lasted two years, he followed the business throughout the county for fourteen seasons. He also ran stationary engines and conducted combined harvesters. In the fall of 1903 he sold his outfit and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land three miles north of Huron, on the west side of the San Joaquin valley, which he still owns. On the property where he lives twenty acres is in vineyard, while he rents one hundred acres in wheat and one hundred acres in barley.

In Stanstead Plain, Canada, Mr. Cochran was united in marriage with Elizabeth Rock, a native of Vermont, who died in California in 1899. They had two children, Ada, the wife of William Levis, in this vicinity, and Joseph E., of Boston, Mass. Mr. Cochran is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and politically is a Democrat.

**MANUEL ENOS.** A general blacksmithing and horseshoeing business is conducted by Manuel Enos, in Reedley, Fresno county, Cal., where he has made his home since 1896. He is a native son of the state, having been born in Trinity county, August 1, 1865, the eldest in a family of nine children, two daughters and seven sons. His father, Manuel Enos, Sr., was born in Portugal and immigrated to California in 1849 in search of gold. He engaged in mining in Trinity county, Cal., until 1876, when he went to San Leandro, Alameda county, and secured employment in a plow manufactory of that place. He continued in that location for a time, after which he engaged in ranching at Pescadero. Returning to Newark he was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company until he resigned and went to Selma, Fresno county, where he now owns a ranch. He is seventy years of age and makes his home with his sons and daughters. His wife, formerly Mary Carmel, also a native of Portugal, is deceased. Manuel Enos, Jr., received his education in the schools of California, after which, at the age of sixteen years, he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade at Mission San Jose. In 1880 he worked

in the Southern Pacific Railroad shops in Newark for the period of four years. In 1884 he located in Hanford, Kings county, where he followed general blacksmithing for one year, then removed to Selma, where he made his home for eleven years, following his trade. In 1896 he came to Reedley, and has here built up a lucrative business as a blacksmith.

In Fresno Mr. Enos was united in marriage with Maggie Reynolds, a native of New York, and they are the parents of five children, all of whom are at home, namely: Mary, Leo, Lewis, Ida and Paul. Mr. Enos is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**JOHN NELSON POOL.** As a successful farmer John Nelson Pool has done much toward the agricultural development of Fresno county. He is located on a ranch a mile and a half east of Fowler, and engaged at present in horticultural pursuits. Born in Bond county, Ill., August 12, 1850, he is a son of Alexander Pool. The latter was a native of Hardin county, Tenn., where his birth occurred December 15, 1824, his father, William Pool, of North Carolina, having brought his family to Illinois in 1829 and located in Bond county, where he engaged in farming until his death. Alexander Pool came to California in November, 1874, and located near Isleton, Sacramento county, where he farmed until his death in 1879. His wife, formerly Martha Ann Myatt, was a native of Hardin county, Tenn., whose parents removed to Illinois and spent the balance of their lives. Mr. Pool and his wife, became the parents of twelve children, three sons and nine daughters, of whom two sons and three daughters are deceased.

The fourth child in order of birth in the family of his parents, John Nelson Pool received his education in the common schools of Illinois, after which he engaged with his father in farming. He came to California with the latter in 1874 and located near Isleton, on the Sacramento river, where he followed farming for a time, later purchasing land in that vicinity. Six months later he sold his property but continued to make his home there until 1881, in which year he came to Fresno county. He bought railroad land at Lone Star, where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits for nine years, removing in 1890 to Del Rey and in 1902 to his present property, which consists of twenty acres a mile and a half east of Fowler. Ten acres of this property is devoted to vines, six acres to trees and the balance is in pasture. In Bond county, Ill., in 1870, he was united in marriage with Mary Ann Levick, a native of Pennsylvania,



and they are the parents of the following children: Francis Marion, of Lone Star, Cal.; Woodson Alexander, a farmer of this vicinity; Salina Letitia Ann, at home; Charles Henry, of Lone Star; Lester Percy, at home. By a former marriage Mrs. Pool had one son, William Louis Levick, whose home is with his mother and Mr. Pool. They also have an adopted daughter, Lillie May, who is at home also. Fraternally Mr. Pool is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Fowler, in which lodge he has passed all the chairs. Politically he reserves the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

**REV. MARTIN MILLER.** A pioneer minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Rev. Martin Miller is held in the highest esteem throughout the San Joaquin valley, where he has been instrumental in organizing a number of churches of this denomination. He was born in Carroll county, Ohio, December 11, 1836, a son of Joseph Miller, the latter having been born in the vicinity of Harrisburg, Cumberland county, Pa. The elder man was a farmer who emigrated to Carroll county, where he married and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He made that locality his home from 1828 to 1862, when he removed to Montgomery county, Ill., where his death occurred in 1873, at the age of sixty-two years. His wife, formerly Isabelle McClintock, of Ohio, now resides in Illinois, at the age of ninety years, still active and well preserved. They were the parents of six sons and one daughter, of whom Martin Miller was the eldest.

Martin Miller received a preliminary education in the common schools of Ohio and also attended an academy in that state. After his removal to Illinois he took a theological course in the Illinois State University at Springfield, graduating therefrom in 1865. His first charge was in Montgomery county, Ill., and following this he was located in Warsaw, Camp Point and Nokomis. He came to California in 1873 and was in charge at Georgetown, Eldorado county, for three years; then in Richland and Marysville, and in 1880 located in the vicinity of Reedley, Fresno county. In January, 1882, he organized the first Methodist Episcopal church in Fresno, Cal. The same year he organized the first Methodist Episcopal Church at Selma, of which he remained in charge for three years. In 1894 he was located at Hanford, Kings county, and the following year at Sanger, Fresno county. During 1887 and 1888 he preached at Traver, Tulare county. He now has charge of the church at Parlier, which he organized in January, 1904. Since his location here he has been absent only two years, which time he spent in Los Angeles

educating his children, and while there he preached at Ivanhoe. He also became interested in real estate in that city, owning some property in partnership with a brother-in-law. In 1878 Mr. Miller bought forty acres of land near Parlier, where he located in 1880, making that his home until recently, when he sold out and has now moved to his new home on the banks of the Kings river, just opposite Reedley. This consists of forty-four acres, ten of which are planted to oranges, and twelve acres to Smyrna figs.

In Illinois, August 19, 1866, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Ardalissa M. Dryer, a native of that state, and a daughter of Albert and Louisa (Weber) Dryer, natives respectively of Vermont and Pennsylvania, but of Holland descent. They were among the early settlers of Montgomery county, Ill., and were held in high esteem there. They were prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he was an officer and leader. He died at the age of ninety years and she at the age of eighty-four years. They were the parents of six children, who are all living, three of them being in California. Rev. and Mrs. Miller became the parents of three sons and one daughter, of whom George A., a graduate of the Stanford University, is pastor of the English-speaking Methodist Episcopal Church in Manila, Philippine Islands; Charles D. is located in Los Angeles, Cal.; Clara I. is at home; and John M. is attending Stanford University. The daughter is a well-known teacher of music. In his political convictions Mr. Miller is independent, reserving the right to cast his ballot for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.

**AXEL THEODOR LINDGREN.** As cashier and secretary of the Kingsburg State Bank, of Fresno county, Axel Theodor Lindgren is one of the prominent business men of Kingsburg. He was born in McPherson county, Kans., February 10, 1872, a son of S. P. Lindgren. The latter was a native of Sweden who came to the United States in 1868 and located in Chicago, Ill., thence going to Lindsborg, Kans., becoming secretary of that colony when organized and for many years conducting a hotel and drug store in the place. He came to California in 1888 and located in Kingsburg Colony, where he engaged in farming until his death in February, 1902, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, formerly Martha Olson, also a native of Sweden, survives him and makes her home with her son, Axel Theodor. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters, of whom A. T. Lindgren was the youngest. He received his preliminary education in the common schools, after which he took one year at the Lindsborg College. He lo-

cated in California when sixteen years old and here grew to manhood. In 1899 he was made manager of the Linnea Packing Company at Parlier and Kingsburg, the following year taking a leave of absence and going to Nome, Alaska. While there he made his expenses, but after a few months returned to California and resumed the duties of his position. In 1902 he entered the Stockton Business College and took a commercial course, and in 1904 was active in the organization of the Kingsburg State Bank, of which he became secretary and cashier. He was also one of the organizers of the Rochdale store, and also of the Mutual Protective Fire Insurance Association here. He is still associated with the Linnea Packing Company as secretary, and in addition to these interests owns a sixty-acre ranch, where he raises orchard fruits, grapes, stock, etc., having received at one time the first prize at the state fair for his Poland China hogs, and in 1904 secured the seventh prize on Buff Leghorn chickens at the St. Louis Exposition. He also owns a packing house and warehouse here, which he leases. He is a member of the Swedish Mission Church, of this place, and politically is an active Prohibitionist, during the last campaign serving as president and secretary of the committee.

**FRED SARRINGHAUSEN.** Four and a half miles southwest of Reedley, Fresno county, Cal., is located the ranch of one hundred and sixty acres belonging to Fred Sarringhausen, one of the enterprising agriculturists of this section. He was born in Ripley county, Ind., November 17, 1858, a son of Nicholas Sarringhausen, a native of Germany, who came to the United States in 1850 and located as a farmer in Ripley county, Ind., where his death occurred. His wife, Maggie Sarringhausen, also a native of Germany, died in Indiana in 1865. They were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom Fred Sarringhausen was the third in order of birth. He received a very limited education in the common schools of his native state. Losing his mother when only seven years old and his father when eleven, he made his home with an aunt for a time, when he became dependent upon his own resources and found employment on a farm in Indiana. In 1882 he came to California and first located in Fresno, where he worked on a ranch until 1884, subsequently purchasing eighty acres near Reedley, but continuing to make his home in Fresno, however, until 1887, when he purchased his present property, of which fifty acres is devoted to alfalfa, five acres to orchard, and fifty-five acres to vines of raisin grapes, the balance being given over to the raising of grain. He also devotes his ranch of

eighty acres to grain, owning in all two hundred and twenty-five acres, of which twenty-five acres is overflow land along the river. He also conducts a dairy of seventeen cows. On his place he has a stock-grower's winery and also a grower's packing house. He has recently rebuilt his residence and has made many other improvements which have increased the value of his property.

In Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. Sarringhausen was united in marriage with Sophia Clostermier, a native of Indiana, and they are the parents of the following children, all at home: Serena A. M., Hazel Dorothy, Dorma F. D. and Elenor Sophia. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

**GEORGE S. COLQUHOUN.** Nearly the entire life of G. S. Colquhoun has been passed in Fresno, where he has worked himself up from a lowly position to one of importance. This success is the result of his own efforts, as he has never had the benefit of influence, his position being the just reward for many years of honest labor. Born in Oakland, September 26, 1872, he is a son of M. W. and Annie E. (Bouton) Colquhoun, the former a native of Cornwall, Ontario. The grandfather emigrated to Canada from Scotland at a very early day, and besides carrying on a farm also acted as Indian agent for the Canadian government. M. W. Colquhoun was a stationary engineer in his native country prior to locating in California in 1866. On first coming to the west he went to the mines near Virginia City, Nev., where he filled a position as stationary engineer until 1879. In that year he located in Eldorado county, where he followed the same vocation until 1881, when he removed to Fresno. Here he entered the employ of the Fresno Water Company as an engineer, continuing in their employ until he was accidentally killed by an explosion in the engine room. At the time of his death he was fifty-two years of age. Fraternally he was a member of the Masons, and personally he was a man well liked, as was shown by his large circle of friends in Fresno. His wife was born in Hillsboro, Ill., a daughter of William and Olive Bouton, who came to California in 1860. Mr. Bouton lived for a time in the Sacramento valley, but after the terrible flood of 1862 he removed to Virginia City, and later to Silver City, Nev. Here he was subsequently made postmaster and also acted as justice of the peace. He is now living retired in Santa Barbara, while his daughter makes her home with her son, our subject.

George S. Colquhoun was nine years of age when his father came to Fresno. Here he attended the public schools until he was fourteen. At that early age he started to learn the trade of





*L. W. Hyllie*

a plumber under the direction of Weaver & Dunbar, and the following nine years were devoted to this vocation. Subsequently, for four years, he was in the employ of the Fresno Gas and Electric Light Company as repair-man. The company recognizing his efficiency, in 1898 he was promoted to the office of superintendent of the entire works. In 1902 the California Gas and Electric corporation purchased the plant, and Mr. Colquhoun was made general superintendent. Since that time improvements have been made and the company now has one of the best equipped establishments of the kind in the state. All this has been done under the direct supervision of the superintendent, who has labored industriously to make the business a success.

In Fresno the marriage of Mr. Colquhoun and Mrs. Dora Edith (Lynn) Fairweather was celebrated in 1904. She is the daughter of Theodore A. Lynn, an early settler of this state, who crossed the plains in the customary way. He is now living retired in the city of Fresno. Mr. Colquhoun is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. He also holds membership in the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and takes an active interest in the upbuilding of the city and county.

---

GEORGE W. WYLLIE. Immediately adjoining Dinuba on the southwest lies Karnak, the home of Mr. Wyllie and declared by competent judges to be as fine a vineyard as California may boast. With the exception of five acres devoted to buildings, lawns and gardens, the entire tract of one hundred and sixty acres is under cultivation to grapes, fifty-five acres being in Muscats, twenty-five in the seedless variety, twenty-five acres in Malaga table grapes and fifty in Emperor table grapes. To facilitate the work he erected a large and well-equipped packing house, where shipments are prepared for the eastern markets. Although the place has been in its present owner's possession for a few years only, such has been the energy and judgment with which he has superintended the vines that in the third year he shipped fifteen carloads and in the fourth year shipped more than forty cars, when under ordinary circumstances few or no shipments would have been possible. One of the improvements on the place, and which shows him to be an excellent carpenter and mason, is a stone bridge across the canal flanked with substantial stone piers and finished with a solid wall each way.

The Wyllie family came from Scotland, John Wyllie, who was a native of Edinburgh, became a pioneer farmer of Lee county, Iowa, where he improved a tract of three hundred and twenty acres until it was considered the best farm in

the entire county. On that place he remained until his death in 1872. After coming to America he married Sarah Best, who was born in Illinois, of an old Pennsylvania family, and now makes her home in Los Banos, Merced county, Cal. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters, of whom two daughters are deceased. Of the sons Frank makes his home in Riverdale, Cal., James M. lives near Gilroy, and George W. resides near Dinuba. The last-named, who was second among the children, was born near Keokuk, Lee county, Iowa, February 12, 1856, and as a boy lived with his parents in a log cabin, meanwhile attending common schools and the Denmark Academy. When twenty-one years of age he came to California and for three years taught school in Sutter county, then was similarly employed in Colfax, Cal., and later went to Santa Rosa, where he bought a fruit farm. The climate did not prove satisfactory, but the soil was excellent. At the time of the New Orleans exposition he sent there a pumpkin, weighing two hundred and twelve pounds, and so large that he could not reach around it so as to lift it from the ground. The pumpkin contained a statement that it was raised on his farm. A visitor at the exposition noticed and admired the pumpkin and on coming to California later visited the farm and bought it from Mr. Wyllie. In 1884, after selling, Mr. Wyllie moved to Fresno county and bought one hundred and sixty acres three and one-half miles southeast of Fresno, which he improved, at the same time for a year acting as vice-principal of the Fresno school, and for one year being principal of the Washington colony. The place cost him \$4,000 and two years later, after he had set out a vineyard and sown a large acreage of alfalfa, he sold it for \$14,000. His next location was near Fresno, where he bought forty acres at \$250 per acre. The land was wholly destitute of improvements. Soon he had forty acres in Muscat grapes, which he carefully cultivated until it brought him large crops year after year and enabled him to sell raisins profitably during all of the hard times. In 1899 he sold the place for \$14,000 cash, gold, which was the largest price ever paid up to that time for a forty-acre vineyard. Afterward for four years he rented the place of the new owner, whom he paid ten per cent on \$14,000 per year as rental. Meanwhile, in 1900, he bought three hundred and twenty acres on section 18, southwest of Dinuba, and here he erected a house in 1903 and brought his family. Since coming to this place he has sold a quarter section in twenty-acre colony lots, and the balance of the acreage, with the exception of five acres, is under grape culture. Ever since the organization of the Raisin Growers' Association, in which he was warmly interested,

he has been active in its work, as indeed in all movements allied with the industry to which he devotes his attention. In religion he is of the United Presbyterian faith and in politics favors Prohibition principles. In Salinas, Cal., he married Miss Emma E. Nichols, who was born at Dutch Flat, Placer county, Cal., her father, George, having been a miner in early days and later a merchant. The children of their union are Roy (a student in the University of California), Eva M., Minnie L., Mabel, Carrie Irene, Kirby Ray and Corinne, who are with their parents on the Dinuba homestead.

---

THOMAS E. COLLINS. Fresno has a citizen in Thomas E. Collins who has at all times been found true to every trust reposed in him. Since locating in this city he has been identified with all the movements calculated to be of material benefit to the city or county. Prominent politically, he is personally acquainted with the leading men of the state, and as a hotel man he has established an enviable reputation.

A native of Ireland, Mr. Collins was born in County Cork, June 20, 1862. His early life was spent on a farm and attending the schools of the neighborhood. Hearing much of the opportunities offered young men in America, Mr. Collins, in August, 1881, bade goodbye to home and friends and departed from his native country to take up the battle of life in America. He has never regretted the decision made and the present shows he has made the best of his chances. On landing in New York he at once proceeded to San Francisco, where he soon after secured employment as a street car conductor. Later he secured a position on the cable line, continuing there until 1884, when he went to Merced and entered the employ of William Fahey, who at the time was proprietor of the Tuolumne Hotel. Two months later he became manager of the hotel, which he conducted until 1886, when he became associated with J. B. Baker, with whom he remained until 1894. In September of that year he came to Fresno, and in partnership with his brother, Daniel E., leased the Ogle House, with which he has since been connected.

January 1, 1897, Mr. Collins purchased the interest of his brother and has since been sole proprietor of the business. During these years he has made many improvements in the building and in the service. In 1897 an addition was erected, containing twelve rooms, and the entire plan of the hotel was changed. Again in 1903 extensive improvements were made, the whole establishment being thoroughly overhauled. New furniture was put in, better service was arranged for, the whole going to make his hotel one of the

best equipped in this section of the state. The house is conducted on the American plan, and those who have enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. Collins will vouch for the excellence of the general management. Located opposite the Southern Pacific depot and the Chamber of Commerce building, it is convenient to the trading center, a fact which is much appreciated by out-of-town visitors.

In Merced Mr. Collins was united in marriage with Mary Quilty, who is also a native of Ireland. To this union have been born four children, as follows: Mary Julia, Annie Mercedes, Margaret Josephine and Edward Thomas. Mrs. Collins takes pleasure in assisting her husband, and much of the success that he has attained is due to the good influences and popularity of his most estimable wife. Mr. Collins is interested in several outside ventures, including the Southern Pacific Oil Mining Company, of which he is vice-president and one of the largest stockholders. In Kern county he owns a ten-acre tract which is equipped with wells and a fine pumping plant.

Politically Mr. Collins is a staunch Democrat, and is one of the active workers in that party, at present being a member of the state central committee and serving on the executive board. While he has never cared for the honors of public office, he has, nevertheless, been one of the party's hardest workers, and many successful candidates owe their election to the executive ability of Mr. Collins. In fraternal circles he is a member of the Young Men's Institute, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Foresters of America. He is also a charter member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and was formerly on the executive committee. In this organization he has taken a deep interest, and the list of members contains no name that is more prominently associated with the success of the Chamber than that of Mr. Collins. Coming to this country a total stranger, without money or influence, he has worked his way up until today he is considered one of the influential men of Fresno. This position was secured by perseverance and the ability to take advantage of the opportunities as they were presented.

---

ASA I. POWELL. A successful rancher, Asa I. Powell enjoys to an unusual degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow townsmen, holding a high place among the citizens of Reedley, Fresno county, where he has made his home for some time. He is a native of Cambridge county, Vt., where he was born January 24, 1842, a descendant of an old family of Vermont, his father's birth occurring there August 27, 1814. His grandfather, Erastus Powell, also a native



of Vermont, served as a patriot in the war of 1812. Salmon Powell removed to Chittenden county, in manhood, and engaged as a farmer until his retirement from the active cares of life, when he came to California, in 1902, and now makes his home with his son at the age of ninety years. His wife, formerly Sarah Ingalls, a native of Vermont, died in Underhill March 24, 1872. They were the parents of six sons and one daughter, of whom Asa I. Powell is the second in order of birth. The other son, Erastus, served in the Thirteenth Vermont Volunteers and died at Camp Corosa, Virginia, May 25, 1863.

Asa I. Powell received his education in the common schools of his native state, and in manhood engaged in farming at Jericho and Underhill, both towns of that state. In the spring of 1890 he went to Jersey county, Ill., and that fall came to California and located at Reedley, Fresno county, in December purchasing twenty acres in Curtis and Shumale Colony. He made the first improvements upon the property, which he planted to fruit and vines, with the passing years transforming it into a valuable property. In 1901 he removed to San Jose for the purpose of educating a niece who made her home with him, and after one year returned to Fresno county. He then rented his ranch and located permanently in Reedley. His niece, Emma M. Powell, graduated at the State Normal and is now a teacher in Fresno county. Mr. Powell has been married twice, his first wife, whom he married in 1864, being Thirza Story in maidenhood, and a native of Vermont, where she died October 2, 1885. They had one child, Erastus Clark, who died May 2, 1888. Mr. Powell was united in marriage in September, 1890, with Lora T. Palmer, of Illinois, and her death occurred here January 1, 1894. Mr. Powell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is steward and trustee, and is very active in all church work. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

---

**HENRY PHILIP HEDGES.** The success achieved by Henry Philip Hedges, an old resident of Fresno and an honored and esteemed citizen, has been entirely the result of his own unaided efforts, and his ability, energy and determination to win a competence. A native of Warren county, N. Y., he was born in Chestertown, August 20, 1824. His father, Philip Hedges, was born in Montauk Point, Long Island, in 1786, the descendant of English ancestry. He became an early settler of Warren county, N. Y., where he engaged as a farmer until his death, which occurred in Chestertown, December 27, 1865. He was a patriot in the war of 1812 and a worthy

and esteemed citizen of the community where he made his home for so many years. His wife, formerly Mary Stickney, was a native of the town of Northumberland, N. Y. She died in 1831, leaving a family of three children, two of whom are now living. Moses S. Hedges, a soldier in a New York regiment during the Civil war, resides on the old home place in Chestertown at the age of eighty-four years.

Reared on the paternal farm, Henry Philip Hedges received his education in the public school. He remained at home until attaining his majority, helping his father with the harvest after his twenty-first birthday, when he set out in the world dependent upon his own resources. His first winter he spent in the timber lands, engaged in lumbering, setting out without a dollar with which to provide the necessary outfit, like many others securing credit at the local store until the spring, when he was paid for his work; Shortly afterward he located in Seneca Falls, N. Y., where he found employment in the woolen mills for a period of three years, following which he acted as superintendent of a farm and saw mill in Washington (now Ozaukee) county, Wis., for three years. He then purchased land and improved and cultivated a farm until 1863, becoming a prominent and successful man of that community, serving as township clerk, justice of the peace and other minor offices. Removing to Coldwater, Mich., he purchased a farm, which he made his home until 1865. He then became a resident of Waubeek, Linn county, Iowa, where he engaged in a mercantile enterprise for many years, serving as justice of the peace and township clerk, etc., during his long residence there. In 1881 he sold out, and, coming to California, located in Fresno, which was then but a small town. He bought considerable property, forty acres, then a mile out, on what became Blackstone avenue, and which he afterward laid out in lots and sold as Hedges' Addition. He also had one hundred and sixty acres two miles north of Fresno on the same avenue, eighty acres of which he sold, while the remainder he laid out and designated as the Hedges Colony. He built a residence at No. 2505 Fresno street, which is now the home of the family; also erected the building occupied by Chesnutwood's Business College, two business houses on K street, between Fresno and Mariposa streets, as well as various residences throughout the city. Mr. Hedges has been an important factor in the upbuilding and development of Fresno, and is justly named among the representative citizens of this community.

In New York state, in Cato, Cayuga county, June 8, 1850, Mr. Hedges was united in marriage with Mary Hunt, a native of Ontario, and the daughter of Benjamin Hunt, of Vermont. He was a comb manufacturer and later in life en-

gaged in farming near Coldwater, Mich., where he was accidentally killed in a runaway, at the age of eighty years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and an esteemed resident of the place where he lived for so many years. His wife, formerly Thankful Tolman, was born in Onondaga county, N. Y., and died in Michigan. Mrs. Hedges was next to the youngest in a family of six children, four of whom are living, her birth occurring November 22, 1826. To Mr. and Mrs. Hedges were born the following children: Luella, who became the wife of A. T. Stevens, and died in Fresno in 1903; Charles, who died at the age of twenty-five in Iowa; Mary, the wife of John H. Pefly, of Amedee, Cal.; and Tena, the wife of William Shaw, of Fresno. Mrs. Hedges has been a member of the Baptist Church for sixty years. Fraternally Mr. Hedges was made a Mason in Ozaukee Lodge at Port Washington, Wis., and is now a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M.; Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M.; a charter member of Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., of which he has served as treasurer since its organization; and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

J. HOWARD WILLIAMS. The Williams family flourished for many generations in the state of New Jersey, the first ancestor on American soil being the representative of an old Welsh family. John Williams, the grandfather of J. Howard Williams, a highly esteemed citizen of Portersville, Tulare county, became a farmer in New Jersey. In his family was a son, Daniel S., who was born in Good Luck, N. J., and who, in manhood, followed the sea. He became a captain and a vessel owner, running a line of vessels in the coast trade and also in the West Indies. He carried on an extensive and successful business, investing his large returns in land in his native state until he owned considerable property. He died at the age of seventy-two years, removing from the community a citizen esteemed for his patriotism and loyalty to the best interests of the country, and a man of much personal worth and ability. His wife, formerly Amelia Newbury, was a daughter of Capt. Corlis Newbury, both being natives of Waretown, N. J. He was a sea captain until his retirement from the active duties of life, being in the government service during the war. Mrs. Williams died in New Jersey, leaving two children, of whom the youngest, Daniel S., Jr., died in the same state. The oldest, J. Howard Williams, was born August 9, 1861, in Good Luck (now Lanoka), N. J.

Reared in his native state, J. Howard Williams received his education in Shortlidge's Academy,

of Media, Pa., after his graduation going to sea in his father's vessels when twenty years of age. Although he had been on the vessels constantly from boyhood, he began at the bottom, taking his place before the mast and working his way up until he was in charge of a three-master, being then twenty-four years old. He continued in that work until 1887 when he left a seafaring life, and the following year came to California, and spent the winter at San Diego. In 1889 he located in Portersville and engaged in the planning mill business as a manufacturer. Two years later he returned to New Jersey where he spent the ensuing three years, when he once more located in California. In the meantime, in 1894, he had established himself in horticultural lines, by setting out an orange grove on his ranch adjoining Portersville on the east. This ranch consists of one hundred and fifty-five acres, one hundred acres being devoted to oranges and twenty acres to lemons. It is known as the Winter-Haven ranch and is finely located, laid out with drives lined with beautiful rows of palms, while the home is a beautiful and stately residence. The property is under the Pioneer Ditch Company, the irrigation being done by gravitation, while Mr. Williams also has wells and a pumping plant of fifty-horse power, which furnishes an ample supply of water. He is also largely interested in the stock business, having incorporated the Williams & Young Company, which owns a number of ranches consisting of several thousand acres of land. This company conducts a fine dairy farm west of Portersville planted to alfalfa, where they have full-blooded Holstein cattle, specimens from the herd having taken premiums at the Hanford and Tulare fairs. They have undoubtedly the largest herd of full-blooded Holsteins in the county, and one of the largest in the entire San Joaquin valley. Mr. Williams is a member of the Portersville Citrus Association, of which he is ex-president, while for two years he also served as president of the Tulare County Citrus Fruit Exchange. He is a member of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America, and belongs to the State Game and Fish Protective Association, of which he is first vice-president. In addition to his horticultural and stock interests, he was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Portersville, of which he is now vice-president and director.

In Portersville Mr. Williams married Edith B. Howard, of Tomah, Wis., and they are the parents of five children, namely: Helen E., Amelia N., Katharine, Margaret and J. Howard, Jr. Mr. Williams was made a Mason in Harmony Lodge No. 18, of Toms River, N. J., and became a charter member of Portersville Lodge No. 303. He became a Royal Arch Mason in Siloam

Chapter, Camden, N. J., and was raised to the Commandery in Visalia Commandery No. 26. He is also a member of The Lodge Perfection of Visalia, Cal., and of Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco. In religion Mrs. Williams is a member of the Congregational Church.

**GILBERT L. BAKER.** A genius for mechanical invention, the ability to make almost anything in wood and iron, the capacity for exhaustive agricultural research, and the ability to forcefully and gracefully set down his observations for the guidance of others, combine to make Gilbert Baker one of the most interesting and useful additions to the community of Oakdale and Stanislaus county. As the correspondent for Stanislaus county to Washington for the past eight years, he is probably better informed than any one in the county on its resources, conditions and possibilities, and those familiar with the position realize that the task would entail laborious study and great accuracy of judgment. To Mr. Baker the task is a pleasant one, furnishing an outlet for his strenuous mind, and at the same time enabling him to acquire that comprehensive knowledge which is at once his pride and that of his fellow agriculturists. It is perhaps as an inventor that his name will longest be identified with the west, for fortunately his thought has run in practical channels, and his products must necessarily reach a corresponding number of people. His inventiveness has resulted in six different patents, one of the most ingenious of which is a combination of harness tools, enclosed in a hammer, and containing twelve different tools; another is a lock snap, taking the place of the ordinary snap, but locking securely; a combination tug hook, which is self adjusting; a door lock; a padlock and safe, and a set of permutation locks. Mr. Baker's knowledge of mechanics enables him to make all of his models out of wood or iron, thus rendering impossible the confiscation or misuse of any of the products of his brain. In the interest of his patents he has made two trips to Washington. His inventions have the merit of extreme originality and practicability, and have at once seized upon the popular approval and support.

The life of Mr. Baker began in Berryville, Carroll county, Ark., February 28, 1867, his grandfather, Aaron, having been one of the first settlers of that locality. While yet the timbers were tall, the rivers unnavigated, and the wigwam of the Indian the prevailing style of architecture, this father came from near Lexington, Ky., made his way up the river for sixty miles, and took up four hundred and eighty acres of land where no white man had as yet made his habitation. A rude log house with greased paper

window lights and puncheon floors constituted his home for many months, yet he succeeded in making a profitable and paying investment out of his emigration, rearing a large family of children, and at the time of his death, in 1887, at the age of eighty-five, had cause to view with gratitude the inspiration which led his steps to the wilderness of Carroll county. His son, Alfred, the father of Gilbert L., was born on this pioneer farm, and in time owned and operated land in the same locality. He owned two hundred and forty acres of as fine farm land as the county contained, and his industry brought wealth and comforts his way, as they were understood and appreciated in that day. He died while yet in the zenith of his powers, in 1891, at the age of forty-nine. During his boyhood days in Carroll county he played with the children of one George S. Moody, the latter one of the pioneers of the county, and the owner of a fine five hundred and twenty acre stock and general farm. Mr. Moody was a noted musician, and the composer of songs which he himself sang in a sweet and sympathetic voice, and his home was naturally the scene of much hospitality. His daughter Adelaide grew into a graceful and home-loving woman, and from a school-day friendship, her regard for Alfred Baker developed into something deeper, and their marriage was one of the social events of Carroll county. She became the mother of eight children, five of whom are living, and died at the early age of thirty-six, deeply mourned by a large circle of friends.

Reared on the home farm in Carroll county, Ark., Gilbert L. Baker had more than the average educational chances granted the middle-west farmer lad of his time, attending the public schools, and the Berryville Academy, graduating from the latter April 7, 1882. As evidencing his ambitious tendencies, and preconceived plans, two days after his graduation, on April 9, he started for California, arriving in the Waterford district, Stanislaus county, April 19, 1882. His uncle, William Wilkinson Baker, an Argonaut of 1849, and an extensive farmer, gave him a royal welcome, and under his guidance he pursued the studies in agriculture which had already engaged his time and attention in Arkansas. Eighteen months later he engaged in independent ranching, and in 1888 rented seven hundred and twenty acres of land near Waterford, where he began to raise stock and grain, and in time increased his holdings to twelve hundred and eighty acres. In 1891 he purchased three hundred and one acres of bottom land on the Tuolumne river, and in 1902 bought six hundred and fifty-six acres four miles south of Oakdale, since which time he has operated his own land exclusively. Needless to say that

his property is a model of wise management and perfect method, or that the most ingenious of machinery is utilized for its harvesting. A blacksmith shop on his farm enables him to satisfy his craving for manufacture, and practically all of the machinery on his place is the work of his own hands. That purchased because of its bulk and want of facility for proper making is subject to novel and practical changes on the part of the owner, even standard machines, supposed to represent the highest achievements of the agricultural mind, coming in for a share of his inventive skill. He even manufactures his own tools, and probably no outfit thus put together has been of greater use or achieved more practical results. His earnings have of necessity been large, and as a result of his faith in the future of Oakdale he has invested heavily in her town property, owning numerous desirable lots besides that upon which his own delightful home has been built, and of which the family took possession in 1902. In Oakdale, Mr. Baker married Mabel Roberts, born at Knight's Ferry, Cal., a daughter of Thomas Roberts, now deceased, the original owner and builder of the Oakdale Water Works. Two children comprise the Baker household, Irwin and Ethel. Mr. Baker is a Democrat, and an attendant at the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a man of remarkable reserve force, of unflagging industry, and of great belief in the ability of mankind in general. While naturally gifted, he is the advocate of perseverance as an avenue to success, and believes that more can be accomplished by the average individual than he knows of or himself believes. His achievements, both as an inventor and as an advocate of the climatic and other resources of Stanislaus county as embodied in his monthly reports to the agricultural department at Washington, reflect lasting credit upon his adopted state, besides placing him among the wealthiest and most prominent of the men who have aided the agricultural upbuilding of the county.

---

MARTIN MADSEN. Denmark has furnished the United States with many successful men and there is scarcely a state in the Union but has been greatly benefited by this class of citizens, especially the states of the west and northwest, where pioneer developing work has been done in the past fifty years. Among this class of Danish-born Americans who have come to this country without money or friends and by their own efforts have made a success in life may be mentioned Martin Madsen. At an early age he started out to make his own way in the world, since which time he has climbed the ladder of success rung by rung until now he is at the top.

In no other country in the world can a man rise, by his own efforts, to such an enviable position.

A native of Denmark, Martin Madsen was born January 28, 1857, a son of Madsen and Bertha (Jorgensen) Jensen. The father was a farmer, which occupation he followed up to the time of his death in 1895. His wife bore him eight children, five of whom are living, two being residents of this state, Martin, and a brother, Jens, who resides near Fowler. Martin Madsen was reared on his father's farm and obtained a limited common school education. In 1874 he determined to start out in life for himself, and as he had heard much of the opportunities which existed in America, he bade good-by to home and friends and sailed for New York. The first location was in Perth Amboy, N. J., where he followed the trade of a butcher, working for others until 1879, when he engaged in the same business for himself, continuing there until 1881. He then sold out and returned to his native country for a visit. After three months he again came to this country, locating in California. Taking up his residence in Fresno, he has since made this place his home, and during the years of his residence here has gained a comfortable competence. Soon after arriving in Fresno he opened a meat market on Mariposa street, which he conducted for a period of ten years. In 1888 he formed a partnership with Thomas Pickford, the firm bearing the name of Madsen & Pickford, wholesale dealers in meat, etc. This firm, under the personal direction of Mr. Madsen, met with splendid success and built up a large business enterprise, which was continued until 1891, when Mr. Madsen sold his interest to Mr. Pickford. Subsequently, accompanied by his family, he crossed the water to the country of his nativity, spending seven months in Denmark and touring other countries in Europe. On his return to Fresno he engaged in farming, which he followed until 1901, when he again formed a partnership, this time uniting his business interests with M. L. Woy, under the firm name of Woy & Madsen, dealers in real estate, with offices at No. 1138 J street. In addition to the real estate business the firm also dealt extensively in oil stocks, Mr. Madsen being prominently identified with several of the largest oil companies in the state, including the Commercial Oil Company, of which he was one of the organizers and is now a director, and the Montana-Fresno Oil Company, being also a member of the board of directors in this organization. In the meantime Mr. Madsen has been extensively interested in farming, stock raising and fruit growing. Eight miles southwest of Fresno he owns six hundred and forty acres, which he devotes to the growing of alfalfa. On Blackstone avenue, one mile out of town, where he makes



his home, he has forty-five acres, devoted to an orchard and vineyard. In 1902 he laid out the "Poppy Colony," located one mile north of Fresno. This tract was divided into five, ten and twenty acreages, most of which have already been sold.

Since coming here Mr. Madsen has been united in marriage with Anna Dorothea Petersen, a native of Denmark, and to them have been born the following children: Bertha, Martin, Theodore and Nadine, all living at home. In politics Mr. Madsen is a staunch Republican, but aside from casting his vote and being deeply interested in the success of the party he has never cared to take part in public affairs, preferring rather to devote his time and attentions to his own business interests. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. Both he and his wife occupy a prominent place in the various social circles of Fresno, and are highly respected.

---

**JAMES JOHN REYBURN.** Owing to the death of his father, J. J. Reyburn obtained but a limited education, having had to make his own way in the world from an early age. A native of Ohio, he was born in Miami county, August 14, 1836, a son of John Stewart Reyburn, who was born in the state of Kentucky. The grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812. On reaching maturity J. S. Reyburn removed to Miami county, Ohio, where he followed the trade of a cabinet maker until 1839, when he migrated to Burlington, Iowa. Later in life he purchased a farm near that city, on which he was living at the time of his death, May 31, 1840. His wife bore the maiden name of Nancy Davidson. She was born in Virginia and died in Iowa, September 30, 1860. Of her union with Mr. Reyburn four children were born, two of whom are living, a son Joseph, and James John, of this review. The former crossed the plains to Oregon in 1862 and later located in Stanislaus county, this state. Subsequently he lived for a time in Fresno county, but later removed to the Jefferson district, where he is now living.

James J. Reyburn was the third child of the family of four children and was but a boy when his father died. This made it necessary for him to strike out for himself at an early age. His first employment was on a farm five miles west of Burlington, Iowa. Later he entered a flour mill and subsequently purchased an interest in the Franklin Mill at Des Moines, Iowa, where he continued in business until 1866, when he sold out and went to Missouri. Locating in Scotland county he engaged in general farming and stock-raising until 1873, when he disposed of all his interests in the east and came to California. First going to Stanislaus county,

he became interested in raising wheat near Salida, remaining there until 1875, when he moved to the Big Dry Creek district in Fresno county. Here he pre-empted and homesteaded a tract of land, later adding by purchase until he owned six hundred and forty acres, all in one body on Big Dry Creek, fourteen miles northeast of Fresno, at a place called Red Bank. He continued living on this place until the spring of 1890, devoting his attention to the raising of wheat, at times having many acres of rented land under cultivation. In the last year mentioned he purchased eighty acres of land ten miles northeast of Fresno, set out a vineyard and orchard, both of which are now in fine bearing, of which he retains forty acres. While living on this ranch he engaged in raising fancy chickens, and at the poultry exhibitions secured many prizes for his fine birds. In 1903 he disposed of his six hundred and forty acre ranch on Big Dry Creek and located in Fresno, where he is now living a retired life, although he still looks after his various interests.

In Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Mr. Reyburn married Mary McDonald, and to them have been born five children, namely: John S., deceased; Chester H., William D., Clarence J., and Nancy, the wife of M. M. Shaver. Mr. Reyburn has at all times taken an active interest in county affairs, and while living on his ranch acted as school trustee for several years. In politics a Republican, he is deeply interested in the welfare of the party. He has seen many changes in the San Joaquin valley since first coming here, and in the onward march of civilization he has performed his part.

---

**JAMES H. MORTON.** The Morton family, well-known and widely esteemed throughout Tulare county, was established in America by James Morton, a native of the north of Ireland, who came to New York state and thence via the Isthmus of Panama to California. He first followed mining in Tuolumne county and was later located in Mariposa county until 1869, when he began stock-raising on the west side, on the Orestimba, Stanislaus county. He remained in that location for some time, when he removed to Merced Plains and continued in the same business. In 1880 he located in Tulare county, where, in partnership with Timothy Paige, he purchased a three-thousand-acre tract of the Bain ranch, and under his direction orchards were set out—the beginning of horticulture on a commercial scale in Tulare county. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1894 at the age of sixty-one years, twelve hundred acres had been put to orchard and vineyard, and success had accompanied the venture in a measure to place Mr. Morton among the representative hor-

ticulturists of this section. His wife, formerly Jane Ball, was also a native of the north of Ireland, their marriage having taken place in New York. Her death occurred in San Jose in January, 1903. Born of their union was a son, James H. Morton, whose birth occurred at Horseshoe Bend, Mariposa county, July 22, 1864.

James H. Morton was reared principally in the northern counties of the San Joaquin valley, removing at the age of seventeen years to Tulare county, where he took an active part with his father in the setting out of orchards and their cultivation. He remained so occupied until 1891, when with a son of his father's partner and L. F. Montegale he bought and set out a vineyard of three hundred acres. Later he purchased independently a tract of six hundred and forty acres six miles northeast of Tulare, where he began improving an orchard of two hundred and forty acres, set to peaches and plums, while the balance of the ranch was devoted to alfalfa. At the same time he improved and developed a handsome property in Tulare city, owning one hundred and thirty acres, which is devoted to a fine dairy. He has beautified his place in many ways, one noticeable feature being the row of palms, which he has set out along the drive from the house. In horticultural pursuits he is justly considered an authority, having done much to bring to a prominent place this branch of work in Tulare county. He is as well identified with many of the most important enterprises in this section, being interested in the Tulare Flour Milling Company, a director in the Rochdale Company, and a director in the Bank of Tulare. Mr. Morton has also won for himself the respect and esteem of the citizens of Tulare county for his excellent services rendered as a member of the Bond Liquidating Committee, which succeeded in compromising with the bondholders at forty-one cents on the dollar, making possible the liquidation of the Tulare Irrigation District bonds. By this equal assessment they secured the consent of property owners, both local and foreign, which paid off the \$500,000 bonds and accrued interest, thus placing the land owners free from an incumbrance which had hung over them for years, and had more or less impeded progress and advancement, as it seemed at one time impossible to pay off this great indebtedness. The benefit of this movement is incalculable, the change which is noticeable in the comparatively brief time since the event being only the presage of the prosperity yet to follow.

In San Francisco Mr. Morton was united in marriage with Cora Wallace, who was born in Placer county, Cal., a daughter of William H. Wallace. He came to California about 1850 from Massachusetts, and engaged in business in San Francisco, becoming the head of the firm of

Sisson Wallace & Co., wholesale merchants and bankers. He was also largely interested in lands in the San Joaquin valley and was an important factor in the development and upbuilding of the best interests of the country. His death occurred in San Francisco. Mr. Morton is a Republican in his political convictions, and fraternally is a Mason, having been made a member of that organization in Tulare lodge.

---

LEVI GARRETT. In the history of Mr. Garrett there is much that is worthy of emulation. His life is a splendid illustration of what one may accomplish if he but possess the grit and determination to succeed. In young manhood he had no special advantages, but as a result of his industry and perseverance he is to-day the leading citizen in the thriving town of Kingsburg, and while he has written the word "success" in a bold hand, he has at no time neglected his duties as a citizen. On the contrary, he has been most active in promoting the welfare of his state and country.

A native of Pennsylvania, Levi Garrett was born in Delaware county, near the city of Philadelphia, February 27, 1842. His father, Simeon, was also born in the Keystone state, and as a man became engaged in the mercantile business and general farming, in Delaware county, seven miles from Philadelphia, where he lived until his death. He married Julia Ann Hall, also a native of Pennsylvania, whose death took place in Wilmington, Del., in 1865. She became the mother of six children, Levi being the fourth child. He received a good common school education, which was supplemented by a course in the Fairville Academy. On September 6, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry. His company was attached to the Army of the Potomac and Mr. Garrett participated in thirty-two battles, including Cold Harbor, Fair Oaks, Gettysburg, the siege of Richmond, and many other of the most important engagements of the Civil war. While he was never wounded he had several narrow escapes. At the battle of Cold Harbor his saber was cut from his hand, and while in front of Richmond a bullet tore his spur off. After three years of active service he was honorably discharged, his papers being dated September 6, 1865. Following his discharge he returned to Philadelphia, and soon after engaged in farming in Delaware county. A year later he went to Chester county, the same state, and remained two years. He then returned to Delaware county for a short time, and finally purchased a farm, near Wilmington, Del. Later he engaged in the meat business, and in 1878 he again went to Philadelphia where he lived until 1887, the year of his arrival in this state. He



located in Kingsburg July 1, 1889. Soon after taking up his residence here he became interested in the warehouse, taking charge for The Granger Bank of San Francisco. May 1, 1890, he purchased the livery stable which business he has since conducted, although he is interested in many other ventures. Public spirited he assisted in organizing the local board of trade and is now president of that body. He is also interested in the Kingsburg bank, being its present vice-president. As secretary and treasurer of the Kingsburg Colony Ditch Company, he has been influential in making that business a success. It is worthy of mention that every business house or block has been burnt in Kingsburg except the livery barn owned by Mr. Garrett.

In West Chester, Chester county, Pa., Mr. Garrett was united in marriage with Elizabeth C. Richards and to this union have been born four children, viz.: Josephine H., now Mrs. James A. B. Hanby, of Fresno; Theona, now Mrs. E. G. Dobson, of Hanford; Emily B., the wife of Dr. M. A. Gilreath, of Selma, whose sketch will be found on another page of this work; and Charles H., who lives at home.

In political matters Mr. Garrett is a staunch Republican and has been one of the most active workers of the party in this county. For six years he served as deputy sheriff and for four years was constable of this place. He is also a member of the county central committee. While living in Wilmington, Del., he served for four years as a member of the city council. In fraternal matters Mr. Garrett has also been quite active. He was made a Mason while living in Wilmington thirty-two years ago. He also joined the Odd Fellows in the same city. For the purpose of keeping up old associations he has for years been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and has served as an aide-de-camp on the staff of General Rice, the department commander. Although well along in years, Mr. Garrett is still hale and hearty, an exception to most veterans of the Civil war. Far-sighted and possessed of a keen business judgment he has prospered, and both he and his most estimable wife have scores of friends in whose homes they are at all times welcome visitors.

---

**JASPER NEWTON MUSICK.** There is probably no man residing in Fresno that has taken a more active part in the upbuilding of the city and county than has the gentleman whose name introduces this review. Born near Jefferson City, Mo., Jasper N. Musick is a son of Abraham and Nancy (Davis) Musick. The father, a native of Wayne county, Va., of Scotch-Irish descent, removed to Kentucky when a boy and after reaching his majority migrated

to Missouri, locating near what is now Jefferson City. At that early day St. Louis was only a small trading post. There on the western frontier he purchased land and improved a farm, at the time of his death owning four hundred acres of fine land, all under cultivation. In politics he was a Democrat and in religious belief a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He died at the ripe old age of ninety-three years. His wife, who was born in Kentucky, of English descent, died at the age of eighty-five years. By her union with Mr. Musick she became the mother of fifteen children, twelve of whom reached maturity and three of whom are still living. One son, Jeremiah, came to California after the close of the Civil war and here engaged in an extensive stock business. Later he purchased land in Fresno and laid out an addition. He died in January, 1904. Another son, Thomas, died on a farm owned by his brother, J. N.

Jasper N. Musick was the sixth child in the parental family. His early life was spent on his father's farm, although he was allowed to attend a few terms of school held in a log school-house. At the age of seventeen he started out in life for himself and in company with an older brother, Chesley, he crossed the plains to California, the party arriving here in the fall of 1850. As far as Salt Lake the trip was made with ox teams, but at the latter place they decided more rapid progress could be made with horses, so traded their oxen and continued the journey. On their arrival in Hangtown they were surprised to see the very oxen they had traded standing in the streets, having arrived several days previous and in much better condition than the horses, thus showing that the "race does not always go to the swiftest." As did nearly all the emigrants, Mr. Musick entered the mines, and for six years followed mining in Amador county, meeting with reasonable success. In 1856 he settled in what was then Mariposa county, but shortly afterward came to Fresno county. He had not been here long ere the Indians were on the war-path, making it necessary for every able-bodied settler to shoulder a musket and go to the front. In this emergency Mr. Musick was not found wanting, being a member of a small company which was present at the battle above the Tule river, where the redmen were defeated and the outbreak quelled. Soon after this he settled at Millerton and engaged in teaming between that place and Stockton and the mines. For hauling provisions from Stockton to the mines he was paid five cents per pound, it requiring ten days to make the round trip. In 1858 he assisted in moving the soldiers from Fort Miller, later in the same year locating on Dry creek, where, in partnership with John G. Simp-

son, he engaged in the stock business. They also conducted a meat market in Millerton and each spring they drove a band of cattle to Sonora and other places in the mining regions, where they sold their stock for good prices. This partnership was continued with success until 1865, when they dissolved and Mr. Musick entered into the sheep business, establishing his ranch at what is now the town of Letcher. There he entered and purchased land until his ranch now embraces some eight hundred acres, all under cultivation and highly improved. Besides carrying on an extensive stock business, making a specialty of the Short-horn breed, he also raises a large amount of hay and has a fine orchard of oranges and other deciduous fruits, it having been proven that this section of county is especially adapted to the growing of fine oranges.

Up to 1892, the year of his removal to Fresno, Mr. Musick carried on a very prosperous business, but in that year he left the ranch and has since been living in the city. Since locating here he has erected seven residences and in addition owns several building lots. He also owns forty acres adjoining the city near the Pollasky depot, which is now devoted to the growing of alfalfa. At Millerton he owns eighty acres of land on which is located a very fine sulphur spring which is noted for its medicinal qualities. There he has built a summer home where the family reside during the hot months. Located on the proposed electric line that will probably soon be constructed between Fresno and the Yosemite valley, it is quite likely the springs will become a popular resort.

Mr. Musick has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Rebecca Richards, the ceremony being performed on Dry creek. She was a native of Millerton, a daughter of James Richards, who was a pioneer settler of that town. Mrs. Musick became the mother of five children, three of whom reached maturity, as follows: Mary Effie, now the wife of William Henderson of Fresno; Nancy Ann, wife of J. P. Fincher of Westpark; and Laura Isabelle, wife of Benjamin Sims of Fresno. The mother of these children died on the Dry creek ranch.

For his second wife, Mr. Musick married Nancy Jane Messersmith, the wedding occurring at Lemoore, December 27, 1878. She was born in Cole county, Mo., a daughter of Rial Messersmith, a native of Virginia. Mr. Messersmith became a farmer in Cole county, Mo., and after the Civil war came to California, locating at Lemoore, where he engaged in farming. He was living with his daughter, Mrs. Musick, at the time of his death, at the age of eighty-three years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Edna Duncan, was a native of Kentucky, and died

in Missouri. She became the mother of nine children.

In politics Mr. Musick has always been an active Democrat and in the early days was a prominent leader of his organization, serving as county supervisor for two terms, being chairman of the board a portion of the time. It was during his incumbency that the county seat was moved from Millerton to Fresno and Mr. Musick was one of the champions of the change, he contending that the county seat should be located on a railroad. He was also in office at the time of the erection of the court house and took an active part in the necessary arrangements and plans. While living on Dry creek, in company with neighbors, he formed a company which built the academy that soon afterward became one of the best schools in that section of the state. Later the building and grounds were deeded to the school district of which Mr. Musick was trustee for many years. It will thus be seen that while he has succeeded in life, he has been prominently identified with many of the most important events that have transpired since he took up his residence in this county.

In fraternal relations he is a member of the Odd Fellows and in religious matters is an influential member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. A resident of the state for over half a century, he has been an eye-witness to the many remarkable changes that have taken place since he crossed the plains. During these years he has had many ups and downs, but as a result of industry and far-sightedness he has accumulated a handsome property, the direct result of his individual efforts. Mr. Musick is a living example of what may be accomplished if one will but persevere and make the best of the opportunities that are presented. Starting out in life at an early age without money or influences he has steadily worked his way upward until today he is one of the most substantial citizens of Fresno county. In early life his advantages were few, but while still a young man he determined to succeed, and with this decision constantly in mind he has labored and saved until now he can enjoy the comforts and luxuries of life, feeling that his life has not been wasted and that while he has succeeded he has not failed to at all times perform his duties as a citizen. The life histories of such men as Mr. Musick contain much that is well worthy of emulation. Both he and his most estimable wife are popular and have hosts of friends wherever they are known.

---

JAMES MADISON BRALY. A native of Missouri, Mr. Braly was born in Cape Girardeau county, April 26, 1826, a son of Rev. Frank M.

and Elizabeth (Madison) Braly. The father was born in North Carolina, a son of James Braly, who was a native of the same state, of Scotch-Irish descent. He was one of the early settlers of North Carolina, and in 1811 removed with his family to Cape Girardeau county, Mo., where he lived until his death. His son, Rev. Frank, was but a boy when his father removed to the then far west. On reaching man's estate he engaged in farming and was a minister in the Presbyterian Church, following that profession for many years. He finally migrated to Arkansas, locating at Cain Hill, where he died in 1856. He was a very good man and did much good in those early days, and was beloved by all who knew him. His wife, whose maiden name was Madison, was born in Bowling Green, Ky., and died when James M. was but nine years of age. She was a member of the James Madison family.

The early life of James M. Braly was much like that of other boys of that period. His schooling was limited to a few winter terms at the district schools. As soon as old enough he carried on the work of the farm while his father traveled here and there preaching the gospel. In this way he learned the lessons of thrift and industry very thoroughly.

Later he attended the Spring River Academy and there laid the foundation of an education under the tutelage of Robert King, which enabled him to become the scholarly gentleman for which his friends recognize him. During the year of his majority he taught a three months' term of school and following that secured employment as a clerk in a general store at Sarcoux, Mo. Here he continued until 1850 when, accompanied by others from the same locality he started for California. The long journey across the plains was made with a six mule team and consumed three months and twenty-five days, the party reaching Sacramento August 25. Soon after arrival Mr. Braly engaged in mining on the Yuba river, the spring following going to Nevada City, where he continued at the same occupation for two years. Tiring of mining and with the money he had saved, he located in Santa Clara county, near San Jose, where he became interested in farming, purchasing land near what is now the town of Lawrence. Two years later he went to Amador county, where he remained one year, at the expiration of which time he returned to his farm in Santa Clara county. There he followed farming until 1860, when he went to Virginia City and engaged in mining near Aurora, Nev. While there his camp was visited by Mark Twain, who was collecting material for his story, "Roughing It." While prospecting in Nevada he discovered gold in partnership with James M. Cory. The camp was called Aurora by Mr. Braly, who had the

town laid out. He was elected recorder and filled the office for one year. His friends named the mountain south of the town, Mount Braly, in his honor, and as such it is on all the maps. In the winter of 1860 and '61 there were five thousand inhabitants in the town. He was the only civil officer in the camp and disputes of all kinds were decided by him. He followed mining for four years, and during that time the Wells Fargo Express Company shipped fourteen million dollars' worth of gold out of that camp. In 1864 Mr. Braly returned to Santa Clara county. Locating in the city of San Jose he there became engaged in a general merchandise business on First street. Later he sold his stock of goods and established himself in a general mining and brokerage business, which he followed with success until 1881. In that year he came to Fresno and at once became associated with the real estate business. Later he was for a time connected with O. J. Woodward in the same line of business, and together they laid out the Woodward addition to the city of Fresno, consisting of sixty acres which was sold in about three months' time. During these years Mr. Braly has been one of the most active real estate men in the county and has done a great deal to build up and improve this section of the state. Later he erected the business block at the corner of I and Tulare streets, which is 100x75 feet in dimensions, and one of the finest buildings in the city.

While living in Santa Clara county Mr. Braly was united in marriage with Susan I. Braly, a native of Crawford county, Missouri, and a daughter of Rev. John E. and Susan (Hyde) Braly. Her father was born in North Carolina and became a pioneer minister in Missouri. In 1847 he crossed the plains to Oregon. Mr. Braly was captain of the train and the members thereof had a very narrow escape from death, their departure from Fort Whitman occurring just a few days before the fearful massacre of the whites by the Indians. Soon after arriving in Oregon settlement was made in the Willamette valley, where the family resided until 1849, when they came overland to California. The first stop in this state was made at the mouth of the Feather River. Two years later Mr. Braly located in Santa Clara county, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising. He died in San Jose in 1870 at the age of seventy-five years. During those pioneer days he spent much of his time preaching in different sections of the state. It is said that he was the first orthodox minister to deliver a sermon on the Pacific coast, and no one took a more active part in the early work of the church than he. In nearly all the coast counties he formed congregations and erected churches, paying for many of them out of his

own pocket. His wife was a daughter of John Hyde, who migrated from his native state of North Carolina to Missouri at a very early day, and who was a direct descendant of the old Hyde family, members of which received a grant of land from the King of England. She lived to reach the age of ninety-three years, her death occurring in San Jose in 1897.

Mrs. Braly, the wife of James M., was the youngest child. She was fortunate enough to receive a splendid education, graduating from the University of the Pacific at San Jose. Since locating in Fresno she has been one of the most active members of the Arbor Club, which organization she assisted in forming. Fresno county owes much to Mrs. Braly, for it is through her efforts that many of the beautiful shade trees now lining the public highways, were planted. Both she and Mr. Braly are very public-spirited and have probably done more than any other couple in promoting and building up the county.

In politics Mr. and Mrs. Braly are warm supporters of the principles and measures of the Democratic party, and during the campaign of 1904 he was treasurer of the Hearst club in this city. In religious views both he and his wife endorse the Presbyterian faith, and in their Christian life they carry the same progressive ideas that they have shown in the business world, believing that one of the best ways to worship God is to do His work sincerely and just as willingly as though it were their own. This worthy couple are now well advanced in years, but both are still hale and hearty.

G. W. ANDERSON has met with success as a member of the real estate firm of Cate & Anderson, with which he has been connected since December, 1904, when he purchased the interest of J. C. Moore, the firm up to that time having been known as Moore & Cate. Mr. Anderson was born in San Francisco, January 28, 1883, a son of Gustav Anderson. The latter came to California in 1881 and found employment in San Francisco as a street car contractor for some time, finally removing to Fresno in 1887, when he engaged in general contracting. He died in 1890, at the age of fifty years. During the Civil war he served in a Michigan regiment of cavalry, and became a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Fraternally he was identified with the Masonic organization. His wife, formerly Augusta J. Smith, of New York state, died in San Francisco in 1902. They were the parents of three children, all living, of whom John Q. is the secretary of the Pierce Lumber Company, of Fresno, James L., of Fresno, and G. W., the youngest, is the subject of this review.

Fresno has been the home of G. W. Ander-

son since he was two years old. He received his education in the public schools of this city and afterward attended the high school and the Los Angeles Business College, of Los Angeles, Cal., graduating from the latter institution in 1900. He returned to Fresno and accepted the position of bookkeeper for C. S. Pierce & Co., a lumber firm of this city, maintaining the same creditably until December, 1904, when he resigned to take up his present work as a member of the firm of Cate & Anderson. He purchased an interest in the business, which is both insurance and real estate, and the handling of loans. Mr. Anderson enjoys the esteem and confidence of all who have known him during his brief career in Fresno. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, and also belongs to Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M.

A. W. ANDERSON. The life of Mr. Anderson is a splendid example of what one may accomplish in this country if he but possess the necessary determination and industry. Coming to America from Sweden, he landed in the United States a total stranger, without money or friends, but better still he had a stout heart and a good trade. A native of Sweden, Mr. Anderson was born in Helsingborg, February 28, 1865. He is a son of Andres Nelson and Mary (Jensen) Anderson, both of whom were natives of the same country. The father is still living in Sweden, where he is following his vocation, that of a farmer. His wife became the mother of nine children, eight of whom are still living. Mrs. Anderson died in 1890.

A. W. Anderson was reared on his father's farm and obtained a limited education in the public schools. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed to learn the cabinet-maker's trade. This he followed for four years in the old country, but in March, 1885, he bade good-by to his parents and came to the United States. For a time after arriving here he worked at his trade in Albany, N. Y. From there he went to Rockford, Ill., but after a short time he went to Davenport, Iowa. A few months later he made another change, going to Burlington, the same state, where he remained until the spring of 1887. The following summer was spent in St. Paul, Minn., and in the winter of 1888 he arrived in California, first locating in Los Angeles, where he worked as a carpenter until he came north to San Francisco. There he worked at his trade and also engaged in building to some extent. In 1891 he came to Fresno and at once began contracting and building. Later he branched out and carried on a planing mill business. This finally resulted in the starting of his planing mill in





*J. W. Potter*





*Mattie G. Potter*



1898, on I street. He built up a fine paying business, engaging in the manufacture of lumber and fixtures, the firm being known as Anderson Brothers. On May 9, 1904, the business was incorporated as the Anderson Brothers' Planing Mill and Manufacturing Company, with Mr. Anderson as president and general manager; H. E. Anderson, assistant manager, and E. E. Hall, secretary. July 11, the same year the I street plant was burned. Directly following this the firm erected their present plant on their own land near the Southern Pacific tracks. This mill is one of the best equipped in the state. The company is engaged in the manufacture of store and office fixtures, sash and doors, and also do a general planing mill business, giving employment to thirty-five men. Since their new mill was started they have turned out some of the finest work ever seen in the city of Fresno, and in their business they are now meeting with well-deserved success.

Mr. Anderson was united in marriage with Miss Neva Colburn, who was born in Napa, this state, a daughter of H. S. Colburn, an old settler of that county. Mrs. Anderson died in 1901, leaving one child, Neva. In fraternal relations Mr. Anderson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In politics a Democrat, he is actively interested in the welfare of his party, but has neither the time nor the inclination to take part in political matters. By this it must not be inferred that he is remiss in his duties as a citizen, for there is no man in the city of Fresno that is more willing to support public enterprises than Mr. Anderson. His rise in life has been remarkable. Just a few years ago he came to Fresno without money or acquaintances. Now he is at the head of one of the leading industries in the city, and has attained a position in the business world that he may well feel proud of.

**JOHN WESLEY POTTER.** The genealogy of the Potter family, represented by this influential citizen of Clovis and Fresno county, is traced back to Derbyshire, England, whence George Potter came to America as a soldier in the English army during the Revolutionary war. Secretly in sympathy with the colonies, when he was made a prisoner of war by them and later exchanged, he neglected to report to his own army, but established himself among the patriots and ever afterward called himself an American. When peace reigned throughout the country, he laid down his arms for the implements of husbandry and became one of the earliest of the white men who penetrated the wilderness of Kentucky. During the year 1818 he

removed further west and settled at Boonville, Cooper county, Mo., where he built and for years operated a ferry boat across the Missouri river, eventually retiring from this and all other activities to spend his declining days in the enjoyment of comforts rendered possible by a life of frugality and honor. At the time of his death he was past four score years of age. June 6, 1782, he married Hannah Fitzhugh, who was born August 20, 1758, and died when over eighty years of age.

A son of this Revolutionary soldier, Col. Joseph Anderson Potter was born in Logan county, Ky., July 16, 1803, and accompanied the family to Cooper county, Mo., where he carried on farm pursuits. Upon the discovery of gold in California he joined a party of gold-seekers in 1849 and crossed the plains with ox-teams. After a short experience in the mines of the west he returned via Panama and the Mississippi river to Missouri. The second trip to the coast was made in 1853, when, accompanied by other members of his family, he crossed the plains and settled on Mormon slough, in the San Joaquin valley, entering a tract of land twelve miles northeast of Stockton and near the site of the present town of Linden. From the raw land he developed a valuable farm, which for years continued to be his home. Certain disadvantages, however, led him to seek another location, and in 1875 he removed to a farm twelve miles east of Visalia. He made another trip east in the spring of 1865 just prior to Abraham Lincoln's assassination. That same spring his death occurred, when he had reached the age of seventy-two. The title of colonel by which he was familiarly known came to him during his service in a Missouri regiment at the time of the struggle with the Mormons, and he aided in driving that people out of the state into Illinois, whence later they were banished to the further west.

The marriage of Joseph Anderson Potter united him with Miss Elizabeth Gier, who was born in St. Charles county, Mo., January 21, 1808, and died in May, 1871, in San Joaquin county, Cal. The Gier family is of southern extraction. Her father, Henry Gier, was a native of North Carolina, but at an early age settled in Tennessee, whence he removed to Missouri during the frontier period of that state's history. When he settled in St. Charles county the Indians were still numerous and hostile, and he with other farmers found it expedient to carry a gun when at work in the field. After a short time he moved to Cooper county, where the families of farmers lived in a fort for mutual protection. A man of unusual ability as a mechanic, he was fitted for the hardships of pioneer life, and not only made his own harness and wagons, but also was able to assist neigh-

bors in their needs. In Cooper county he built a horse-power grist-mill, all of which excepting the burr was constructed of wood, and this mill he operated as a means of livelihood and also as a source of aid to farmers for miles around. When old age came upon him it was his misfortune to witness the strife between north and south, and the closing year of that historic struggle was also the year of his death.

Rearred in a home where simple and sincere piety ruled the lives of old and young, Mrs. Potter became affiliated with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and through the course of her early useful life exemplified the doctrines of that denomination. After they came to California both Mr. and Mrs. Potter joined the church. In its faith also they reared their children, of whom there were ten. Two of their sons, Henry G. and George, died in Missouri; three others, William Nelson, James Madison and Thomas B., died in California, the first in Fresno county and the two latter in San Joaquin county. The fifth son, John Wesley, forms the subject of this article; the sixth, Thomas Benton, died in San Joaquin county; Logan F. is a builder in Fresno; Joseph and Mrs. Jane Drace reside in Linden, this state; and Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, formerly of Lompoc, is now deceased.

During the residence of the family on a farm near Boonville, Mo., John Wesley Potter was born, January 5, 1837, and there he received his education in a log schoolhouse, which, with its slab benches and puncheon floor, was typical of the frontier schools of the day. Accompanying the other members of the family, in 1853 he crossed the plains, via Forts Kearney and Laramie, through South Pass, along Bear river, by Soda Springs, down the Humboldt river to its sinks, then following the Carson river to California and to San Joaquin county. For twelve years after coming west he remained at home and assisted his father in grain and stock farming. In 1865 he bought a tract of land near Linden and for some years devoted his attention to the transformation of the property from its original wild state into an improved farm. When in 1872 he came to Fresno county the town of Fresno was in its infancy. The only mercantile establishment in the place was operated by Otto Frolich. It was not until two years later that the first experiment was made in grape culture by the planting of a vineyard. Shortly after his arrival he preempted one hundred and sixty acres and later homesteaded the adjoining one hundred and sixty acres, which tracts form a portion of his present homestead three miles east of Clovis. Not a house had as yet been built between his land and the town of Fresno. Travel was not without attendant difficulties. Coming home from Fresno one evening in Octo-

ber, 1874, a heavy rain storm arose and in the dense darkness, he nearly lost his way on the plains.

For years Mr. Potter made a specialty of the sheep business. During the summers his flocks pastured along the mountain sides, while in the winter months they were kept on the plains. By gradual increase he became the owner of three thousand or more sheep and three thousand and two hundred acres of farm land. In 1892 he abandoned the sheep industry and turned his attention to grain farming. At this writing his homestead, which comprises practically five entire sections of land, is under cultivation to grain, with the exception of twenty-five acres in alfalfa under the Enterprise ditch, thirty acres in raisin grapes, and a family orchard. A combined harvester and other modern equipments have aided materially in the cultivation of this immense acreage. Of recent years, finding the personal supervision of the land too arduous for his strength, he has rented the larger portion of the estate to tenants. In 1893 the value of the property was enhanced by the erection of a commodious residence and there are also substantial barns and other outbuildings on the property.

At Vacaville, on Christmas eve of 1873, occurred the marriage of Mr. Potter and Miss Mattie J. Webster, a native of California. Three children bless their union, namely: Kate, wife of Rev. C. T. Clark, of Mountain View, this state; Webster, a vineyardist residing on the home place; and Lizzie, wife of Rev. O. L. Russell, of Cloverdale, Sonoma county. Both the paternal and maternal ancestors of Mrs. Potter were of southern extraction. Her father, Greene Washington Webster, was a native of North Carolina and was the son of a southern planter. The latter at an early age moved to Missouri, where he and his wife (a Miss Leonard) both passed away in life's prime. Left an orphan at the age of eleven years, their son had neither a good education nor ample means with which to take up the battle of life. However, with health and hope to aid him, he earned a livelihood, amassed a competence and gained a reputation for integrity. The occupation to which he was apprenticed, that of a brick-mason, furnished him with a meagre support in youth, and, dissatisfied with the outlook, in 1852 he crossed the plains to California, bringing a band of cattle and consuming six months in the trip. The first year in California was spent in Napa county, after which he bought a tract in the San Ramon valley, Contra Costa county, and the estate there built up by him still bears his name. After eleven years on that place he removed to Vacaville, and carried on large stock operations. While neglecting nothing that per-

tained to the management of his property, at the same time he was active in religious affairs and held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church South. At the time of his death, in 1872, he was fifty-two years of age. During early manhood he had established domestic ties through his marriage to Jane C. Smith, who was born in Tennessee and now makes her home at No. 310 Howard street, Fresno. At the age of one year she was taken by her parents to Missouri, where her father settled in the Platte purchase, became a large land-owner and also was employed by the United States government as blacksmith among the Kickapoo Indians. Though now somewhat advanced in years (being seventy-seven), Mrs. Jane C. Webster maintains her interest in life's activities and particularly in the welfare of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, with which she has been identified for a long period. In her family there are nine children, namely: Mrs. Mary Staton, of Healdsburg, whose husband, Rev. F. M. Staton, died at Gilroy; Mrs. Lizzie Ward, of Berkeley; John M., of Fresno; Mattie J., Mrs. Potter, of Fresno county; Mrs. Eliza Sifford, of Los Angeles; Mrs. Mellie Trezise, of Amador county; Morris S., of Fresno; Abbie, wife of George Shipp, of Fresno; and Josie, wife of Wallace Potter, of Fresno. Mrs. Potter was born in Napa City and received an excellent education in the Pacific Methodist College. Possessing broad mental endowments, she has used her talents in the cause of religion, and has been an active and successful worker in Sunday-school and in missionary societies, aiding her husband by the exercise of tact, judgment and enthusiastic coöperation, as well as by a gentle Christian spirit and devotion to the principles for which Christ lived and died.

During early days, before Clovis was founded, Mr. Potter felt the need of religious services, and so aided in securing preaching at the Mississippi school once a month. Sunday-school was held there each Lord's day, and he was a leader in the work. When Clovis started he and his old friend, J. W. Cate, since deceased, determined to build a church. This was the first church building erected in Clovis. Four lots were bought, lumber was purchased, and a house was constructed where the Methodist Episcopal Church South held the first religious services in the town. Here also the first Sunday-school was organized with about twelve children (since increased to more than one hundred). In this same building the Baptists organized their congregation. Ever since then Mr. Potter has been a teacher or superintendent of the Sunday-school and with his wife has been a factor in the religious life of the community, lending their Christian influence to the building up of the

moral and religious life of the community. The first regular minister in Fresno county was Rev. David Latimer, who came in 1854 and who rode a circuit from Millerton to Visalia. A man of noble character and deep spirituality, he gave an impetus to the early work of the Methodist Episcopal Church South in this community and left to his successors the example of a spotless ministry. The first congregation was established at Millerton, the second at Scottsburg, and at this writing the denomination has congregations at Fresno, West Park, Clovis, Academy, Sanger, Selma, Kingsburg, Dinuba, Orosi and Visalia, all being well established congregations with resident pastors.

Though a believer in Democratic principles, Mr. Potter is not a partisan at heart, but a man of large and liberal sentiments, and stanchly in sympathy with any movement for the benefit of community, state and nation, whatever party may stand sponsor for the same. In what is now the Clovis (formerly the Mississippi) district he served as a school trustee for some years, and in that capacity, as in Sunday school work, he proved a helpful factor in the upbuilding of the community. Successful in life, prosperous and respected, he is an honor to his county and to the citizenship of the community with which his life for long years has been closely identified.

---

ALEXANDER WATT, a man of unusual ability, education and pleasing personality, has inherited his sterling qualities of mind and character from forefathers who were natives of Scotland, his own birth occurring in Aberdeen July 15, 1859. His father, George Watt, was drill master and sergeant in the Ninety-second Regiment Gordon Highlanders for seventeen years, but is now living retired in Aberdeen. His mother, formerly Margaret McKay, is now deceased. There were nine children in the family, of whom five are living.

Fifth in order of birth, Alexander Watt was reared in Aberdeen until attaining his majority, attending the public schools in pursuit of an education. Following the example of his father he was interested in military affairs and served as gunner in a volunteer artillery company in Aberdeen for three years. When sixteen years of age he was apprenticed to learn the trade of granite cutter, completing his apprenticeship five years later, when he came to the United States, and in Quincy, Mass., found employment in the prosecution of his trade. He was later associated with the Penryn quarries in Placer county, Cal., subsequently going to Oregon, where for thirteen years, or until they were completed, he was engaged in cutting stone for the Cascade Locks.

In 1895 he went to Jerome, Ariz., and was engaged for two years in that place and New Mexico as a stone cutter. In Raymond, Cal., he spent some time as a granite cutter, then went to Rocklin, Cal., and in April, 1901, entered the employ of the Rocky Point Granite Works, as cutter. In addition to his interest in this capacity he has also homesteaded a claim of eighty acres, on Badger hill, and on the top and north side of Rocky hill, in section 6, township 19, range 27, the view from which was declared by the visiting Knights Templar in 1902 to be one of the finest in California, ranking next to Yosemite. Fraternally Mr. Watt was made an Odd Fellow in Cascade Locks, Ore., of which lodge he is still a member, belongs to the encampment of Portland and the canton of Visalia, and is a drill-master of Orange Blossom Lodge of Rebekahs of Exeter. Politically he is a Republican, and in his religious convictions is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

---

A. W. PETREA. This well known and highly respected citizen of Fresno county is a son of Augustus Petrea, a native of Mecklenburg county, N. C. A. W. Petrea was born near Charlotte, N. C., in the same county, January 29, 1849. His grandfather, Henry Petrea, served in the war of 1812 and died in Rowan county, N. C., where his father had settled after he arrived in America from Germany. Augustus Petrea settled in Rowan county in 1852. During the Civil war he served in a North Carolina Regiment, was captured and died in prison at Camp Chase, Ohio. His wife, Jane Hunter, was a native of South Carolina, and died in Rowan county. She was married twice, by her union with John Bingham becoming the mother of four children, two of whom are now living. John C. and Henry Joseph were soldiers during the Civil war. By her marriage to Mr. Petrea four children also were born, and two survive, of these Robert W. was also a soldier in the Civil war.

A. W. Petrea was the third child born to his parents. He was reared on their farm and attended the common school and five months at Mount Pleasant Academy, and after the death of his father carried on the home farm for his mother until his twenty-third year. He then went to Dallas county, Ala., where he farmed for two years. He then spent three years in Mississippi on the Yazoo river raising cotton, when, on account of the climate, he started for California. Arriving at Greene county, Ind., he stopped to visit a sister, Mrs. Linn, and becoming interested in farming he continued for six years in that place. May 8, 1885, he came to Fresno county and located near the Toll House in Big Sandy valley, where he pre-empted land. Two years later he secured the contract for carrying the mails

from Fresno to Toll House, a distance of forty miles, and put on a stage, making trips twice a week at first and later established daily trips, using twenty horses. He continued this until 1897, when he sold the stage line and embarked in the hotel and general merchandise business at Toll House, also conducted a blacksmith shop and lumber yard. In 1901 he sold these and purchased a sawmill and machinery and moved it to a tract of timber land he owned on Pine Ridge. Here he built a mill with a capacity of twenty-five thousand feet per day, operated by steam power, and at present is conducting an extensive business, hauling to Fresno by teams, a distance of fifty-two miles, using twelve-horse teams, taking eight days for a round trip, and hauling about ten thousand feet to the load. In 1902 he established a retail lumber business at the corner of Fresno and Illinois avenue, also erected a store and conducts a merchandise business. He is also interested in mining on Laurel creek, Fresno county.

Mr. Petrea was married in North Carolina to Laura Petrea, a native of that state, whose father was a cabinet-maker. They are the parents of five children now living: Jane E., wife of George Hawkins, living near Malaga; Allen Anthony; Ancil Lee; Perry L.; and Louis, who remain with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Petrea are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of Fresno. He is a member of the Fraternal Aid, and in politics is a Democrat. Since Mr. Petrea has been a resident of the San Joaquin valley he has had the interests of the people at heart, has contributed liberally for worthy enterprises, and as a business man is respected for his integrity and straightforward methods. As a friend and neighbor he has been most valued and has made a host of friends. His business ability secured him a competency, and his fine qualities of head and heart have won for him a host of friends who rejoice in his continued success and who wish him many more years of happiness and prosperity.

---

A. LEWIS BOLLIN. Numbered among the progressive and enterprising men of Reedley, Fresno county, Cal., is A. Lewis Bollin, a member of the firm of Bollin & Mathews, the principal hardware merchants of this place. He was born in Cooper county, Mo., September 2, 1871, a son of A. Lewis Bollin, Sr., who was a native of Germany, and who immigrated to the United States and located in Cooper county, Mo. Later in life he went to Kansas for a time, eventually returning to Missouri, where he followed blacksmithing until his death, which occurred in 1872. His wife was in maidenhood Minnie Miller. They be-





A. M. Selva,



Mrs. C. M. Selva,







*Alfred Baird*

came the parents of ten children, of whom A. Lewis, Jr., was next to the youngest.

The early education of A. Lewis Bollin was received in the common schools of his native state, being able to obtain, however, but one year's instruction. The fund of information and knowledge which Mr. Bollin now possesses is the result of years of patient endeavor, reading and observation, acquired entirely by his own efforts. He worked on the home place and also learned the trade of blacksmith, and after his arrival in California, in January, 1889, he located in Los Angeles. He then secured employment on a ranch near Traver, Tulare county, after which he clerked in a store in that place. In 1897 he came to Reedley and engaged in a blacksmith and machine shop, known by the firm name of Drake & Bollin. They were burned out in 1900, and the following year he engaged as a blacksmith independently. In February, 1902, he sold out and in partnership with C. W. Mathews purchased the stock of the Gosliner Brothers, who were conducting a general merchandise business, and under the firm name of Bollin, Mathews & Co., the new enterprise was established. In August of the same year they were burned out, their loss, however, being covered by insurance. In October of 1903 they engaged in a general hardware business, under the firm name of Bollin & Mathews, carrying a full line of agricultural implements, etc. They are very successful in this business enterprise, both Mr. Bollin and his partner being men of business sagacity and practical judgment.

In 1891, in Fresno, Mr. Bollin married Ellen Root, a native of California, and they are the parents of three children, all at home, namely: Roy, Nelson and Elsie. Fraternally Mr. Bollin is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in which he has passed all the chairs, now being past grand of this lodge, and also belongs to the Rebekahs. He affiliates with the Independent Order of Foresters, in which he has also passed all the chairs. Politically he is active in the councils of the Republican party, having been elected a delegate to the county convention in 1904, being then a member of the county central committee. Mr. Bollin has had many reverses in his business career, but he has allowed nothing to daunt him or to lessen his courage. He has continued to give his best efforts to win a competence and has succeeded against heavy odds. He enjoys the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

---

**ALFRED BAIRD.** At an early period in the colonization of America the Baird family crossed the ocean from England and identified themselves with the forces strug-

gling to develop the new world. To their English determination of will they added the traits of thrift and economy inherited from remote Scotch ancestry, and thus they were fitted admirably to cope with the undeveloped conditions of the American soil. Josiah Baird, a native of New York state, proved himself a worthy representative of the race. Possessing characteristics which qualified him for the arduous existence of the pioneer, early in life he blazed a way through the forests of Ohio and settled in the midst of a tract of great old oak trees. When these were cleared he began to till the soil, meanwhile building for his family a log cabin of rude appearance, but possessing the comfort of the hospitable frontier home. After many years in Ohio he sold his farm and moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he successfully conducted farm pursuits during the remainder of his active years. Notwithstanding a life filled with the most arduous pioneer work, he was spared in health and activity to the age of ninety-three years. During the existence of the Whig party he supported its principles and later became one of the original supporters of the Republican party. In religion he affiliated with the United Brethren Church. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Ryland, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, and died in Iowa. Of their seven children the second, Alfred, alone survives. One of the sons, Warren, enlisted in the Union army at the opening of the Civil war and went to the front as a member of the Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, remaining in service until his death at Little Rock, Ark., before the close of the war.

The pioneer home of Josiah Baird in Richland (now Ashland) county, Ohio, forms the earliest recollections of Alfred Baird, who was born there November 16, 1829, and as a boy aided in clearing the land from its heavy forest growth. When not needed at home he was permitted to attend a school held in a log building near by. The furniture of the schoolhouse was as crude as the building itself. Slab benches afforded the children little comfort, while the slab desk was for use and not for ornament. Text-books were inferior to those of the present day and teachers often illy educated, yet children who wanted to learn had no difficulty in acquiring a knowledge of the three Rs. At the age of sixteen Alfred Baird became an apprentice to the carpenter's trade in Ashland. At the expiration of a service of two years he took up the work of a journeyman. In the spring of 1850 he left Ohio and traveled by the great lakes to Wisconsin, where he crossed to Portage and thence to McGregor, Iowa. Under the employ of Mr. McGregor he aided in the erection of some of the first houses in different towns in

that part of Iowa, and for eight years he followed the building business. Each day he earned enough to buy an acre of land, and he invested in property until he had acquired eight hundred acres. Meanwhile a brother-in-law came to Iowa and left \$1200 with him to buy school land as it came into the market, and this Mr. Baird did in addition to purchasing his own holdings.

Though prosperous to an unusual degree, Mr. Baird found the climate of Iowa too cold to be congenial, and he determined to seek a home where conditions would be more favorable from the standpoint of personal comfort. Selling out in 1859, he brought his wife and two children across the plains. They left Iowa in April with four yoke of oxen, crossed the Missouri river at Council Bluffs, and landed at Kings river, Fresno county, on the 8th of October. Settling in the Upper Kings River valley, Mr. Baird immediately set to work to erect a log cabin fourteen feet square, his wife persuading him to make a puncheon floor. For a time he followed the carpenter's trade in this locality. Taking up a homestead claim, he built a comfortable house, and the next summer, 1860, brought a seven-mile ditch from the mountains. The terrible flood of 1861 destroyed his orchard and the house which he had recently erected. The barn was carried up stream by a strong current, but the house, being tied down, remained in its place. Mr. Baird afterward took a band of sheep on shares. The outbreak of the Civil war depreciated the value of wool to such an extent that shipments were impracticable, and the wool was utilized for upholstering purposes in San Francisco. When the railroad was completed the demand for wool increased to such an extent that he was enabled to sell it for forty-five cents per pound, delivered at White's Bridge. At first he kept the sheep near Sand creek, but after a year he took them to the St. Johns river, near Visalia, where he bought a half section of land. Owing to another disastrous flood he was driven out of that section.

During 1868 Mr. Baird removed to Letcher, Fresno county, and homesteaded a portion of his present ranch, where he embarked in the sheep business. Naturally he encountered considerable antagonism from cattlemen, but he held his own against their formidable opposition, and gradually increased his herd until he at one time had as many as five thousand head. In 1887 he sold his flocks of sheep and began to raise cattle and also to devote considerable attention to grain. In early days no one supposed the grazing lands were adapted for grain. Accidentally some barley hauled to the cattle was tramped into the ground and the rains caused it to sprout, producing as fine a crop of barley as cultivated land made possible. Peo-

ple quickly acted after this and soon grain was being raised on the former grazing lands. In other places it was found that the land that was almost too barren for sheep pasturage could be profitably utilized for vineyards and orchards, hence these occupations began to attract new settlers to the locality.

By gradual purchase Mr. Baird has acquired six thousand acres in a body fourteen miles east of Clovis, three thousand five hundred acres of this being fine grain land. On section 19 he erected a comfortable residence and the other buildings necessary to a model ranch, in addition to which he has five other sets of improvements scattered over the large acreage. Besides his vast tracts here he owns six hundred and forty acres (the old Hughes place) about seven miles southwest of his home, and also owns one thousand acres near Visalia, all of which property is rented to tenants. The first oranges in this part of the state were raised on his ranch. The work accomplished by him in stock-raising, farming and horticulture has been along pioneer lines and will prove most helpful to the future development of the region. To an unusual degree Mr. and Mrs. Baird possess the pioneer trait of hospitality. The guest to their home is welcomed with unfeigned cordiality. A visit there is an event never to be forgotten, and chief among the memories which the guest carries away is the thought of the unfailing courtesy extended.

At Washington Prairie, Winneshiek county, Iowa, February 17, 1853, occurred the marriage of Alfred Baird and Lydia K. Beard, a native of Yellow Springs, Greene county, Ohio, born December 2, 1829. Her father, Benjamin Beard, was born on the Susquehanna river in Pennsylvania, and removed to Greene county, Ohio, thence to Laporte county, Ind., and afterward to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he became a prominent farmer. For a half century he officiated as an elder in the Presbyterian Church and at the time of his death he had reached the age of ninety-three, dying in California at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Baird. During early manhood he had married Mary Ann Knott, who was born in New Jersey, and was a daughter of Peter Knott, also born in that state. At an early period the Knott family settled in Greene county, Ohio, where Peter Knott passed his last days. Mrs. Mary Ann Beard came to California and died in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Baird, when seventy-one years of age. Of her eleven children five are living. One of her sons, James, served in an Iowa regiment during the Civil war, and later came to California, where he now makes his home at Laytonville, Mendocino county. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Baird there were six



children, namely: Benjamin Morgan, now a farmer in Fresno county; Addison, who died in Visalia at the age of twelve years; Lewis Edwin, also deceased; Mrs. Sarah A. Rutherford, who resides with her parents; Matie Ellen, who died in Santa Clara at the age of seven years; and Florence G., Mrs. Rollo Keeler, of Tulare county.

During the memorable political campaign of 1860 Mr. Baird was an ardent admirer of Abraham Lincoln and cast a ballot for him in the election at Scottsburg, but the returns showed no Republican votes cast. It was his privilege to be present at the first Republican meeting held in Fresno county, and on that occasion he was nominated for the state assembly, but of course in those days the ticket had no chance for victory. Always he has been stanch in his adherence to Republican principles, no less in the days when those principles were new and unpopular than now, when a Republican presidential candidate at the last election received an overwhelming majority. Though not personally connected with any denomination, he is a believer in religious work and contributes to the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife long has been a member.

---

JOHN R. MULLINIX is a prominent and representative citizen of the Hanford district, in Kings county, Cal. He is rapidly nearing his eighty-second milestone, and for more than a quarter of a century has been a resident of this county. His identification with Kings county dates back to 1877, when it was a part of Tulare county. The first two years after locating here he rented land near Hanford and was afterward enabled to purchase an eighty-acre ranch in the same locality. At the time of purchase this land was a wild, sandy desert and contained only one tree. Here he helped put in the first irrigation ditches, and from the desert made a home, and upon this land, which is four miles southwest from Hanford, Mr. Mullinix has passed the intervening years of his life in general farm pursuits. Although advanced in years, he is still able to oversee affairs on his place, which he leases to his grandson, with whom he makes his home.

A Tennessean by birth, John R. Mullinix was born in Greene county of that state, November 27, 1822, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Reed) Mullinix, the former also born in Tennessee and the latter a native of Scotland. The father, a lifelong farmer by occupation, served with distinction under Gen. Andrew Jackson, and was severely wounded in the left shoulder. He died at an advanced age and his wife was also about sixty years old at the time of her

death. John R. spent his boyhood days at home with his parents until he reached his majority. He then began farming on his own account, remaining in the home locality until 1849. He then went west to Monroe county, Iowa, when that country was new and undeveloped, and here for a period of nineteen years he followed general farming and stock-raising, when he sold out and removed to Schuyler county, Mo. Here he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land and continued his favorite vocation until 1877, selling out at that time and locating permanently in California. In this vicinity Mr. Mullinix still owns his original purchase, and his farm is well improved and highly productive.

He was joined in marriage with Miss Alzara Brandon, who was born in Tennessee and died in 1902 at the advanced age of seventy-four years. This aged couple reared three children; of these, Esther, the eldest, is the wife of George Fees, of Exeter, Cal.; Eliza, the second child, married Stephen Hicks, of Kings county; and Elizabeth, the youngest, married Peter Sczaghim, of Grangeville, in the same county. Politically Mr. Mullinix is an ardent Democrat, and he is highly esteemed in his locality. He has not only been a practical farmer, but a good business man in every particular, having made friends of all with whom he has had dealings. In his younger days he was a man of splendid physique and of stalwart frame, being six feet in height, with an average weight in his prime of one hundred and eighty pounds. It is a remarkable fact that he reads now without the aid of glasses, nor has he ever used them. Mr. Mullinix enlisted in Company G, Forty-sixth Iowa Regiment, and served three months as a private in Memphis, Tenn., and in Mississippi, and while in the service he threw the champion wrestler, a strong and powerful man of the regiment, which contained one thousand men. His military career was cut short by illness, however, and after being sick for six weeks he returned to his home and did not enlist.

---

WILLIAM HENRY SEAWARD. Pennsylvania has furnished California with many of her most substantial and highly respected citizens. Among those who have migrated from that state here is W. H. Seaward. His birth occurred in Bradford, McKean county, September 26, 1846, a son of J. S. and Daphne D. (Farr) Seaward. The father was born in Allegany county, N. Y., August 7, 1816, and in 1840 removed to Pennsylvania, where he engaged in school teaching. He is still living, making his home in Bradford, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. To Mr. and Mrs. Seaward were

born twelve children and of this large family, W. H. was the third child.

William Henry Seaward was educated in the common schools of his native state and was also instructed at home, his father being a man of exceptionally fine attainments. On starting out in life for himself he learned the occupation of a stationary engineer and for twenty years acted as an engineer in the oil regions of the Keystone state. In July, 1898, he removed to Washington county, the same state, where he resided until 1893, the year of his removal to California. His first home in this state was at Kingsburg, where he still resides, having purchased his present place of twenty acres. Here he is now conducting a very successful fruit business, also devoting some attention to the growing of alfalfa. Aside from his private ventures he is a stockholder in the Co-operative Packing Association, having served for two years as a director.

In Jamestown, N. Y., was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Seaward and Miss Anna El Martin. She is a native of Sweden and by her union has become the mother of four children: Charles Leonard, Gale W., Sophia Amelia and Lizzie Margaret. All are at home with the exception of the first named, who is engaged in carrying the mail on Route 1. All his life a staunch Republican, Mr. Seaward has taken an active interest in the affairs of his party. Three times he has served as a delegate to the county convention and in other ways has done a great deal to assist the candidates, but as for himself he has never cared to seek public favor. He and his wife are highly respected and have hosts of friends. Mr. Seaward has made a success of his life and is now enabled to enjoy his declining years surrounded by every comfort.

---

A. S. EDGERLY. A resident of California and Fresno county since 1887, A. S. Edgerly has been actively engaged in the upbuilding of the city of Fresno since that date. He was born in New Hampton, N. H., March 15, 1834, a son of David and Sarah (Sanborn) Edgerly, both of whom were born in Meredith, N. H., and there died at advanced ages. The grandfather, Samuel Edgerly, was born in the New England states, of English parentage. On the maternal side the grandfather, Asa L. Sanborn, was of English ancestry and was a farmer. Edwin and Orrin Edgerly were soldiers in the Civil war, the former being wounded in an engagement.

The sixth in order of birth of twelve children, A. S. Edgerly was reared on a farm in New Hampshire, at New Hampton and Meredith, until nineteen years of age, being given such advantages as the common schools afforded. He

entered New Hampton Institution, then Hillsdale College, where he remained but one year, when, on account of failing health, he was obliged to leave. He engaged in teaching near Cuthbert, Ga., in 1859, as proprietor of Springvale Institute, and remained at the head of that institution until 1866, at which time he went to Sandwich, Mass., as principal of the high school, and held that position four years. Engaging then in the life insurance business, he was made special state agent for Vermont of the Continental Life Insurance Company of New York.

In 1873 he removed to Otoe county, Neb., and at Palmyra purchased six hundred and forty acres of railroad land and engaged in the stock business until 1875, when he removed to Lincoln and went into the hardware business under the firm name of Parker & Edgerly, which continued four years. The partnership being dissolved, Mr. Edgerly embarked in the real estate business, buying, improving and selling residence and business properties until 1887. Disposing of his interests, he located in California and at once settled in Fresno, where he engaged in the real estate business. Having a firm belief in the future of that city, in 1889 he manufactured the brick and erected the Edgerly block on the corner of Tulare and J streets. In 1891 he built an addition, the whole being 150x70 feet, with an L 40x80 feet, three stories high. He also improved considerable residence and other business property in the city. Among his other enterprises worthy of special mention is the laying out of the Hartley addition of ten acres into lots, which was soon disposed of. With William Harvey and W. R. Thomas he laid out the Belmont addition of eighty acres, which was sold off in two months in city lots, with the exception of three blocks which had been reserved. He now owns two hundred acres, one mile north of Fresno on Blackstone avenue, which is devoted to a vineyard, and also has an orchard and vineyard of forty acres near Fowler.

At West Sandwich (now Sagamore), Mass., August 6, 1859, Mr. Edgerly was united in marriage with Lydia E. Crowell, who was a native of that place and a daughter of Paul and Lydia (Ellis) Crowell, both natives of Massachusetts, the former of Dennis and the latter of Plymouth. Of their six children three are now living, Mrs. Edgerly being the second in order of birth. To Mr. and Mrs. Edgerly six children have been born, namely: Willie Alberto, a vineyardist; Nellie Effie D., wife of R. E. Wheeler, of Fresno; Lillian May Rebecca, the wife of J. S. Gardner, of Fresno; Charles D., at home; Fred Lincoln and Nellie Elsie died in infancy.

Through the influence of Mr. Edgerly the location of the postoffice was secured for the corner of Tulare and J streets, by giving the lower





*S. T. Brown*

floor space, 50x70 feet, to the government for use for a term of years free of charge, with the understanding that the property holders adjacent to that corner would pay the rent of one-half the space. This arrangement was entered into and was carried out for only a few months, when the property owners repudiated their part of the agreement, with the exception of Dr. Chester Rowell, who still fulfills his part. In this way Mr. Edgerly practically gave the use of his building gratis from 1891 until he sold it in 1895.

In politics a Republican, Mr. Edgerly has always had the interests of the party at heart, though never an aspirant for official recognition. As one of the enterprising citizens of Fresno county, he has ever been a supporter of measures that have had for their object the advancement of the people and the prestige of Fresno in the San Joaquin valley. His success in life has been of his own making, and in the annals of his adopted state his name is entitled to enrollment among the progressive builders of a commonwealth.

---

**SAMUEL T. BROWN.** Twenty-one years ago Mr. Brown came to California with only \$10 in his pocket, and to-day he is one of the most substantial farmers in Fresno county, a result which has been brought about by his own untiring efforts. He has labored industriously, saved his money, and with a keen judgment has invested his savings in land that will, as time passes, greatly increase in value. A native of Tennessee, Mr. Brown was born in Sparta, White county, September 28, 1860, a son of Samuel Brown, who was a native of the same state. In 1849 he rounded the Horn and came to California, where he remained until 1852, spending the time in the mines. In the latter year he returned east and with the money that he had saved purchased a fine farm in Tennessee, where he is now living at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife in maidenhood was a Miss Rebecca Henry and by her union became the mother of eight children, six of whom are living. Mrs. Brown is now in her seventy-seventh year, and, like her husband, is enjoying good health. Both are active members of the Presbyterian Church and have a large circle of friends.

Samuel T. Brown was the fourth child in the parental family. He remained at home until 1884, when he followed in the footsteps of his father and came to California, but, unlike the latter, he has remained here, and his efforts have been handsomely rewarded. The first two years after locating here Mr. Brown worked on different farms in the vicinity of Modesto, and was later employed near Fresno for a year. At the end of that time, having in the mean-

time saved enough to purchase the necessary equipment, he rented a ranch of six hundred and forty acres and began raising wheat. From the first his efforts met with success, and as time passed he increased his acreage until at one time he was farming two thousand acres. In 1892, with the money he had accumulated, he began buying land in the Garfield country, which he farmed, together with leased lands. In 1897 he purchased the place where he is now living, one of the finest properties in this section of the county. From time to time he has added to his first purchase until he now owns ten hundred and twenty acres, all under cultivation with the exception of one hundred and sixty acres in Aubrey valley, which is used for grazing purposes. The three hundred-acre tract in the Garfield country is devoted to grain and on his home place he has a twenty-acre vineyard. Located four miles east of Clovis, the ranch is one of the most valuable properties in the county. It is equipped with a pumping plant, which supplies water to the entire tract.

In Fresno county was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Brown and Lydia Beard, who is a native of California. To this union have been born five children, viz.: Walter Cate, Charles Kenneth, Samuel Lloyd, and Lydia Irene and Lourine Rebecca, twins. Mrs. Brown and the children are members of the Christian Church, which denomination is also liberally supported by Mr. Brown. In politics he is inclined to be liberal. In national questions he votes with the Democrats, but in local affairs he believes in supporting the man best qualified for the office, regardless of party lines. He himself has never cared for office, and although he has often assisted in the election of others, he prefers to devote his time to his own business. In carving out a fortune Mr. Brown has never allowed himself to become selfish, but at all times has liberally given of his time and means to support any movement calculated to be of material benefit to his adopted state.

---

**CHARLES D. BOYDSTON.** The misfortune of failing health, which compelled Charles D. Boydston to seek a milder climate, has resulted in added business for Portersville, Tulare county, where he located and is now carrying on an extensive business as an orange grower. A native of Orrville, Ohio, he was born October 15, 1866. His father, Solon Boydston, was a native of the same place, his father, Thomas, a patriot of the Revolutionary war, being an early settler from Virginia. He was a farmer and died in Ohio. Solon Boydston was in the lumber manufacturing business for years, and later engaged as a furniture and casket manufacturer, his plant being lo-

cated in Orrville, where he became the most prominent undertaker. He was accidentally killed while serving as county coroner, about 1889. During the Civil war he served valiantly, enlisting in the One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry in 1861. His wife, formerly Kate Schultz, a native of Pennsylvania, survives her husband, and now makes her home in Chicago with her son, Frank T. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters, of whom Charles D. was the eldest.

Reared in Orrville, Ohio, Charles D. Boydston received his education in the common schools of that place and the high school, from which he was graduated in 1882. In the same year he went to Chicago and engaged in the undertaking business, which he had learned under his father. With his brother he established an extensive business, being located at the corner of Forty-second street and Cottage Grove avenue, having about thirty men in their employ. Their business, which is the most extensive of its kind in the United States, is in charge of Frank T. Boydston, who is in Chicago. Mr. Boydston came to California in 1900 to recover from the effects of a severe paralytic stroke. In partnership with his brother he bought his present place, which consists of eight hundred acres five miles southeast of Portersville, one hundred and thirty acres being planted in Washington navels from one to four years old. In the spring of 1906 it is Mr. Boydston's intention to set out two hundred and fifty acres additional in oranges, as the climate is especially adapted to the cultivation of this fruit.

In Chicago Mr. Boydston was united in marriage with Nellie B. Sprague, a native of that place, and they are the parents of two sons, Solon James, aged thirteen, and Charles Raymond, eight years of age. Mr. Boydston is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, known as the Oakland Church, of Chicago, Ill., and politically is independent, reserving the right to cast his ballot for the candidate whom he considers best qualified for public office. Fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Chicago, and the Knights of Pythias of the same city, and the Sons of Veterans.

**HENRY C. WITT.** The present postmaster of Success, Tulare county, Henry C. Witt is a citizen who commands the respect and esteem of all who have had business dealings with him. He also conducts a general store in that place, as well as participating actively in the agricultural interests of the section. A native son of the state, he was born in Sacramento county, Cal., February 11, 1868. His father, Henry Witt, was born in Rhea county, Tenn., and in 1852 removed to

Texas, thence crossed the plains to California the following year, driving a herd of cattle for James Houston. Upon his arrival in the state he located near Sacramento, devoting his time to farming and giving some attention to mining at Brown's Flat and Nevada City. In 1872 he located in the San Joaquin valley, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres on the South Tule river, where he farmed and set out the first orange grove in this section. His death occurred there in 1897, at the age of sixty years. His wife, formerly Anna Murray, of Pennsylvania, survives him, now making her home in Portersville, Tulare county. They were the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters, of whom Henry C. Witt is the second in order of birth.

The education of Henry C. Witt was obtained in the common schools of California, after which he engaged in farming and stock-raising with his father. Later he gave his attention to the cultivation of oranges, ten acres of the sixty which he now owns being devoted to that fruit. In 1903 he received the appointment which gave to him the postmastership of the office at Success, since which time he has combined those duties with his work as a merchant. He is a Democrat in his political convictions. February 11, 1902, he was united in marriage with Mattie Livingston, also a native of the state and daughter of J. H. Livingston, one of the earliest pioneers, her birth having occurred in Martinez, Contra Costa county.

**DANIEL BROWN, Jr.** A man of rare personality and attainments, Daniel Brown, Jr., is cashier of the Fresno National Bank. A native son of the state, he was born in Petaluma, Sonoma county, in 1863, the second in a family of seven children. His father, Daniel Brown, was a native of Tipperary, Ireland, who came to America and located first in New York city. In 1851 he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and after his arrival in San Francisco engaged in the mercantile business in that city. He afterward located in Petaluma, and in 1856 started the banking business of that place, becoming vice-president of the Wickesham Banking Company, and later president of the same. He was also vice-president of the Savings Bank of Santa Rosa. His death occurred in 1902, and up to the last he remained active in the business life which had known the value of his mastermind for so many years. Politically he was also active, being an adherent of the principles of the Democratic party, having served on the state committee and various other committees. His wife, formerly Annie Ferguson, survives him and now resides in San Francisco.

Daniel Brown, Jr., was reared in Petaluma,



receiving a preliminary education in the public schools of that place, after which he entered the University of California, then the Hastings Law College, graduating from the latter institution in 1884, with the degree of LL. B. He was admitted to the bar and practiced for about a year, when he gave up the profession and secured a position in the cashier's office in the United States Mint at San Francisco. In 1890 he came to Fresno and for six years engaged in the livery business on I street, in 1900 accepting the position of assistant cashier of the Fresno National Bank, in which he had been a director for several years. In 1902 he became cashier of the bank, which position he has since retained, to the upbuilding and progress of the bank. He is also director in the Fresno Land and Investment Company and the Central Land and Trust Company. Fraternally he is a charter member of the Sequoia Club, of which he is a director and treasurer. Politically he is a Democrat and is an ex-member of the county central committee.

**JOHN RANDOLPH HITCHCOCK.** Among the men who have been instrumental in the development of the rich agricultural resources of Tulare county, John Randolph Hitchcock holds no unimportant place. He is an extensive landholder, one of the largest stockmen of Tulare county, and one of Tulare's most esteemed and influential citizens. Although the greater part of his time is given to the care of his private interests, he never neglects his duty as a public-spirited citizen, but as opportunity offers assists in the establishment of all beneficial and progressive enterprises. The son of the late Hon. J. R. W. Hitchcock, a prominent pioneer of California, he was born February 10, 1864, in San Joaquin county, of English ancestry. His grandfather, Rev. John Hitchcock, was born in England, and after his immigration to the United States settled in Virginia, locating first in Richmond as a blacksmith and machinist, and later becoming pastor of a Baptist church. He died in Richmond in 1851.

Born, reared and educated in Richmond, Va., J. R. W. Hitchcock learned the machinists' trade when young. In 1849, excited by the thrilling stories of the abundance of gold to be obtained in California, he came around Cape Horn on a sailing vessel, and after a voyage of six months landed in San Francisco. The following two years he worked in the mines at Sonoma and Jimtown, meeting with fair success. Entering land on the French Camp road, eleven miles from Stockton, in 1851, he began his career as a farmer and stock-raiser. Making money in these pursuits, he subsequently bought adjoining land, becoming possessor of sixteen hundred acres in

one body, and was one of the first extensive grain growers of that locality. He also became the owner of another good ranch. In the management of public affairs he was very prominent, and as one of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1880 assisted in the framing of the present state laws. He was one of the directors of the Stockton Agricultural Association, and was interested in the building of the first canal in that section of the state; and was likewise one of the originators of the Stockton Farmers' Union, in which he served as a director for many years. Deeply interested in religious matters, he was an active and valued member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He died on the home farm in 1901, at the age of seventy-two years, his death being deplored as a public loss.

J. R. W. Hitchcock was married twice. He married, first, Mary Elizabeth Dickey, who was born in Missouri, and died on the home farm, near Stockton, at the early age of thirty years. Her father, Alexander Dickey, came to California as a pioneer in the early '50s, settling first at Point of Timber, Contra Costa county, later removing to Stockton, and from there going to Modesto, where he resided until his death. Of the three children born of this marriage, two are living, namely: Mrs. Fannie C. Leisy, of San Francisco; and John Randolph, of this review. He subsequently married a second time, and of that union five children were born, all of whom are now living.

After completing the course of study in the district schools, John R. Hitchcock entered Clark's Business College, in Stockton, where he was graduated in 1884. The following two years he assisted his father in the care of the home farm. In 1886 he came to Tulare county, and for nine years thereafter was engaged in farming and stock-raising on the sixteen hundred-acre ranch belonging to his father. In 1895 he established himself in the butcher business in Tulare, opening a market on Kern street, and continued until 1904, when he sold out in order to give his attention to other interests, handling his own and the family property. Forming a partnership with P. F. Wood, Mr. Hitchcock purchased from the family estate the sixteen hundred-acre ranch located six miles southwest of Tulare, and has continued its improvement. It is all subject to irrigation, having two artesian wells on the place, and over two hundred acres are already sowed to alfalfa. Here he and his partner are extensively engaged in raising cattle, carrying on a profitable business. They also purchased the old John Jones ranch of eighteen hundred acres, which they sold off in lots. Individually Mr. Hitchcock is engaged in buying and shipping stock to San Francisco and Los Angeles, and also owns two good ranches, one of ninety acres adjoining the

old Hitchcock farm, and one of three hundred and twenty acres adjoining Waukena, both of which he rents. He is interested in different ditch companies, being a director in the Elk Bayou Ditch Company, of which he was formerly president, and having been a director in the Farmers' Ditch Company until resigning.

In San Joaquin county, Cal., Mr. Hitchcock married Henrietta R. Von Glahn, a native of that county, being the daughter of C. H. Von Glahn, who settled as a pioneer on the French Camp road. Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock are the parents of four children, namely: Ralph, Harold, Ethel and Katherine. Politically Mr. Hitchcock is a Democrat in national affairs. In 1902 he was elected councilman from the fifth ward, now the third ward, and served as chairman of the street committee, and for a number of years he was school trustee. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, of the Women of Woodcraft, of the Improved Order of Red Men, and of the Fraternal Aid. Religiously he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is president of its board of trustees.

---

**JOHN HENRY BURNETT.** The largest foundry in Fresno is owned and operated by John Henry Burnett, an esteemed citizen of that city. He was born in Hellstone, Cornwall, England, December 10, 1859, a son of Evan Burnett, a native of Truro, England. His grandfather was a native of Wales and an iron moulder by trade, being engaged in this business at Truro. Evan Burnett also engaged in the foundry business in manhood, being located first at Truro and later at Hellstone. Coming to America in 1868, he went to Chicago, Ill., and followed his trade there for three years, when he came to California. Locating in San Francisco he engaged in the Union Iron Works at his trade for several years, and died at his home in Alameda, aged seventy-six years. His wife, formerly Catherine Rule, was a native of Red Ruth, England, and a daughter of Captain Rule, who was superintendent of the gas plant at Red Ruth, where his death occurred. Mrs. Burnett died in Alameda, January 25, 1905, aged eighty-five years. Of the fifteen children born of this union, eight attained maturity, five sons and three daughters, all of whom are now living except one daughter. Two brothers, Richard and Fred C., are both in Fresno and in the employ of John Henry Burnett, who was the fourth in order of birth of the living children.

In the common schools of his native country John Henry Burnett received his education, remaining in England until 1868, when he accompanied his parents to Chicago. He attended school there until their removal to California, where, at the age of eleven years, he was appren-

ticed to learn the moulder's trade in the old Union Iron Works in San Francisco. He remained there for four years, when, in September, 1879, he came to Fresno. He first engaged in the vineyard culture in this locality, purchasing forty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, where he remained for four or five years. He then sold out and bought eight hundred acres on Dry creek, where he followed the stock business for several years, and then engaged in mining in Fresno and Kern counties. This venture proved unsatisfactory, so he once more engaged at his trade, three weeks after his return to the old work being made foreman of the foundry. A year later he leased the foundry and engaged in business for himself, since which time he has continued profitably. In 1904 he built a new foundry on the Santa Fe, the largest in the San Joaquin valley, having a capacity of casting ten tons per day. He manufactures structural iron and steel work, and also a general line of castings and foundry work. He has made a success of his work and has proved his exceptional ability as a business man.

In Fresno Mr. Burnett was united in marriage with Annie E. Firebaugh, a native of Santa Cruz, and the daughter of Andrew Firebaugh, who came from his native state of Virginia to California as a pioneer. He located in Santa Cruz for a time and then went to the present site of Firebaugh, where he was one of the first white settlers on the west side. He built the first ferry at the town now known as Firebaugh, and also the Pacheco Pass road over the Coast range as a toll road, and later sold it to the county. He engaged in the stock business in Fresno, where he spent his last days. His wife, formerly Susan Berges, daughter of Judges Berges, survives him and makes her home in Fresno. To Mr. and Mrs. Burnett were born two daughters, Maude E. and Winnifred, who died aged seven years. Mrs. Burnett is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Fraternally Mr. Burnett is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World and Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically he is an advocate of the principles of the Republican party.

---

**JOHN B. LEWIS.** A native of Illinois, J. B. Lewis was born in Bond county, November 13, 1862, a son of Alfred and Rhoda (Powell) Lewis. The father was born in North Carolina, but at a very early date removed with his parents to Illinois, where he later became engaged in agricultural pursuits, which occupation he followed until his death in 1879, at the age of forty-five years. His wife, who was born in Tennessee, is still living and makes her home in Selma. By her marriage she became the





MARVIN SIMPSON

mother of nine children, six sons and three daughters.

John B. Lewis obtained a limited common school education and remained at home until 1880 when he came to California with his mother. Six years later he engaged in the stock business on his own account in the Riverdale district, where he lived until purchasing his present fine property of forty acres, nine miles west of Laton. To this he has lately added seven hundred acres, most of which is used for grazing purposes, Mr. Lewis being extensively interested in the cattle business. He also conducts a dairy of forty cows, being one of the leading dairymen in the county.

In Gilroy, Santa Clara county, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Lewis and Miss Nannie A. Turner. Mrs. Lewis was born in Monterey county and a daughter of James H. Turner, who came to California across the plains in 1849, and again in 1852. He was a stock-raiser in Monterey county and followed general farming in Santa Clara county. In 1883 she went to Fresno county and engaged in teaching in the Riverdale district and remained three years. She also taught one year in Santa Clara county and one in Butte county, when she returned to Santa Clara county, where her marriage occurred. To this union have been born two children: Alfred T., and Tina, both of whom are living at home.

A Democrat in politics, Mr. Lewis is one of the active workers of that party in the county. Although he has never desired public office, he has served as road overseer for the past five years and during this time has constructed many miles of splendid road. Public-spirited to a large degree, any movement calculated to be of material benefit to the county receives his hearty endorsement. He was one of the promoters and is a stockholder in the Farmers' telephone line and is also interested in many other enterprises of like nature. As for his business ventures, they have been successful and he is named as one of Fresno county's leading and influential citizens.

---

HON. MARVIN SIMPSON. Adding to the prestige of an honored family name the impetus of his own forceful personality, Mr. Simpson has gained a reputation for capability and enterprise, and deservedly is honored as one of the public-spirited men of Fresno county. His worth as a citizen has been recognized from his youth and his influence has been felt by all coming in contact with him in local gatherings or in committee work. As a staunch upholder of Democratic principles, he possesses influence

among the local workers of the party and further has wielded influence in the councils of state. On the regular party ticket in 1900 he was elected to represent the sixty-third legislative ticket (now the sixty-first) in the lower house of the state legislature, receiving a fair majority of the ballots of the people. In the session of 1901 he served as a member of the committees on claims, prison and reformatory institutions, public morals and election laws, in each capacity proving himself to be intelligently informed concerning the needs of the people and the importance of careful legislative action. On the expiration of his term he declined to be a candidate for re-election, and has since devoted himself to the management of his large landed interests.

A lifelong resident of Fresno county, Marvin Simpson was born at Academy August 31, 1869, and was fourth among the children of John G. and Sarah M. (Baley) Simpson, concerning whom mention appears elsewhere in this work. When he was eight years of age his father died and afterward he remained on the homestead with his mother, receiving such advantages as the Academy school district afforded. Upon attaining his majority he started out for himself, receiving as his share of the estate an amount sufficient to give him an excellent start in the world. Stock-raising and general farming have been his hobbies (if such they may be called), and there is no department of activity in connection with these specialties that he cannot handle judiciously and with promptness.

It was during 1893 that Marvin Simpson settled on his present place near Letcher, Fresno county, and began the series of improvements that have converted the property into one of the most desirable for many miles around. Included in the homestead are four hundred and twenty acres three-fourths of a mile east of Academy, in addition to which Mr. Simpson owns five hundred and twenty acres lying on sections 16, 9 and 8, township 12, range 22; also six hundred and forty acres on sections 26 and 27, township 12, range 22; and in addition about six hundred acres in the foothills and mountains where he ranges his cattle in the summer months; also, in partnership with his mother, two hundred and forty acres on the Middle Fork of the Kings river, forming fine meadow land; and lastly a tract of forty acres five miles northwest of Fresno. The possession of so large a landed estate makes Mr. Simpson one of the most extensive property owners of his community and gives to him, at an early period of life, considerable influence among the cattlemen and grain-raisers of the eastern half of Fresno county. Some years ago he sold fifty-one acres which is now being developed into a

granite quarry, opening a new industry on Big Dry creek and furnishing monumental granite than which none finer can be found in the entire state.

The marriage of Marvin Simpson was solemnized in Woodville, Tulare county, and united him with Miss Ida May Hedgepeth, who was born, reared and educated in California, and possesses qualities admirably adapting her for high social position. Of their union the children are Myrtle, William Robert and Elizabeth Irene. Mrs. Simpson is a daughter of Rev. Joel and Hester (Anderson) Hedgepeth, natives respectively of Missouri and California, and among the seven children of the family (all but one still living) she was second in order of birth. When a young man Mr. Hedgepeth crossed the plains as a member of Governor Edwards' party, some of whom were massacred on the Colorado river in an attack made by Indians. The survivors of the ill-fated expedition, deprived of their oxen, were forced to walk back to Albuquerque, where they arrived in a famished condition. The trials of that memorable journey were borne by women as well as men with fortitude and heroism, and when eventually they reached their destination they had little inclination ever again to brave the terrors of hunger and thirst on the desert. For a long period Mr. Hedgepeth taught school in the central part of California, and in that occupation his splendid education (largely acquired by self-culture) enabled him to wield a large influence for good over the students under his supervision. Eventually he concentrated his time and attention to the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in whose work he has been active throughout the state and now preaches to the congregation at Academy. Mentally he is in his prime, although sixty-four busy years have left their traces on face and form. In the respect of the community and the affection of his parishioners he occupies an enviable position and with his wife, who also survives, he is enjoying the comfort possible to the twentieth-century citizens of the state.

In their denominational connections Mr. and Mrs. Simpson affiliate with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in which he serves as a member of the board of trustees and has been a generous contributor to all church activities. In fraternal relations he holds membership with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks at Fresno. Besides the office of assemblyman previously mentioned, he has served as school trustee for one term, but with these exceptions has declined official recognition, his tastes being less toward public service than toward the peaceful pursuit of his chosen occupation.

**JOHN WILLIAM BEALL.** The qualities of character which have won for Mr. Beall a financial success in his efforts have also won for him the esteem and respect of all who have come to know him, either socially or in a business way. He is a successful ranchman and is located six miles west of Laton, Fresno county, while he has also taken an active interest in real estate operations throughout this section. He was born in Ripley county, Ind., September 14, 1849, a son of John T. Beall, a native of the same place, where he engaged as a farmer until his death. His grandfather, Zephaniah Beall, was born in Maryland, and in 1818 located in Ripley county, Ind., where he became a pioneer farmer, hewing his farm out of the timber lands of the state. He was the descendant of Revolutionary ancestors of a fine southern family. John T. Beall married Elizabeth H. Hancock, a native of Indiana, where she now resides at the age of eighty years. She was the mother of eight sons and three daughters, of whom John William was the third in order of birth.

John William Beall received his preliminary education in the common schools, after which he attended Moores Hill College, an institution supported by the Methodist Episcopal Church in Indiana. Upon the conclusion of his studies he engaged as an educator in Indiana until 1874, when he came to California. He located near Visalia, Tulare county, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres just east of that city, and two years later came to Fresno county and bought twenty acres in Temperance Colony. This was planted to orchard and vineyard, and he cultivated it for eight years, when, in 1884, he bought one hundred and sixty acres adjoining the city of Fresno. He retained this property until 1888, when he sold out to F. G. Berry, who made it an addition to the city. Mr. Beall then located in Fresno and engaged in the real estate business, purchasing a block on Mariposa street, at the corner of R street, and also built a residence, disposing of his interests in 1894, when he removed to Oakland. In the latter city he engaged in the produce commission business on Eleventh street, remaining in that location for four years, when he sold out and traveled for a year, and in 1899 came to the vicinity of Laton, where he purchased forty acres. The greater part of this property he set to peaches, apples, apricots and pears, while an acre and a half is devoted to the cultivation of Logan and blackberries. The balance of the land is in alfalfa, and he also gives some time to the raising of stock. He owned six hundred and eighty acres in Riverdale, which he divided and sold in small tracts, and has since bought two thousand acres in partnership with A. S. Kellogg, of Healdsburg, Cal. Mr. Beall is



a director in the Murphy Slough Association and is president of the Riverdale Canal Company.

In Fresno county Mr. Beall was united in marriage with Martha Ann Hutchings, a native of Iowa, and they have one daughter, Adelle Lorena, who married E. P. Blanchard, of Laton. In their religious convictions they are members of the Seventh Day Adventists and are active in the work. Politically Mr. Beall is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

---

**EZRA M. RUSSELL.** A veteran of the Civil war and a resident of California for over thirty years, Mr. Russell is entitled to a place in this work. From early manhood he has made his way in the world, never receiving assistance from outside sources, his success being the result of hard work and perseverance.

A native of New York, he was born in Oswego county, January 16, 1841, a son of Jonathan W. and Elizabeth (Secner) Russell. The father was a brick mason by trade and in 1847 removed from New York to Illinois where he lived until 1853, when he located in Iowa. There he worked at his trade and also engaged in farming. In 1866 he sold out and started to cross the plains, but owing to the uprising among the Indians he was compelled to give up the venture. After living in Denver for a short time he returned to Iowa, where he remained until 1872, when he came to California. Locating near what is now the town of Kingsburg he purchased land and followed farming and fruit-raising until his death. His wife, who also died in this state, became the mother of ten children.

Ezra M. Russell was the second child. His education was obtained in the district schools, but at an early age he was obliged to give up school. He started out in life as an apprentice to the brick mason's trade, which he followed until 1873, when he came to California, locating in Oakland, and continued working at his trade. Later he went to Clear Lake and still later to Fresno, arriving in the latter place in 1874. Soon after he took up a soldier's homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres near Kingsburg, where he has since made his home. He is now engaged in general farming and stock-raising, also devoting a portion of his land to the cultivation of grapes and other fruits.

In 1862 Mr. Russell enlisted in Company B, Thirteenth Regiment, United States Infantry, his company being attached to the Western army. At the battle of Vicksburg, where he received seven separate wounds, he was severely wounded by being shot in the left foot. He was honorably discharged from active service in 1864, but in

the spring of 1865 he assisted in organizing a company of which he was elected captain.

In Iowa Mr. Russell was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Jane Jones, who was born in Lake county, Ill., January 12, 1845. Her father, Jonathan, was a native of New York state. Later in life he removed to Illinois and still later took up his residence in Iowa where his death occurred. To Mr. and Mrs. Russell have been born eight children, namely: Alice, now the wife of F. Enos Silva; Ada, deceased; Rena, now Mrs. E. Vanwinkle; Nellie, Benjamin, Cassie, Clark, who is married and lives near Kingsburg, and Chester. In fraternal relations Mr. Russell is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Atlanta Post, of Fresno. Like nearly all old soldiers, he is a staunch Republican, but he has never cared to take a very active part in political matters. Here in this section of the county where he has lived for so many years and where he is so well known he is highly respected. He was one of the first settlers in the Kingsburg country, and has never neglected to do his part in the work of building up and improving the country.

---

**EDWIN PICKETT.** A native of England, Edwin Pickett was born in the city of London, January 26, 1842. His father, Joseph Pickett, was also a native of the same country and for years followed the trade of a brickmason. He was also engaged in contracting and building. His marriage to Miss Sarah Butler resulted in the birth of two children. Both the parents died in England.

Edwin Pickett, soon after completing his education, enlisted in the English army, joining the Fifteenth Hussars, Light Dragoons. The following three and one-half years were devoted to the service of his country, but at the expiration of that period he resigned and came to the United States. Locating in the city of New York, he remained there for a time, or until the latter part of 1862, when he enlisted in the United States Navy, being assigned to the bark William G. Anderson, which was connected with the Western Gulf squadron. Subsequently he was transferred to the gunboat Scioto, then to the Itasca, on which he served while the former boat was being repaired, it having been torpedoed in Mobile Bay. When the Scioto was once more ready for active work, Mr. Pickett was promoted to the position of master at arms and served in that position until 1865, when he secured a leave of absence, but owing to the close of the war just at that time, he never returned. The same year he went to Lowell, Mass., where he secured employment in the woolen mills. A

year later he went to Rhode Island and worked in the mills in that state until 1870. That year he joined the Greeley Colony and migrated to Colorado, living near Greeley for eight years. Following his residence there he came to the coast and for four years lived in Washington, being engaged in farming and stock-raising. It was in 1882 that he arrived in California. Soon after he located near Hanford and purchased a ranch. This he soon sold and accepted a position as a clerk in a general store at Kingsburg. From there he removed to Selma, following the same line of business until finally he grew tired of the indoor life and located near Huron, where he made his home until 1899. That year he came to Conejo, where he engaged in the general merchandise business. This he has since conducted, meeting with excellent success in his venture.

In Fresno, in 1887, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Pickett and Miss Elizabeth Burns, and they have one child, Lucile Irene, who was born in Visalia in November, 1893. In politics Mr. Pickett is a Republican, and since living in Fresno county has been an active worker for his party's interest. June 21, 1899, he was appointed postmaster of Conejo and re-appointed for a second term. He has made his own way in the world, and in spite of great obstacles and many disappointments, has succeeded, and now has a comfortable home and a competency. Both he and his wife are highly respected and have a large circle of friends.

GEORGE WESLEY RAGLE, the son of E. T. Ragle, whose biographical sketch appears elsewhere in this volume, was born September 15, 1860, in Sonoma county, Cal. At an early age he accompanied his father to Tulare county, where he has since made his home. His education was received in the district school in the vicinity of his home, and he was early trained in the practical duties of a farmer's son. Upon attaining his majority he began farming for himself in Antelope Valley, making a specialty of grain raising. In partnership with his father he bought three hundred and twenty acres at Naranjo, Tulare county, to which he has added by purchase from time to time until he now owns over one thousand acres. A large part of this is devoted to grazing purposes, and he also raises considerable grain, and has five and a half acres in oranges. He has made a success of his work and is named among the representative farmers of this section.

Mr. Ragle has been married twice, his first wife, Margaret Shipley, being the daughter of Benjamin Shipley, a native of Arkansas. At her death she left one child, Maggie Ethel. Mr.

Ragle has since married Mrs. Maggie Williams, nee Awbrey, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Thomas Vernon and Eunice Gertrude. Mr. Ragle is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

JUDSON SETH PELTON. For nearly thirty years J. S. Pelton has been a resident of the state, and during that time he has witnessed the wonderful growth of this favored section, performing his share in the onward march. He is now living on a ranch near Selma, surrounded by all the comforts of life, made possible by years of industry. He has cause to feel proud of his life's work, as he started at the bottom of the ladder and without friends or special influence has climbed upward, until now he is named as one of the substantial men of Fresno county.

A native of Ohio, Judson S. Pelton was born in Cuyahoga county, July 17, 1835. His father, Seth D. Pelton, was a native of Connecticut and served as a captain in the war of 1812. In 1880 he removed to Ohio where he lived until 1885, the year of his death. His wife, who was born in Connecticut, bore the maiden name of Mary Porter, and by her marriage became the mother of five boys and three girls.

Judson S. Pelton was the sixth child. He remained at home, attending school when the work of the farm permitted, but in those pioneer days the youth was expected to assist in the making of a home, although many hours were devoted to study after the day's work was over. Mr. Pelton was an exception, as he was permitted to attend the academy at Norwalk and later engaged in teaching, but only followed that occupation one winter. In 1858 he removed to Iowa, and at Mount Pleasant engaged in the general merchandise business. Subsequently he sold out and for a time followed farming. In 1866 he migrated to the state of Kansas and in Topeka re-engaged in the mercantile business, also conducted a small farm near the town. There he made his home until 1875, when he disposed of both the farm and store and came to California. His first business venture here was in San Francisco, where he engaged in the buying and selling of real estate. Later he sold out and purchased a ranch in Solano county, near Cordelia, which he conducted but a short time when he again located in San Francisco, and engaged in the livery business until locating in the San Joaquin valley, when he purchased the place that has since been his home. This ranch of sixty acres is two miles south of Selma on the McCall road. Twenty acres are devoted to a vineyard, the same amount to fruit, and the





B M Baird

balance is used for growing alfalfa. He also has a small dairy.

In Iowa Mr. Pelton married Miss Margaret Bailey, and to this union have been born eight children, namely: Berdie, deceased; Maud M., now Mrs. Rev. N. L. Rowell, of Los Angeles; Harriett S., wife of T. D. Black, of Oakland; Margaret B., now Mrs. Bradford Webster, of Oakland; Dr. Harrison S., who went to Alaska in 1898, and was frozen to death near Nome while attempting the rescue of some comrades; William, also deceased; Paul F., who is mining in Alaska; Mabel M., wife of Dr. C. A. Cameron, of Redlands. All his life a Republican, Mr. Pelton is very active and one of the leaders in this section of the county, but he has never cared for office, preferring to devote his energies to the management of his own business. Both he and Mrs. Pelton are members of the Baptist Church of Oakland. Mr. Pelton's early life was surrounded by many disadvantages, but in spite of the environments at that time he has made a success. In the different parts of the state where he has lived, and where he is well known, he has many friends among whom his word is considered as good as his bond.

**BENJAMIN MORGAN BAIRD.** The ranching interests of Fresno county are ably represented by Benjamin Morgan Baird, who is a man of progressive spirit and keeps abreast with all the developments made in agricultural affairs in his community. A son of the honored pioneer, Alfred Baird, he inherits from his father qualities of the greatest value in the upbuilding of character as well as in the accumulation of property; and through the possession of sterling personal attributes he has won the good will of his associates and the confidence of friends. While it has been his good fortune to reap the benefits of his father's financial acumen and large success, such are his traits of enterprise and thrift that probably unaided by others success would have rewarded his sagacious undertakings.

While the family were living in Iowa Benjamin Morgan Baird was born at Frankville, Winneshie county, December 27, 1853. At the age of six years he came across the plains with his parents and settled in Visalia, where he had public school advantages, supplemented by study under Father Dade. His education was completed by attendance at the San Jose State Normal School and by graduation from the business college in San Jose. On his return home he took up the sheep business in partnership with his father, but some years later became connected with an independent business in sheep-raising in Tulare county. During his sojourn there he

sowed the first alfalfa in the vicinity and set out a vineyard of fifty-five acres, the first in all that neighborhood. Another forward movement which owed much to his enterprise was the organization of a ditch company, and it was in this way he secured water for irrigating his land. On selling out his sheep he embarked in the grain business with John A. Patterson, they being the first to place under cultivation the Glide ranch in Stokes valley, also the first to introduce the L. U. Shippey combined harvester operated by sixteen horses. For two of these machines they paid \$400 freight to Cross creek. Under ordinary circumstances they would have reaped large profits from their cultivation of four thousand acres, but poor crops and low prices combined to make the investment unprofitable, and they sold out their holdings.

On his return to Fresno county Mr. Baird became interested in the grain and cattle business, which he now conducts on his father's homestead. In politics he supports Democratic principles and keeps posted concerning events and issues affecting the progress of our government and the welfare of the country. For years he has affiliated with the Masons, his connection with the order dating from his taking of the first degree in the blue lodge at Visalia, F. & A. M. At Reno, Nev., January 24, 1898, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary (Davis) Givens, a native of Mariposa county and a daughter of William and Sarah J. (Ellis) Davis, born respectively in Arkansas and Virginia. Her father was a second cousin of Jefferson Davis and the family features can be noted in her face. When eighteen years of age William Davis crossed the plains to California and settled among the pioneers of Millerton, where he became interested in the stock business, making a specialty of sheep. During the Indian troubles he assisted in bringing the savages into subjection to authority. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Baird was Dr. T. O. Ellis, a member of an old Virginia family and the first physician to practice in Fresno county, also the first incumbent of the office of county superintendent of schools, and in addition the first man in the entire county to set out a vineyard and an orchard. When he passed away in 1871, the county lost one of its most progressive pioneers, a man whose citizenship had been of the highest value in the development of latent resources. Since the death of William Davis, which occurred in 1871, his widow has made her home near Academy. Of her six children all but one are living, Mrs. Baird being the third among these. Educated in Visalia and Oakland, she received advantages which qualify her to adorn the best circles of society. By her first marriage she had two daughters, Hazel and Edith,

who are now students in the Fresno high school. Of her union with Mr. Baird there are three sons, Walter Addison, Morgan Corwin and Carroll Hubbard. Besides these sons Mr. Baird had five children born of his first marriage, namely: Nellie Ray, who married Frank Beck, a photographer in Fresno; Clifford Jefferson, an electrician engaged in business in Fresno; Alfred Morgan, at home; John Alexander, who died at Fresno in 1899, and Robert Lee, an electrician in Fresno. In religious belief Mrs. Baird holds membership with the Episcopal Church and supports by influence and financial aid those movements calculated to advance the spiritual welfare or the moral life of the community.

---

NICHOLAS LANG is one of the leading German-American residents of Fresno county, and since coming to this state he has had many ups and downs. Soon after his arrival he lost \$15,000 in the oil business, all the money he possessed, but with an energy characteristic of the race he went to work and has since met with success in his ventures, being now considered one of the most substantial men in this part of the county. For many years he was a "soldier of fortune," fighting under different flags and taking part in some of the most important battles this world has ever witnessed. Among these can be named the battle of Sevastopol, Mr. Lang being under the command of Napoleon.

A native of Lorraine, Nicholas Lang was born December 16, 1831, a son of John George and Barbara (Greer) Lang. His father was a bricklayer by trade and also followed farming. He died in his native country, as did his wife, who by her marriage became the mother of five children. Of this family, Nicholas was the third child. In 1851 he entered the French army, and followed the life of a soldier for sixteen years. During this time he was in the war between Italy and Austria, fighting under the flag of sunny Italy. At the time of the war between the United States and Mexico he was prepared to come to this country and assist the States in the struggle for supremacy, but was unable to get away. In 1871, when Germany and France were disputing over certain territory, the former country endeavored to force Mr. Lang into service, but he did not propose to be coerced and one day bade good-by to all and sailed for America, arriving in New York in June of that year. From that city he went to Pittsburg, Pa., where he became interested in the oil business, continuing there until 1882, the year of his migration to California. Locating in San Buena Ventura he engaged in the oil industry, which at that time was in its infancy. While in Pennsylvania, Mr. Lang had worked

in one of the best refineries in the state and consequently understood the refining of the crude oil. Up to that time no refining had been done in California, but soon after coming here Mr. Lang began to refine the oil and established the first complete refinery of the oil industry in California. Later, through speculations, he lost every dollar, some \$15,000, that he had made since immigrating to this country. After that he secured employment with the Standard Oil Company, with whom he remained until 1886, when he went to Santa Cruz and engaged in the restaurant and hotel business, continuing there four years. At the expiration of this period he sold out and came to Fresno county, locating on the ranch that has since been his place of residence. Here he owns eighty acres, all under a high state of cultivation, two and one-half miles southwest of Selma. Thirty acres are in orchard, about twenty in a vineyard, and the balance is devoted to general farming and stock-raising. He also conducts a small dairy.

While still living in the fatherland Mr. Lang was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Oblinger, and to them have been born five children, namely: Barbara, wife of Joseph Haselhofer, at home; Mary, wife of John F. Howard, Michael and Charles, who are all living in Los Angeles. Charles has a position as an electrical engineer. One son, Joseph, was accidentally killed while working as an electrician in Fresno, aged twenty-five years. Mr. Lang is a Republican, but has neither the inclination nor the time to take part in political matters. Both he and his wife are popular with a large circle of acquaintances, all of whom are pleased that his efforts have made it possible for himself and wife to be surrounded by comforts and many luxuries.

---

RICHARD GREEN MIDDLETON. A native of Mississippi, Mr. Middleton was born July 10, 1845, a son of David Middleton. The father was born in Arkansas, but removed to Mississippi where he lived for some years, later returning to the state of his nativity, residing there until 1859 when he sold out and crossed the plains to California, six months being consumed in making that long, tiresome journey. Unfortunately, after withstanding the hardships of that trip he lived but ten days after his arrival in Yolo county. His wife bore the maiden name of Miss Jennie Brazell and by her union with Mr. Middleton she became the mother of eight children. She was a native of Alabama.

Richard G. Middleton was the second child in his father's family. Owing to the circumstances that his parents were in financially he was unable to obtain an education, not even attending the



district schools, as most youths of his day. At the time his parents crossed the plains he was fourteen years of age and after the death of his father it was necessary for him to work. Entering the mines in Grass valley he remained there two winters and at the end of that time went to Virginia City where he engaged in teaming. Later he lived in Silver City, Utah, until 1875, when he returned to California and located on Cash creek, and secured employment on a farm. The summer of 1880 he arrived in the San Joaquin valley, and with the money that he had saved from his earnings he purchased a farm near Hanford. There he followed farming for a time, subsequently selling his land and removing to the vicinity of Visalia where he lived until taking up his residence near Huron. Here he located on a half section of land and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1895. In that year he removed and located near Lemoore and rented land and continued his farming operations until 1903, the year of his removal to the place that is now his home. Here he first purchased forty acres, but has since added ten acres more. This ranch is located nine miles west of Laton and is one of the good paying properties in that section of the country.

Near Visalia was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Middleton and Miss Flora House, who was born in Mendocino county, this state. They have two daughters, Vera Belle and Margaret, both at home. Mr. Middleton is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and formerly of the Odd Fellows. In politics a Democrat he has always taken an active interest in the welfare of his party, but has never cared for political honors. Starting out in life when but a boy, he has had to make his own way in the world ever since.

MILTON F. MASON was born in Harrison county, Mo., April 14, 1859. His father, James Mason, was a native of North Carolina and at an early day migrated to Missouri where he lived until 1865 when he moved to Iowa, settling near the city of Des Moines. There he engaged in a general farming enterprise and lived until his death in 1902. He married Miss Sophia Baber who was born in Indiana and died in Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Mason were born three children, two sons and one daughter.

Milton F. Mason was the second child, and after completing his schooling he engaged in farming in Iowa on rented land, where he lived until 1887 when he disposed of his interests and came to California. Locating near Fowler, he purchased twenty acres of land, but later he sold it, and in 1892 bought his present fine ranch of forty acres. Twenty acres of this is in vine-

yard and the balance is devoted to the growing of alfalfa.

While living in Iowa Mr. Mason married Miss Sarah Fannie Rife, and to them have been born nine children, as follows: Ira, George, James, Walter, Harvey, Chester, Francis, Maud and Myrtle. All the children are living at home and their parents are giving them the benefit of a good common school education. Mr. Mason is a member of the Woodmen of the World and in politics is independent, believing it best to vote for the man whom he thinks qualified for the office. For eight years he has served as school director and was clerk of the board most of the time. He has met with splendid success in his undertakings, all the result of his own efforts, as he has made his way in the world alone since leaving home.

---

GEORGE PICKFORD. Associated with George M. Kohler as one of the proprietors of the City Bakery and Restaurant, George Pickford is named among the business men of Fresno. He was born in Trempealeau county, Wis., December 28, 1861, the fourth in a family of eight children. His father, Oliver Pickford, was a native of Manchester, England, and an early settler of Wisconsin, where he engaged as a farmer and an engineer. He is now living in Fresno at the age of seventy-six years. (For more complete details concerning his life refer to the sketch of George M. Kohler, which appears elsewhere in this volume.)

Until he was fourteen years of age the home of George Pickford remained in Wisconsin, where he attended the public schools. Removing with his parents to California in 1875, he was located for a short time in Cambria, San Luis Obispo county, in 1879 coming to Fresno, which had then less than one thousand inhabitants. He secured employment shortly afterward with the Madera Planing mill, where he remained for one year, when the loss of the fingers on his left hand caused him to leave the business. He then learned the butcher business and established a place of his own in Mariposa street, between I and J streets, which was known for eight or nine years as the firm of Pickford Brothers. Disposing of this interest, he became the proprietor of the Ogle House, which he conducted for one year, and also of the Pleasant View Lodging House, at the corner of Fresno and J streets, and conducted it for two years, when he sold out and established the Armory Stables on K street, following the livery business for about three years. In 1895 he disposed of this business and established the City Bakery and Restaurant, which has since grown to be the most extensive business of its kind in the city. The bakery is thor-

oughly equipped and modern in every way, the large oven having a capacity of three thousand loaves, from five to eleven hundred being disposed of each day. The restaurant is the largest in the city and has a capacity of one hundred and fifty people. Mr. Pickford also owns real estate in Fresno in addition to this property, and is interested in both business and residence property in Oakland and San Jose. He is an important factor in the business progress of Fresno and is esteemed by all who know him.

In Fresno Mr. Pickford was united in marriage with Ida Studer, a native of New York city, and they are the parents of two children, Rollin A. and William O. Mr. Pickford is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

**DARIUS PRATT.** A native of Parke county, Ind., Darius Pratt was born February 4, 1859, a son of Darius Pratt, Sr. The latter was a native of Ohio, who as a pioneer farmer located in Indiana, where his death occurred. His mother, formerly Lucy Rinehart, was also a native of Ohio, who died in Indiana. Of their two children Darius was the youngest and the only one now living. He received his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home, and at the same time was trained to the practical duties of a farmer's son: In 1874 he came to California and engaged as a machinist, and was later employed as the engineer of a stationary engine in San Jose, where he had first located, having crossed the plains from Missouri. He located in that state in 1869, and engaged in farming near Kingsville, Johnson county. After nine years spent in California he made a trip back east, where he spent a year and a quarter, then returned to California. Until 1884 he remained in San Jose, when he came to Tulare county and engaged in farming for six years. In the spring of 1890 he went to Arizona and worked in a machine shop in Prescott for three years, then returned to California and accepted a position as engineer in a sawmill in Kern county. He continued so occupied for three years, in the meantime (in 1896) purchasing his present property, which is located five miles east of Portersville, in Rosedale Colony, and is planted to oranges. In 1897 he located on this property, where he has since made his home during the summers, and has also worked in mills as engineer.

In Tulare county, September 26, 1900, Mr. Pratt was united in marriage with Ada I. Duncan, a native of Visalia, and the daughter of O. H. P. Duncan, a sketch of whose life is given elsewhere in this volume. They are the parents

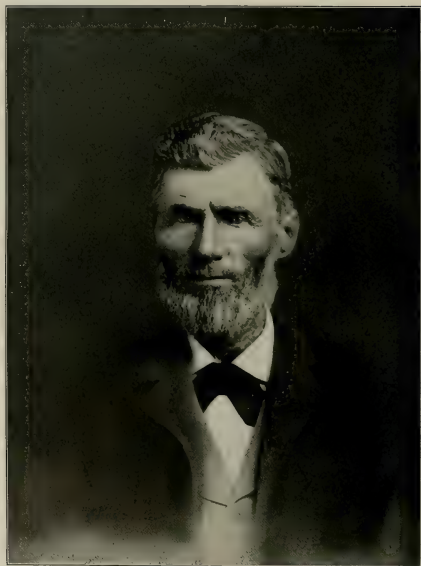
of one daughter, Jennie May. Mr. Pratt is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Portersville, and politically is a Socialist, having left the Republican party to take up these interests. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World of Portersville.

**FRED JAY STONE.** As a contractor and builder Fred Jay Stone has taken an active part in the material upbuilding and development of the city of Fresno, Cal., where he has made his home since 1887. A native of Montpelier, Vt., he was born February 14, 1865, the descendant of an old French family originally known as La Roche, the name being changed to Stone by the great-grandfather of Fred Jay Stone. This ancestor emigrated from France to Ontario, Canada, thence to Vermont (where the name was legally made Stone), and again located in Ontario, where he died. His son, John Stone, engaged as a farmer in Ontario, where his son, John Stone, Jr., was born. The latter became a farmer in Montpelier, Vt., where he remained until 1868, when he removed to Wisconsin, and at Fox Lake and Green Lake engaged as a farmer. In February, 1887, he immigrated to California and located as a horticulturist and farmer in Fresno, where he died in 1902. His wife, formerly Sarah Phillips, a native of England, died in Fresno in 1895. They were the parents of two sons, of whom George is foreman for Fred Jay Stone.

In Wisconsin Fred Jay Stone was reared until attaining his majority, receiving his education in the district schools. At the age of seventeen years he was apprenticed to learn the trade of carpenter and builder, near Hurley, Iron county, Wis., where he remained until 1887, during the last eight months of his stay there engaging in contracting and building. Upon his arrival in Fresno he engaged in the prosecution of his trade, following the same to the present time. Among the residences, business houses, etc., that he has erected are the following: Residences of Dr. Thomas, Dr. Buker, Adam Mowat and Louis Kutner, the W. Parker Lyon building, the Dunn block, the Green block, the Porteous Agricultural works, the Moultnie block, the O'Neill block, the Diamond street school, and moved the Hawthorne school building one block and made the addition of the second story, which was considered one of the most difficult feats ever performed in the city in this line of work. He has been very successful and is accorded a prominent place among the contractors and builders of Fresno.

In Neenah, Wis., Mr. Stone was united in marriage with Carrie Larson, a native of that place, and they are the parents of three children, Emery, Opal and Vivian. Mrs. Stone is a mem-





J. C. Thompson

ber of the Adventist Church. Politically Mr. Stone is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, and fraternally affiliates with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He is now building a handsome residence on T street, near Mariposa street, where the family will reside. Mr. Stone is an enthusiastic sportsman and has been instrumental in the organization and support of various gun clubs throughout the country. He was one of the organizers of the Fresno Gun Club, of which he is ex-president, and is a member of the Golden Gate Gun Club and the California Wing Club, both of San Francisco.

**JOSEPH COE THOMPSON.** Not only by reason of identification with California during the historic period beginning in 1849, but also by virtue of his long association with the stock and farm interests of Fresno county, Mr. Thompson holds a leading position among the citizens of his community. When in 1864 he came to his present location at Letcher few attempts had as yet been made to place the surrounding country under cultivation and he was one of the first settlers along Dry creek. On entering a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, he turned his attention to raising hogs and later became interested in the sheep business, having flocks on his farm and in the mountains. Eventually he embarked in the cattle industry and there now may be seen upon his estate full-blooded high-grade Shorthorn and Hereford cattle, representing as fine breeds as the district can boast. In the homestead he now has three hundred and thirty-two acres on sections 15, 12 and 22; in addition, with his son, James W., he now owns a mountain ranch of two hundred and eighty acres, a stock farm of five hundred and sixty acres known as the Bacon place, and the old Burton place, comprising more than a section of land, which is utilized for a stock ranch.

In tracing the family history of Mr. Thompson we find that his paternal grandfather removed from Maryland to Rockingham county, N. C., and there lived upon a plantation during his remaining years. The father, Henry Thompson, was born on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and became a teacher in Hardeman county, Tenn., where also he cultivated a farm. After his removal to Missouri in 1839 he became a teacher in Cole county and also improved a farm from a tract of raw land. After more than eighty years he passed to his grave, honored and mourned as a useful citizen and generous friend. While still living in North Carolina he married Elizabeth Lee, who was born in Maryland and from there removed to Rockingham county, N. C., with her father, Wil-

loughby Lee; her death occurred in Missouri. Of her thirteen children all but one attained mature years, but Joseph, the ninth in order of birth, is the sole survivor and the only one who ever settled on the coast. Born in Hardeman county, Tenn., January 24, 1828, he remembers well the privations and hardships of the days of his childhood, and recalls the excitement incident to the removal from Tennessee to Missouri when he was eleven years of age. Later he was a pupil in a school taught by his father in Cole county. The school was held in a log building of primitive construction, erected on land donated by his father, and there the children learned to write with quill pens and gained their ideas of the world from the pages of the blue-backed spelling book.

When the discovery of gold drew thousands to the then unknown regions west of the Rocky mountains Mr. Thompson became fired with enthusiasm on the subject and determined to risk the perils of the overland trip in the search for gold. With a comrade he left home April 28, 1849. After waiting at Independence for some time, they secured outfits and other supplies, and then proceeded with Governor Edwards along the old Santa Fe trail and Cook's route, arriving safely at Los Angeles during the latter part of October. From there they traveled northward through the Tehachapi Pass and the San Joaquin valley. All through what is now Tulare and Fresno counties not a white man was to be seen except a few travelers who, like themselves, were hastening toward the mines. When they reached Mariposa they began to dig for gold, using the old-fashioned method of washing with rockers. The claim proved to be a good one and Mr. Thompson met with reasonable success. The gold thus secured he sent home by express and in 1853 he journeyed east via Panama and New York, thence to Cole county, Mo. The proceeds of his western trip were invested in a farm and to that new home he brought his bride, Elizabeth Greenup, a native of Missouri. A few years were spent there in reasonable prosperity. However, the thoughts of Mr. Thompson often turned toward the far west, and finally he and his wife decided to seek a home on the coast. In 1861, accompanied by their three children, they went to Panama and from there sailed to San Francisco. Immediately after their arrival they came to Fresno county, where Mr. Thompson engaged for some years in the stock business with N. L. Bachman four miles from the Fresno river. From there he removed to his present place at Letcher, where he and his only son, James W., conduct extensive stock operations. Since the death of his wife in 1875 his home has been presided over by his daughter, Annie L., who looks after his

comfort with careful solicitude. His other daughters are dead, the youngest, Isabelle, having died in Missouri at six months; the eldest, Mary, came to California with the family and married Pierce Baley, but a few years later died at Tollhouse, Fresno county. Mrs. Thompson was the daughter of John Greenup, a Kentuckian who became a pioneer of Missouri and spent his last days on his ranch at Dog creek in California.

On the organization of the first board of school directors in his district Mr. Thompson was chosen a trustee. Later he assisted in establishing and building the academy, of which for years he officiated as a trustee. In politics he has been a staunch Democrat, yet not an active partisan. The Methodist Episcopal Church South numbers him among its earnest supporters. Not only has he been liberal in gifts of money, but he has aided materially through service as trustee, steward and Sunday school superintendent. The denomination with which he is identified merits distinction as the first to enter this field, its original representative, Rev. David Latimer, having engaged in missionary work in this locality as early as 1854, and after him came Rev. Mr. Overton, Rev. Mr. Turner, Rev. B. F. Burris, and other capable and pious laborers on whom the mantle of their distinguished predecessor worthily fell.

---

F. A. JONES. Although still a young man, Mr. Jones has attained an enviable position in the railroad world. This success is not the result of any special influence, but the direct reward for honesty, perseverance and industry. He is now filling the important position of general agent (freight and passenger department of the San Joaquin valley) for the Santa Fe and is considered by his superiors to be one of the most efficient men in the service.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Jones was born in Lafayette, Stark county, January 5, 1863, a son of J. M. and Katherine (Atherton) Jones. The father was born in Ohio and became one of the early settlers of Stark county, Ill., where he engaged in the harness business for many years. He is now living retired, devoting his time to the management of his extensive farming interests. A Republican in politics, he has at all times been an active worker for the success of that organization, but has never cared for the emoluments of public office. In fraternal relations he holds membership in the Masonic lodge, and is considered one of the most substantial citizens of the county, where he has lived for so many years. His wife is a native of Hancock county, Ill., and a daughter of Milton Atherton, who migrated from Pennsylvania to Hancock county at a very

early day, later settling in Stark county. At the time of the Black Hawk war he took an active part in the campaign, and three of his sons were in the Civil war.

To Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Jones were born two children: Nellie, Mrs. Frank Quinn, of Stark county, Ill., and F. A. The latter's boyhood and youth were spent in Lafayette, where he attended the public schools, later entering the Kewanee Academy, and after completing his studies in that institution he matriculated in the Northern Illinois Normal School, at Dixon, Ill., from which he was graduated in 1883. Soon afterward he entered the employ of the Iowa Central Railroad as timekeeper, and subsequently, when the road was extended to the Mississippi river, he was promoted to the position of cashier in the office at Peoria, under John F. Wallace, who is now the chief engineer of the Panama canal. While acting as cashier Mr. Jones decided to come west, and in 1884 located in Topeka, Kans., where he secured a position with the Santa Fe in the general offices, which position he held until 1886. In that year the road was building extensively in California, and Mr. Jones was transferred to this end of the line. For a time he was agent at various places, as the road progressed, finally being appointed agent at Santa Ana. Subsequently he was promoted to the position of traveling freight agent, making Los Angeles his headquarters, and for four years prior to locating in Fresno he was general agent at Santa Barbara. Soon after the Santa Fe secured control of the San Joaquin Valley road Mr. Jones was transferred to Fresno as district freight and passenger agent, in 1900, and since that time has made this city his place of residence, being now the general agent of the valley division, a very responsible position.

Aside from his duties in connection with the railroad, Mr. Jones has taken a prominent part in the work carried on by the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and in many ways has done much to further the interests of the city and valley. Always obliging and willing to do his duty, he has not only pleased the railroad company, but has secured the good will and friendship of all with whom he has had dealings.

In Oceanside Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Miss Florence Croff, a daughter of John P. Croff, and a native of Minnesota. To this union has been born one son, Lloyd Francis. While residing at Santa Ana Mr. Jones was made a Mason, and in Santa Barbara attained the Royal Arch degree. In the same lodge he was made a Knight Templar, being a member of St. Omer commandery. He is also a Shriner, being associated with Islam Temple, of San Francisco; is an Odd Fellow, being past grand of the lodge at Oceanside, and is also a member of the Encampment. At one time he was a member of the



Knights of Pythias, but has demitted from that organization. Since coming to Fresno he has joined the Elks and is a member of the Woodmen of the World. In politics Mr. Jones has always been identified with the Republican party, but has never had time to take an active part in political matters. In connection with his railroad associates he is a member of the Transportation Club, of San Francisco, and a charter member of the Sequoia Club, of Fresno.

CHARLES SHARP. In Elgin, Kane county, Ill., March 14, 1846, occurred the birth of Charles Sharp, a son of Craigie Sharp, whose history is given at length in another part of this volume. His life began under very untoward circumstances, his first home being a log cabin in the midst of the prairie lands of Illinois. He was taken by his parents to Dover, Bureau county, same state, where his home remained for but a brief time, when he removed to North Prairie, five miles west of LaMoille and fifteen miles each from the towns of Princeton and Mendota, Ill. There he was reared to young manhood, receiving his preliminary education in the district school in the vicinity of his home. Against the disadvantage of a slight frame and apparently weak constitution, his thirst for knowledge, indomitable will power and ambition to excel spurred him on to exert himself beyond his physical ability. His parents having the greatest desire to give him what he so ardently wished, sent him to Abingdon College, whence he returned so broken in health that he was not recognized by his father. Shortly afterward he became very ill and it was thought that he would never recover, but his will power again asserted itself, and without the help of physicians he gradually came back to a health and strength which he had never before known. Within nine months after his severe illness he weighed one hundred and eighty pounds, could lift nine hundred and fifty pounds, and neither his father nor any of his brothers were willing or able to match him in strength or physical ability. That was his first great victory in the battle of life and the foundation for all the success which he afterward achieved. His next step was to acquire the education which had been interrupted so many times, and accordingly he attended Eureka College for four years, in the meantime giving his oversight to the farm work during vacations, holidays, etc., while in the summers he traveled for various agricultural manufacturing companies, among them that of J. D. Easter, Gammon Deering Company, and the C. H. & L. J. McCormick. He became an expert binder and holds the world's championship as the fastest binder on record. Upon the completion of the scientific, classical, theological

and commercial courses in Eureka College, Mr. Sharp continued in the employ of the various harvester companies until 1878. In that year he was employed for C. H. & L. J. McCormick and had contracted to represent them at the exposition in Australia, but the company withdrew, believing it to be too late to ship machinery. Mr. Sharp, being in a position to make a change of residence, decided then to come to California, inducing his father, who was then on the eve of a removal to Texas, to locate also in this state, on account of the superior advantages of climate, of which he had learned in the teaching of a district school early in his career. In 1879 Mr. Sharp located temporarily in San Francisco, while his brother, Robert Sharp, went to Santa Rosa. For a time following his location in the state Mr. Sharp traveled throughout various sections and thus became acquainted with the advantages of certain localities. Deciding to locate in Hanford, Kings county, in partnership with his brother he established a hardware and agricultural implement business, which they conducted for several years with profit. Their business was destroyed by fire at a loss of \$9,000. Charles Sharp then bought out the interest of his brother and built what is known as Sharp's block on the corner of Sixth and Harris streets, where he has continued up to the present time in the sewing machine and household furnishing business—continuing in this location for twenty-six years and being known as the oldest merchant in Hanford. Throughout his long residence here Mr. Sharp has taken a most active interest in the upbuilding of the place and the development of its best interests, and has constantly exerted a strong moral influence in the community. He has been noticeably successful in his temperance work, through his publication of the *Alliance Messenger*, of which he was editor and proprietor, his efforts proving him a strong factor in the carrying of Kings county for prohibition. Through his efforts the first Christian church building was put up here (the first also in the San Joaquin valley), in 1884. In addition to his mercantile interests he is also extensively interested in oil transactions, being president of and owning the controlling interest in the Lady Bryan Development Company. This company was incorporated March 9, 1900, and controls twenty-four hundred acres in the Devil's Den oil district in Kern county, which district contains ten townships. Mr. Sharp owns personally about six thousand acres of the cream of the Devil's Den oil district unpatented land. The country is as yet undeveloped, but holds out great promise of future success if the enterprise is followed up, and Mr. Sharp expects to make his fortune out of the oil interests with which he is connected.

The marriage of Mr. Sharp united him with

Jane A. Smyth, a native of Ireland, and to them were born three children, namely: Craigie S., a clerk in Hanford; Sidney J. W., a student; and an infant daughter deceased. In his political convictions Mr. Sharp is a staunch Prohibitionist and has for many years been active in advancing the principles he endorses, although personally he has never cared for official recognition. He has been a member of the Christian Church since he was thirteen years old and has always taken an active interest in its work, which has resulted, by study and research, in making him an entertaining and instructive teacher in the Bible class of the Sunday school. He has also officiated in the church in various capacities, and is now the only charter member of the Hanford Christian Church. Mr. Sharp can always be depended upon to give his best efforts to advance the mental, moral and physical culture of whatever community he makes his home. The qualities of his Scotch ancestry were a part of Mr. Sharp's inheritance, and to these were added the training received under the parental roof, as well as the experiences received through direct contact with the world. One of his most commendable characteristics was his unbounded devotion to his parents and the sacrifices he made for them while living. He is to all men true, earnest, honest and just, giving to them an implicit faith which is reciprocated by all who come in contact with him. He enjoys the esteem and confidence of many friends who have been associated with him either in a business or social way, commanding the respect of all for the progressive yet conservative methods which have distinguished his career, and the unswerving integrity noticeable in all his transactions.

**THOMAS FRANKLIN MOODY.** The son of a California pioneer, Mr. Moody was born in Santa Clara county, May 31, 1855. His father, G. W. Moody, was a native of Missouri and in 1847 he crossed the plains with ox teams to California. Locating in the beautiful Santa Clara valley he there engaged in farming and stock-raising for several years, but finally sold out and moved to San Benito county, where he lived until 1880, when he came to Fresno county. Ten years later he again made a change, this time going to Santa Barbara county. Here he made his home until 1902, when he sold his farm and returned to Fresno county where he has since made his home with his son Thomas. In young manhood he was united in marriage with Miss Emily Lynn, who was born in Illinois and died in Santa Clara county. By her union she became the mother of eight children, five boys and three girls.

After completing a common school education

Thomas F. Moody engaged in agricultural pursuits. Coming to Fresno county in 1878 he located near Lemoore. Since then he has lived in Kings and Tulare county, but in 1901 he purchased his present fine ranch of one hundred and fifty acres which is located five miles west of Laton. Here he is now carrying on a dairy business, having thirty head of milch cows.

In Napa county in 1877 was celebrated the union of Mr. Moody and Miss Lovey Jane Deitzman, also a native of Santa Clara county. To them have been born seven children, namely: Pearl E., Ernest L., Lela M., George C., Thomas LeRoy, Lester D., and Elmer I. All the children are at home. Mr. Moody is a staunch Democrat, but has never cared to enter the lists for public favor. He has made a success of his opportunities and is one of the most highly respected citizens in Fresno county. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church and take an active part in church work.

**WILSON R. SMITH** is one of the oldest residents of the Laguna de Tache tract. During the many years that he has made this place his home he has been prominently connected with the upbuilding of the country and at all times has performed his part. A native of New York state, Mr. Smith was born in Franklin county, August 14, 1832, a son of David and Eliza (Jackman) Smith. The father was born in Vermont, but at the age of ten years he was taken by his parents to New York. In 1836 he left his home and moved to Ohio, where he remained for one year, then going to Indiana, he resided in that state a like length of time, in 1838 locating in McHenry county, Ill., where he followed farming until 1850. In that year he crossed the plains to California and lived here until 1861, when he returned east. Locating in Iowa, he engaged in farming and continued there until his death. His wife was a native of the old Bay State. She died in Illinois in 1856, aged forty-seven years. By her marriage she became the mother of seven children.

Wilson R. Smith was the second child. He obtained a limited education in the common schools and engaged in farming in the east for a time, but in 1860 he came to California. Taking up his residence in San Joaquin county, near Stockton, he became interested in farming, remaining there until the spring of 1871, when he sold out and came to Fresno county, locating thirteen miles east of Fresno, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, making a specialty of raising wheat. In 1881 he disposed of his ranch there, which consisted of three hundred and twenty acres, and purchased twenty acres in the Temperance Colony. This place was sold in





*Carlino Orton*

1888 and Mr. Smith went to Fresno, where he established a feed and wood yard. In 1892 he became interested, as a contractor, in the building of canals in the Liberty country. A year later, however, he rented land in the Laguna de Tache tract, having four thousand acres under his control. The larger part of this was used for grazing purposes, although a portion was devoted to the raising of wheat. He now leases one thousand acres, and in addition owns one hundred and sixty acres one and one-half miles north of Laton. The place where he resides is composed of thirty acres, all of which is devoted to fruit and alfalfa. Aside from his fruit interests he is now conducting an extensive dairy, which is a very profitable branch of his business.

While still living in Illinois Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Susan Smith, who, however, was no relation. To this union have been born three children: Wilson R., who is married and is now engaged in the real estate business in San Francisco; Charles E. lives near his father's place and conducts a skimming station; Albert E. lives at home, being in partnership with his father. On the occasion of their golden wedding, September 28, 1893, Mr. and Mrs. Smith were taken by surprise by their friends and neighbors, who invaded their home on that memorable evening to the number of one hundred and five and left with them substantial mementoes of their good-will and golden opinions in the way of gold articles, among them a beautiful gold-headed cane for Mr. Smith.

Mr. Smith cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln and has never failed to vote for the candidates of the Republican party. He has certainly made a splendid success of his life and deserves credit for the work he has accomplished. Starting in life without a dollar, he has, by the exercise of a keen business judgment, accumulated a handsome property, the result of perseverance and industry. While he has never cared for public office, it must not be understood that he has lived within himself, for no man in the county is more liberal or more willing to give of his time and means in the support of a movement that he deems of material benefit to the country and its people. Both, he and his family are highly respected and have hosts of friends.

---

**JULIUS ORTON.** One of the oldest pioneers of the state, Mr. Orton is still hale and hearty and can relate many stirring stories of those early days. The pioneers were a brave and fearless people and when they blazed the way across the plains and through trackless forests they little realized the great good they were doing future

generations. Since the arrival of Mr. Orton in California there have been many changes.

A native of Richland county, Ohio, Julius Orton was born August 29, 1825, a son of Miles and Lucy (Gamble) Orton. The father was born in Connecticut, where the grandfather was also born. From the state of his nativity Miles Orton migrated to New York, later removing to Richland county, Ohio. There he engaged in farming near the town of Shelby until 1838, when he removed to the northwestern part of Missouri. Locating in Gentry county, he entered land and engaged in agricultural pursuits. At the time of his settlement there were only about twenty families in the county and when he was ready to raise his log cabin the whole population of the county was on hand to assist. Now, where his farm was located, stands the thriving town of Albany. Mr. Orton married Lucy Gamble, a native of New York state, and a daughter of James Gamble, who settled in Richland county, Ohio, at a very early day. The land he entered is now the site of the city of Shelby, which was named by Mrs. Orton's father. To Mr. and Mrs. Orton were born four children. Both parents died in Missouri, Mrs. Orton being over ninety years of age at the time of her demise.

Julius Orton was the oldest in the family and about all he can recall of his early life is the fact that he had to work all the time. A few terms of school was the limit of his educational advantages. The schoolhouse was built of logs with slab benches for seats, while quill pens were used for writing. He remained at home assisting in the work of the farm until the breaking out of the Mexican war, when he hired as a teamster in the Oregon Battalion, in the quartermaster's department. Soon afterward the news of the discovery of gold reached him and he decided to come to California. The journey was made with ox teams, via Fort Hall, the Humboldt and Carson rivers, Mr. Orton arriving in Hangtown September 10, 1849. Remaining there until the following March as a miner, he then went to Georgetown, where he engaged in mining on Canyon creek until 1852. Tiring of that life, he went south to the Santa Clara valley, where he worked as a farmer for a time. Subsequently he went to Santa Cruz county and there engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1859, when he came to Tulare county, driving his cattle before him. At that time it was all open country and on arriving at his destination he entered land and continued in the cattle business. In 1861 he settled on section 10, pre-empting one hundred and sixty acres for his home and headquarters. In 1884 he homesteaded his present place, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres in section

14, which he has improved and placed under a high state of cultivation. In addition he owns a ranch on the Tule river which he devotes to the stock business.

While living in Santa Cruz county Mr. Orton was united in marriage with Lucretia Kirby, who was born in Pittsburg, Pa., a daughter of Gresham Kirby, a native of the Keystone state who migrated to California in 1853, settling in Santa Cruz county. His wife was in maidenhood Lucy Moon, a sister of David Moon, who was with Perry at the time of his great battle on Lake Erie. Mrs. Orton died April 22, 1900.

To Mr. and Mrs. Orton were born the following children: Lucy, wife of E. J. Hunsaker; May, wife of George DeWitt, of Lindsay; Charlotte, wife of John Keeley, of Lindsay; Jesse T., a farmer near Lindsay; Silas G., a farmer near Exeter; Eugene, who lives in Lindsay; Eben, manager of the Spaulding Lumber Company, of Lindsay; and Clyde, a butcher living in Lindsay.

Socially Mr. Orton is a member of the Pioneer Society of Tulare county. In politics he has always been a firm supporter of the men and measures of the Republican party, but has never cared for public office. He served as school trustee for several terms.

**OTTO LOESCHER.** Born in Prussia, Germany, December 29, 1859, Mr. Loeschler is a son of Gustave and Caroline (Dolke) Loeschler, both of whom were natives of the same country. The father was a mill owner and resided in the fatherland until his death. His wife became the mother of five children, two sons and three daughters. Of this family Otto was the eldest son and the third in order of birth. His education was obtained in the public schools and at an early age he was apprenticed to learn the miller's trade. Coming to the United States in 1886, he located in the state of Indiana where he followed his trade for two years, when he came to California. Soon after arriving in this state he settled in Selma where he engaged in the carpenter business. Later he worked in the grist mill, and finally, having been saving of his money, he was able to purchase a ranch, in the meantime operating the mill at Reedley. In 1901 he located on the place that has continued to be his home. Since taking possession he has erected a fine residence and otherwise improved the place until he has one of the finest properties in this section of Fresno county. His land holdings consist of forty acres adjoining the town of Fowler on the north and forty acres on the south. The larger portion, some seventy acres, is devoted to the growing of grapes.

Since coming to Fresno county, Mr. Loeschler has married Miss Katie Vietor, a daughter of

Frank Vietor, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Loeschler have been born three children: Ella, Agnes and Edward, all living at home. Fraternally Mr. Loeschler is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He worships at the German Lutheran Church. Since coming to California he has worked hard, and as a result he has not only accumulated a comfortable fortune, but has made for himself an enviable reputation, his word being considered as good as his bond.

**B. OROGNET.** Residing on a farm which adjoins Los Banos is Mr. Orognet, who has made his own way in the world, and by the exercise of his native industry and talents has accumulated a fair share of this world's goods. A man of good judgment, possessing much business ability and tact, he has been identified with different industries, and in his undertakings has met with noteworthy success. A native of France, he was born January 1, 1864, in Oloron, department of Basses-Pyrénées, which was also the birthplace of his father, Antoine Orognet. His father, a farmer by occupation, married Catherine Boy, and both are yet living in their native country. They have but two children, and both are residents of California, John residing in San Francisco, and the subject of this sketch.

Receiving but a limited common school education, B. Orognet began work on the farm when a mere boy, remaining with his parents until after attaining his majority. Desirous then of seeing more of the world, he immigrated to America in 1885, taking up his residence in San Francisco. Entering into partnership with his brother, he was there engaged in the restaurant business for a year. Locating on the west side of Merced county in 1886, he worked as a ranchman for Miller & Lux for three or four years, in the meantime saving some money. Embarking then in business on his own account, Mr. Orognet was for a while employed in sheep raising in Calaveras and Merced counties. Returning to San Francisco from there, he remained in that city a year, being engaged in various pursuits. Subsequently opening the "Bon Ton" in Los Banos, Mr. Orognet has since been prosperously engaged in the restaurant and liquor business. In the meantime, making judicious investments of his money, he purchased the farm which he now occupies, and on which he has made improvements of great value. It contains twenty-one acres of good land, the larger part of which he devotes to alfalfa. He has erected a substantial residence, and in the care of his property finds pleasure and profit. He also owns valuable residence and business property in Los Banos,



all of which he now leases, receiving a good annual income from the rental of these.

In Los Banos Mr. Orogren married Annie Hoffman, who was born in Alamo, Contra Costa county, a daughter of Henry Hoffman, and a sister of Edward H. Hoffman, of whom a brief sketch may be found elsewhere in this biographical work. Politically Mr. Orogren is a straightforward Republican, and fraternally he belongs to Mountain Brow Lodge No. 82, I. O. O. F.

A. J. DeLANEY. As president of the A. J. DeLaney Company, a large hardware establishment of Portersville, Tulare county, Mr. DeLaney is numbered among the representative business men of this city and holds a prominent place as an upbuilder of the best interests commercially and socially, and also in being instrumental in bringing many new settlers to this prosperous city and vicinity. A native of Ogdensburg, N. Y., he was born October 22, 1852, the second in a family of five sons, of whom four are living. His father, James A. DeLaney, who removed about 1855 to Canada, was engaged for many years in manufacturing agricultural and mill machinery in Peterboro, Ontario, Canada, but having sustained a heavy loss by fire in 1878 he removed to the then territory of Dakota, where he dealt in real estate, carried on farming, etc., being quite successful and prosperous. Later he removed to Grafton, N. Dak., taking an active part in political and other public affairs for the advancement of the city. He served as judge of the city for several years, after which he continued the practice of law until his death in 1902. He died in Grafton, N. Dak., as did also his wife, formerly Annie Wilson, of Ogdensburg, N. Y.

A. J. DeLaney was reared to young manhood in Ontario, Canada, receiving his education in the various schools, and later passed a successful examination for teacher. After graduating he was offered a position at his home in a general merchandise store which he accepted, and in this work he laid the foundation for his future success. Later his father offered him an interest in his manufacturing business in Peterboro, which he accepted, and remained with him until they were burned out in 1878. He then went to the new northwest country and settled in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, and engaged in manufacturing, mercantile and real estate business in that vicinity until 1882. Having been successful in the meantime, he retired from active business for a time, but in 1882 the great land boom of the northwest broke and a reaction set in, which brought values down to almost nothing. Having faith in the country and believing the depression to be only temporary, Mr. DeLaney decided to await the return of prosperity and associated himself with

a legal firm in Pembina, N. Dak., where he studied law. After being admitted to practice in the state courts he immediately purchased an interest in said legal firm in Pembina, practicing in this connection for a year, after which he engaged in business on his own account. In 1890 he removed to California and located in Hanford, Kings county, purchasing an interest in a hardware and plumbing business in that city. In 1892 he purchased his partner's interest and became sole proprietor, after which he carried on a hardware and general merchandise business. In 1895 he established a branch store in Portersville, Tulare county, the two being conducted profitably until 1899. Becoming attached to Portersville on account of its beautiful surroundings and advantages, he sold the Hanford store and has since devoted his time and attention to his business in this city. He at once took steps to enlarge his business, having now a building 40x125 feet in dimensions, with an L on another street. Here he conducts an extensive business, and carries a full line of hardware, stoves and tinware, agate ware, crockery, glassware, paints, oils, glass, blacksmith supplies, agricultural implements, wagons, and in addition carries on a plumbing business and handles all the necessary supplies. In 1902, with a capitalization of \$20,000, this business was incorporated under the firm name of A. J. DeLaney Company, of which Mr. DeLaney is president and principal owner.

The pleasant and comfortable home which Mr. DeLaney established in Portersville is presided over by his wife, formerly Jennie Anderson, a native of Brooklyn, N. Y., with whom he was united in marriage in South Falls, Canada, in 1875. Fraternally Mr. DeLaney is identified with the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Foresters, and in his political convictions is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He is an active member of the Board of Trade of Portersville, and as a broad-minded and liberal citizen takes an active interest in all movements that pertain to the general welfare of the community.

OSCAR DUKE. A prominent and successful ranchman, Oscar Duke is now engaged in conducting a dairy of sixty cows, while he also engages extensively in the raising of stock on his place of five hundred and twenty acres, known throughout Fresno county as Poverty Row Stock Farm. He was born in Lee county, Miss., June 17, 1864, a son of Thomas L. Duke. The elder man was a native of Massachusetts, who located in the south, thence came as far west as Colorado, and to California in the fall of 1875. He located in the Mussel Slough country, where he served

as presiding elder of this Conference for one term, being a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Later he preached in Davisville, and Winters, Yolo county, after four years returning to Fresno county for a like period; thence to Merced and then to southern California. He is now retired from active work and makes his home near his son. His wife, formerly Henrietta Virginia Stone, was also a native of Mississippi, and is now deceased. Of their three sons and two daughters, Oscar was the eldest.

Oscar Duke was reared in the various states and localities in which his parents lived, attending school in Mississippi and Colorado for a limited time. In California he soon found employment on various ranches, in 1881 coming to Fresno county and worked on his father's ranch in the vicinity of Selma for three years. Upon the sale of this place he engaged in draying in Selma for a period of four years, when he went to San Francisco and was employed as gripman on the cable cars of that city. After seven months he returned to Selma and purchased property which reached a high figure at the time of the great increase in property values of Selma. In 1895 he bought twenty acres of unimproved land three miles west of Conejo, later added by a purchase of twenty acres, and then by forty, eighty, and three hundred and sixty, owning in all five hundred and twenty acres. With the exception of thirty acres this is all under irrigation, and all but eighty acres in alfalfa. He has a herd of three hundred cattle and also carries on a dairy of sixty cows. Up to a short time ago he had charge of the large ranch owned by Clarence J. Berry, but found it impossible to manage his constantly increasing personal interests and that of his employer, and consequently was forced to resign from the position. He is a man of energy as well as ability, and bids fair to win more than an ordinary success as a ranchman of this section.

In Madera, Cal., Mr. Duke was united in marriage with Mrs. Lottie Norris, a native of New York state, who had one son, Raymond Norris, Jr., by her first husband, Raymond Norris. Politically Mr. Duke is a staunch adherent of the principles advanced in the platform of the Democratic party.

---

**JOSHUA PECKHAM.** Among the representative men of Fresno county mention is due Joshua Peckham, a retired citizen of Fresno. He was born August 15, 1839, in Middletown, R. I., a son of Joshua and Eliza R. (Tilley) Peckham, both natives of Newport, R. I., and representatives of prominent old families of the New England states, where the grandfather Peckham was a farmer in Middletown, R. I. They had a family of seven sons and seven daughters born

to them, of whom two sons and one daughter are living, Mr. Peckham being the only one to make his home on the Pacific coast. Reared on a farm in Rhode Island, Joshua Peckham attended the public school of his locality. At the age of seventeen years he started westward, remained in Chicago a short time, then went to East Bend, Champaign county, Ill., and purchased eighty acres of land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company. This he started to improve, but did not complete and farmed on other land in that county. After the battle of Bull Run, July 4, 1861, Mr. Peckham enlisted in Company F, Twenty-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was sent to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., then on to Rolla, Mo., and did guard duty at Lamine River Bridge; there their first engagement with Price's army occurred. While there Mr. Peckham was taken sick with intermittent fever and was in the camp hospital for one month and was then sent to St. Louis General Hospital, New House of Refuge, where he had typhoid and finally contracted rheumatism with which he is still afflicted. February, 1862, he was honorably discharged on account of physical disability and at once returned to his home, where he spent the greater part of that year in regaining his health. He then took up farming for one year and met with success, raising a good crop and receiving good prices. In 1863 he erected a store at East Bend and engaged in the general mercantile business, also started a meat market in connection with the store. Later he began farming on a large scale. In the fall of 1869 he made a trip to his home in Rhode Island and resided there from 1869 until the spring of 1880. At Newport he purchased a grocery store and in March, 1870, put in a stock of goods in addition to the old stock. Between March 1, 1870, and January 1, 1871, he sold \$28,000 worth of goods, and the second year about \$40,000; quadrupling the volume of business done by his predecessor. He purchased property, erected another store with two flats above for his residence. From 1872 until 1877 he conducted a large business as a general merchant as well as operating a grist mill from 1872 to 1875, first with two partners, but eventually succeeded to the entire ownership. In the fall of 1871 he restocked his old store with \$5,200 worth of boots and shoes, conducting all three enterprises separately and successfully. January 1, 1877, he sold and retired from active business temporarily. In 1880 he came to California and near San Jose engaged in the grain, orchard and vineyard business on Senter Road and Coyote creek, remaining so engaged for two years. He then purchased property in San Jose and embarked in the real estate and livery business. About 1883 he engaged in the tea and coffee business in San Jose successfully and in 1884 opened a wholesale and retail tea





*James B. Hensley*

and coffee store and manufactured spices in San Francisco for one year; then removed to Bixby's Landing, Monterey county, where he was in the mercantile and lumber business. After a short residence there he returned to San Jose and soon after, in 1890, located in Fresno and purchased the Pleasant View House and conducted a hotel for over six years. Selling out, he went to Los Angeles and in six months had to take back his hotel property in Fresno. Selling again, he spent nearly a year in San Jose, but having a liking for Fresno county again located here, purchasing a farm near Selma, which he set out in orchard and vineyard. He sold forty acres of this and removed to Fresno and located at No. 232 Valeria street, his present home. He later traded his balance of forty acres near Selma for eighty acres near Conejo, which he leases as a dairy farm. He also owns an alfalfa ranch of one hundred and sixty acres near Conejo on which he installed a pumping plant at a cost of \$2,000. This ranch is well stocked and a lucrative dairy business is carried on under the management of his son, Joshua Peckham, Jr.

In Newport, R. I., October 5, 1871, Mr. Peckham was united in marriage with Mrs. Hattie N. (Peckham) Kaull, who is a native of Newport, and a daughter of Solomon and Roxanna (Barker) Peckham. Of this marriage three children have been born: Annie R., the wife of L. E. Hughson, of Collis; Joshua, Jr.; and Hattie N., deceased. Mr. Peckham and his wife are Spiritualists in their religious belief. In politics a Republican, he has ever been identified with the party's best interests. Socially he is a member of the Royal Arcanum and the Grand Army of the Republic. In the busy life that Mr. Peckham has led he has never forgotten the duties of a citizen, but has always given of his time and means to further the interests of the communities where he has been a resident. Starting at the bottom of the ladder, he has gradually worked his way by strict integrity and perseverance to a position of affluence, and now in the afternoon of a busy life he is able to live retired from the cares of business and with his wife enjoy a competency well earned.

**JAMES B. HERSEY.** The ancestry of James B. Hersey, a well-known and esteemed resident of Tulare county, is traced back to the colonial days of our country, when members of his family participated in the stirring events which led up to the independence of our nation. The family flourished in the New England states for many generations, Randolph Hersey, a native of Maine, finally settling in Montreal, Canada, where he became a prominent iron manufacturer, being president of the Pillow-Hersey Manufacturing

Company. He is also president of the Hersey-Page Pipe Company, the manufacturers of water and gas pipes. Later in life Mr. Hersey disposed of his interests in Montreal and after a time found his way to California, locating in Santa Clara county, where he purchased a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres five miles from the city of San Jose and engaged in general farming and horticulture. He is now living retired. By his marriage with Mary Louise Price, who is now deceased, the following children were born: John Randolph, general superintendent of an iron manufacturing plant in Montreal, where he makes his home; Theodore, who is engaged in horticultural pursuits in Santa Clara county; Fernando P., of San Francisco; Milton, assayer and chemist in an iron manufacturing plant in Montreal; Arthur, also engaged in the iron business in Montreal; Laura Beatrice, the wife of H. Roland, of Santa Clara county; and James B. After the death of his wife Mr. Hersey again married, by the second union having four children: Effie, Florence, Lena and Gertrude, all of whom are living in the east.

James B. Hersey was born March 30, 1856, and in early manhood learned the trade of a machinist and engineer. Coming to California in 1872 he first found employment in San Francisco, where he assisted in the erection of the Pacific Rolling Mills. Later he followed engineering at various times, making several trips to the Orient as first assistant engineer on ocean liners. He has also devoted several years to mining, being located at times in Colorado, California, Arizona, New and Old Mexico and Nevada, and at the present time he owns two mines on the edge of Death Valley, which he is now operating, having his own stamp mills. Mr. Hersey was in Leadville the year before the discovery of gold in 1877 and later returned to that wonderful region and followed mining for a time. His experience as a horticulturist dates from 1885 and since then he has engaged in this line of business at various times. For a period he was located in the Santa Clara valley, where he purchased and improved a ranch of sixty acres, all devoted to an orchard. This place is now owned by his brother, Theodore. In 1897 Mr. Hersey located in Lindsay, Tulare county, where he has since made his home. The land now in his possession was at time of purchase a stubble field, but under the direction of the owner extensive improvements have since been made. A pumping plant has been installed and with an invention of his own a double quantity of water can be secured. This is the only plant of its kind in the state but it has proved a complete success, and in the future, many, no doubt, will take advantage of the improved methods. As his ranch adjoins the Southern Pacific Railway it is

the intention of Mr. Hersey to build a packing house for his own use. Fifty acres of his property are devoted to the cultivation of the Washington navel orange and in the future this acreage will be increased.

In Montreal Mr. Hersey was united in marriage with Albertine M. Holland, and they are the parents of the following children: Mansfield Randolph, Ralph James, Clarence Theodore and Mary Louise, all of whom are living at home. In his political convictions Mr. Hersey is a staunch Republican, but has never aspired to public office.

---

ELISHA HARLAN has been a resident of California since 1846, growing to manhood among the primitive scenes and conditions of the pioneer days, and experiencing the hardships and privations incident to the lives of the builders of a statehood. He has watched the growth and progress of the state and has been an active participant in the development of Fresno county, where he located in 1860. Born in Berrien county, Mich., August 5, 1838, he was the son of George Harlan. The latter was a native of Kentucky, who removed to Indiana and thence to Berrien county, Mich., locating near Niles. Deciding to cast in his lot with the vanguard of civilization in the remote west, he started for California in 1845, reaching Lexington, Mo., where they spent the winter. In the spring of 1846 they set out across the plains with ox-teams, traveling in Captain Ahrens' company. They left Lexington in March and after seven months of journeying arrived at Sutter's Fort October 8. During the trip they met with the Donner party, but parted from them at Hastings' cut-off. Mr. Harlan located at Santa Clara, where he enlisted for service in the Mexican war, as did his son, Joel Harlan. In the spring the family removed to Mission San Jose, where a crop of wheat was put in, and when the season was over located in Napa valley and engaged in stock-raising. After one year he went to San Francisco and conducted a dairy business, selling out a year later and returning to Mission San Jose and later to Napa City. During the gold excitement of 1848 he went to Coloma, Eldorado county, and mined for six months, then engaged in the butcher business in Sutterville for eight months. For a time following he was located in Cash creek canyon, thence returned to San Francisco and spent the winter. His death occurred in Mission San Jose in June, 1850. His wife, formerly Betsey Duncan, a native of Pennsylvania, died in Santa Clara, in 1846. They were the parents of four sons and three daughters, of whom Elisha Harlan was next to the youngest, and besides him Mrs.

Henry H. Smith of Livermore, Cal., is the only one living.

Elisha Harlan was educated in the common schools of California, and at an early age found it necessary to take up the burden of self-support. He began his work in farming and stock-raising, and after the death of his father he went to live with his brother Joel in San Francisco, and later located at Mission San Jose. He then farmed near San Lorenzo one year, thence to Napa valley, near Calistoga, thence to San Ramon until 1860. In the last named year he came to Fresno county and bought land in the vicinity of Kingston, on the Lower Kings river, where he engaged in the buying and selling of stock. He remained in that location for nine years, when he located on the property which he has since made his home, taking up at that time one hundred and sixty acres and adding by purchase until he now owns seven hundred acres, seventy-five acres in alfalfa and the balance in wild grass. He is located ten miles west of Laton in the Riverdale country, and for the past eighteen years has kept the Riverdale postoffice. He carries on an extensive dairy and is successful in his ranching operations.

In San Luis Obispo, Cal., September 14, 1871, Mr. Harlan was united in marriage with Lucy I. Hobaugh, a native of Indiana, and they have four children, namely: Jerome, at home; Irene, the wife of John Hancock (see personal sketch elsewhere in this volume); Le Roy, at home; and Aleda, the wife of J. Sherrell, minister in the United Brethren Church, at Riverdale. In his political affiliations Mr. Harlan is active in the counsels of the Republican party.

---

BENJAMIN F. WALKER, M.D. In every profession and trade we find men who have by their own efforts worked their way upward to their present responsible positions. B. F. Walker, by hard work, perseverance and industry, succeeded in gaining a college education and is now one of the leading medical practitioners of Fresno county. A native of Illinois, he was born in Vandalia, March 7, 1877. His father, B. F. Walker, was a native of the same state, where he was engaged in farming and stock-raising until his death at the early age of thirty-three years. His wife bore the maiden name of Mildred Yarbrough, and is now living in Laton. By her marriage she became the mother of three children, all boys.

Dr. Walker was the youngest child, and after attending the common schools he was allowed to attend the Fayette county high school in Vandalia, from which he was graduated in 1894. Thereafter he engaged in teaching in his native state for a time, but later accepted a position



as a conductor on the Union Depot railway at St. Louis, which occupation he followed for three years, or until 1897, when he entered the Barnes Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1901. Soon after he came to California and located at Tres Pinos, where he engaged in the practice of medicine until February, 1902, when he came to Laton. Here he has built up one of the best paying practices in the county, making a specialty of the nose and throat. Since coming here he has also been engaged in the drug business, but in December, 1904, he disposed of that business.

In Laton, June 24, 1903, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Walker and Miss Edith A. Crews, who is a native of Fresno county, being a daughter of one of the pioneers of this county. Fraternally the doctor is quite prominent, being a member of the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Woodmen of the World. He has taken an active interest in the affairs of the Baptist Church, and for some time was superintendent of the Sunday-school. Holding membership with the Chamber of Commerce, he has taken an active part in the upbuilding of this section of the state, being at all times willing to give his time and attention to any movement calculated to be of material benefit to the state or county. Since coming here he has not only made hosts of friends, but has become one of the best specialists in his line located in this section of the state. Meantime he has performed his part as a citizen, serving in different capacities. He was one of the organizers and is now a director of the Laton public library. He is deputy health officer, having filled that office for the past three years. In connection with his profession he is a member of the Fresno County Medical Association, the California Medical Society, the Tri-county Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the San Joaquin Valley Medical Association. In all of these he stands high.

**GEORGE T. LONG.** Since 1902 George T. Long has been located upon his present property three miles southwest of Fowler, Fresno county, where he is engaged in the cultivation of fruit and alfalfa. A native of Washington county, Iowa, he was born October 23, 1861, a son of James Long. The latter was a native of Pennsylvania who located in Washington county, Iowa, in 1856, where he engaged as a farmer until his death. His wife, formerly Margie A. Campbell, a native of Pennsylvania, survives her husband and now makes her home in Fowler, where she located in 1891. She was the mother of four sons and one daughter, of whom George T. was the fourth in order of birth.

George T. Long received his education in the common schools of Iowa, after which he followed farming until 1885, when he came to California. He first located at Selma, Fresno county, where he engaged in house painting for a time, and was then employed in a shingle mill in the mountains. He rented a place near Fowler in 1889, consisting of forty acres, later purchasing the same, and in 1902 he sold out. In that year he bought his present property, consisting of eighty acres, twenty acres being devoted to vineyard, thirteen acres to orchard and forty acres in alfalfa. He built a handsome residence in 1904, presided over by his wife, formerly Joanna Chalmers, of Warren county, Ill., whom he married in Washington county, Iowa. They are the parents of the following children: Charles, Harry, George, Jr., Arthur, Cloice and Roscoe, all at home. Mr. Long is a member of the United Presbyterian Church of Fowler, and politically casts his ballot with the Republican party. He has done considerable speculating outside of his regular work and has met with success.

**CHARLES J. LINDGREN.** Few general contractors in the state are better or more widely known than Mr. Lindgren. For years he has carried on an extensive business in Fresno and adjoining counties and recently he enlarged his field of operations and is now contracting in San Francisco, Oakland, Bakersfield, Modesto, Fresno, Merced and other places. Mr. Lindgren inherits his ability as a builder from his father, who was for years engaged in that line of business in Sweden, but the position he has attained in California is the result of his own efforts. When he came here he was unknown and without money, but by industry and perseverance he has struggled forward until to-day he is considered one of the most prominent contractors in the state. During this time he has erected practically the entire business section of Bakersfield and Kern City, thus doing a great deal to make these cities modern and attractive to the prospective business man.

A native of Sweden, Mr. Lindgren was born in that country on August 5, 1859. His father, J. F. Lindgren, was also a native of the same country and for years engaged in building, devoting his energies to the erection of stone and granite buildings. He was very successful and owned valuable granite quarries near the city of Nordkoping. During the winter of 1901-2 he visited in California, spending most of the time with his son, and on his return to his home he was taken ill and lived but two months after his arrival. His wife bore the maiden name of Johanna M. Johnson and by her marriage she

became the mother of ten children, four boys and six girls. Of these three boys and five girls reached maturity and all are now living in the United States with the exception of two daughters, who remain in the old country.

Charles J. Lindgren was reared in the place of his birth and obtained a fair education in the public schools, but at an early age he started out to make his own way in the world, securing employment on a farm, but soon after he went to work under his father, learning the trade of a granite cutter. Finally he formed a partnership with his father, which continued for about one year, when he sold and came to America. Locating in Chicago, he there worked at any occupation he could secure for two years. Subsequently he learned the trade of a bricklayer and for three and one-half years he filled the position of a foreman in that city. In January, 1888, he came to Los Angeles, where he soon after engaged in the general contracting and building business. From that city he removed to Bakersfield, where as before stated, he has erected practically the entire business section of the city. While there he also assisted in the organization of the Bakersfield Sandstone Brick Co., of which he is now the vice-president. Under his direction a fine plant was constructed and the business gradually increased until today it is the most extensive brick manufacturing concern in the county. From the start Mr. Lindgren has made a success of his various ventures, and since 1900 has been contracting in all sections of the state, building some of the most important structures in the various cities. He is also interested in other ventures, including the Lindgren-Hicks Company of San Francisco; the Golden Gate Sandstone Brick Company and the Holland Sandstone Brick Company, located at Antioch.

In 1903 Mr. Lindgren came to Fresno, where he has erected for himself one of the best residences in the city. Here he and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Christina Bergquist, are living surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Their marriage has resulted in the birth of three children, namely: Gertrude A., Edna M., and Charles J., Jr. Mrs. Lindgren is a native of Sweden and a daughter of John Bergquist, who was a contractor and builder in that country. He was also an architect of ability and later was the superintendent of a large estate at Mariane Lund, Smoland. Eleven years ago he came to this country and is now living retired in the city of Chicago. His wife was a Miss Stole, a native of Sweden. Her father, John Stole, was an officer in the Swedish army all his life, serving in the Hussar Regiment. He died at the ripe old age of ninety-nine years.

In politics Mr. Lindgren is a Republican, but while he has been too busy looking after his extensive interests to take an active part in public matters, he is at all times ready to support any measures calculated to be of material benefit to the state or county. The success that he has attained shows what one can accomplish in this country if he but possess grit, intelligence and industry.

---

HENRY KRUSE. A resident of California since 1887, Henry Kruse is classed among the upbuilders of Fresno county. He was born in Westphalia, Germany, July 27, 1859, and is a son of Henry and Fredricka Louisa (Bunkman) Kruse. The former died at his home in Westphalia, where his widow still makes her home.

The third child in a family of four sons and two daughters, Henry Kruse received his education in the public schools and in an Agricultural College. At the early age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a superintendent of a large farm, and later he himself became superintendent of a large place in Westphalia, where he remained until 1886, when he came to America and at once went to Fremont, Neb. In 1887 he came to California, where he secured work for two years with Mr. Eggers as second foreman. He then became superintendent of Los Palmas ranch, a position he held four years. In 1889 he purchased twenty-six acres, which he improved and set out to grapes, later adding twenty-six and one-half acres, also in grapes, all located in the Eggers Colony. He has also set out vineyards for others. Upon his home place he has erected a modern residence and otherwise improved his surroundings.

August 21, 1892, in Westphalia, Mr. Kruse was united in marriage with Anna Hilka, who was born there. They have four children, Freda, Greta, Clara and Ellen.

In politics a Democrat, Mr. Kruse is active in the counsels of the party. A friend of education, he has always favored good schools. He was one of the founders of the German Lutheran Church in Fresno and has been a member of the church board since then. In every sense of the word he is a self-made man and has always given of his time and means to promote the welfare of the county of his adoption, in which he has a host of friends.

---

ERICK GUSTAV ROSENDAHL. For many years E. G. Rosendahl was an active member of the ministry, but a few years ago, on account of failing health, he was compelled to relinquish his work and take up a rural life. During the time he was a minister he filled pulpits in many of





*H. J. Bachman*



*Cynthia P Bachman*





the leading Swedish churches in this country and was considered one of the brightest and most successful men in the Conference. By his retirement the church lost a man who had done much to place the Swedish Church on its present firm basis, but although he is now practically retired from the church, he is still very active in promoting the general welfare of his people.

A native of Sweden, Erick Gustav Rosendahl was born February 22, 1849. He was the youngest in a large family and was able to obtain only a limited common school education. In 1869 he bade good-by to home and friends and sailed for New York, where after landing he continued to reside for five years. At the expiration of that time he returned to his native country and remained there for four years. It was in 1879 that he again took up his residence in the United States, this time locating in Dover, N. J., where he secured a position in the railway shops. Three years later, with the money he had saved, he went to Evanston, Ill., and entered the Swedish seminary at that place, taking up his long-cherished study of theology. The following three years were devoted to the study of this branch of education and that year in the Conference at Dayton, Iowa, he was ordained a minister of the Swedish Church. The same year he was given a charge at a place called New Sweden, in Iowa, one of the oldest Swedish churches in that state, where he remained for one year, when the Conference assigned him to another old and large congregation at Stratford, the same state. Subsequently he was transferred to the California Conference, coming to this state in 1888. The first year was spent in Kingsburg and at the expiration of that period he was compelled to resign, his health having failed and it being necessary for him to take up a different occupation. Purchasing his present place of twenty acres, three miles northeast of Kingsburg, he was one of the very first to locate in this colony. His land is devoted to peaches, grapes and alfalfa.

Since taking up agricultural pursuits, Mr. Rosendahl has been very active in promoting various business ventures. He was one of the organizers of the Scandinavian Mutual Protective Fire Insurance Company, of which he is vice-president, director and appraiser. He is also secretary of the Swedish Methodist Church of the United States, and is interested in the Co-operative Packing Company at Kingsburg, being a director of the same. This section of the country has developed very rapidly, and Mr. Rosendahl was the instigator of the present rural delivery service. He has also been very prominent in school and religious work, at all times doing his part to promote the welfare and growth of

the same. He was the first director of Harrison school district and it is said that the people of this section look upon him as the leader of every movement that tends to improve existing conditions. The old saying that "there is no great loss without some gain" is very true in this instance, for while the church lost a very useful leader in the resignation of Mr. Rosendahl this county gained a splendid citizen.

In New York city occurred the marriage of Mr. Rosendahl and Miss Annie Elizabeth Damstrom, who is also a native of Sweden. To them have been born two children: Albert Henry and Hannah Eugene, both of whom are living at home. The entire family is most highly respected in this section of the county where they have a large circle of warm and personal friends.

---

HERMAN S. BACHMAN. In every locality there is always some man to take the lead and develop some special line of business and to this man the whole country is under lasting obligation. To Mr. Bachman credit must be given for the great work he has done along dairying lines. He was the man to see the possibilities of this business and was the first to engage in dairying from a commercial standpoint. As a result of his judgment the section of the county about Portersville has become enriched to the amount of many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

A native of Maine, Mr. Bachman was born in Cumberland county, near the town of Harrison, November 27, 1854. His father, Sigmund Bachman, was born in Reckendorf, Bavaria, Germany. On immigrating to the United States he settled in Maine, where he engaged in business as a merchant. In 1855 he migrated to Wisconsin, locating in Milwaukee, where he became a prominent wholesale dealer in dry goods. Two years later, however, he removed to the town of Monroe, where he remained until 1861, when he located in Chicago as a dealer in merchandise. There he conducted a very successful business until 1879, when he went to Denver, Colo., where he engaged in business until 1881, the year of his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Susan A. Woodsum, and was born in Harrison, Me. She is still living and makes her home in North Bridgton, Me. By her marriage with Mr. Bachman she became the mother of four children, three of whom are living.

The second in this family was Herman S. Bachman. He accompanied his parents on their removal west and his early life was spent in the various towns in which his father was engaged in business. On the removal of the family to Chicago he was but a boy and there he received

his education, but his schooling was limited, for at the age of eleven years he entered the employ of a wholesale men's furnishing and notion store, which was located on Lake street. Beginning at the very bottom as an errand boy he worked his way up, until at the expiration of three years he was promoted to the position of stock keeper. He then was employed in his father's store as a salesman and until 1869, when his father removed to Crown Point, Ind., where he remained for one year. Tiring of a mercantile life he then began farming near Crown Point, continuing for two years or until 1872. That year witnessed his arrival in California. The first winter was spent in Lake county and the following spring he went to San Diego, where he remained for a short time. Going to Holcomb valley, San Bernardino county, he followed mining there, in Kern county and in Arizona, until 1874. From 1874 to 1876 he was with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company as foreman of a gang of men engaged in tunnel work. He had charge of the head of the tunnel and during the time he was with the company he had no accidents, neither was a man in his gang injured. After eighteen months he resigned his position and returned to Riverside, where he purchased fifty acres of land and engaged in horticultural pursuits and farming, growing oranges and alfalfa. This venture proved a success and there he remained until 1885, when he sold out and located in Tulare county. For two years after his arrival in the county he was engaged in general farming. In 1887 Mr. Bachman purchased a livery stable in Tulare which he conducted successfully until 1896. In 1892 he had purchased his present farm ten miles southwest of Portersville and on disposing of his livery stable he took up his residence on this farm, which consists of four hundred and eighty acres, two hundred and forty acres of which are devoted to the growing of alfalfa, while the balance is used for grain purposes.

Since taking up his residence on this farm Mr. Bachman has become one of the leading dairymen of the state. He now has sixty head of cattle, Short-horns and Holsteins, and although he was the first to engage in the butter business from a commercial standpoint, that venture has proved a wonderful success. Mr. Bachman is a firm believer in everything modern and his farm is one of the best equipped in California. In September, 1903, Mr. Bachman rented his farm and now lives in Portersville, but while not directly interested, he still manages the farm. He is the largest stockholder and is president of the Poplar Irrigation Ditch Company, and has been prominently identified with water affairs since living on his ranch.

In maidenhood Mrs. Bachman was Miss Cyn-

thia P. Smith, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Henry M. Smith, who was born in New York state and became an early settler of Wisconsin, where he followed farming. During the Civil war he served in a Wisconsin regiment. In 1886 he came to California and located at Riverside, but two years later he removed to Tulare county, where he lived until his death in 1904, at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. Smith married Palmyra Frost, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Alva Frost, also a native of Ohio. He removed to Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming at the outbreak of the Civil war. Enlisting in a Wisconsin regiment he served until the close of that memorable contest. His wife is still living and makes her home at Rialto. She has six children living, Mrs. Bachman being the oldest. Mrs. Bachman married for her first husband, Ervin Cornell, who died in Nebraska, leaving one child, Minnie, the wife of Isaac Bunton, of Poplar. By her marriage with Mr. Bachman, which occurred February 16, 1885, she has five children: Ervin Herman; Susan Adah, Chloe Annis, Leah Gretchen and Hazel Olive. By a former marriage Mr. Bachman had two children: Howard E., at Tehama, Cal., and Frankie, the wife of James Crose, of Poplar.

Mr. Bachman has always taken an active interest in the welfare of his county and has been especially interested in local affairs. He was one of the reorganizers of the Poplar Co-Operative Association, of which he is now vice-president and director. In politics he is a Democrat and a warm supporter of William Jennings Bryan. He formerly held membership in the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. That success has attended the efforts of Mr. Bachman is the result of his own business ability and perseverance. He has had many obstacles to overcome, but with a determination to succeed he has gone steadily forward, until today he is considered one of the most substantial men in Tulare county. Both he and his estimable wife have a warm place in the hearts of the residents of Portersville, all of whom rejoice in the fact that they are able to enjoy their latter years amid peace and good will.

---

**WILLIAM SHIELDS.** Born in the north of Ireland, October 31, 1834, the late William Shields accompanied his parents to America when seven years of age and with them settled in Malone, New York, where he was reared, educated and where he remained until 1855, when he started for the middle west. Settling in Illinois, he improved a farm from the prairie, five miles from Gibson City, Ford county, and engaged in general farming and the stock business. In 1873

he disposed of his interests and came to California, arriving May 10 of that year and locating in Marin county. For two years he farmed six miles south of Petaluma, then purchased three hundred and twenty acres in San Benito county, where he remained until the fall of 1876. Removing then to San Mateo county, he settled near Half Moon Bay, where he remained until locating in Fresno county in 1884. He here purchased eighty acres of stubble land one and one-half miles north of Fresno, on Blackstone avenue, which he set out in a vineyard of fifty-five acres and the balance in orchard, also erecting a comfortable residence. In addition to his other interests he engaged in buying, selling and improving land. He was a Republican and a Mason. Always in favor of education, he took a keen interest in maintaining good schools. He became prominent as a citizen of Fresno county and followed a successful career until his death, March 7, 1902.

Mr. Shields was married in Genoa, Ill., January 1, 1858, to Elizabeth M. Marsh, who was born September 11, 1838, in Chautauqua county, N. Y., a daughter of Alva Marsh, who was born in West Brattleboro, Vt. Her grandfather, William Marsh, was also a native of the same place and served as captain of a company during the war of 1812. His father, also named William, was in the Revolutionary war.

In tracing her ancestry Mrs. Shields dates back to the landing of the Pilgrims. Her father removed to Chautauqua county, N. Y., thence in 1842 to Illinois, by way of Chicago, which was then only a small town, and settled in DeKalb county, where he engaged in farming. He eventually came to California, where he spent his remaining years. His wife, Hannah House, was born in the Mohawk valley, N. Y., of German ancestry, a daughter of Adolphus and granddaughter of another Adolphus House. The latter came from Germany prior to the war of the Revolution, and served as a captain during that struggle for independence. He gave his orders in German, being unable to speak English. He settled in the Mohawk valley and there died. Mrs. Marsh died in California. Two of her sons, Alva and Adolphus Marsh (the latter being raised to a lieutenant), were soldiers during the Civil war. Mrs. Shields is the sixth in order of birth of ten children, six of whom are living. She was reared and educated in Illinois. Since the death of her husband she erected a residence at No. 385 San Pablo avenue, Fresno, where she now resides, having rented her ranch and vineyard.

Mr. and Mrs. Shields became the parents of eight children: Alice V., deceased, married Thomas Newell, of Selma; Adolphus, a farmer on Whites Bridge road, is a Knight Templar Ma-

son; Charles E. died in infancy; Ella M. became the wife of Leon Bean, of Palo Alto; Lillian E. married George Taylor, of Ft. Bragg, Cal.; Josephine P. became the wife of Wright Spencer, of Fresno; Flora D. is Mrs. Frank Montague, also of Fresno; William Alexander died in infancy. Mrs. Shields is a member of the Methodist Church, to which Mr. Shields gave liberally. In all the years of their residence in California Mr. and Mrs. Shields endeared themselves to a wide circle of friends, especially in Fresno county. Since the death of Mr. Shields his widow has ably managed the estate and is living in the enjoyment of a competency which she and her husband earned. In all charitable enterprises Mrs. Shields takes an active part.

---

HERMAN GRANZ. A resident of California since the spring of 1869, Herman Granz has been actively engaged in building up the commercial circles of the state. A native of Saxony, Germany, he was born near Chemnitz, August 1, 1841, a son of Samuel Granz, who was descended from an old family. A brother, Louis Granz, died in San Francisco in 1904.

Herman Granz was reared on his father's farm and educated in the schools of Germany. At the age of sixteen years he was apprenticed to learn the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed in Austria, Switzerland and France for a time. Hearing and reading a great deal of the splendid opportunities offered young men in the United States, he decided to emigrate, and in 1868 he was able to carry out his cherished plans. Arriving in New York city, he worked at his trade one year, during which time he heard of the better opportunities for advancement in the newer state of California and with the money he had saved made the trip to San Francisco by way of the Isthmus of Panama. He followed his trade in that city for a time, then started a furniture factory on a small scale in Hayes valley. Later, as his business increased, he established a factory on Barry street, and four years later built on Brannan street, the plant being operated by steam power. Here he manufactured furniture of all kinds and employed seventy-five hands. This enterprise was conducted successfully until 1887, when, on account of ill health, he wished to leave the city.

Upon purchasing his present property in 1881 Mr. Granz began the work of improvement by setting it out to vines, and at the time the railroad was built into Clovis, Fresno county, he had his eighty acres in vineyard. He erected a winery in 1884 and began the manufacture of a high grade of wines and in the passing of the years he has built up a lucrative business. His winery has a large capacity and on his home

place, to which he brought his family in 1887, he has erected a fine house and laid out beautiful grounds. It is located four miles east of Fresno, on Belmont avenue.

Mr. Granz was married in New York city to Adelaide Bauhofer, who is a native of Austria. To them have been born eight children, viz.: Carl, of San Francisco, connected with the California Wine Association as city salesman; Emil H., owner of a winery in Sultana; O. J., with his father; Edward H., also with his father; Hermina, who married M. Saier, of Fresno; Sophia, the wife of John L. Gilbert, also of Fresno; Adelaide and Clara, at home.

Mr. Granz has always given his support to the Republican party, though he never would allow his name to be mentioned for office. He is an active member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. A property owner of Fresno county for nearly a quarter of a century, Herman Granz has given liberally of his means toward the upbuilding of the varied interests that have brought the county to its present position in the San Joaquin valley. He gives employment to a great many people and always extends a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself. Starting at the bottom of the ladder, he is justly entitled to the position of a self-made man.

**CONRAD METZLER.** A native of Russia, Mr. Metzler was born October 3, 1866, near Saradif, which was also the birthplace of his father, Conrad, who was of German descent. By trade he was a shoemaker. Both Mr. Metzler and his wife, formerly Sophia Elizabeth Fredrick, were members of the Lutheran Church. The former died in his native country.

Conrad Metzler, Jr., obtained a limited common school education and upon attaining his majority immigrated to the United States. Coming at once to Fresno, he worked for two years in the city and one year in a vineyard. Subsequently for about five years he engaged in business as a general contractor, when he purchased a grocery business in Fresno on E street. While conducting this grocery store he did considerable excavating work on contract and finally disposed of his store and engaged in the cement contracting business. From a small beginning this venture developed until he soon conducted the largest cement walk and grading business in Fresno. Early in the year 1905 he took the contract for grading the Visalia and Lemon Cove electric railroad between Exeter and Lemon Cove. Aside from these interests Mr. Metzler owns a ranch of one hundred acres southwest of Fresno, where he is engaged in growing alfalfa and raising stock.

Prior to coming to the United States Mr.

Metzler was united in marriage with Mary Rudolph, whose parents are residents of Fresno. To Mr. and Mrs. Metzler were born seven children, namely: Mary (the wife of V. V. Pittman of Fresno); Conrad, Emma, Henry, August, Alex and Annie, all natives of California. The success Mr. Metzler has made of his life is the result of his individual efforts. Starting without a dollar in a strange country, with the disadvantage of having to learn a new language against him, he has steadily worked upward until he is now one of the leading contractors of central California.

**GEORGE HARPER BLAND, M.D.** As superintendent and resident physician of the county hospital and almshouse of Fresno county, George Harper Bland has proven himself an important factor in the growth and development of this institution, which is universally acknowledged as one of the best arranged and well kept establishments of its kind in the San Joaquin valley. Dr. Bland is a native of Todd county, Ky., where he was born August 29, 1860. His father, Stewart Dolly Bland, was born in West Virginia, the youngest son of Stewart Bland, who was twice married and had a family of eighteen sons and six daughters. Of these sons some enlisted in the Union army and some in the Confederate, giving their services in the line their convictions lay. Stewart D. Bland served in a Virginia regiment in the Confederate army as captain of his company, and in the various engagements in which he participated was wounded seven times; was captured and in prison eighteen months, spending a part of that time in Camp Chase, Fort Delaware, Johnson, etc. After the close of the war he located in Todd county, Ky., where he became a farmer, and also participated to some extent in public affairs, holding the office of high sheriff for two terms. He is a Democrat in his political convictions, and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He married Virginia Harper, a native of Pendleton county, W. Va., and the daughter of George Harper, of Virginia, who became a farmer in West Virginia, where he died, past eighty-three years of age, longevity being a trait on both sides of the house. Mr. Bland had a brother, Adam, who came to California as early as 1850, and died in southern California in 1895, while another brother, Rev. Henry J. Bland, came in 1853 and now resides in San Jose. Mr. and Mrs. Bland are the parents of seven children, having lost two, the third in order of birth being George Harper Bland.

George Harper Bland received his education in the district school near his home in Kentucky, in which state he remained until 1895, farming





W. J. Jones

Lucia A. Jones



with his father until attaining his majority, and after that engaging in the nursery business. He came to California in 1895 and in San Jose had charge of the college campus of the University of the Pacific for the period of eight months, when, in the fall of 1896, he entered the academy for a special course, studying until 1899. He then became a student in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco, from which he was graduated in 1901 with the degree of M.D. Following this he became resident physician for the Copper King Mining Company, seven miles above Academy, where he engaged in practice until the closing of the mines, when he located at Academy and continued in practice for one year. In September, 1903, he removed to Clovis, Fresno county, where he built up a lucrative practice, continuing until January 11, 1905, when he received the appointment of superintendent and resident physician of the county hospital and almshouse of Fresno county, to which he has since given his entire attention. The success which Dr. Bland has acquired since locating in California has been entirely the result of his own efforts and while attaining the position given a skilful surgeon and physician, he has also won the esteem and confidence of all who have come to know him either professionally or personally.

In San Jose, Cal., Dr. Bland was united in marriage with Emily A. Nowell, a native of Copperopolis, Cal. She graduated from the State Normal, at San Jose, and attended Stanford University to the senior year, when she began teaching, continuing for six years. They have one child, Virginia. Fraternally Dr. Bland is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Knights of Pythias, of which he is a past officer; Ancient Order of Foresters and Fraternal Brotherhood. Mrs. Bland is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically the doctor is a Democrat, and in the line of his profession belongs to the County Medical Society, State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

**WILLIAM J. JONES.** A pioneer of California, William J. Jones is located on his ranch on section 9, township 21, range 26, in the vicinity of Poplar, and engaged in the cultivation and improvement of the land which has transformed the San Joaquin valley into one of the fine farming sections of the state. He was born in Roane county, Tenn., March 15, 1839, and was left an orphan when about three years old. He was then taken into the home of an uncle, J. H. Hacker, and his education was obtained in the common schools in the vicinity of his uncle's farm. By means of ox-teams he and his uncle crossed the plains

in 1853, the trip consuming six months. His younger brother, Joseph Jones, was left in Tennessee, where he now makes his home. Upon their arrival in California Mr. Hacker located near Modesto, Stanislaus county, and engaged in farming and stock-raising along the banks of the Stanislaus river. There Mr. Jones grew to manhood, receiving the practical training which enabled him to make a success of his independent efforts. He remained with his uncle for some years after attaining manhood, driving a team and engaging in general farming and stock-raising. In 1879 he came to Tulare county and in the vicinity of Poplar bought two hundred and forty acres of railroad land, upon which he engaged in the raising of grain and alfalfa, besides engaging in stock-raising. He is now the owner of between five and six hundred acres of land, upon which he has made all the improvements, one hundred and sixty acres being located six miles south of his home property, and eighty acres four miles north. He has made a success of his work and is highly esteemed, both in a financial and social way.

In Stanislaus county Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Lucy A. Bailey, a native of Carroll county, Ga., and they are the parents of three children, namely: Oscar, a farmer on Deer creek, Tulare county; Mary, the wife of Milton M. Dale, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume; and Sarah, the wife of Otto Beeler, located in the vicinity of Pixley. Politically Mr. Jones is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

**ABRAM VANWINKLE.** Isaac Vanwinkle, the father of Abram, was born in Kentucky and in 1837 migrated to Perry county, Indiana. He followed farming until 1843 when he removed to Iowa, locating in Davis county, and there resumed agricultural pursuits, which he followed until 1850. In that year he disposed of his interests there, outfitted with ox-teams and crossed the plains to California. The first two years after his arrival here were spent in the mines near Hangtown, his efforts being well rewarded. He then returned to his home in Wapello county, Iowa, where he remained the balance of his life, his death occurring in 1895, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife, who in maidenhood bore the name of Agnes Miller, was born in Kentucky, and is the mother of ten children. She is now living in Iowa at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Abram Vanwinkle, the second in this large family, was born in Perry county, Ind., January 4, 1841. Like most boys of those early days his schooling was limited to a few terms in the

district schools near the home farm. In 1862, he started out to make his own way in the world and the same year crossed the plains to California. The first three years of his life in this state were spent in teaming between Sacramento, Virginia City and Austin, Nev. He then engaged in the lumber business on the Russian river in Sonoma county for two years, at the end of which time he located in Napa county, where he engaged in farming until 1870. The next three years were spent in Stanislaus county on the San Joaquin river. Prior to locating in Fresno county he was engaged in the sheep business in Fresno, now Madera county, but this venture proved a failure and he lost every dollar he had. In 1879 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, two and one-half miles west of Kingsburg and three miles south of Selma. Here he engaged in farming and stock-raising, also conducting a medium-sized dairy, and keeping a herd of Angora goats, from which he derives a good profit.

In 1872 Mr. Vanwinkle married Miss Emma Brown, who was born in Australia, coming to the United States with her parents when a child. Her father, Henry Brown, was born in England and at the time of the discovery of gold in Australia, left his native country and followed mining until his emigration to California. To Mr. and Mrs. Vanwinkle have been born three children, namely: Charles, who lives in Arizona; Amanda, wife of Albert Elder, of Fresno county, and Agnes, who lives at home. In politics Mr. Vanwinkle votes the Republican ticket, but further than exercising his right of franchise, he has never cared to appear in the arena of public life. He has, however, been prominent in local affairs, never failing to give both his moral and financial assistance to any movement which he deemed of benefit to the county. Ever since leaving home he has had to make his own way in the world and as a result of his energy and perseverance he has accumulated a competency. During his residence in California, since 1862, he has made five trips to Iowa to visit his parents, making eleven trips over the plains.

**SILVIO ADAMS.** Born in Switzerland, March 19, 1864, Silvio Adams is a son of Joseph and Marie (Cirini) Adami. The father was, by profession, a civil engineer and for years engaged in contracting and building, but the last forty years of his life was spent as a judge in Switzerland, an office equal to the supreme court of our state. His wife bore him nine children, and five sons and one daughter grew to maturity. Both the parents died in their native country.

Silvio Adams adopted this name upon coming to this country. After completing his edu-

cation, he engaged in farming and stock-raising in his native country until 1881, when he came to the United States and located in Marin county, Cal., where he secured employment on a farm. Later he lived in Sonoma county for a time, but returned to Marin county, where he continued working for others until 1888. In that year he came to Fresno county, and with the money he had saved from his wages, purchased his present place of three hundred and thirty acres. Here he is now conducting a large dairy business, having about seventy-five head of milch cows. All of the milk is used in the manufacture of cheese, Mr. Adams having a modern creamery on his ranch and his brand, "California Pure Cream Cheese," has a ready sale in the markets of Fresno. Since coming into possession of the ranch, the owner has greatly improved it and now has a very valuable place. While he has been very busy looking after his own interests, he has, nevertheless, taken an active interest in other matters and can be depended on to give his support to any worthy movement, being a firm believer in progress and development.

**FELIX DESIRE DUQUESNE** is remembered by the old pioneers as an upbuilder of Fresno, and is given an honorable place in the records of the city and county. He was born in Louvain, Belgium, and was there reared to manhood and educated as a physician. On account of his health he gave up the practice of his profession and left his native country. In 1853 he came to California, making the trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Upon his arrival in the state he followed mining in Tuolumne county, and later was deputy county trustee and city trustee of Sonora, in which city he also engaged in the liquor business for a time. In 1878 he went to San Francisco and there engaged in the painting business, then spent six months in Kern county, after which he came to Fresno. In 1881 he engaged in the hotel business on H street, remaining so occupied until he was burned out twenty-three months later. In the meantime he had purchased several lots on H street, where he had built a small house. He was employed by Dr. Leach in his distillery until he built on a lot which he owned on I street, where he engaged in the wholesale liquor and wine business, known as the Pioneer Liquor Store. Later he built a winery and wine cellar on H street, known as the Pioneer Wine Cellar. He was very successful in his work, but lived only a short time after, his death occurring November 27, 1887, from blood poisoning, resulting from an accident. Fraternally he was a Master Mason, and in his political convictions was a staunch adherent of the principles ad-

vocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

In Sonora, Cal., January 2, 1864, Mr. Duquesne was united in marriage with Mathilda Amy, who was born at Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany. Her father, Claude Amy, was born in Lyons, near Paris, France, and was the representative of an old family of that section. He was a wholesale merchant in Frankfort until 1852, when he brought his wife and five children (one son, Victor, having preceded them in 1849) to California. The journey was made via Cape Horn on the *Courier de L'Inde* and occupied seven and a half months from Havre to the port of San Francisco, a stop having been made at Rio Janeiro in Brazil, and at Valparaiso, in Chili. Upon their arrival in California they went to Sonora, Tuolumne county, where Mr. Amy engaged in farming until his retirement from active duty. His death occurred in that location in 1901, at the age of eighty-eight years. Fraternally he was a Mason. His wife, formerly Julie Deboissy, was a native of Beaumont, and her death occurred in Sonora in 1892, at the age of seventy-eight years. They were the parents of six children, of whom two are living, Mrs. Duquesne being the fourth in order of birth. She received her education in the schools of Frankfort, and was of an age to enjoy the long yet interesting trip from her birthplace to California. Since her husband's death she has looked after the interests of the property, still owning the Pioneer store and her home residence. She has two daughters, of whom Pauline is the wife of Henry Robson, of Oakland, and Leonie is the wife of W. C. Abbay, of Berkeley. She is a member of St. John's Catholic Church, and politically is in sympathy with the principles of the Democratic party.

---

THOMAS YOST. During the colonial period of our country's history a young Bavarian bearing the name of Peter Yost crossed the ocean and settled in New Jersey, whence he afterward went to the front as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. When peace again reigned and the United States had become an independent power among other nations, he resumed the duties of private citizenship, and eventually moved to Ohio, where his son, Robert Yost, was born. The latter followed general farming, making his home successively in Belmont county, Ohio, and directly across the Ohio river in Ohio county, W. Va. Noah Yost, son of Robert, was born in Belmont county, Ohio, January 30, 1813. The star of empire, which from the beginning of history has wended its slow course toward the west, led him from his eastern home into the then frontier regions of Illinois, where, in 1853, he became a farmer of Pike county. Somewhat la-

ter he removed to Piatt county, in the same state, and there his death occurred, February 24, 1892, at the age of seventy-nine years. While living in the east he had married Elizabeth Price, who was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, April 17, 1817, and died in Illinois August 30, 1858, having won many warm friends during her comparatively brief period of residence in Illinois. In her home she was a careful housekeeper, a devoted wife, and a loving mother to her large family, which comprised three sons and nine daughters, two sons and one daughter dying in infancy.

The third member of the family circle was Thomas Yost. As his early home in West Virginia, where he was born on Christmas day of 1840, was exchanged in 1853 for the newer country of Illinois, he was obliged to aid his parents in the support of the large family and had no opportunities for obtaining an education. Notwithstanding this, he is a well-informed man, with a depth of knowledge not always equaled by those whose opportunities have been greater. After leaving the home farm he secured employment as clerk in a general store at Bement, Ill. The opening of the Civil war found him eager to aid the Union cause. May 7, 1861, he enlisted as a private in a regiment authorized by the state, from the Seventh Congressional District, which afterward became the famous Twenty-first Illinois Infantry (General Grant's regiment), being assigned to Company A. Later he was made a corporal. With the army he engaged in service in Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, and other portions of the south where the Army of the Cumberland operated. From the ranks he was promoted to be sergeant and continued in that capacity until the expiration of his service. Among his acquaintances he is known as "Captain," a title that clings to him in spite of his earnest protestations that in the war he held no rank higher than that of sergeant. However, it may be stated that many an officer who held higher rank than he suffered far less in the country's cause and gave to the Union neither greater fidelity nor more valiant service than the record of Thomas Yost shows.

While he participated in all the engagements of his regiment, Mr. Yost escaped being wounded for a considerable period, but finally, at the battle of Chickamauga, both arms were broken by minie balls. For twenty-one days he lay on the battlefield, too ill to walk, and overlooked by those who were busy in removing the injured from the field. To protect him from the hot sun by day there was only a small peach tree, in the shadow of whose foliage he found a partial protection from the heat of a Georgia sun. At night the ground and air seemed cold, and this in contrast with the heat of the day

increased his misery. Meanwhile his wounds, not being dressed, caused him the greatest agony. Hour after hour slowly dragged away in terrible suffering. By chance a Confederate found him there and with pity for his deplorable condition brought him food and water, but was unable to care for the wounds. Yet, the simple act of charity on the part of the southerner gave the wounded northern soldier a different feeling toward the boys in gray. When finally he was removed by the Confederates he was taken north by slow stages to Richmond, Va., and in Libby Prison it was found that the wounds were so eaten by vermin that recovery would be tedious, and further service being impossible in his crippled condition, he was sent to Annapolis, from there to Chicago and honorably discharged in Louisville, July 5, 1864, after which he returned to his Illinois home with his arms in a sling.

The first visit to California made by Mr. Yost was in 1866, but he soon returned to Illinois. After his marriage in the spring of 1869 he again came west, this time settling at Hollister, where he remained for seventeen years, and carried on business as a dealer in merchandise, stationery and jewelry. During fifteen years of that time he was postmaster at Hollister. After coming to Fresno in 1887 he carried on a jewelry and stationery store. In 1893 he bought thirty acres near Centerville and this he planted in oranges and lemons, later selling the property. In December of 1901 he returned to his old home in the east and remained there for some time, also visited twenty-two states of the Union. Finding no location so satisfactory as Fresno county, in 1903 he returned to California and purchased fifteen acres adjoining Centerville, where he has oranges, lemons, prunes and grapes. In the sunshine and peace of his little home he expects to spend his declining days.

In Homer, Ill., Mr. Yost married Miss Emma Thomas, who was born in Champaign county, Ill., a daughter of Elias Thomas, a Kentuckian by birth, but during the greater part of his life a farmer in Illinois. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Yost was Howard L., who was born May 26, 1870, at Hollister, Cal., and received his education in that town, being a graduate of the high school. At an early age he showed ability as an artist and a number of his paintings are now among the most prized possessions of his parents. After having been in business with his father for some years, in 1894 he was appointed head bookkeeper for the First National Bank of Fresno, and continued in that position until his death, which occurred March 23, 1898. The death of their promising son was the deepest bereavement of his parents' lives, and the years that have since passed have not dimmed

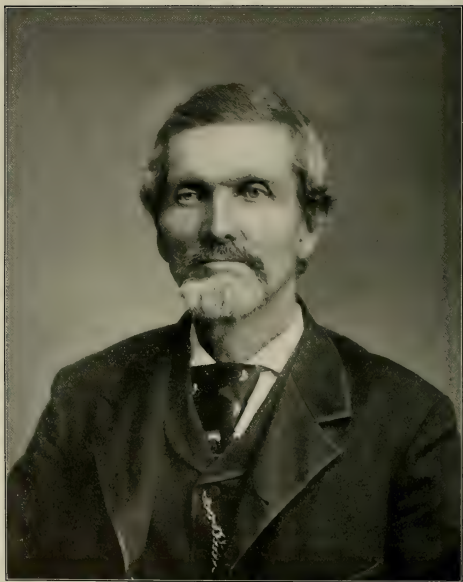
the realization of their loss; yet it is their joy to remember that the only sorrow he ever caused them was in his death.

Stanch in his allegiance to the Republican party, Mr. Yost has been active in local politics and has served as a member of the county central committee. In 1900 he was a forced candidate for the assembly and came within fifty votes of being successful. Old war days are kept in memory through the comradeship of other veterans. In Atlanta Post, G. A. R., at Fresno, he has been a prominent member and has been honored with the office of commander of the Post.

**JAMES A. BERNARD.** The financial genius of a Bernard stepped into a waiting niche in the crude pioneer days of Kern City, developed its resources with far-sighted and correctly gauged judgment, and eventually handed over the splendid results of his toil to his son and heir, no less painstaking and wise in the discharge of a responsibility which bears slight impress of his own making. Of James A. Bernard, engaged in managing his father's large real estate interests, it may be said, that while he is scarcely a self-made man, he has not been unmade by the good fortune which has come his way, a fact equally worthy of commendation. He was born in Rusk, Cherokee county, Tex., January 9, 1854, a son of Arsene P. and Eliza (Miller) Bernard, the latter born in Missouri, and reared and married in Texas, and who is still living in San Francisco.

Arsene P. Bernard was born near Lake Pontchartrain, in the vicinity of New Orleans, La., February 22, 1824, the son of John Bernard, who came from France and was a planter in Louisiana long before the purchase of the territory was consummated. The fertility of the region netted him a handsome fortune, but he died at middle age, when his son Arsene was three years old. The latter had excellent educational advantages, and after graduating from the Jesuit College in St. Louis returned to New Orleans, soon after removing to Cherokee county, Tex., where he engaged in a general merchandise business in a wild and sparsely settled country. In 1857 he went to Central America as an officer in the commissary department of Walker's filibustering expedition, and March 1, 1859, arrived in San Francisco with his wife and only son, James A. For a year he lived in Sacramento, and in 1860 went to Vacaville and engaged in a general merchandise business until 1872, in the meantime becoming prominent in various enterprises for the upbuilding of that section. He was one of the builders of the Vaca Valley Railroad from Elmira to Vacaville, and which is now a part of the Central Pacific Railroad, his partners being men by the





Wm Hazelton



name of Mason and Stevenson, who profited equally with him in the ambitious venture. Mr. Bernard arrived in what was then Sumner, now Kern City, in 1872, finding few houses, and but few signs of future prosperity. He inaugurated the first 'bus line between Kern and Bakersfield, and while carrying the mail and express until about 1881, made money with a degree of rapidity scarcely appreciated by followers of the business to-day. Feeling the natural decline of his powers, he retired to his home in Kern City, and died there July 20, 1891, at the age of sixty-seven. While in the stage business he invested his earnings in Kern property, eventually accumulating an estate now valued at \$300,000. He bought the south half of the section of land adjoining the town on the north, and much more scattered throughout the community. The Bernard addition is unquestionably the finest residence section in the city, and as such brings the highest prices and commands the patronage of the best class of people. He was somewhat of a politician, and though never seeking office, was elected county treasurer on the Democratic ticket on two occasions. A quiet, unassuming man, he impressed all with his ability and public spirit, his fine personal characteristics winning and retaining a host of friends, as well as influence and prominence in general affairs. He was one of the great majority who gave of their vitalizing energy, their substantiality, and clear judgment to the advancement of civilization in the coast country, and as such his name will go down in history, especially that part of it which has to do with the upbuilding of Kern City.

James A. Bernard is the only child born to his parents and was educated at Santa Clara College, attending for three years. He became of valuable assistance to his father in his 'bus business, and in 1880 embarked upon a railroading career, which at that time he intended to follow indefinitely. He took readily to the occupation, worked as a fireman for three years, and afterward ran a freight engine from Kern to Los Angeles, also from Kern to Tulare. The death of his father in 1891 put an end to his railroading career, for he had been appointed administrator of the estate, and heir with his mother to the splendid legacy of his sire. He has since managed the property with that conscientious regard for details and accuracy which is partly inherited and partly acquired, and which gives assurance that the inheritance will lose nothing of the dignity and integrity associated with its accumulation. Mr. Bernard maintains the family interest in Democratic politics, and filled the office of first trustee of the town of Kern after its incorporation. In 1876 he was united in marriage with Edith Long, a native of Vacaville, Cal., and of this union seven children have been born, one of whom died in

infancy. Clophine and Arsene Reed are living at home, and the latter is an engineer on the Southern Pacific Railroad; Edgar Louis is a jeweler at Bakersfield; and Correnah, James A., Jr., and Alton J. are members of the home circle. Mr. Bernard is fraternally connected with the Knights of Pythias, and his wife is a member of the Rathbone Sisters. He is one of the most prominent business men of Kern, and has a reputation for reliability and sagacity commensurate with his training, his adaptability and his progressive tendencies.

---

WILLIAM HAZELTON. A pioneer and one of the most extensive stockmen on the Upper Kings river, William Hazelton holds a high place among the representative citizens of this section of Fresno county. A native of Albany county, N. Y., he was born September 7, 1825, a son of Joseph Hazelton, of New Jersey, who located in New York state, where he engaged as a blacksmith until his death. His wife, formerly Sophia Cleveland, was born in New York state, where she also died. They were the parents of four sons and three daughters, all of whom are deceased except the youngest, William Hazelton. He received his education in the common schools of his native locality, where in young manhood he engaged as a clerk in a mercantile establishment. In 1845 he went to New York City and enlisted in the United States Second Dragoons, and was later stationed in Florida and the vicinity of the Choctaw nation. Being discharged from the service about the time of the Mexican war, he went to Mexico as a teamster in the commissary department, where he remained throughout the war. Returning to New York in 1848, he followed this with a trip across the plains to California, coming by way of Texas and spending the winter of 1849 in San Diego, Cal. He located in the northern mines, where he met with moderate success, remaining until 1853, when he came to his present place on the Upper Kings river, taking up a quarter section of land, where he has since engaged in stock-raising. He has continued to add to his property by purchase until he now owns over seven thousand acres, on which he has a herd of seven hundred cattle.

In this locality, in 1857, Mr. Hazelton was united in marriage with Mary Jane Akers, a native of Sabine county, Tex., and the daughter of Henry Akers, who was born in Illinois. He located first in Missouri, later in Texas, and in 1852 came to California and located near the home of Mr. Hazelton, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising until his death. His wife, formerly Delilah Miller, was born in Illinois and died in California. To Mr. Hazelton

and his wife were born the following children: Clara E., the wife of F. R. Lindsey, of Sanger, Cal.; Wesley B., of Sanger; Henry, a stockman; Laura D., at home; Sophia, the wife of George D. Fisk, of Yolo county, Cal.; Catherine, deceased; John, deceased; Alice C., the wife of R. M. Kimball, of Napa county, Cal.; and Edward, deceased. Politically Mr. Hazelton is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. Although eighty years old he is still hale and hearty and takes a keen and active interest in all his affairs and shows still the superior judgment and business ability which have made his success.

**PERRY COMMODORE PHILLIPS.** An honored link in the chain which reaches back across the years of the prosperous present to the pioneer days of the state, Perry Commodore Phillips is a representative of the type of citizenship which laid the foundation for the statehood of California. He is located one mile south of Laton, Fresno county, and is engaged in conducting an extensive dairy. In the past he has been prominent among the sheep growers of this section, is an extensive land owner and has taken a deep and helpful interest in the development of the country. Born in Gibson county, Ind., April 7, 1838, he was the son of Robert Phillips, a native of South Carolina, who located in Indiana with his parents, where he engaged as a farmer until his death. His wife, formerly Celia Melbourne, died in Indiana. They were the parents of four sons and four daughters, of whom Perry C. Phillips was the sixth in order of birth.

In the subscription schools as well as the public schools of the early day Perry C. Phillips received his education until he was fourteen years old, when his father died. He then worked on neighboring farms until 1854, when he crossed the plains by means of ox teams, and upon his safe arrival in California located on the Yuba river north of Nevada City, where he was engaged in mining. Later he went to Siskiyou county, where he remained until 1859, when he removed to Solano county and there engaged on various farms as well as attending school for a short time. In the following year he came to Fresno county and on October 23 located upon his present property, purchasing eighty acres in the vicinity of Kingston, to which he has since added until he owns two hundred and forty acres in this place. Seventy or eighty acres of this ranch are devoted to alfalfa, while his chief interest is a dairy of about two hundred cows. At one time he was an extensive sheep grower, having over eighteen thousand head of sheep. In addition to his home place he owns seven other ranches, namely: At Guernsey, Kings county,

one farm of three hundred and twenty acres, and the other of four hundred acres, given over to alfalfa and a dairy; twenty-nine hundred acres at Cross creek, east of Hanford; two hundred and eighty acres at Last Chance headgate, called the Fair View farm; three hundred and sixty acres near old Kingston; eighty acres at Coalingo, and one hundred and sixty acres at Eureka school house, Kings county, comprising altogether four thousand seven hundred and forty acres of valuable land. He is also interested in oil lands in the vicinity of Coalingo, Fresno county.

In Solano county, Cal., April 29, 1860, Mr. Phillips was united in marriage with Elizabeth Hildebrand, a native of Shelby county, Ind., where she was born October 22, 1840. She is a daughter of Joseph Hildebrand of Pennsylvania, who came to California in 1853. He located in Vaca valley, Solano county, and after engaging in mining for two years removed in 1861 to Yolo county, and in 1866 to San Luis Obispo county. In the last named location he remained until 1872, when he removed to Kings county and engaged in farming for a time, shortly afterward locating in Hanford, where he lived retired. Eventually he located on his son-in-law's place, where he died October 17, 1895. His wife, formerly Anna Harkarader, of Ohio, died in the home of Mr. Phillips in 1899. To Mr. and Mrs. Phillips were born the following children: Florence Ellen, the wife of Edward Morton, of Bremerton, Wash.; Mrs. Isabelle L. Phillips, near Traver, Tulare county; Carrie Winifred, the wife of Louis Lowe, of Kings county; Ada Bianca, at home; George Hudson, a dentist of Hanford; Robert and Oscar LeRoy, at home; and Dora Elizabeth, deceased. Politically Mr. Phillips is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. Both himself and wife are prominent members of the society of this community, highly esteemed for their many fine qualities of head and heart. Mrs. Phillips is gifted with a remarkably clear memory, and recalls with pleasing distinctness the events of the early days, which she retails to the younger generation. She is a woman of rare refinement and culture and has many friends.

**JESSE S. TAYLOR.** Now one of Fresno county's leading agriculturists, Mr. Taylor was born in Clark county, Mo., April 21, 1861, a son of James H. and Samantha (Sisson) Taylor. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and became an early settler in Missouri, where he followed farming and also engaged in plastering, a trade he had learned in his native state. Soon after the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in

Colonel Moore's division Twenty-first Missouri Regiment, U. S. A., and served for four years. He died in Missouri. His wife was born in Virginia and is now living in Los Angeles county, this state, the mother of four children.

Jesse S. Taylor was the eldest child. His education in the common schools was supplemented by a course in a business college at Keokuk, Iowa. After graduation he engaged in book-keeping for a time, but later followed farming. In 1890 he disposed of his interests in the east and came to California, first locating northwest of Selma, where he lived until 1895, when he purchased his present ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, four miles southwest of Selma. Here he is now engaged in general farming and also conducts a medium-sized dairy. His place is one of the best properties in this section of the county, being equipped with all modern conveniences, including a gasoline pumping plant.

In the state of Missouri was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Taylor and Miss Ranna S. Chapell, and to them have been born three children, Charles, Leona and George. Mr. Taylor is a member of the Woodmen of the World, being associated with Camp No. 368 of Selma. In political matters he is not inclined to take a very active part, but exercises his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Mr. Taylor being a trustee. Starting in life without money or influence Mr. Taylor has persevered until now he is considered one of the leading citizens of his section.

PARRIS ALLEN. A native of Dearborn county, Ind., Mr. Allen's birth occurred on August 26, 1852. His father, John Allen, was born in New York state and became an early settler of Indiana. Later he removed to Ripley county, the same state, where he followed agricultural pursuits. His wife bore the maiden name of Mahala Fletcher and lived several years after the death of her husband, her death occurring at the home of her daughter, Margaret A. Bewley, of Selma, in November, 1904, at the age of seventy-five years. By her marriage she became the mother of seven children, four of whom grew to maturity.

Parris Allen was the second child. His education was limited to three months' attendance in the district school. Upon leaving home he engaged in farming, continuing at that occupation until 1875, when he disposed of his interests in the east and came to California. Locating near Winters, Solano county, he secured employment as a farm hand until 1882, when he came to Fresno county and with the money that he had

saved purchased the ranch on which he has since resided. This consists of one hundred and sixty acres, located two miles west of Selma, and is said to be one of the most highly improved farms in the San Joaquin valley. Fifty acres are devoted to the growing of grapes, forty is set out in orchard and the balance is devoted to alfalfa.

In Ripley county, Ind., February 12, 1878, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Allen and Miss Mary E. Mills, who was a native of that county. To them have been born two children: George W. and Susan Ethel.

Mr. Allen is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Masons, and Eastern Star Chapter, to which Mrs. Allen also belongs, the Woodmen of the World, Independent Order of Foresters and the Knights of the Maccabees. Politically he is a Democrat, but is liberal in his views, and in local issues votes for the one whom he considers best qualified for the office.

JOHN Q. HANCOCK. Although a young man, Mr. Hancock has attained an enviable position in the business circles of Fresno county. He has made his own way in the world since leaving home, in youth and young manhood having had but few advantages.

A native of Iowa, Mr. Hancock was born in Keokuk, June 4, 1868. His father, D. A. Hancock, was born in Indiana, and at an early day located in Iowa, where he followed farming near Keokuk until his death at the age of sixty-five years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Isabella Hare, became the mother of nine children, seven sons and two daughters.

John Q. Hancock obtained a limited common school education and remained at home until 1888, when he came to California. The first month of his residence here was spent in Stockton, but on account of lung trouble he came to Fresno, where the following year was spent in regaining his lost health. He then purchased a team and engaged in hauling lumber from the mountains to Fresno. This occupation he followed for three years, meantime purchasing a place of twenty acres, ten miles east of Fresno, which he planted to a vineyard. In 1893 he located on the Laguna de Tache grant seven miles west of Laton. Here he rented land and engaged in raising wheat, corn and barley, having nearly fifteen hundred acres under cultivation. Five years later, owing to the hard times and drought, he became interested in the cattle business, buying and selling to quite a large extent. About this time the tract was opened up and subdivided, Mr. Hancock buying one hundred acres, four and three-quarter miles west of Laton, on which he engaged in a cattle and dairy business. He also conducted a skimming station, which he still

owns. Since making his first purchase he has added land until he now has two hundred acres, and in addition owns another ranch in the Riverdale district which is devoted to the growing of alfalfa. In 1903 he purchased eighteen hundred acres of land in the mountains, where he grazes cattle during the summer, in the winter bringing them to his valley ranch where he feeds and fattens them for market. Aside from his general farming and cattle interests, in October, 1904, he formed a partnership with Alex Sime and purchased the interests of the Laton Lumber Company, incorporated. Mr. Hancock is now serving as the president and general manager of this concern and is also carrying on an extensive hay and grain business. Recognizing the need of better banking facilities, he assisted in the organization of the Laton State Bank, of which he is a director and vice-president.

The marriage of Mr. Hancock and Miss Irene Harlan was solemnized in Fresno. She is a native of Fresno county, her birth having occurred twelve miles west of Laton. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children, Ruth and Hazel. Mr. Hancock has been too busy looking after his extensive interests to take an active part in political matters, and aside from voting for the candidates of the Republican party, he leaves such matters to others. His friends unite in wishing him many years of continued prosperity.

**JULIUS F. WARREN.** Residing on a farm two miles south of Laton, Mr. Warren is now enjoying life, but in former days when the west was a wilderness, when "cattle was king" and the cowboy reigned, he took a leading part in the life on the range, and can relate many stirring stories of those exciting days. Many a time has he entertained some of the most noted Indian scouts and chiefs at his campfire, but now all that has passed. The cowboy is almost extinct. Civilization has conquered the wilds, and where once roved bands of cattle are now villages and cities, and the screech of the locomotive has taken the place of the shrill whoops of the cow-punchers.

Born in Alabama, December 16, 1861, Julius F. Warren is a son of Ellison Warren, who was a large farmer and sheep-raiser in Alabama. Prior to the Civil war he owned slaves, but after the war and the abolition of slavery he disposed of his plantation and removed to Texas in 1869, where he engaged in ranching until his death. His wife in maidenhood bore the name of Malza Sawyer. She was born in South Carolina and by her marriage became the mother of ten children. She is now deceased, passing away after taking up her residence in Texas.

The third child in this large family was Julius

F. Warren. Reared on his father's farm in Texas, he was early made familiar with cattle, as the state at that time was a cattle country. His first trip was made in 1880, when he assisted in driving nearly three thousand head from Texas overland to Wyoming. The trip was made in safety, although the Indians were bad and gave the party considerable trouble. The spring of 1881 Mr. Warren returned to Texas, assisted in the round-up and again made the trip over the same trail to Wyoming. This time he remained in Wyoming for five years, being in charge of a large cattle ranch most of the time on the Cheyenne river, south of the Black Hills. Subsequently he had charge of a ranch in Montana on the Little Missouri river, remaining there until the severe winter of 1886-87, when out of sixty-one thousand head of cattle on the range he was able to bring in only fifteen thousand, the balance freezing to death. During these years Mr. Warren met many of the most prominent western characters, including Sitting Bull, Buffalo Bill (William Cody) and others. Theodore Roosevelt, now president of the United States, at one time was the owner of one of the ranches on which Mr. Warren was foreman and the ranch was visited by him and party. At this time it was not uncommon to see herds of buffaloes running wild on the plains, but now that noble animal is nearly extinct, with the exception of a few herds in captivity. The spring of 1887 witnessed Mr. Warren's arrival in California. Soon after he entered the employ of Miller & Lux, the big cattle firm of the state, and for several years continued with them, buying cattle in all sections of the state, Arizona and New Mexico. It was in 1897 that Mr. Warren decided to settle down and with the money he had saved he purchased his present ranch near old Kingston, where he engaged in the cattle business.

In the city of Oakland was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Warren and Miss Lelia C. Somers, who is also a native of Alabama and a daughter of George and Ellen H. (Wolfe) Somers. George Somers is a native of Germany and came to the United States with his father, George Somers, who lived in Alabama, and there engaged as a merchant. He was known as Captain Somers and was a prominent man in Mobile, Ala. He went to Washington and from there to Oregon and then settled in San Francisco, where he lost heavily. He then removed to Sonoma county and settled near Healdsburg, and from there moved to Oakland, and in 1892 he came to Fresno county, where he bought one hundred and two acres, and now resides at old Kingston. To Mr. and Mrs. Warren have been born three children: Julius Clarence, Myrtle Harriett, and Edna Ellen, deceased. Fraternal Mr. Warren is a





G. N. Vanwormer



member of the Woodmen of the World, and in politics supports the principles advocated by the Democratic party. His life has been filled with many wild adventures. For years his associates were the roughest of men, and in those days it was customary to drink whisky as freely as water, but at that time he never drank a drop of liquor, which was very remarkable. Since locating in this county he has built up a substantial stock business and has also gained a wide circle of warm personal friends.

---

#### GODFREY NORWOOD VANWORMER.

A man of education, culture and refinement, G. N. Vanwormer is located within three and a half miles of Fowler, Fresno county, where, in the management of the Maud Vineyard, he is demonstrating his business ability and judgment. He was born in Jefferson county, N. Y., August 20, 1836, a son of John Vanwormer, a native of the same state, and grandson of Cornelius, a farmer there until his death. The latter was a patriot in the war of 1812 and a prominent man in the community where he made his home, his father and nine brothers participating in the Revolutionary war. John Vanwormer was a ship carpenter by occupation, in the employ of the government, working on the famous Constitution and other vessels of note. He came to his death by drowning while out in a small boat in Boston harbor. His wife, Eliza Jane Welch, a native of Boston, Mass., died when her son, G. N., was a lad. He was the only child, and after the death of his mother was reared by his paternal grandparents. He received his education in the common schools and took the junior year at Ann Arbor, Mich. At the age of twenty years he left New York state, and after three months located in Missouri, where for four years he engaged in teaching, and also for a part of the time attended Pleasant Hill Academy, of Missouri; while at this place the Confederate flag was raised on the grounds. In 1860 he went to Michigan to visit an uncle and afterward engaged as a teacher in Genesee. During 1863 he was principal of the Vassar schools, and for one year filled the same position in the Flint schools. Following this he taught in Saginaw for four years, and Bay City for two years, after which he went to Wisconsin, and in Chippewa Falls engaged in the fire insurance business for two years. Later he taught in Mineral Point for one year, when he returned to Bay City; Mich., and engaged in a mercantile enterprise. He then entered the University of Michigan and studied for a time, when he went to Dennison, Iowa, as principal of schools of that place. Deciding to locate in California he came west in 1880, and in Napa accepted the chair of mathe-

matics in the Collegiate Institute. Two years later he accepted the position of manager of the Maud Vineyard, which company he promoted and was an important factor in its incorporation during the winter of 1881 and 1882. The property consisted of one hundred and twenty acres, of which sixty acres were planted to vineyard and the same amount to peaches and nectarines. He still retains the management of the place, in which he owns a half interest, and has brought about the success which has characterized the venture. He also owns forty acres of vineyard and orchard one mile west of Del Rey, Fresno county. Mr. Vanwormer is a member of the Episcopal Church, and politically casts his ballot with the Republican party. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic organization, of which he became a member in Portsmouth, Mich.

---

#### ROBERT KENNEDY.

One of the best known stockmen in Tulare and Fresno counties is Robert Kennedy, who is as well an extensive farmer, the Kennedy-Clark ranch being one of the finest stock ranches in this section. Mr. Kennedy is a native of Liverpool, England, where he was born March 23, 1839. His father, William Kennedy, was a merchant in that city. Robert Kennedy received his education in the common schools, after which he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade. In July, 1862, he took passage aboard the sailing vessel, Utopia, and sailed from Plymouth to Brisbane, Australia, around the Cape of Good Hope, arriving early in November of the same year. In Brisbane he engaged in contracting and building until November, 1866, when he took passage on the sailing vessel Nimrod, to San Francisco, making a brief call at the Sandwich Islands and arriving in San Francisco in March, 1867. He followed contracting and building in that city for three years, when he came to the San Joaquin valley, which was then merely a stock country. He began the sheep business, locating first on the San Joaquin river below Millerton, and in 1872 settled on the plains twenty miles northwest of Visalia, where he bought a section of school land and later entered a homestead. He continued to add to his land during the years in which he followed this business until to-day the ranch known as the Kennedy-Clark contains thirty-six hundred acres in one body, which is well fenced, under irrigation and planted largely to alfalfa. He also has a mountain ranch of two thousand acres located on Sand creek, and since 1885 has devoted his attention to general stock-raising, although he is very much interested in sheep, having seven thousand head of fine grade. He raises Shorthorn and Durham cattle and is

accounted one of the most successful stockmen in the San Joaquin valley. In 1802 he located in Fresno, where he now owns a handsome residence at No. 2907 Mariposa street, considered one of the finest in the city, while he also owns various other residences throughout the city and county. He is a valued citizen in public affairs in Fresno, being a director, stockholder and vice-president in the Bank of Central California.

In San Francisco Mr. Kennedy was united in marriage with Marian Ryce, a native of Scotland, and they are the parents of the following children: May, who became the wife of A. W. Clark, and is now deceased; Margaret, the wife of E. A. Cutter, of Berkeley; Jessie, the wife of Fred D. Prescott, of Fresno; Elizabeth; Ethel; and Helen, the last three named being at home with their parents. In his political convictions Mr. Kennedy is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

---

A. G. WISHON. The Wishon family came originally of southern stock, the name being prominent for generations in North Carolina. Benjamin Wishon, a native of that state, was the first western emigrant, coming as far west as St. Louis, Mo., where he became associated with Samuel Wiggins in what was afterward known as the Wiggins Ferry Company. Later he went to Crawford county and followed mercantile pursuits, farming and stock-raising until his death, which occurred when nearly seventy years of age. Fraternally he was prominent in Masonic circles, and socially he wielded a broad influence in his adopted community. In his family was a son, Marion, who was born in East St. Louis and in young manhood followed the example of his father in engaging as a farmer and merchant. He was located in St. James, Phelps county, Mo., where he became prominent in local affairs, serving two terms as sheriff upon the organization of the county. His death occurred in 1886, and removed from the community a man of ability and integrity, and one whose best efforts were given toward the progress of the country. He married Mary Coppedge, a native of that section of Missouri which eventually was known as Phelps county. Her father, Lindsay L. Coppedge, a native of Virginia, was the representative of an old and distinguished family of that state. His father became government agent among the frontier Indians, being located in Kentucky and having gone to Southwest Missouri in the first wagon that ever crossed the Gasconade river. He was active during the Black Hawk war as a scout. Lindsay L. Coppedge became a pioneer settler of Pulaski county, Mo., residing for sixty years

at Coppedge Mills, which place was given its name through the mill which he built there. He also built many other mills throughout that section of the state, all operated by water. Mrs. Wishon is still living and makes her home in Fresno. To Mr. Wishon and his wife were born seven children, of whom five are living and four are in California.

The eldest in his father's family, A. G. Wishon was born in Phelps county, Mo., November 6, 1858. He was educated at the School of Mines at Rolla, after which, at the age of eighteen years, he became dependent upon his own resources. His first employment was as a clerk in the employ of Moody, Michel & Co., of St. Louis, and later he traveled throughout the south for Adler Goldman Company, cotton brokers of the same city. Deciding to engage in mercantile pursuits independently, he established a store at Sullivan and later at St. James, both of Missouri, which he conducted successfully for several years. Disposing of these interests, he then became chief clerk for Capt. R. M. Peck, superintendent of bridges and buildings of the Missouri Pacific Railroad at Pacific, Mo. In 1888 he resigned this position which he had filled efficiently and came to California, becoming associated with the old San Joaquin Lumber Company at Tulare, which was then under the management of Mr. T. G. Yancey. For two years following this work he filled the position of cashier and bookkeeper for the Tulare County Bank, after which he opened an office in that city for the promotion of various enterprises and the disposal of lands. His first extensive work was the building of the Kaweah Ditch (having then located in Visalia) this being brought from the river above Lemon Cove and along the base of the hills for a distance of about twenty miles, almost to Lindsay, Tulare county. At that time there was not an orange or lemon grove in the section covered by this ditch, but his successful completion of the work has transformed the country into one of the best producing sections in the state. He financed the enterprise and after its completion sold his lands at a considerable profit, the lands which he offered then to the public being those covered with such groves as the Merryman, Newhalls, Moore, Lord, Carson, Burr, Bonnie Brae and others which are today numbered among the finest orange groves in the state. The insufficiency of water to be obtained through the ditch system gave to Mr. Wishon his next idea in regard to the development of the country and accordingly he conceived the plan of securing power to pump the water throughout the country. This resulted in the organization of the Mount Whitney Power Company, and the rights to the headwaters of the Kaweah being secured, he then associated

with himself William H. Hammond and the power plant was installed. Mr. Wishon continued to finance and manage the enterprise until an entire success was assured. This plant now distributes power and light to Tulare, Visalia, Exeter, Portersville and Lindsay. Mr. Wishon had already been interested in the Visalia Water Works, and later sold out. Upon his withdrawal from the Mount Whitney Power Company Mr. Wishon arranged with capitalists of Los Angeles to put in a power plant on the Tule river, eight miles above Springville, and when the final papers are completed the work will be prosecuted and a forty-five hundred horse-power plant will be installed and the work carried to a successful issue.

In May, 1903, Mr. Wishon accepted the general management of the San Joaquin Power Company, of Fresno. He is vice-president, director and manager of the Fresno City Railway, and president and manager of the Fresno Water Company, with headquarters in Fresno. He first secured an option on the old Berry & Einstein lines, after which the new lines, built by Griffith & McKenzie, consisting of fifteen and a half miles throughout the city, were bought for the newly organized company. The San Joaquin Power Company installed a plant on the San Joaquin river, which is being enlarged from twenty-five hundred horse-power to twenty thousand horse-power, the water being obtained from the north fork of the San Joaquin river. Mr. Wishon also secured large reservoirs for the company, five being provided for the company's use. This plant also furnishes power for the railway, for the city water works from a system of wells, and also light and power for Fresno, Hanford, Laton and other places. In 1904 Mr. Wishon was associated in the organization of the Fresno Traction Company, with a capitalization of \$5,000,000, to absorb the Fresno City Railway and to build a line to Yosemite Valley, a distance of eighty miles, via the company's power plants in Crane's valley, reaching an altitude of five thousand feet at Fish Camp, then down to Wawona, at the edge of the valley, this being one of the finest scenic roads on the coast. He is still interested in Visalia, being associated with the Visalia Manufacturing Company, in which he is a director, and in other enterprises which he helped to found.

In St. James, Mo., Mr. Wishon was united in marriage with Etta Emory, a native of Steelville, that state, and they are the parents of two children: Emory and Jenny. Mr. Wishon is prominent in fraternal circles, having been made a Mason in Sullivan, Mo., and is now a member in Los Palmas Lodge, of Fresno. He also belongs to Fresno Chapter, R. A. M., and the Knights Templar Lodge at Fresno. He belongs

to Sequoia Club and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. He gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his wife is a member.

---

CHARLES S. PECK was born in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1834, a son of Jesse Peck, a native of Connecticut, and almost the first builder in the city of Buffalo, N. Y. The son naturally followed in his father's footsteps, learned to be a practical builder, and evidenced in early life the ambitious tendencies which found vent in the west. In 1849 the family peace was disturbed by the journeying to the coast of two sons of the family, James and John, and the reports sent back by these early Argonauts fired the enthusiasm of Charles S., who followed in their wake in 1852, making the journey by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Frank Peck was an addition to the family gathering in California in 1853, and he has survived the vicissitudes of the times and still lives on his farm in Merced county.

Soon after settling in Snelling Charles S. Peck built the first stone building there, and afterward went to the mines in Mariposa county, where he achieved ordinary success as a miner. After six years in the rude camps of different parts of the state he returned to New York, and in 1859, in Erie county, married Adaline, daughter of Peter Cook, the latter a native of Genesee county, N. Y., and later a farmer and stock-raiser of Erie county. Mr. Cook married Lydia White, of Vermont. With his wife Mr. Peck went to house-keeping in Buffalo, in January, 1860, his household being enlarged by the advent of his first son, James F., whose cradle was rocked between the performance of many tasks, all relating to the proposed journey overland to the coast. As soon as the snow was off the ground, and thoughts of spring sent hope bounding through the human heart, the father and mother started on their way with horse-teams, consuming twenty-one days more than two months on the way. Locating at Snelling Mr. Peck contracted and built for a short time, moving then to Princeton, Mariposa county, where he erected a large store for Fremont, the Pathfinder, going thence to Mariposa, where he erected the Masonic hall and other buildings, finally returning to Snelling. He arrived in Merced before the town had been platted or a lot sold, and it was he who erected the first brick building in town. For many years he was the foremost builder in this locality, and the majority of the old buildings and residences were erected by him, either wholly or in part. During the last eight years of his life he lived retired from any kind of work, and died

in October, 1902, at the age of sixty-eight years. He is survived by his wife, who lives in Merced, and who is the mother of four children, James F.; Lydia, the wife of W. B. Bunker, of Las Vegas, N. M.; Addie M., the wife of H. E. Stemler, of Portland, Ore.; and Jessie A., a resident of Merced.

**JOSEPH WAGGONER.** The prestige of the Los Banos district as a grain and stock producing center has been upheld by the worthy efforts of Joseph Waggoner, owner of a three hundred and twenty-acre ranch two miles southeast of Los Banos, upon which he has made his home since 1869. Since purchasing his original property Mr. Waggoner has added another ranch of three hundred and twenty acres on Los Banos creek, which is devoted to raising grain. He also owns a typical California home in Pacific Grove, where his family spend the greater part of the year. His land has been made valuable by cultivation and its output presents a fair illustration of what may be accomplished by the exercise of industry, good management and business shrewdness.

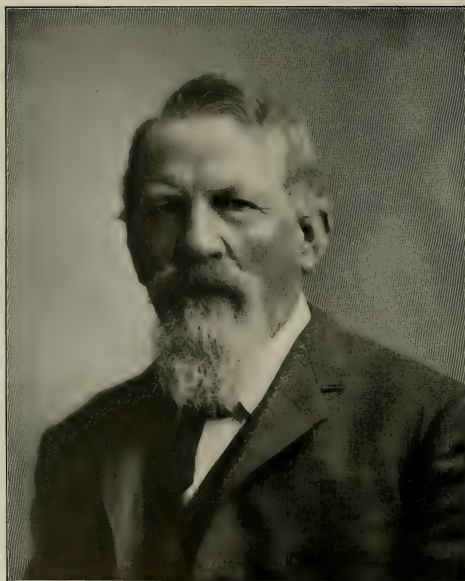
Mr. Waggoner, on the paternal side, is of French ancestry. His family was established in America by his father, Bernhardt Waggoner, who came from Alsace-Lorraine and settled first in New York state. He later became a pioneer of Hardin county, Ohio, where Joseph Waggoner was born, October 23, 1840, his parents having also two other sons and four daughters, of whom Joseph and George, who live together and are working in coöperation, are the only ones in California. Bernhardt Waggoner lived near Kenton, Ohio, for many years, and in 1853 gathered together his effects and moved his family by wagon to Jones county, Iowa, where he lived and prospered for many years, his death occurring at the advanced age of ninety years. His wife, formerly Barbara Emart, was born in Pennsylvania and died in Iowa. Joseph, the eldest of the children, attended the public schools of Iowa and Ohio, but first and foremost in his life was the hard work on the pioneer farm in Iowa, which he assisted in breaking with ox-teams during the summer, and in the winter time hauled rails from the near-by woods. Physical labor of the hardest kind developed his physique and gave him a zest for life, but the farm in Jones county gave little promise of the future, and it is not surprising that while he labored in the heat of summer and the cold of winter his ambitious brain was busy conceiving plans of a more cheerful and hopeful nature. At the age of eighteen years he left home and started for Kansas, but becoming sick on the way he was obliged to return, and soon after began to farm in Iowa,

remaining there until 1864. In 1862 he married Sarah S. Kuhn, a native of Carroll county, Ohio, and in 1864 he started for California with horse teams, bringing his wife and child with a company unusually small, and therefore more or less defenseless. The journey proved more fortunate than was expected, for although there were several attempts on the part of the Indians to confiscate their stock, the men stood their ground and succeeded in holding their own, as the Indians were out of ammunition. The party came into California by way of Spring Valley and Goose Lake, then via Susanville to Red Bluff, which they reached October 1, 1864. For about four and a half years Mr. Waggoner engaged in the dray business in Red Bluff, and in 1869 went to Livermore, and with this as a headquarters looked around for a desirable farm. The fall saw his plans fairly matured, and he located on the ranch which has since been his home, and which, with the aid of his more recently acquired property, has brought him an income of gratifying proportions.

Mr. Waggoner has been foremost in establishing many civilizing agencies in the Los Banos district. He was a member of the school board that erected the first schoolhouse, giving liberally of his time and means, and assisting with hauling the lumber for the crude establishment from Stockton. In later years he served on the board of education. He has also attended various county and state political conventions. With his family he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner have eight children, of whom Ida M. is the wife of C. H. Harmon of San Jose; James Franklin died in Fresno at the age of twenty-eight years; George Edward is a resident of Los Angeles; Carrie L. lives in San Francisco; Chauncey Howard is a rancher near Los Banos; Jessie B. is in San Francisco; Arthur B. lives in Plainsburg, Cal.; and Sarah J. is at home. Mr. Waggoner is not only an intelligent and successful business man, but one sociably and kindly disposed, gentle in his judgment of his fellowmen, and having within himself a capacity for making and retaining friends.

**CAREY W. MATHEWS.** The hardware establishment of which Carey W. Mathews is a proprietor is one of the chief commercial enterprises of Reedley, Fresno county, Cal., and Mr. Mathews is justly named among the representative business men of this section. He is a native son of the state, his birth having occurred in Sacramento December 12, 1869. His father, Amos Mathews, of Ohio, was a civil engineer by occupation. He removed to Iowa from the Buckeye state, thence to California via the Isthmus of





*Dr. H. Byrd*



Panama at an early date in the history of this state. He located at Sacramento and became prominent in public affairs, acting as captain of the State Guards of California, being stationed at Washington, Yolo county. His death occurred in 1873. His wife, formerly Rosa Woods, was a native of California and the daughter of Jonas S. Woods, who drove cattle across the plains in an early day. Carey W. Mathews was the only child born of this union. He received his education in the schools of the state, after which he took a commercial course in Heald's Business College, of San Francisco, graduating in 1888. His first business employment was in a fire insurance office in Willows, where he remained for two years, coming then to Reedley, Fresno county. He first engaged in agricultural pursuits on rented land, remaining so occupied until 1896, when he found employment with G. W. McNear in his warehouse. He continued until 1901 in this employment, at that time purchasing the general merchandise business of the Gosliner Brothers. In the memorable fire of Reedley he lost his property, which loss, however, was covered by insurance. The firm name at that time was Bollin, Mathews & Co., and is now known as Bollin & Mathews, a general hardware establishment, carrying a full line of agricultural implements, etc. The firm is meeting with success and their business is adding to the commercial prestige of the place.

In Fresno, Cal., Mr. Mathews was united in marriage with Lucy Fairweather, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of John Fairweather, editor of the *Reedley Exponent*. Fraternally Mr. Mathews is a member of Reedley Lodge, No. 304, F. & A. M., of this place, and the Woodmen of the World, also of Reedley. Politically he is a Republican and is active in the counsels of his party, having served as a member of the county central committee.

**JOHN H. BYRD.** Along the lines of personal success and public enterprise John H. Byrd is named among the representative citizens of Fresno, Cal., having been a resident of the county since 1858. He was born in Canton, Ga., May 8, 1837, the descendant of a family prominent in the southern states for generations. His grandfather, Thomas Byrd, was a native of Virginia, who removed to Cherokee county, Ga., where he became a successful planter, being largely engaged in the cultivation of tobacco. He was also a millwright and built several water power mills in Georgia. He acquired large landed possessions and wielded marked influence throughout the section in which he made his home. In his family was a son Nathan, who was born in Virginia and reared in that state and

Georgia, where he accompanied his parents in youth. He also raised tobacco in Georgia, remaining in that state until 1847, when he removed to Arkansas, and seventeen miles south of Little Rock engaged as a cotton planter until his death at the age of sixty years. His wife, formerly Eliza Jones, was born in South Carolina, a daughter of Caleb Jones, a planter of the Spartansburg district, of that state, who afterward removed to Canton, Ga., where he became an extensive planter. Mrs. Byrd died in Arkansas in 1901, at the age of eighty-five years. She was a devoted member of the Baptist Church. Of her family of eight children, three are now living, the eldest being John H. Byrd, of this review, the only one who has sought a home in California.

When ten years old John H. Byrd accompanied his parents to Arkansas, where he was reared to young manhood. He received his education in the primitive schools of Georgia and Arkansas—log buildings, with slab seats and puncheon floors. In 1857 he left home and went to Sherman, Tex., making the trip on horseback. He remained there until April of the following year, when he set out for California, traveling by ox-team in the Keener train, which took the southern route via Las Cruces, N. Mex., to Fort Yuma, Ariz., thence to Los Angeles. Mr. Byrd came to Visalia, Tulare county, on the 24th of October, 1858, and December 24 of the same year went to work for wages on the ranch of Francis Jordan. For two years he remained in that location, when he bought one hundred and sixty acres on the Kings river bottom and engaged in the raising of hogs. He met with success and gradually accumulated land adjoining and also bought in Clark's valley, in 1870, locating on the latter place, where he established a ranch and engaged in agricultural and stock-raising. He raised sheep for a time, but finally sold out and engaged in the cattle business, raising high grade Herefords and Short-horns and meeting with success in his efforts. He had a single \$20 gold piece in his possession when he arrived in Visalia nearly a half century ago, but since then he has accumulated a competency by his own efforts, energy and ability. He owns two thousand acres of land in the Kings river bottom, all under fence and devoted to alfalfa and grass, a fine ranch, which is given over to the grazing of his cattle; and forty-six hundred acres in Clark valley ten miles from Centerville, all under fence and about two hundred acres under cultivation. In 1896 he located in Fresno, where he bought a residence on O and Tulare streets, and since that time has made his home in this city.

In 1870, in Kings river, Mr. Byrd was united in marriage with Sarah C. Robinson, a native

of Boone county, Mo., and the daughter of John and Harriet (Phillips) Robinson, the former a native of Kentucky, and of old Virginia and Revolutionary stock, and the latter a native of Missouri. Mr. Robinson brought his family to California in the early '50s and engaged as a farmer in San Joaquin county. Mrs. Byrd is a niece of ex-supervisor Austin Phillips, of Fresno county. To Mr. and Mrs. Byrd were born nine children, of whom eight are living: Harriett, the wife of Alonzo Stewart, of Colusa county; Nellie, the wife of Charles Doyle, of Fresno; Charles, engaged in a bicycle store at Fresno; Kittie, who died at the age of fourteen years; Lucy, the wife of Lee Sim, of Westpark; Walter, Thomas, Marie and Newton, at home with their parents. Mr. Byrd has always taken an active interest in educational affairs in whatever community he has made his home, and for several terms has served as school director. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, and is also associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party. In 1867 Mr. Byrd made a trip back to the eastern states, going and returning by way of the Isthmus of Panama, enjoying a visit among the scenes of his childhood.

JOHN MARSHALL EVANS. Missouri has furnished California with a large percentage of its prominent citizens—men who are hard workers and in favor of improvements. Among these may be named John Marshall Evans, who was born in Pettis county, Mo., May 23, 1838, a son of Thomas and Mrs. Susan Clark (Joplin) Evans. The father was born in Washington, D. C., and when a young man migrated to Missouri, where he took up his residence in Cooper county. He was a physician and practiced medicine in that county for many years, but finally removed to Pettis county, where he lived until his death. His wife was born in Virginia and died at the home of her son in California. Her union resulted in the birth of nine children, six sons and three daughters.

After completing a limited education in the common schools of his native state, John M. Evans took up the occupation of a farmer, which he followed until 1881, when he disposed of his interests in the east and came to California. Locating in Fresno county, he purchased his present fine farm, three and three-quarters miles southeast of Conejo. Here he has for many years carried on a dairy and stock business, meeting with success in his business ventures.

Prior to coming to this state Mr. Evans was united in marriage with Miss Bettie Gentry, and

to them have been born three children: Emma, deceased; Henry, of Selma, and Wallace, in the employ of Miller & Lux. Mr. and Mrs. Evans have scores of friends, and by his industry their declining years are surrounded by all the comforts that make old age attractive. Mr. Evans has splendid business ability, and while he is no longer very active, his dairy is paying a handsome profit. He has always been a Democrat, but has been too busy to take an active part in political matters. He prefers to spend all his spare time in his home, and it would, indeed, be a difficult matter to find a more happy or contented couple than Mr. and Mrs. Evans.

ELDER CRAIGIE SHARP was born on a farm near Rosey Hill, County of Perth, Scotland, in 1815, a son of Charles Sharp, also a Scotchman, and a gardener by trade. The latter received a fair education, and was born and reared a Presbyterian Calvinist. His mother, who was naturally independent and a reformer, was also a Presbyterian, but was too liberal to be a Calvinist. Her tenderness and devotion to her son Craigie seems to have been the inspiration of his life. From his mother he inherited in a great measure that fidelity to duty and conscientiousness of character that made him in after life such a benediction to all those who knew him.

Craigie Sharp early developed a religious tendency, which led him to be a very zealous student of the word of God, and quite a successful local preacher and proselyter to the Presbyterian faith. His advanced views led him, with others, to reject infant baptism and follow their Master down into the water, with the result that they were accounted heretics by their Presbyterian brethren and excluded from said church. With Mr. Sharp's devotion and zeal as a proselyter this little nucleus of heretics soon grew into an independent, self-supporting church, and later Mr. Sharp took a charge at Coatbridge, which necessitated his walking from twenty to thirty miles and preaching two sermons each Lord's day.

It was at one of these services held at Coatbridge that three others, with Miss Ann Thom, a farmer's daughter, obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine once delivered to the saints and renounced their Methodism. The latter not only renounced her Methodism, but also her maiden name, Miss Thom, and ever after bore that of Mrs. Craigie Sharp. For over fifty years they traveled the pathway of life together happily. Shortly after their marriage Mr. Sharp was arrested by the Rev. Mr. Murdock, a Presbyterian divine, whom he had reviewed in a sermon on the topic "Proper Subject and Mode of

Baptism." Mr. Sharp was handcuffed and taken to Hamilton jail, but upon trial was acquitted. Instead of remaining and prosecuting said divine for false imprisonment, as he was advised to do, with his wife he shipped to America, a country he had read about as possessing more religious and political freedom than his native land.

The sailing vessel Brunswick, bound for New York, had three hundred and fifty passengers aboard, of whom two hundred were Irish Roman Catholics. During their six-weeks passage Mr. Sharp was asked to take charge of the medicine chest, see that the lights were extinguished at eight p. m., and also to measure out the water to the passengers. By his fair dealing and obliging disposition he soon won the good will of all, even those of opposite faith. Being a strong Abolitionist he was advised by the captain not to settle in the south, but to "go west." However, his means giving out he settled in New Jersey on a farm, working out as a farm hand until he had sufficient means to remove to Illinois. While residing in New Jersey, at Camden, two children were born to them, Craigie, Jr., and Anna.

When Mr. Sharp and his family landed in Chicago it appeared more like a duck pond than a town. All the houses could be canvassed in a few hours, and wagons were mired in the principal streets. Going on west to the Fox river, Mr. Sharp settled near Elgin, Ill., of which city his brother, Peter Sharp, has been clerk for over thirty years, and still makes his home there. Near that town Mr. Sharp opened up a farm, and in order to make the final payment on same was compelled to sell the boots off his feet. It was while the family were residing near Elgin, Ill., that Charles Sharp was born, March 14, 1846.

Selling out his interests in that locality, Craigie Sharp removed with his family to Dover, Bureau county, Ill., which was the birthplace of his son George. He remained there for a year or two, during which time he worked on a farm to support his family. His longest residence at any one place was on North Prairie, where he took up and improved a new farm, remaining on it for fifteen years. Here it was that the rest of his children were born, James, Robert, Bella and Cecellia.

From North Prairie, near La Moille, Ill., Mr. Sharp removed to Minonk, Ill., and opened up a farm of four hundred acres, on which he built a three-story house, the finest and largest in that section of country, and became one of Minonk's most influential business men. Selling out at Minonk, he and his family removed to Hawthorne, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, where he laid out and graded a town. He witnessed the great fire of 1871, and was one of the contractors who

assisted in rebuilding that city. Mr. Sharp's financial career was nearly as varied as his religious experience. He was one of the founders of Abingdon College of Abingdon, Ill., and with a Mr. Burt built and owned the first flouring mill at Minonk. There with others, he sunk the first coal shaft, and Messrs. Pierce, Clark and Sharp were the first prime movers, owners and builders of the Chicago, Pekin & Southwestern Railroad. While residing at Hawthorne he was elected and served for years as one of the trustees of the town of Cicero, and it is needless to say that many were the fights against the saloon before the board, in which Mr. Sharp was the principal anti-saloon champion. Thoroughly loyal to his convictions, under no circumstances would he betray his constituency, although at one time he was offered \$150,000 if he would sell his interest in the Chicago, Pekin & Southwestern Railroad to a party who declined to make it a competing line. He spurned the offer and died a comparatively poor man, an heir to a kingdom; gold and silver could not tempt him to swerve one iota from the path of duty. His health failing him (lung trouble) he sold out his interests near Chicago and removed with his family to Hanford, Tulare county (now Kings), Cal., and bought a raw piece of land two and a quarter miles northeast from town, which he improved and upon which he resided until his death, December 14, 1893.

In Hanford, Cal., Mr. Sharp will be remembered as the preacher, founder, and elder of the first Christian Church of that city,—one whose services were invaluable in building up that church and uplifting the people of that city. He indeed "Labored not for the meat that perisheth, but for the meat that endureth unto eternal life," and has gone to his reward. He died as he had often prayed to, in the harness, passing away without a struggle. His widow, "Grandma Sharp," as everybody called her, had not a single enemy, and was ever the life and joy of her household. She came of Scotch-Irish stock, a woman of indomitable energy and perseverance, economy and frugality. A mother in Israel, loved and respected by everyone, she fell asleep in Jesus and passed over the river March 21, 1900, aged eighty-nine years two months and twenty-four days. She became the mother of eight children, of whom Cecellia died at North Prairie, near La Moille, Ill., at the age of five years; James T., a young and promising lawyer at Minonk, died at the age of twenty-one years; Anna (Mrs. Welch) passed away about six months after the death of her mother. The rest of the children are living. Bella, the youngest of the family, and the youngest graduate from Eureka College, married C. C. Van Valkenberg, and is now living in Fresno, Cal.; she has one

son, Craigie Van Valkenberg. Robert T. Sharp resides eight miles north of Visalia, where he conducts a dairy and chicken ranch; he married Ida Glass, and to them were born two sons and two daughters. George Sharp resides at Pasadena, Cal., and to himself and wife have been born two sons and one daughter. Craigie Sharp, the eldest child in the family, married Miss Sarah Johnson, a native of Michigan, and to them were born two sons and two daughters. Like his father, Craigie Sharp, Jr., has always manifested a great deal of public spirit. He was one of the organizers and managers of the Mid-Winter Fair Exposition at San Francisco, also manager of two other expositions at Oakland (where he resides), and organizer of the Board of Trade of Oakland, being its secretary for six years. Personally he is very frank, open hearted and hospitable.

---

**THEODORE COLLINS BRATTON.** A veteran of the Civil war and for many years a resident of Fresno county, Mr. Bratton's life history is one of great interest. In addition to being a soldier and a participant in many of the important battles of the war, he was a member of a general court-martial and in this position became associated with many of the most prominent men of the day. Born November 3, 1838, in Ripley, Brown county, Ohio, he is a son of James and Sally Ann (Kendall) Bratton. His father was also a native of Ohio, a son of Thomas Bratton, who was born in France, and prior to immigrating to this country served as an officer in the French army. After coming to the United States he followed farming in Ohio until his death. James Bratton was a physician and practiced his profession in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, his death occurring in Ohio. Mrs. Bratton, who died in Missouri, was a native of Brown county, Ohio, and a schoolmate of General Grant. By her marriage she became the mother of four children, the youngest of whom was Theodore C. His education was limited. For a time he studied medicine, but in 1860 at the outbreak of the Civil war, he enlisted in the United States army, Company D, Sixteenth Kentucky Infantry, being made captain. After engaging in the battle at Ivy Mountain, his command was transferred to Knoxville, taking an active part in the siege of that city. During this time he was appointed temporary assistant brigadier quartermaster. In 1863 his regiment reënlistered, Mr. Bratton retaining the same rank in the same regiment and company. Soon after this he joined Sherman's army, which at the time was in the vicinity of Chattanooga, and remained with this famous general until 1864, when at Cassville, Ga., he was wounded, being hit in the

right hip by a minie-ball. After his recovery he was detailed as a member of a general court-martial, with headquarters at Louisville, Ky. His associates comprised many of the prominent army officers, and during the time he was a member of the court several very important cases were tried. In February, 1865, not being able for field duty, he resigned and went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he took a course in a business college, after which he returned to Louisville and engaged in the grocery and notion business for one year. He then sold and went to Johnson county, Mo., where he secured a position as a clerk in Marshall. In 1875, thirty years ago, he came to California and soon after arrival located on the place which has since been his home. Here he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, his ranch being two and one-half miles southwest of Selma. Practically his entire time has been devoted to general farming and stock-raising, although he has been interested in several business ventures, being one of the organizers of the Centerville and Kingsburg Irrigating Ditch Company, serving for two years as president, and as vice-president and director for several years.

While living in Missouri Mr. Bratton married Mary Jane Elmore, who was born in New York city. A Democrat in political belief, he takes a deep interest in the welfare of that party. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In Fresno county, where he has lived for so many years, Mr. Bratton is highly respected and has a large circle of friends. He has made a success of life and is now able to enjoy the results of his early struggles.

---

**FRANK D. ROSENDAHL.** The Kingsburg Colony, Fresno county, owes much of its growth and prosperity to the efforts of Frank D. Rosendahl, one of its early settlers and promoters, whose association with the real estate interests of the place has given an impetus to progressive movements. A native of Sweden, he was born June 5, 1843, a son of Henry Rosendahl, also of that country, who came to the United States in 1869 and located first in New York. In Sweden he had engaged as an iron maker in a rolling mill and followed the same occupation after coming to America. He came to California in 1875 and made his home with his son until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Erickson, was born and also died in Sweden. They were the parents of two sons and three daughters, of whom Frank D. was the eldest.

Frank D. Rosendahl received his education in the common schools and in a college of Sweden, after which he studied landscape gardening and surveying in Rosendal College. In 1868 he was





*Martha J. Darwin, Reese*



engaged to lay out the city park at Umeo, Sweden, and in the same year he came to New York City, and was employed in Central Park, where he remained seven years as a division gardener. In 1875 he came to San Francisco as gardener in Golden Gate Park, which was then being laid out, and a year later engaged in the nursery business in Oakland. In 1878 he came to Fresno county and engaged in fruit raising in Washington Colony, later trading his ranch for one hundred and forty acres in Kingsburg Colony, where he followed the nursery business until 1900, when his son, Henry Rosendahl, assumed charge of the work. In the meantime he engaged in the real estate business from 1885, handling all kinds of property, and giving his best efforts to the colonization of Kingsburg. He is held in the highest esteem by all who know him and appreciated for the qualities which have distinguished his character.

In Sweden Mr. Rosendahl was united in marriage with Hannah Elizabeth Wickman, a native of that country, and they are the parents of the following children: Frank T., a rancher in the vicinity of Bakersfield; Henry, a nurseryman of Turlock; Fannie and Edith, both teachers of Fresno; and Florence, of San Jose, Cal. Fraternally Mr. Rosendahl is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, being active in the lodge of Kingsburg, and politically is active in the counsels of the Republican party.

---

JOSEPH WILLIAM REESE. The Reese family, represented in Fresno county by Joseph W. Reese, a pioneer settler of this community, is of southern ancestry. An early pioneer, James Reese, a native of Wales, came to America and settled in the part of North Carolina which was afterward made the state of Tennessee. He became prominent, as did also his two sons, Joseph Brown Mackey and William B., the former successful as a physician and the latter as a lawyer and judge of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Dr. Reese, a native of Jefferson county, Tenn., graduated from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, Pa., and engaged in the practice of his profession while he also resided on a farm in his native locality. He married Sophia Emerson, a native of Tennessee, and the daughter of Thomas Emerson, of Virginia, a pioneer attorney of Jonesboro and judge of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, and the first mayor of Knoxville. Mrs. Reese died in Tennessee, leaving a family of seven children, of whom only three are now living, one son, O. B. Reese, being located in Brownsville, Ore., where he is practicing medicine.

The fourth child in his father's family, Joseph William Reese, was born near Knoxville, Tenn.,

February 4, 1834, and was reared to young manhood on the old plantation thirty miles from that city. In childhood he attended a private school, and later entered East Tennessee University at Knoxville, where he remained two years. He then became a student in Emory and Henry College, Washington county, W. Va., which place he left to come to California in 1854. He went to Dallas, Tex., where he outfitted with ox-teams, leaving April 1 and arriving October 1. The train with which he traveled went north across the mountains to Fort Bridger, over the Fremont trail, via Salt Lake, Humboldt river, Honey Lake, to Shasta county, Cal. Following his arrival in the state, Mr. Reese engaged in mining in Eldorado county during the summer of 1855, when he went south to Los Angeles and met a brother who had come through the Tejon Pass to Los Angeles county. He spent some time there, when he went to Mariposa county and again engaged in mining until 1860. Deciding to return east he made the trip via the Isthmus of Panama, landing at New York City, and going thence to Tennessee. At the first tap of the drum he enlisted in the Third Tennessee Regiment, Confederate Volunteers, a member of Company A, serving first as sergeant, later as first lieutenant, and finally becoming captain of the company. He took part in the first battle of Bull Run, and was later transferred to Tennessee, where he served under General Bragg in the Kentucky raid and was also in the siege of Vicksburg. After the fall of that place he was paroled and was later exchanged. Not being notified while in East Tennessee he was captured and sent to Johnson Island, where he remained a prisoner for eighteen months, or until the end of the war. In 1865 he returned home, and until 1874 remained in Tennessee, engaged in trading, and various occupations as a means of livelihood. Once more locating in California he followed a mercantile enterprise in Fresno, conducting it successfully for several years, and in the meantime improved a vineyard and orchard a mile and a half east of this city. Finally locating on this property he engaged in horticultural pursuits, owning sixty-five acres, of the original ninety acres embodied in the ranch, twenty acres being in Emperor grapes and forty-five acres in Muscats and deciduous fruits. After the burning of his residence on the ranch they removed to Fresno, where they have since resided.

Mr. Reese has been married twice, his first wife being Augusta Pryde, with whom he was united in marriage in Tennessee. She died in California, leaving three children, namely: Herbert, on the home ranch; Minnie, the wife of Thomas Patterson, of San Francisco; and Sophia, the wife of John Ash, of Mississippi. On May 17, 1893, Mr. Reese was united in mar-

riage with Mrs. Martha J. (Patterson) Darwin, a native of Newton county, Ga. Her father, Thomas Patterson, was a native of Virginia, from which state he enlisted for service in the war of 1812. He became a teacher and surveyor in Newton county, Ga., and later in Cherokee county, Ala., his death occurring at Cedar Bluff. His wife, formerly Nancy Hendry, was a native of Georgia, and the daughter of Thomas Hendry, a physician of Georgia, in which state he was born and died. Mrs. Patterson died in Georgia, leaving a family of ten children, of whom seven attained maturity, and two are now living, Mrs. Millie Hill of Fresno and Mrs. Reese. John A. Patterson came to California in 1849, crossing the plains, and became a pioneer of Visalia, Tulare county, where he was an extensive farmer until his death. Another son, Elisha Patterson, came to California and died in Fresno. Mrs. Reese was the youngest of the family, and was reared in Georgia, receiving her education in the private schools of that state. In the spring of 1867, with her brother Elisha, she came to California via the Isthmus of Panama, taking passage on the Golden Gate, to San Francisco, whence they came to Visalia. She was first married November 28, 1867, to Andrew Mitchell Darwin, of whom a biographical sketch is given elsewhere in this volume. They had one daughter, Addie Cole, who died at the age of two and a half years. They adopted a daughter, Georgia, who became the wife of William H. Bryan, of Fresno. Mrs. Reese is now the owner of six thousand acres on the Kings river and Dry creek, consisting of grain farm and range lands, where the cattle business is extensively carried on, the property being rented. She also owns an orange and lemon orchard of twenty acres at Centerville, Fresno county. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star. Mr. Reese is a Democrat in his political convictions.

---

ABRAHAM J. WELDON. While the United States still held rank as one of England's colonial possessions the Weldon family came to this country from Europe and became identified with plantation life in Old Virginia. When the struggle began with the mother country one of the name bore arms in defense of liberty and independence, and years later, when a second struggle took place with England, J. B. Weldon, a son of the Revolutionary soldier, offered his services to the United States, and served with a valor characteristic of the family. Somewhat later, when the tide of emigration began to drift westward beyond the mountains, he left Virginia for Kentucky, and settled on a raw tract of land

out of which he cultivated a fine farm. Next in line of descent was Abraham B. Weldon, a native of Kentucky, but in early life a settler of Boone county, Mo., where he entered a tract of land, energetically pursued the calling of agriculturist, and remained at the same place until eighty-eight years of age, when he passed from time to eternity. Many years before this he had lost his wife, Polly Carpenter, who was born in Kentucky and died in Missouri while her children were still young. In the family were four sons and six daughters, Abraham J. being the third in order of birth. A native of Boone county, Mo., born June 12, 1839, he experienced his first heavy loss in the death of his mother. The need of his help on the farm rendered attendance at school impracticable, except for a few weeks of the year, but in spite of lack of opportunities he has gained a broad fund of information on matters of current or historic importance.

At the opening of the Civil war Abraham J. Weldon enlisted in Company I of Clark's Infantry, C. S. A., but later was transferred to Shelby's Cavalry in the Trans-Mississippi army, and with his regiment participated in many bitterly contested battles with the northern troops. When the war ended and the Confederate cause was abandoned as lost, he laid down his arms and returned to his home. In 1866 he settled in Texas and for a time engaged in carpentering in Collins county, but during 1870 became interested in the cotton-gin business in Denton county, same state. Three years later he bought a ranch in Texas and for years made stock-raising his principal industry. The year 1887 found him a resident of California. During his first two years in the state he followed the trade of a carpenter and builder in Fresno, but later became interested in wheat farming at Redbanks. To a tract of thirty acres, previously purchased, he moved in 1896, and here he has since engaged in fruit culture, having the land in a vineyard and orchard. The farm lies three and one-half miles northeast of Sanger in Centerville district and under his close and intensive system of cultivation has been brought to a condition far in advance of former years.

While living in Texas Mr. Weldon was married in Denton county, in 1868, to Miss Mattie L. Lindsay, a native of Alabama. They are the parents of six sons and two daughters, namely: L. E., a carpenter and builder at Clovis, Fresno county; R. W., now living in Burr valley; Roy C., also in Burr valley; James B., a minister in the Christian Church and now instructor of classics at Christian University, Canton, Mo.; W. B., of Burr valley; L. O., who is a student in a college at Louisville, Ky.; Mary E., wife of John Thompson, whose home adjoins the Wel-

don property; and Fannie I., at home. The family are identified with the Christian Church at Centerville and ever have been zealous in the promotion of the religious life of their community. Fraternally Mr. Weldon holds membership with Sanger Lodge No. 316, F. & A. M. In political matters he always supports Democratic men and measures and has kept thoroughly posted concerning problems affecting the prosperity of state and nation. During a long period of service as school director he had the welfare of the school of his district constantly upon his mind. Any project calculated to give to the pupils better advantages and more carefully prepare them for life's responsibilities received his staunch support, and it was his ambition always to select teachers with such caution and care that the best interests of the pupils might be conserved.

---

WESTWOOD JAMES BAKER, owner of Tahlequah, on Ventura avenue, four miles east of Fresno, was born in Courtland, Ala., February 25, 1849, a son of Joseph Baker, of English descent and a native of Wiscasset, Me. The latter was an attorney in Courtland and served as district attorney for several years. Fraternally he was a Knight Templar Mason. He died in 1880. His wife, A. A. James, was born in Alabama, a daughter of Westwood Wallace James, who was born in old Virginia, a direct descendant of Sir William Wallace, of Scotland. He was a planter in Alabama. Mrs. Baker resides at the old place. W. J. Baker had two uncles, Edward C. and Westwood James, who were prominent physicians in Alabama and were surgeons in the Confederate army.

After receiving his preliminary education, W. J. Baker began the study of medicine with his uncles, then entered the University of Pennsylvania, medical department, from which he was graduated in 1873 and at once engaged in practice in Courtland, Ala. In 1876 he located in Greenback, Ark., where he purchased a large plantation of two thousand acres on the Arkansas river. He superintended the work of the cotton plantation and practiced his profession until 1889, when he retired from practice and located in Fresno, Cal. He purchased his present place of one hundred acres, which he improved, and now has a valuable vineyard and orchard, a comfortable residence and well appointed grounds, his driveway being bordered with palms and umbrella trees. Dr. Baker still owns large interests in Arkansas. Mrs. Baker, formerly Alice Cary Cooke, was born at Riverside, the country place of her father, Dr. Stephen Cooke, thirty miles from Louisville, Ky. Dr. Cooke graduated from Louisville Medical College, practicing in

Kentucky, and later in Arkansas. His father, Dr. John Esten Cooke, a native of Virginia, was professor in the Louisville Medical College and built the country place Riverside. He married Miss Sallie Newsom Cary of Virginia, whose ancestry dates to heroes in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Baker is a cousin of John Esten Cooke, the author. The Estens are of English descent, and one of the forefathers was governor of the Bermudas. By a former marriage Dr. Baker has one son, Joseph Westwood Baker. Mrs. Baker is a member of the Episcopal Church. The doctor has taken an active part in politics, having served as chairman of the Democratic county central committee. He was made a Mason in Courtland, Ala., and now belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., was raised to the Royal Arch Chapter in Courtland and is now a member of Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M. At Pine Bluff, Ark., he joined the Knights Templar, and now holds membership with Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T. He is also a member of Fresno Lodge of Perfection and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. In the line of his profession he is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Medical Association.

Since becoming a resident of Fresno county Dr. Baker has closely allied himself with all movements that have had for their object the advancement of the social, moral and commercial prestige of the county, and among the people who have come in contact with him in any capacity, all unite in according him a permanent position among representative citizens of the San Joaquin valley.

---

ROBERT C. THOM. During the long period of his residence in Fresno county, covering thirty years or more, Mr. Thom has been successful in the accumulation of landed estate. At this writing he is the owner of eight hundred and forty acres six and one-half miles northeast of Centerville, seven hundred acres also in the vicinity of Centerville, three town lots in Sanger, one hundred and sixty acres in Squaw valley, and one-half interest in thirty-two hundred acres of mountain ranch land. The ownership of these large tracts renders possible the pasturing of large herds of stock, and now he has one-half interest in five hundred head of cattle, in addition to other stock. While the raising of cattle is his principal business, he likewise gives attention to general farm pursuits and on his tillable land raises crops of such products as are adapted to the soil.

In Jefferson county, Ind., Robert C. Thom was born December 2, 1830, being a son of Alexander C. and Elizabeth (Taylor) Thom, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and

from 1818 until death residents of Indiana, where the father cultivated a farm and followed also the blacksmith's trade. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Thom, was born in county Donegal in the north of Ireland, whence he came to America shortly before the outbreak of the first war with England. In that historic struggle he bore arms for his adopted country and later engaged in farming in Westmoreland county, Pa., but eventually joined his son in Indiana, where his closing days were passed. In a family of six sons and four daughters Robert C. Thom was fourth in order of birth. After having gained a common school education he began to teach, which occupation he followed in Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois.

When gold was discovered in Pike's Peak in 1859 Mr. Thom started for the mines of Colorado in company with two companions, but he was deterred from carrying out his original purpose through meeting disappointed gold-seekers returning east. After considering the matter he decided to push through to the coast and accordingly proceeded with ox-teams across plains, rivers and mountains, in due time arriving in Mariposa county. For a number of years he remained in that section and followed mining and saw-milling, but in 1875 he became a resident of Fresno county, where he now owns a homestead thirteen miles east of Sanger. He has never married, but keeps bachelor's hall on his ranch. Political matters engage his attention to a certain degree and he keeps posted concerning national problems, but aside from voting a straight Republican ticket at all national elections he takes no part whatever in local politics.

**ARTHUR C. BLAYNEY.** Although a young man, Mr. Blayney has already become well established in Fresno county as one of the representative agriculturists and vineyardists. A native of Kansas he was born in Douglas county, July 5, 1869. His father, Charles O. Blayney, was born in Pennsylvania, and shortly before the breaking out of the Civil war located in Kansas where he engaged in general farming. Remaining there until 1875, he then sold out and came to California. The first two years of his residence in this state were spent near Visalia, where he followed farming. At the expiration of that period he moved to San Luis Obispo county, where he also carried on agricultural pursuits. Subsequently he went to Napa county and in 1882 located in Fresno county, near Fowler, where he was living at the time of his death in 1902, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife bore the maiden name of Alice Stone and was a native of Wisconsin. She died in 1892.

In their family were eight children, three sons and five daughters.

Arthur C. Blayney was the eldest child, and after completing his education he engaged in farming near Fowler. In 1891 he located on the ranch which he occupies at present, and which he leases, consisting of three hundred and twenty acres. Here he is now carrying on an extensive horticultural and grain business, meeting with success in his ventures. He also raises considerable stock and conducts a small dairy.

In 1891, in the city of Stockton, Mr. Blayney was united in marriage with Miss Mary Gower, who is a native daughter of California, her birth having occurred in San Joaquin county. This union has resulted in the birth of two children: Lillian Alice and Charles Oberlin, both of whom are living at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Blayney are members of the Presbyterian Church of Fowler and take an active interest in church work, and both are members of the Fraternal Brotherhood. In political views Mr. Blayney is a Socialist, believing the principles underlying the organization are correct and that sooner or later the country will be governed by this party.

**SIDNEY F. HADSELL.** A well-known educator and business man of Fresno county, Sidney F. Hadsell is a worthy representative, born in Calhoun county, Mich., July 13, 1843, a son of Martin and Susan (Forward) Hadsell. The former, a native of Connecticut, went to New York, thence to Ohio, and finally, in 1837, located in Michigan near Battle Creek, where he died. His wife was a native of Ohio and also died at their home in Michigan.

The youngest of three sons and four daughters, S. F. Hadsell received his early education in the common schools and later at Hopkinton College in Iowa. He engaged in teaching in Michigan and in 1868 located in Independence, Iowa, where he continued his chosen vocation and also took the college course, teaching at various places until 1875, when he came to California and located at Santa Rosa.

In 1876 Mr. Hadsell came to Fresno county and secured a position as teacher. He taught the first school in Madera in 1877, the school consisting of but one room. When Madera county was organized he remained in that city until going to Mariposa county, from there returning to Fresno county. In 1888 he engaged in the real estate business, at the same time carrying on a ranch. In Fresno he was associated with the well-known firm of Hadsell, Green & Co., real estate dealers, for three years, 1888, '89, '90. He now owns a ranch of one hundred and twenty acres purchased in 1889, in the Carmelita district,



fifty acres of which are in vineyard, fourteen in orchard and the balance in alfalfa and grain. This farm he rents.

In 1876 Mr. Hadsell was united in marriage in San Francisco with Thesta Dana, who was born in Independence, Iowa. They have three children: Dan, attending the State University, Grovina and Edith. In politics he is a Democrat and has been active in the deliberations of that party, though never an aspirant for office. In local issues he is always in favor of men best fitted for the office, and is a member of the county central committee. The cause of education has always found in Mr. Hadsell a warm adherent and he rendered valuable service as a member of the Fresno board of education. In 1885 he platted Hadsell's addition of Fresno, a tract of twenty-five acres, which was sold off in city lots. He makes his home at No. 201 Valeria street. Thesta street in this addition is named in honor of Mrs. Hadsell. In 1888 he platted Elm Grove addition, which was also sold off. At the time of locating in the San Joaquin valley Fresno county was little more than a desert and the change that the years have brought forth has been through the perseverance of such men as Mr. Hadsell. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hadsell have a wide circle of acquaintances and in all movements that have been advanced for the promotion of the welfare of the citizens of their adopted county have taken an active interest. By their united efforts they have accumulated a competence which they are now living to enjoy.

---

JOHN GREENUP SIMPSON. Significant of the advantages offered by Fresno county is the success achieved both by the pioneers and by their sons, the latter of whom, following in the footsteps and reaping the benefit of the labors of their predecessors, now enjoy comforts undreamed of at an earlier period of the county's history. A gratifying degree of material prosperity attended the efforts of the first John G. Simpson and the second bearer of the name no less is worthy of praiseworthy mention in recognition of his intelligent and well-directed activities in the domain of agriculture. Honorably ambitious to secure independence, nevertheless in his enterprises for the advancement of his personal affairs he has lost sight of no duty as a citizen, but ever has shown a public spirit and high ideal of citizenship characteristic of the family.

A lifelong resident of Fresno county, John Greenup Simpson was born at Academy April 25, 1872, and received a fair education in his native town. The first event of special note in his life was his independent establishment as a farmer, which dates from 1893. During that

year he settled near Academy on a tract of eight hundred and twenty acres, lying on sections 9, 10, 16, 12 and 22. This property still continues to be his home and the scene of his activities. The raising of grain and of stock are his specialties, and on his ranch may be found a fine grade of Shorthorns and Herefords, each bearing the brand which he has adopted for his own use in the marking of his stock. As a stockman he shows keen discrimination in the selection of stock and wise judgment in their breeding, and already he has established a reputation in his chosen line of occupation.

It is worthy of note that Mr. Simpson's wife, like himself, is a native of this locality, having been born near Academy and here reared to womanhood. She was Miss Laura Bacon, youngest child of Thomas E. Bacon, now a resident of Fresno. The children of the union are named Mark Story, John Lawrence and Mildred. No trace of partisan spirit has been noticeable in Mr. Simpson's character, yet he is a staunch Democrat, a pronounced supporter of party measures, and has rendered efficient service as a member of the county central committee. A thorough believer in the free-school system, his sympathy with educational movements led him to accept the position as school trustee in the Dry Creek district and also he has been helpful to the work through his service as clerk of the board of trustees. The Fraternal Brotherhood at Clovis numbers him among its members and his fraternity relations are further enlarged through his association with Manzanita Camp No. 16C, W. O. W., at Fresno. To round out a character of more than ordinary worth, the influence of religion is added. In the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church South Mr. Simpson has given liberally of time, means and influence. His willingness to be of service led him to accept the offices of recording steward and clerk of the board of trustees, in which capacities he has proved most helpful to the congregation. Other plans along lines morally or educationally helpful find in him a staunch ally, ready to give all the assistance in his power for their upbuilding and success.

---

GEORGE D. FULLERTON. A native of Monroe county, Ind., George D. Fullerton was born October 5, 1844, a son of John and Mary D. (Roberts) Fullerton. The father was born in the state of Tennessee and removed to Indiana at a very early day, being a pioneer farmer of that state. Locating near Bloomington he carried on a successful agricultural business for several years, but finally settled in Monroe county, Iowa, where he died at an advanced age. His wife was a native of Kentucky and by her mar-

riage became the mother of six children, all sons, of whom George D. was the fourth. He remained at home and obtained a limited education in the public schools. On starting out to make his own way in the world he engaged in farming in Ringgold county, Iowa, where he lived until 1887, the year of his removal to California. Locating near Easton he there followed his former occupation of farming until his removal to his present ranch near Fowler. His first purchase of land here consisted of twenty acres, but since then he has added to his possessions until he now owns forty acres of as fine land as can be found in the county. In addition to this ranch he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres near Firebaugh. Mr. Fullerton is a veteran of the Civil war, enlisting in 1863 in the Third Iowa Battery, and serving until the close of the war. His battery was assigned to the Seventh Army Corps and saw considerable active service. He also had two brothers in the army, both of whom were killed.

While still living in Iowa, Mr. Fullerton was united in marriage with Miss Martha Magaw, a native of Ohio. She has given birth to six children, namely: A daughter who died in infancy; Carl C.; John; Inez, now Mrs. C. B. Scott; Bert and Dwight. All the children live in Fresno county. In politics Mr. Fullerton supports the principles of the Republican party and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. He has always been very active, and whenever called upon to give of his time or means in the support of any movement for the betterment of the state or county, he has responded willingly. Both he and his wife are deservedly popular, and have a large circle of friends in this part of the valley where they are so well known.

**JOHN K. KENNEDY.** An early settler and a pioneer who has endured the hardships and privations incident to the founding of a statehood, John K. Kennedy is living in the enjoyment of the prosperity which has followed his efforts. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, April 21, 1853, a son of William Kennedy, who came from his native land, Ireland, to the United States in 1850. He located for one year in Philadelphia, Pa., where he followed his trade of weaver, and in 1851 removed to Logan county, Ohio, in the vicinity of Bellefontaine. There he engaged as a railway contractor until 1856, in which year he settled in Madison county, Iowa, and followed farming for twenty-one years. He came to California in 1887 and located on a farm adjoining that of his son, in Fresno county, where his death occurred in 1891. His wife, formerly Nancy Brazill, a native of Ireland, died in California in 1896. They were the par-

ents of three sons and five daughters, of whom John K. was the eldest son and the third child in order of birth.

John K. Kennedy received a limited education in the common schools of Iowa, where he grew to manhood and engaged in farming until 1885. In that year he came to California and in December located on his present place, consisting of two hundred and eighty acres, three and a half miles southwest of Fowler, Fresno county. He first followed the cultivation of wheat, but has since devoted a large part of the land to fruit, putting in forty-eight acres of vineyard and eighteen acres of orchard. Sixty acres is devoted to alfalfa and the balance to wheat and pasture.

Near Des Moines, Iowa, Mr. Kennedy was united in marriage with Lydia Hastie, a native of that vicinity, and they became the parents of three children, namely: J. Herman, an undertaker of Fresno; Charles Edward and Clyda Elizabeth, both at home. Mr. Kennedy is a member of the United Presbyterian Church of Fowler, and politically is a Republican.

**JOSHUA BENTON CRAVEN.** Few of the men now living in the Kings river region have been identified with the locality for a longer period than Mr. Craven claims as the duration of his citizenship in this part of Fresno county, and doubtless no one has been more assiduous than he in endeavoring to place the live-stock business upon a permanently substantial basis. The labors of years have found tangible evidence in the accumulation of property, which is of sufficient extent to place him among the large land-owners of Clark's valley. On taking up his present place, twelve miles east of Sanger, in 1870 he acquired the title to one hundred and sixty acres, but by addition this has been increased to four hundred and sixty acres, in one body, in the homestead. He also owns a mountain ranch of ten hundred and forty acres and two hundred and sixty acres of grazing land just back of the home place, the whole forming ample facilities for the pasturage of his stock, numbering two hundred head of cattle and one hundred and fifty head of hogs.

In Ray county, Mo., Joshua Benton Craven was born, December 26, 1839, being a son of Solomon and Sarah J. (Kincaid) Craven, natives of Tennessee. As early as 1828 his father became a farmer in Missouri, where he improved a tract of land in Ray county. Many years later, following the tide of emigration westward, in 1865 he crossed the plains to Oregon and settled in Polk county, where he took up a tract of farm land and remained until death. In that same county also occurred the death of his wife



They were the parents of nine sons and five daughters, of whom the subject of this narrative was fifth in order of birth. Little of special moment occurred to mark the years of his early youth, which were spent in the schoolroom during the winter months and in the field at work during the summer. When he was twenty years of age the longing to see more of the world led him to join a party bound for Pike's Peak. However, the boom had burst before he reached the mines, and thereupon he pursued his way to the coast. During his first winter in California he worked for Mr. Potter, on Kings river, then secured employment with William Hazelton. In 1867 he made a start for himself by embarking in the cattle business and three years later came to the ranch he still owns and occupies.

For many years Mr. Craven has filled the office of school director and his work in that position has been helpful to the welfare of the school, whose interests he has labored to promote by every means within his power. Active in the local work of the Democratic party, in no capacity has his political service been more helpful than as a member of the county central committee, a responsible position that has been filled ably by him for twenty or more years. After coming to California he married in Kings county, Miss Virginia A. Robinson, who was born in Boone county, Mo. They became the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living, namely: Sallie, who married W. D. Mitchell, of Sanger, this state; Nellie, Wesley, Chesley, Jennie, Kittie and Laura, who are with their parents on the home farm.

---

JAMES GORDON FERGUSON was the first settler of the now thriving town of Clovis. Coming here with the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company in 1894, he found nothing but vacant fields, and where now stands a town of fifteen hundred people there was not a single house. Soon after his arrival he erected a residence, which was the first one built here. Thus it was that a native of old England became the pioneer of one of the thriving towns in the San Joaquin valley. At an early age he started out in life by entering one of the greatest financial institutions in the world, the Bank of Liverpool. Subsequently he lived in Australia and for several years has been prominently identified with the lumber industry of our own state.

Born in England, James Gordon Ferguson first saw the light of day in the city of Liverpool, on May 31, 1861. His father, Capt. James Ferguson, was a native of Scotland and as a boy went to sea. As time passed he was promoted from one position to another until finally he was made captain of one of the large vessels owned by the

famous Cunard line. Practically his entire life was spent as a sailor in the trans-Atlantic trade. His death occurred in Liverpool. In young manhood he was united in marriage with Helen Kerr Fead, also a native of Scotland, and who is also deceased.

The early life of Mr. Ferguson was spent in the city of his birth. His common school education was supplemented by a course in the Liverpool College, from which institution he was graduated in 1876. Soon after he secured a position in the counting room of the Bank of Liverpool. By industry and a strict attention to his duties he was finally promoted, and in 1883 when he resigned he was one of the tellers, a very responsible position. Following his resignation, Mr. Ferguson immigrated to Australia, where he engaged in the shipping and forwarding business, being located in the city of Sydney. While living there he was united in marriage with Miss Ada Florence Bond, a native of the same city, whose father, Thomas Bond, was born in England. After his emigration to Australia he entered the mines, which occupation he followed for several years, or until his death.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Ferguson disposed of his interests in Australia and with his bride came to California, arriving in San Francisco July 8, 1886. His first position was with Harpst & Spring, prominent lumber dealers in Humboldt county. Not long after he was offered a position in San Diego as head bookkeeper with the Russ Lumber Company, which he accepted. There he remained until 1889, when he returned to San Francisco and entered the employ of Pope & Talbot as cashier and office manager. Three years later he resigned to accept a position in Fresno with the San Joaquin Lumber Company, with whom he continued as head bookkeeper and cashier until the organization of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company. This was the position that brought him to Clovis, and since then he has continued in their employ, being head bookkeeper and cashier.

In addition to his regular duties Mr. Ferguson has taken an active part in political matters and was postmaster of Clovis for two terms. He has also served as a member of the board of school trustees since its organization and was responsible for the erection of the first grammar school building. As a member of the county central committee he is influential in county politics, being considered one of the leading representatives of his party. Quite prominent in fraternal circles, he is a member of the Elks, the Woodmen of the World, the Fraternal Brotherhood, the Ancient Order United Workmen and the St. Andrew's Society. Mr. Ferguson has made a splendid success of his life. Obstacles have been met and overcome with a determina-

tion that would withstand no opposition. He has not only made for himself a comfortable competence, but has gained a position in the world of which he may well feel proud. It is a pleasure for us to present our readers with the review of such men's lives, as there is much written here that is worthy of emulation.

JACOB WISE BROWNE is one of the oldest settlers of the San Joaquin valley. Since the year of his arrival here there have been many changes, and in this work of transformation he has taken an active part. Practically his entire life has been spent as a tiller of the soil and as such he has been engaged in developing the land and otherwise improving the country. As a member of this great army he has ever been ready to perform his duty as a citizen, and no man can say that he has ever shirked a duty or refused aid to any movement calculated to be of material benefit to the county or state. A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Browne was born in the staid old city of Philadelphia, April 7, 1851. His father, Isaac E. Browne, was born in New York, but later took up his residence in the Quaker City, where he worked at his trade, that of a machinist, for several years. Subsequently he removed to Pittsburg, where he worked at his trade until his removal to Winchester, Scott county, Ill. After spending seven years there he again made a change, this time going to Benton county, Mo., where he lived until his death. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company B, Seventh Missouri Cavalry, as a sergeant, and served until the cessation of hostilities. Mr. Browne was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Wise, a native of Pennsylvania, and to them were born seven children. Mrs. Browne's death occurred in Missouri. She was the daughter of Jacob Wise, who was a farmer in the Keystone state.

Jacob W. Browne was reared in Illinois and Missouri, his education being obtained in the common schools of Benton county. At the age of nineteen he took up his residence with an uncle, Dr. Horace A. Browne, who lived in Mercer county, and not only practiced medicine but also conducted a drug store. In this store Mr. Browne was given employment, where he continued for two years. About this time his marriage with Mrs. Rebecca (Weaver) Gates was solemnized in the town of Cameron. She is the daughter of William M. Gates, and was born in Clark county, Mo. Her father was a prominent farmer and lived and died in that state. Soon after his marriage Mr. Browne decided to migrate westward and in 1873 came to California, where he has since lived and where he has done so much in the great work that has been car-

ried on here in the past forty years. His first home was at Modesto, near which place he engaged in farming in what is now called the "pocket." Five years later he disposed of his interests there and returned to Benton county, Mo., where he purchased a farm and conducted the same for the following five years. During this time his father died and soon after he sold out and again came to this state, locating in Fresno in 1884. In the spring of that year he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 18, which he placed under the plow and devoted to the raising of grain. This business he has since followed with great success. In 1892 he erected the fine residence that is now his home, and here, surrounded by all the comforts of life and a loving family, he is enjoying the fruits of his earlier toils.

To Mr. and Mrs. Browne have been born the following children: Dottie, now Mrs. Charles Brown, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work; Muriel Daisy, now Mrs. R. G. Johnson, of Oleander; Robert E., of Kern county; Emanuel, of San Francisco; Ella, who is preparing to be a professional nurse in Fresno; J. Wise and Amanda, both at home. In political matters Mr. Browne is a Democrat and takes an active part in the affairs of his party, but has never cared to ask favors from the people. Known all through this section of the county, he has a large circle of friends, and among these his word is considered as good as his bond. There could be no better testimonial than this to define the position Mr. Browne has attained here. Starting in life at the bottom of the ladder, he has steadily worked his way upward.

CHRIS P. JENSEN. A member of the firm of Teilman & Jensen, Chris P. Jensen is justly accorded a high place among the civil engineers of this section, and is named among the representative citizens of Fresno. He is a native son of the state, his birth having occurred in the vicinity of Antioch, November 9, 1873. His father, Martin Jensen, came from Slesvig, Germany, to America, locating first in Ohio, where he engaged as a mechanical engineer. He held a position of stationary engineer until 1870, when he came to California and found employment in the coal mines near Antioch, Contra Costa county. He remained in that location until 1875, when he removed to Fresno and purchased twenty acres in Central Colony and engaged in the cultivation of a vineyard and orchard. Since his location here he has bought and sold many pieces of valuable property, purchasing thirty-one acres of the old Frolich place and laying it off in lots, which he sold to good profit. He now resides in Fresno with his wife, formerly Adelheid Jor-

gensen, a native of Slesvig. They became the parents of two children, Chris P., of this review, and Andrew.

Chris P. Jensen was reared in Fresno county, where he attended the district school, after which he graduated from the Oakland high school in 1891. He then entered Van der Naillen's School of Engineering, of San Francisco, graduating therefrom in 1893, with the degree of C. E. His first work was in San Francisco, where he was employed by the Sanborn Map Company, remaining in that city until 1895, when he came to Fresno and became associated with I. Teilman, the firm name being Teilman & Jensen, surveying and civil engineering occupying their time and attention. They have been associated in the surveying and construction of many important enterprises, among them the Madera Flume, the logging railroad for the Madera Sugar Pine Company; the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company; the Consolidated Canal and Irrigation Company; the Alta Irrigation District; the '76 Land and Water Company; the Balfour Guthrie Company, from Napa to Portersville, and many others. They are very successful in their work and have done not a little toward the development and upbuilding of this section of the state.

In Fresno Mr. Jensen was united in marriage with Isabelle Baird, a native of Nevada, who died in this city. They had two children, Katharine and Donald. Mr. Jensen is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party.

---

HOWARD P. BENDER. During an early period in the history of America the Bender family left Holland and settled at Fort Orange (now Albany), N. Y. A son of the original emigrant was Christian Bender, whose birth occurred in the United States in 1723 and who served faithfully as a sergeant during the Revolutionary war. Next in line of descent was Matthew, a native of Albany county, N. Y., and a lifelong agriculturist. On the old homestead in Albany county his son, Wendell M., was born and reared, and from there he went to the city of Albany in early manhood. Starting with limited means, but with an abundance of energy and determination, by degrees he built up an extensive lumber business. After accumulating a competency he retired from business and spent the remainder of his days in the enjoyment of those comforts which his industry had rendered possible. At the time of his death he was about sixty-eight years of age. His wife, Sarah, was born in Kings county, N. Y., and is now seventy-one years of age. She was of English extraction and a daughter of John F. Porter, a soldier

in the Mexican war. Her paternal grandfather was a native of Massachusetts.

Among the children of W. M. and Sarah Bender was a son, the late Howard P. Bender, of Bakersfield, Kern county, who was born in Albany, N. Y., July 17, 1859. At the age of fourteen years he left home and went to New York City, joining an uncle who held a position as agent for the Erie Railroad. For the five following years he worked in the company's freight office in that city. With the restless ambition of youth, desiring to see more of our country and hoping to find business openings in the far west, in 1877 he came to California, arriving in Bakersfield in February, 1878. In this place he engaged in the decorating business and also worked as a paperhanger for nine years. In 1887 he secured employment in a large abstract office, where he was retained as head searcher of records until 1891. At this time he embarked in the real estate and abstract business for himself, and in August of 1894 took into partnership J. B. Hewitt, since which time the firm of Bender & Hewitt, under the title of the Kern Valley Abstract Bureau, has built up a profitable and extensive business.

From the early infancy of the oil industry Mr. Bender was interested in the development of wells, and was one of the original locaters of the Kern Oil Company's property. On the organization of the company he was elected secretary, an office which he filled until his death, which occurred in Bakersfield January 24, 1904. The business of the company developed rapidly, shipments often averaging one hundred and twenty thousand barrels per month. Mr. Bender also owned a controlling interest in the Monarch Oil Company at McKittrick, Kern county, and was not only its secretary, but also a member of the board of directors. Another organization in which he was interested was the Kern County Investment Company. Perhaps no man in Bakersfield was better informed than he regarding the values of properties and titles to the same. His long identification with the abstract business made his advice invaluable on subjects pertaining to the keeping of the records and perfecting of titles. He built up a large business as a fire insurance agent, and also wrote life insurance policies. In addition to his residence at Bakersfield he owned a cottage at Ocean Park.

On New Year's day of 1889 Mr. Bender married Miss Cora F. McGrann, who was born in Mariposa county, Cal., of New York and Virginia descent, and who prior to her marriage engaged in teaching school. Seven children were born of their union, namely: Harold P.; Gerald, who died in infancy; Corinne F., Claire, Chloris R., Clophine and Camille. Politically Mr. Bender was a staunch Republican. For some years

he served as secretary of the county central committee. Upon the solicitation of members of his party, in 1890 he consented to become the Republican candidate for county clerk. This being a Democratic county he was defeated, though only by a small majority. In 1892 he was again his party's candidate for the office and again suffered defeat with the balance of the ticket. Upon the organization of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, he was among the first to identify himself with the fraternity and he was also active for a long period in the Knights of Pythias at Bakersfield.

---

MARTIN ELDER has lived in California continuously for twenty-seven years and was a member of one of the very first parties to cross the plains, making that long journey in company with his father in 1846 when he was a boy of eight years. Subsequently he returned east, but again in 1875 came to this state, where he has since made his home. He is a veteran of the Civil war, serving all through that memorable struggle, and his life has been filled with many strange adventures and hardships.

A native of Missouri, Martin Elder was born in that state July 3, 1838, a son of Turner and Polly (Rhoads) Elder. The father was born in Tennessee, but at an early day moved to Illinois and later to Missouri, where he followed farming in Ray county until 1846. In that year he joined a party and crossed the plains with his family to California. During the journey the famous Donner party were passed by the train of which he was a member. On arriving here Mr. Elder located near Sacramento, but soon after removed to what is now the site of Stockton, where he followed farming on the Mokelumne river. Later, however, after the discovery of gold, he entered the mines, meeting with splendid success. Tiring of the life and having a desire to see the east, he returned to Missouri in 1850 and resumed farming in Ray county, where he is now living at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. His wife, who was born in Illinois, died in Missouri. She became the mother of nine children, four boys and five girls.

Martin Elder was a boy of eight years when his father crossed the plains, and he remembers well the hardships, trials and privations of that long journey. On his father's return east he was a member of the party and thereafter followed farming in Ray county until 1862, when he enlisted in Company C, Third Missouri Infantry, serving under the Confederate flag for the next four years. At the close of the war he re-engaged in farming in Missouri, continuing until 1875, when he once more crossed the plains to

the Golden State. His first location was near Lemoore, now Kings county, where he followed farming two years. He then came to Fresno county and settled on the place that has since been his home. This consists of three hundred and forty acres and is one of the most valuable ranch properties in the county. In addition to raising stock and carrying on general farming, he is also engaged in dairying.

While living in Missouri Mr. Elder was united in marriage with Elizabeth Jane Brown, a native of that state, and to them have been born nine children, the order of their birth being as follows: Albert, at home; Thomas, who resides in Kingsburg; Estelle, now Mrs. Bennett; Bernice, at home; Samuel, in the employ of the Southern Pacific Company; Nellie and Nora, both of whom are living at home, and two children who died in Missouri. Mr. Elder has lived in California many years and during this time has witnessed the transformation of the west. Years ago when he first came to the state it was but a wilderness. Where one now sees beautiful farms and orchards was a barren waste of sand or unbroken forest. In all this work of progress he has performed his part, never refusing or neglecting to respond when called upon to support any movement calculated to be of material benefit to the country. Both he and his estimable wife are highly respected for their many admirable traits of character and both have a host of warm personal friends.

---

FRED DODD. As owner and manager of the Hughes Hotel at Fresno, Mr. Dodd has become known not only as the youngest hotel man in the state, but as one of the most successful. This popular establishment is the largest hotel in the San Joaquin valley, and no town in the state can boast of a hostelry that is more modern or better equipped. A native of England, Mr. Dodd was born in Manchester, a son of Frederick Dodd, who was also a native of the same city.

Fred Dodd was reared in the town of Manchester, where he remained until 1892. That year he went to South Africa, locating at Johannesburg, where he was living at the time of the Metabele uprising. After spending two years in that country he came to California, arriving here in 1894. Going at once to Fresno, he became identified with its business interests, and in 1897 purchased the Hughes Hotel property, taking possession on his twenty-third birthday, at the time being the youngest hotel man in the state. Since becoming the owner of this well known hotel Mr. Dodd has spent \$50,000 in remodeling and refitting it; \$30,000 of this amount was spent in 1904. In addition to being the largest hotel in the valley, it is also one of the largest



buildings in the city of Fresno. Nearly two hundred sleeping rooms are furnished with all modern improvements, thirty having private baths, while all are equipped with a private telephone. Every comfort possible has been installed by Mr. Dodd, the entire building being lighted by electricity, while the sanitary arrangements are the best that money can procure. As an addition to the hotel and for the accommodation of the general public, this progressive business man started an up-to-date steam laundry, which was one of the first of the kind to be erected in the valley. He is also interested in several outside business ventures, including the manufacture of sand-lime brick, which is being put on the market by the Golden Gate Brick Company, of which he is a director and manager.

Mrs. Dodd, formerly Miss Irene Hawkins, is a native daughter of the Golden state. Active in his own affairs, Mr. Dodd also takes a deep interest in matters pertaining to the general welfare of the city, being one of the progressive members of the Chamber of Commerce. In fraternal relations he is associated with the Elks. The progressive spirit shown by Mr. Dodd in the past in connection with the hotel business in Fresno is fully appreciated by the traveling public and the business men of the valley, who realize that they may always depend on him to keep abreast of the growing commercial or tourist trade that must in the near future pass through Fresno, the gateway of Nature's wonderland, the Yosemite valley, as well as Kings river canyon.

Plans are already formulated to build a two-story addition to the Hughes Hotel, and equipping it in every way for a tourist hotel to give every comfort to the most exacting tastes of the traveling public.

**ARTHUR MANLOVE.** A native of Illinois, Mr. Manlove was born in DeWitt county, a son of John N. Manlove, who was born in Indiana. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California and here engaged in mining. Later he returned to Indiana, where he resided until 1886, when he again came to this state and is now residing in Selma, living a retired life.

Arthur Manlove was the fifth child in a family of nine children. He came to California in 1887, joining his brother Scott, who the year previous had purchased one hundred and fifty-five acres of land three and a half miles north of Selma. Forming a partnership with his brother, the two have since conducted a large vineyard and farming business. In addition to the place mentioned they also own eighty acres one mile north of Selma and have a quarter-section of timber land in Madera county. Both of these young men are highly respected. They have

met with success in their business operations and are considered two of the most substantial men in this part of the county.

**CHARLES JOSEPH BROWN.** A native of Fresno county, Mr. Brown has made his own way in the world since attaining his sixteenth year. His labors have been richly rewarded, and although a young man, he has accumulated a handsome competency and is one of the leading agriculturists of the county. His father, Samuel Brown, was born in Maine, and when a young man "rounded the Horn" to San Francisco. Shortly after he located in Stanislaus county, where he engaged in the stock business. Later, however, he disposed of his interests there and settled on Little Dry creek, Fresno county, where he became interested in the sheep business, subsequently reëngaging in the cattle business, which occupation he followed for some years, but was engaged in farming at the time of his death in 1895. His wife was Miss Jennie Gift, a native of Tennessee, and she survives her husband. This union was blessed by the birth of eight children, four sons and four daughters. Mrs. Brown makes her home on a ranch near where she and her husband first settled when they came to Fresno county.

Charles J. Brown first saw the light of day May 21, 1870. His early life was spent on his father's farm, but at the age of sixteen he started out to make his own way, leasing the Helm ranch and engaging in grain raising. Here he has since made his home, at times having several thousand acres under cultivation, although there are but six hundred and forty acres of the original Helm ranch left. During these years the business ventures of Mr. Brown have met with success and in 1900 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the Burkhead ranch, to which he added eighty acres later on. In addition he also owns three hundred and forty acres adjoining this place, on which he is now engaged in grain raising and the cattle business. To carry on such extensive farming operations Mr. Brown has the latest and most improved machinery, and also owns nearly fifty head of horses. These he uses for freighting during the winter between Fresno and the copper mines, thus being actively employed twelve months in the year.

In Garfield was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Brown and Miss Dottie Browne, who was born in Stanislaus county, a daughter of Jacob Browne, one of the very old settlers of that section of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of the following children: Floyd, Stanley, and Lawrence Burnette. In politics Mr. Brown is a Democrat, but he has been too busy looking after his own interests to take an active

part in political matters. He is at all times ready and willing to give of his time and means to further the interests of his county, and this policy has won, not only friends by the score, but a most enviable position.

**SALMON H. LOOMIS.** The present postmaster of Kingsburg is not only a veteran of the Civil war, but is one of California's pioneer citizens. His life has been an active one, and during the many years of his residence in the state he has done much to assist in the upbuilding and developing work that has placed California in the front ranks of the states in this grand Union of ours. Born in Ohio, September 13, 1838, Mr. Loomis is a son of Almyron and Roxanna (Moore) Loomis. The father, a native of Ohio, removed to Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming on what is known as Ball Prairie. Remaining there until 1849, he then went to Peoria, Ill., where he secured a position as traveling salesman for the Sanders' Separator, and continued with that company for some time. He finally removed to LaSalle, in the same state, and there engaged in the trunk manufacturing business, in which he was interested up to the time of his death. As a result of his marriage with Roxanna Moore he became the father of nine children, seven sons and two daughters.

Salmon H. Loomis was the sixth child and at an early age was apprenticed to learn the marble-cutter's trade in Peoria. He remained in that city until 1859, the year of his arrival in California. Locating in Georgetown, he followed mining there until 1861, when he enlisted in Company F, Fourth California Volunteer Infantry. At first his company was stationed at Auburn, but later was transferred to Camp Union in Sacramento, being in that city during the memorable flood. Subsequently he went to San Pedro, Camp Latham, Fort Yuma, La Paz, then back to Fort Yuma and San Pedro, where he was honorably discharged in 1864. Going to San Francisco, he reenlisted in Company E, Eighth California Volunteer Infantry, and was stationed on Alcatraz Island until 1865, when he left the service. Returning to Georgetown, he soon after moved to Truckee, locating there in the spring of 1868. While living in this place he conducted a drug store, but finally sold out and secured a position as brakeman on the Union Pacific railroad. In 1869, while making a coupling, he was quite seriously injured and was sent to the railway hospital at Sacramento. On regaining his health he again returned to Georgetown and followed mining, also being interested in the nursery business. From Georgetown he moved to Marysville, securing employment on a ranch near there, where he remained until 1870,

when he joined his uncle in Tehama county and followed farming for several years, or until January, 1875, the year of his arrival in Kingsburg. Here for a time he was engaged in the hotel business, but finally sold out and purchased a barber shop, which he conducted until 1901, when he disposed of it, his son taking charge. During these years he carried on quite an extensive business and also followed papering and painting. In 1898 he was appointed postmaster, which office he is still filling, it being but a just reward for the many years he spent as a soldier in the regular army.

In 1870 the marriage ceremony of Mr. Loomis and Miss Mary L. Hoover was celebrated in Marysville, and as a result of this union four children have been born, namely: Acie B., the assistant postmaster here; Calfernie D., now Mrs. A. Stukey, of Arizona; Almyron C., who conducts a barber shop in Kingsburg; and Bessie H., now Mrs. R. D. Adames, of Fresno. Fraternally Mr. Loomis is a member of the Knights of Pythias, being associated with the lodge in Fowler, and is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. A Republican in politics, he is actively interested in the welfare of his party.

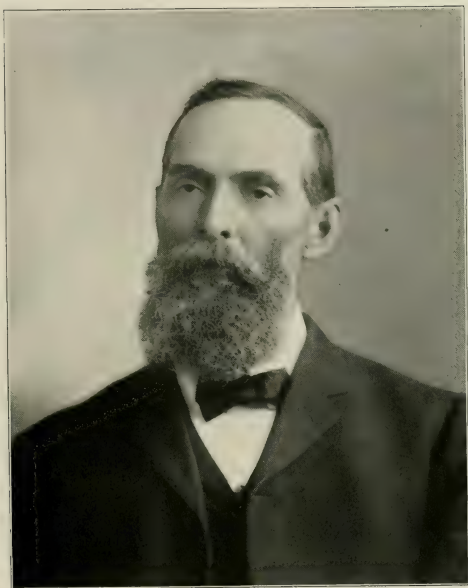
**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN GIFFIN.** Six miles east of the town of Clovis is located one of the finest ranches in the San Joaquin valley. On approaching it one is at once attracted by the splendid buildings and the general air of prosperity that is in evidence. The owner is one of Fresno county's most highly respected citizens, a man who is self-made in every particular and one whose integrity cannot be questioned. A native of Ohio, B. F. Giffin was born in Butler county, December 18, 1850, a son of Ambrose and Amanda J. (Closser) Giffin. The father was a native of the same state. For years he followed farming in Butler county, but eventually removed to Iowa, where he took up his residence near Morning Sun, living there until he retired from active life, when he sold out and came to California and spent his last days, his death occurring in Fowler at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. His wife was born in Ohio and died in Illinois. One child, B. F., was born of her union with Ambrose Giffin. At the age of nine years he went to Illinois, where his education was obtained in the district schools. At the age of twenty-one Mr. Giffin started out to make his own way in the world, renting a farm near Salem, Pike county, Ill., where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. Later he purchased and improved a place of one hundred and thirty acres, on which he lived until coming to California in 1881. Two years previous he had made a trip to the state and so favorably was







*Mrs Emma Swall.*



*William Swall*



he impressed with the climate and general surroundings that he determined to make his home here as soon as he could dispose of his interests in the east. On arriving in California in 1881 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his present ranch, but since then he has added to it until he now owns eight hundred acres, all in one body and all under cultivation, most of the land being devoted to the growing of grain. In addition he also leases four hundred acres, making in all twelve hundred acres, thus being one of the largest grain growers in this part of Fresno county. In conducting this big business he uses the latest and most improved methods, and being the owner of a combined harvester, he not only harvests all his own grain, but hundreds of acres for his neighbors.

In Pittsburg, Pike county, Ill., was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Giffin and Miss Maria Starkey, who was born in that state, a daughter of Jonathan and Jane (Laughery) Starkey. Jonathan Starkey was a native of Virginia. His father, John Starkey, migrated from Virginia to Ohio at a very early day, and in 1836 the family removed to Pike county, Ill. Mrs. Giffin's father was a large farmer, being at one time the largest land-owner in Pike county. His death occurred in Griggsville, in March, 1890. His wife was born in Ohio, a daughter of Nicholas Laughery, who was a native of Ireland. He immigrated to the United States and died in Indiana. Mrs. Giffin is one of nine children. To Mr. and Mrs. Giffin have been born five sons: Jonathan Ambrose, who is engaged in farming near Clovis; Tracy Adolph, Floyd Mirillo, Lucian Chalmers, and Parnell Childreth.

In politics Mr. Giffin is a Democrat in national issues, but in local elections he votes for the man he deems best qualified for office, regardless of party lines. Ever since locating here he has been active in local affairs and is now serving as president of the board of school trustees. By straightforward dealings and honorable methods Mr. Giffin has established an enviable reputation, his word being considered as good as his bond. Both he and his estimable wife are highly respected wherever known.

**WILLIAM SWALL.** As showing what may be accomplished by a young man who marks out a career for himself and resolutely goes to work to make his dream of success in life a reality, the career of William Swall of the Visalia district, affords a useful lesson to the youth of a later day. Mr. Swall, who is one of the large land owners and substantial and prominent men of his neighborhood, was born in La Salle county, Ill., November 5, 1848, and is a son of Mathias and Elizabeth (Hayne) Swall, both natives of Germany,

the former born in Berlin January 24, 1824. The elder Swall came to the United States in a sailing vessel in 1840, locating in La Salle county, Ill., where his marriage occurred April 16, 1847, and where he continued to farm until 1865. Having become interested in the far west, he came to California by way of Panama in the summer of '65, spending the first winter on a farm near San Jose, and in the fall of 1866 locating on land near Tracy, San Joaquin county. In 1871 he sold his land and removed to Monterey county, engaging in dairying and stock-raising until 1877, in which year he moved to Ventura county, and from there to Sherman, Los Angeles county, in the fall of 1882. Mr. Swall continued to farm and run a dairy until shortly before his death, in May, 1896, being survived by his wife, who still lives in Sherman. Mr. Swall was a staunch Democrat, and in religion was a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

The oldest of two daughters and nine sons, William Swall was educated in the public schools of La Salle county, Ill., and Santa Clara county, Cal., finally attending the San Jose Institute for one term. He was well trained in all phases of farm work, to which he took naturally and with due appreciation of its many advantages, and in 1873 came to Tulare county and homesteaded eighty acres of land, later adding to his possessions by buying land along the Tule river. In 1884 he moved to his present place of eight hundred acres, known as Deep Creek ranch, which he has improved into one of the finest and most productive properties in the county, having one hundred and fifty acres under peaches, prunes and pears, and the balance under hay and grazing. His original place is known as the Tule River ranch, and in all he owns over twenty-five hundred acres of land, his extensive operations necessitating the renting of an additional thousand acres, which he uses for stock and fruit. He has given splendid and intelligent effort to the development of his land, has embraced all of the means at the disposal of the latter-day agriculturist, and has reaped the reward due to so liberal minded and progressive a rancher. Mr. Swall has diverted his energies from the farm to the town, and is a stockholder of the Bank of Tulare, a director in the Tulare Telephone Company, and a stockholder and a director in the Rochdale stores of Visalia and Tulare. He has been one of the foremost promoters of irrigation in the county, and was one of the original instigators of the Tulare Irrigation District. During the settlement in 1903, with the bondholders he was one of the directors of the irrigation district and continues in that capacity to the present time. A Republican of many years standing, he has never been an office seeker, but has nevertheless served as a director of the Elk Bayou school district.

In San Francisco, in 1860, Mr. Swall was united in marriage with Emma Cole, a native of Knox county, Ill., and daughter of Asa Cole, born in Ohio. Mr. Cole is a California pioneer of 1856, having crossed the plains with his family, locating in Contra Costa county. Removing to Santa Clara county several years later, he located in the fall of 1866 near Tracy, San Joaquin county, in 1873 taking up his residence in Visalia, and in 1888 returning to Brentwood, Contra Costa county, where he died the same fall. Mr. and Mrs. Swall became the parents of the following children: George, a dairy rancher near Visalia; Newell, deceased; Walter, a dairy rancher near Visalia; Arthur, a rancher five miles south of Visalia; and William, Jr., living near his father, five miles south of Visalia. Mr. Swall is described by his host of friends as a prince of good fellows, as a man always ready to lend a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself, and as one to whom the responsibilities of citizenship appeal with force and decisiveness. Of resolute and commanding character, he is noted for his fairness in all matters of business, for his leniency, kindness and good judgment, and for his loyalty to family, friends and general interests.

---

**CHARLES HENRY DEWEY.** A descendant of a fine old New England family and the son of one of California's most respected pioneers, Mr. Dewey is especially worthy of mention. A native son of the state, he has made his own way in life since attaining young manhood, and that he is now considered one of Fresno county's most substantial citizens is proof that he has made the most of his opportunities. Born in San Joaquin county, April 27, 1858, Mr. Dewey is a son of Henry Dewey, a native of Westfield, Mass., where he was born, February 5, 1825. On leaving the parental roof he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a mason, which he followed in his native state until he disposed of his interests in the east and, owing to the ill health of his wife, he came to California, arriving here January 1, 1857. Shortly after this he located ten miles north of Stockton at Woodbridge, where he lived until 1860, when he purchased a ranch of one thousand two hundred acres near Plainsberg. Mr. Dewey was the first man to patent and make a sixteen-foot header, which he later enlarged to 18, 22, 25, 28 and 34 feet. Owing to failing health he sold his place in 1890 and removed to Fresno, where his death occurred February 13, 1902. His first marriage was with Miss Elizabeth Bromley, who was born in Chester, Mass., May 11, 1828. She died November 19, 1863. This union was blessed by the birth of three children, all of whom are deceased excepting Charles

Henry. Later in life Mr. Dewey was again married, his second wife being Miss Jane Applegath. The marriage ceremony was performed in Woodbridge, and to them were born two children, one of whom is living, Amey M., of San Francisco. Mrs. Dewey died at Riverdale.

Charles H. Dewey was educated in the common schools of this state, and up to the time of his father's removal to Fresno in 1890 he remained at home. Soon after taking up his residence here he purchased the ranch that has since been his home and which consists of one hundred and sixty acres eight and one-half miles west of Laton, near Riverdale. Here he is now conducting a general farming and dairy business, a portion of his land also being in vineyard.

On March 18, 1894, in Riverdale, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Dewey and Miss Emma Eliza Ballard, who was born near Stockton, January 23, 1868, a daughter of Simeon Miller Ballard, a native of Kentucky, who came to California in 1852, crossing the plains from Missouri with ox-teams. On arriving here he engaged in farming in different counties until 1881, when he located in Fresno county, near Riverdale, where he was living at the time of his death, March 15, 1890. His wife bore the maiden name of Miss Amey E. Dye and was born in Ohio.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dewey have been born four children, the order of their birth being as follows: Helen; Simeon M., who died in infancy; Emeline, and Charles A., all at home. Politically Mr. Dewey supports the principles advocated by the Democratic party, and during his residence here he has been very active in county affairs, now serving as a member of the county central committee. In fraternal circles he is also quite prominent, being a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Odd Fellows. In attaining the position that he now occupies Mr. Dewey has labored very energetically and has allowed no obstacles to stand in his path. Such a word as fail is not in his vocabulary—he knows nothing but success, and that word has been written in a bold hand on the pages of his life's history.

---

**J. A. BEALL.** Twenty-three years ago Mr. Beall came to California. During these years he has steadily worked his way upward from the very bottom until he is now the owner of one of the finest properties in Fresno county. His home, which is known as the "Grant House," is one of the best residences in the valley, and since it came into the possession of the present owner the ranch has been greatly improved and placed under a high state of cultivation. All this has been accomplished as the direct result of his own efforts, as Mr. Beall has made his own



way in the world since leaving home. A native of Indiana, he was born in Ripley county, May 16, 1861, a son of John and Elizabeth H. (Hancock) Beall. The father was also a native of Ripley county, where he followed agricultural pursuits all his life. His wife is still living and makes her home in the county where she was born. By her marriage she became the mother of eleven children.

J. A. Beall, on reaching manhood, engaged in farming in his native county until 1882, when he came to California. Locating near Fresno, he continued his farming operations for ten years, when he purchased land in the Laguna de Tache grant, where he resided until 1901. In that year he came into possession of the old Grant House and one hundred and forty acres of land. This is located two miles west of Laton, and is one of the most valuable ranches in the county. Mr. Beall makes a specialty of raising full-blooded Percheron and Norman horses, and has the finest stud in this section of the state. He is also extensively interested in cattle raising, having some two thousand head which he grazes in the Riverdale district, where he leases thirteen thousand acres of land.

In Fresno county the marriage of Mr. Beall and Miss Jennie E. Parks was solemnized, November 10, 1889, and this union has been blessed by the birth of one child, Zona May. Fraternally Mr. Beall is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and in politics votes for the candidates of the Democratic party. While he has never cared to take a leading part in public affairs, he is nevertheless public-spirited and is ever ready to support any movement deemed of value to the county. Mr. Beall has improved his opportunities, and although still a young man, has accumulated a handsome competence. Both he and his wife are highly respected and have a host of friends.

ORVILLE C. HARRINGTON. A native of Audubon county, Iowa, Mr. Harrington was born August 30, 1868, a son of Josiah H. and Mary N. (Montgomery) Harrington. The father was born in Indiana in 1848 and became an early settler of Iowa. By occupation a photographer, he continued in business in the latter state until 1880 when he removed to Nebraska where he lived until his death, which occurred in Denver, Colo. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Harrington married G. D. Miller and resides in this section of Fresno county.

Orville C. Harrington was the eldest child in a family of three. From early boyhood he worked in his father's photograph gallery and later followed that business in Colorado, making a specialty of viewing. Later he engaged in the

stock business near Sidney, Neb., where he lived until 1902, the year of his arrival in California. Locating in Fresno county, he purchased his present place consisting of forty acres in the Laguna de Tache grant, six miles west of Laton, and here he is carrying on a successful farming and dairy business.

In Nebraska Mr. Harrington was united in marriage with Miss Agnes Middlesteadt, who was born in Illinois. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Clarence, Florence, Lawrence and Alice, all of whom are living at home. Mr. Harrington is a Republican and fraternally united with the Modern Woodmen of America, while living in Nebraska. He has made a very flattering success of his life, never failing to improve his opportunities. Since locating in Fresno county, he has developed a fine property and is considered one of the most substantial young agriculturists in the Laton district.

JOHN R. TURNER. It is especially pleasing to write of a native son who has made a success of his life, and in John R. Turner we find one who has certainly made the best of the opportunities afforded young men in this state. Mr. Turner's birth occurred in Santa Clara county, December 8, 1871. His father, James Turner, was a native of Illinois and in 1846 crossed the plains to California, being among the first to make the long journey. The following three years after his arrival here were spent in the mines and he then returned to Illinois, via the Isthmus of Panama. Locating near the town of Galena, he engaged in farming, but after three years he again crossed the plains to this state. Taking up his residence in Santa Clara county, he engaged in general farming for several years, but finally removed to San Benito county. Later he returned to Santa Clara county and took up his residence near the town of Gilroy and followed farming until 1887, when he came to Fresno county, settling twelve miles west of Laton, where he remained until his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Milliken. She was born in Ohio and by her union with Mr. Turner became the mother of seven children, one son and six daughters. A more complete sketch of Mrs. Turner will be found on another page of this work.

John R. Turner was the youngest child. His common school education was supplemented by a course in a business college in San Jose. Later he engaged in stock-raising on the home place and in 1901 purchased a general merchandise store in Laton, which is one of the best paying business ventures in this section of the county.

Since coming to Laton Mr. Turner has married Miss Belle Blanchard, who is a native of Iowa. Mrs. Turner is one of the most popular ladies in Laton and is in no small measure responsible for the social life of the town. In fraternal relations Mr. Turner is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. Ever since attaining his majority he has voted the Democratic ticket, but during the campaign of 1904 he became convinced that the policy of the Republicans was the right one, and having the courage of his convictions, he did not hesitate to cast his vote for that party's candidates. Mr. Turner's future appears very bright. He has labored industriously and deserves success.

---

MRS. ELIZABETH TURNER. A native of Ohio, Mrs. Turner was born March 2, 1832. Her father, John Milliken, was born in the same state. In 1838 he moved to Illinois and located near Wabash, where he lived for two years. He then sold his farm there and in 1840 took up his residence in Iowa, following farming in Lee county until 1852. In that year he crossed the plains with ox-teams and on his arrival in California located in Santa Clara county, where he lived until his death in 1880. Mr. Milliken was quite a prominent man and took an active part in the affairs of the county. Milliken's Corners was named in his honor, and is now the center of a thriving farming and fruit district. His wife in maidenhood was Miss Nancy Harren, a native of Ohio. She died in Santa Clara county in 1884.

While living in Santa Clara county Mrs. Turner was united in marriage with James Hilton Turner, who was born near Galena, Ill., September 28, 1815. On reaching man's estate he entered the lead mines of that state and also worked in the mines in Wisconsin. Directly after the news of the discovery of gold in California, in 1849, he joined a party and crossed the plains. On arriving here he went into the mines in the northern part of the state, where he remained for two years. His labors were well rewarded and with the money that he had accumulated, in partnership with D. G. Montgomery, he bought a ranch where the town of Marysville now stands. This he sold in 1851 and returned to Galena, Ill. A year later, however, he again came to California, locating in Santa Clara county, where he engaged in farming. Subsequently he disposed of his interests there and removed to Monterey county, but in 1861 he again took up his residence in Santa Clara county, locating near the town of Gilroy, where he lived for twenty-four years. Being much impressed with the possibilities of Fresno county, in 1887 he settled at

Riverdale, purchasing three hundred and twenty acres. To this he later added one hundred acres, owning at the time of his death four hundred and twenty acres of as fine land as could be found in the San Joaquin valley.

As a result of the union of Mr. Turner and Miss Elizabeth Milliken seven children were born, as follows: Emma, deceased; Eva, now Mrs. M. C. Roundtree; Nancy Ann, now Mrs. J. B. Lewis, of Riverdale; Mary J., now Mrs. Henry Lewis, of Fresno county; Ida, deceased; Clara B., now Mrs. James T. Crews; J. R., who lives in Laton. In addition there were three stepchildren: Eliza, now Mrs. Waland, of Paso Robles; Elizabeth, Mrs. James Frame, of Hanford, and George, of Oroville.

The death of Mr. Turner in 1897 was a sad blow, not only to his family, but to this section, as he was most highly respected. For years he had taken a leading part in all movements, being at all times ready to give of his time and means to further the interests of his county. All his life a Democrat, he took a prominent part in the affairs of his party and while living in Gilroy, Santa Clara county, served as a justice of the peace. Fraternally he was a member of the Masons, being associated with the order in Santa Clara county. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Turner has continued to live on the ranch, and has assumed the active management of the same. March 1, 1905, she removed to Laton. Her ability as a farmer is proved by the success that has attended her efforts. In addition to general farming she conducts a large dairy which each year nets a handsome profit. Not only in this county but in Santa Clara county, Mrs. Turner has a large circle of friends who wish her many years of continued happiness and prosperity.

---

EDWARD DUBOIS. With the organization of the Academy Granite Company a new industry was inaugurated which promises much for the future commercial growth of the eastern part of Fresno county. The inception of the new enterprise is due to the sagacity of Edward Dubois, who for almost seven years devoted his time to an inspection of California quarries offering advantages for the development of a dark granite for monumental purposes. Little success met his efforts until he came to Fresno county and inspected a tract of fifty-one acres near Letcher. Here he found a material not only hard and durable, but susceptible to a fine and mirror-like finish, admirably adapted for monumental work, but of course far too valuable for building purposes. In connection with J. S. Williams and M. Marshall, of San Jose, he formed the Academy Granite Company in 1901 and erected der-

ricks and other equipments necessary to a modern quarry. As resident partner and manager, the supervision of the entire plant rests with him, and the work of cutting, polishing and finishing the granite comes under his personal charge.

As his name indicates, Mr. Dubois belongs to a French family. His father, Peter Dubois, was a native of France and there acquired a thorough knowledge of landscape gardening and the nursery business. In 1847 he came to California via Cape Horn and settled at Old Mission, in Santa Clara county. Upon the discovery of gold he went to the mines, but after his partner was killed by desperadoes he left the region and went to New Orleans, returning, however, to California a year or more later and settling in San Jose. Thereafter he engaged in the nursery business and landscape gardening, and continued to make the city his home until his death at seventy-eight years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Josephine Guerre, was born in France and died at San Jose at the age of sixty-eight years. Of their four children the second in order of birth was Edward, born at San Jose, Cal., November 17, 1864, and educated in the public schools of his native city. At the age of fifteen years he began an apprenticeship to the trade of granite-cutter, at which he served almost three years, and then as a journeyman traveled from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the gulf to the lakes, visiting every state where granite quarries are to be found, and making a specialty of quarrying and finishing. During the period of his travels, from 1883 to 1900, he not only earned large wages, but had the further advantage of gaining a familiar knowledge of the United States and of its quarries in every portion. Six times he has crossed the continent to the east, and on one of his trips to New York city he there formed the acquaintance of Miss Lillian Teed, who is now his wife.

Born in Detroit, Mich., Mrs. Dubois is a daughter of Edgar Teed, now of New York City, and her marriage was solemnized in Fresno, Cal. One child, William, blesses their union. During the period of his journeyman's experiences Mr. Dubois was employed on the Hall of Record in New York City, the Tombs in New York City, Prospect Park monument in Brooklyn, Grant's monument in Chicago, Odd Fellows' building in San Francisco, Crocker building, Hibernian Bank, and postoffice, also in San Francisco, as well as other prominent structures in the western metropolis. Since acquiring an interest in the company in Fresno county he has devoted himself assiduously to securing success for the new industry, and already a gratifying degree of fame has come to the products of the quarry. Much of the income so far received from the sale

of the product has been invested in the plant, which thus acquires a constantly increasing value, and one of his recent acquisitions was a gas engine of ten-horse power for the work of polishing. In view of his wide experience, it may be said that no one is better fitted than he to develop the quarry acquired by his company, and undoubtedly the product of the plant will come into constantly increasing demand as its value becomes more widely known and appreciated. In politics he votes with the Republican party, but the close attention demanded by his business affairs prevents him from taking part in political matters. By virtue of his western birth he is identified with the Native Sons of the Golden West, his membership being with California Parlor No. 1, at San Francisco.

---

HERBERT KIMBALL HULS. Perseverance and industry have raised Herbert Kimball Huls from a comparatively humble and obscure position in life to one of the foremost farmers and land owners along the Merced river. Since 1889 this popular dairyman, grain grower and general farmer has owned his present ranch of six hundred acres, one hundred and twenty acres of which is rich bottom land. On his place is a skimming station known as Huls station, and the many improvements which have followed in the wake of his ownership indicate the progressive spirit and thrift which have brought him success. Mr. Huls cuts four or five crops of alfalfa a year, and he has a dairy of forty cows, the rest of the property being devoted to grain and grazing.

Born in Kane county, Ill., January 30, 1855, H. K. Huls was reared in Louisa county, Iowa, to which state he was taken by his parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Moore) Huls, when three years old. Henry Huls and his wife were born in New York and Vermont, respectively, and after their marriage started housekeeping in Illinois, which they reached overland with teams and wagons. They lived for some years in Iowa, where Mrs. Huls died in 1868. Subsequently Henry Huls removed to Benton county, Ind., where he died in 1904. Herbert K. was given the average advantages known to the boys of the middle west. His education was acquired mostly in the public schools of Columbus, Iowa, where he lived for a few years, and where also he learned the miller's trade, beginning to work at that vocation when thirteen years of age. Later he settled in Minnesota and followed his trade, and in 1877 came to California, residing in San Francisco for a year. He then selected Merced Roller Mills, located near Snelling, Merced county as a promising field of activity, and from 1878 until 1889 was manager of the

Since then he has been living on and conducting his ranch, which today rewards his industry by a varied and luxurious output.

Through his marriage with Jennie Montgomery Mr. Huls became identified with one of the prominent pioneer families of Merced county, the late Hon. John M. Montgomery, the father of Mrs. Huls, having been one of the foremost early settlers and upbuilders of this section. A sketch of his life appears on another page of this work. Mr. Huls is a staunch upholder of Republican principles, and although no aspirant for political honors, has done much to stimulate good government in the county, and to secure the best possible educational advantages for the youth of his neighborhood. Fraternally he is connected with La Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M., with Merced Chapter, R. A. M., and the Knights of Pythias. He is a wide-awake, substantial and popular rancher, enjoying to the full the confidence and esteem of his fellow-men.

---

**EUGENE SHEPHERD.** All his life Mr. Shepherd has been engaged in the cattle and meat business, being one of the best posted cattlemen in the state. While he is a young man, he has already attained a high position in the business world, being considered one of the most influential citizens of Laton. A native of California, he was born in San Juan, June 9, 1874. His father, William N. Shepherd, was born in the state of Kentucky and in 1849 crossed the plains to this state, being one of the earliest pioneers. Unlike most of the men who came here in those days, Mr. Shepherd did not enter the mines, but engaged in the stock business near the present town of Hollister. Later he was also the owner of a general merchandise store, and in addition conducted a hotel in what is now Hollister. Subsequently he disposed of his interests there and settled in San Benito county, where he followed farming and stock-raising until 1869. In that year he took up his residence in San Juan and conducted an eating house in that place. Later he moved to Gilroy, purchasing a livery and feed stable, which he conducted for several years. From there he finally removed to San Luis Obispo county and later to San Juan, where he was living at the time of his death at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, who was a native of Clark county, Ill., died in Gilroy. By her marriage she became the mother of eleven children, three sons and eight daughters.

The education of Eugene Shepherd was limited, as at the age of fourteen he was left an orphan and has since been compelled to make his own way in the world. For a time he en-

gaged in the stock business in the San Benito mountains, but in 1898 removed to Kings county, near the town of Hanford. There he followed the same business that he was formerly interested in, continuing to make it his home until 1901, when he became a resident of Fresno county, locating on the place that has since been his home, and which consists of one hundred acres of as fine land as can be found in this section of the county. Here he is now conducting a profitable dairy and stock business, it being his intention to purchase more land as his means will allow and gradually increase his business interests in that direction. The first day of January, this year, he opened a first-class modern meat market in the town of Laton, and from the first has met with excellent success. In connection with this he buys and sells a large number of cattle, owning at the present time about four hundred head.

In the city of Fresno was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Shepherd and Miss Jennie Cameron, and to them have been born two children: Hazel Pearl and Alfred Eugene. Mr. Shepherd is a staunch Republican, and while he has no desire to seek office for himself, he is active in promoting the candidacy of his friends. Ever since he was fourteen years of age he has been obliged to fight the battle of life alone and unaided. That in these few years he has attained such an influential position speaks well for his ability. Perseverance and integrity are sure to bring success, and the many friends of Mr. Shepherd join in wishing him years of prosperity and happiness.

---

**CARL A. JOHNSON.** The second representative from Sweden to seek a home in Kingsburg Colony, Fresno county, Carl A. Johnson has been largely instrumental in the upbuilding and development of this section. He was born in Glosjön, Orebro, Sweden, June 18, 1859, a son of John Johnson, a native of the same place. The elder man owned iron mines and shares in an iron furnace in that country, manufactured charcoal, and also farmed, meeting with success in all his enterprises, and being justly named among the representative citizens of his community. His death occurred in that locality in 1864, his wife, formerly Christina Erickson, of the same place, surviving him and now making her home with her son in Kingsburg. They were the parents of two sons, of whom Carl A. was the younger.

Carl A. Johnson received his education in the common schools of his native country, where he made his home until attaining the age of eighteen years, when he immigrated to America. In 1878 he located at Ishpeming, Mich., and secured em-



ployment in the iron mines, later being placed in charge of a diamond drill, which work he followed for about five years. In 1882 he engaged in the general merchandise business in that place, where he remained until July, 1886, when he came to California and located at Kingsburg and engaged in the hotel and butcher business. A year later he bought forty acres one mile east of Kingsburg and engaged in horticulture, raising orchard fruits and raisins. He cultivated this ranch until February, 1903, when he sold out. In the meantime he became active in public affairs and served as postmaster of Kingsburg under Harrison's administration and one year under Cleveland. In the spring of 1898 he went to the Klondike and engaged in mining for two years in Dawson City, when he returned to California. Following this he worked for a time in a wholesale house in San Francisco for one year, then located again in Kingsburg and continued farming until 1903. In the fall of the same year he opened his present general merchandise business, which he has since enlarged and has built up a fine custom, his reputation for integrity and straightforward dealing winning him many friends. He has taken a strong interest in all important movements of the place, owning an interest in a packing house here and stock in the Kingsburg State Bank. Politically he is a Republican, and fraternally has been a member of the Knights of Pythias.

**JAMES C. HARRAH.** Although but a short time a resident of California, Mr. Harrah has demonstrated his ability as a farmer. He is located within the vicinity of Fowler, Fresno county, his attention being largely given to the cultivation of fruit. Born in Dexter, Iowa, October 9, 1881, he is a son of William G. Harrah. The latter was a native of Pennsylvania who removed to Iowa in the early '60s, locating near Andrew, Jackson county. At the age of twenty-one years he began farming in the vicinity of Dexter, where he remained until 1902. In that year he came to California and settled two and a quarter miles west of San Jose, on Moorpark avenue, where he is now living. His wife, formerly Katherine B. Graham, a native of Monmouth, Ill., is also living. They became the parents of ten children, eight sons and two daughters, of whom eight are living.

The eldest in the family of his parents, James C. Harrah was reared in his native locality and educated in the common schools. After his completion of the common school course he entered Monmouth College in the fall of 1899 and took the classical course to the junior year. He came to California in the spring of 1903 and located with his father for three months, after which,

with his brother, Roy D., he purchased their present place, eighteen acres of which is in vines, eighteen acres in trees and the balance in alfalfa. They have a little cottage on their ranch, modern in every detail, located two and a half miles south of Fowler. They, with others, rent a section of land nine miles west of Fowler which is devoted to grain and alfalfa, and they also rent another small place. In Monmouth, Ill., May 25, 1904, James C. married Effie M. Clark. Her father, J. Q. Clark, was a native of Monmouth, where he engaged as a contractor and builder until his death. Her mother, Alice Glenn in maidenhood, is a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. Harrah belongs to the United Presbyterian Church and politically is a Republican.

**JAMES WILLIAM HOLIDAY.** About sixteen miles east of Sanger, near the base of the mountains that form the eastern border of Fresno county, lies the ranch now and for many years the home of Mr. Holiday, a California pioneer of the '50s and one of the early settlers of the region which still remains his place of residence. Descended from an old Virginian family, he is a native of Kentucky and was born in Bourbon county, December 8, 1834, being the only surviving child of the union of George Holiday and Sarah Ann Hankins, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. His father, who settled in Kentucky at an early age, married in that state and subsequently removed to Missouri, settling in Clay county, near Kansas City, where he remained until his death in 1836. Twenty years after his demise Mrs. Holiday came to California and settled in Fresno, where she and her second husband, John Burgan (whom she married in Missouri), remained until death.

The common schools of Missouri furnished James William Holiday with a fair education, and the knowledge thus acquired has been supplemented by habits of reading and close observation. In 1856 he accompanied his mother to California, and being then of age, he started out to make his own way in the world, his first venture being the raising of stock on the Lower Kings river near Kingston. The year 1868 found him a land-owner at Squaw valley, where he acquired the title to one-half section of land and by subsequent purchases became the owner of fifteen hundred acres, utilized largely for the pasturage of cattle. After having managed the land for years, in 1902 he disposed of it at a fair profit, and since then has devoted himself wholly to the management of his stock and grain farm of six hundred and forty acres situated sixteen miles east of Sanger, in Clark's valley. At this writing he has about forty head of cattle

and the balance of the farm not needed for pasture is devoted to crops.

The marriage of Mr. Holiday was solemnized in Fresno county in 1867 and united him with Miss Mary Jane Demasters, who was born in 1850 when her parents were crossing the plains in a "prairie schooner" to California. Mr. and Mrs. Holiday became parents of eight children: Permelia, wife of J. D. Cromley; Laura, wife of S. D. McIntire; George; Nellie, wife of A. E. Pearson; Charles, deceased; Dora, wife of L. L. Scott; Nathaniel and J. Fred. A lady of kindly disposition and gentle manner, Mrs. Holiday's death was a deep bereavement to her husband. The loneliness of his life is increased by his isolation, but he loves the mountains and like all men of sincere yet simple manner to whom solitude and Nature possess a deep charm, he could not content himself if transplanted to the artificial life of a city. In appearance he reminds one of the familiar pictures of Abraham Lincoln, a resemblance that seems deepened by his manner and conversation. To one of his tastes politics possesses no fascination and he has taken no part whatever in such matters aside from voting a Democratic ticket at elections.

---

**WILLIAM McHALEY.** Throughout the long period of his residence in Fresno county Mr. McHaley has been intimately associated with the development of its stock and grain interests and has accomplished much toward the development of the eastern part of the county. Upon settling near the upper Kings river in 1879 he purchased a tract of land twelve miles east of Sanger, at the foot of the mountains, and from time to time has added to his original purchase until at this writing, with his partner, R. C. Thom, he is the owner of three thousand acres of grain and pasture land, where now graze six hundred head of cattle. During the winter months he resides in Sanger in order that his children may enjoy desired educational advantages, but through all of the spring and summer months he is busily engaged in the care of his stock and the oversight of his land.

Mr. McHaley is of southern birth and ancestry and was born at Fort Smith, Ark., May 30, 1846. At the age of one year he was orphaned by the death of his father, John McHaley, a Kentuckian, who had settled in Arkansas at an early age. Not long afterward his mother (who was Elizabeth Huckbey, a native of Kentucky) removed with himself and his older sister to Texas, settling at Austin, where she became the wife of Isaac Pierson, a widower with one daughter and two sons. In 1861 the family came to California and settled on the upper Kings river, but later removed to a ranch on Hughes creek, where the mother, at

the age of seventy-five years, is now making her home.

It was not possible, owing to the poverty of the family, for Mr. McHaley to secure even a common school education, as his labor was needed to aid in the support of his widowed mother. After her second marriage he remained at home and from Texas accompanied her to California, where he secured employment as a ranch hand. By carefully saving his wages he was enabled after a time to embark in business for himself and began by buying a few head of cattle, to which he added as his means permitted. Thus the nucleus of his present extensive business was established. As previously stated, in 1879 he acquired property in the mountains east of Sanger and since then has built up a large industry in raising cattle and grain.

After coming to the Kings river region Mr. McHaley was united in marriage with Amanda Chambers, who was born in Tulare county, Cal., and numbers a host of friends among the people of eastern Fresno county. Their family consists of the following-named children: Richard, who is employed on the Kings river ranch; Henry, who is similarly interested; Clara, who married C. J. Powell and lives in the old home neighborhood; John M., a ranchman of Fresno county; Joseph W., likewise interested in ranch pursuits; James; George, of Sanger; Frank, Ovilla, Winifred and Annie, who reside with their parents. In the fall of 1904 the family moved into the village of Sanger, where they are surrounded by all the accessories of an enterprising community, including churches and good schools. The winter seasons are spent in town, but in the spring they return to the ranch and aid Mr. McHaley in the important duties connected with his stock and farm interests. In politics he votes the Republican ticket. At no time has he desired office, nor has he taken an active part in local politics, for his tastes incline him toward domestic life and the independence of existence on his mountain ranch rather than toward public affairs with their attendant problems and cares.

---

**AMOS HARRIS** has been successful as a farmer in the San Joaquin valley, and has as well won the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens by his manly attributes. He was born in Cayuga county, N. Y., May 29, 1831, a son of Howard Harris. The latter was a native of Connecticut who went to New York about 1800, there grew to manhood, participating in the war of 1812, and engaging in farming as a means of livelihood until his death, which occurred in the town of Locke, Cayuga county. His wife, formerly Melinda Hurlbut, was also born in Connecticut and died in New York state. They were



the parents of ten children, six sons and four daughters, of whom Amos was the sixth in order of birth.

In the common schools of his native state Amos Harris received his education, after which, in 1851, he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. He followed mining in Nevada and Placer counties, where he remained for six years. He met with a moderate degree of success and carried back to his eastern home a modest fortune. In December of the same year (1857) he located in Jackson, Mich., and engaged in the mercantile business for three years. In 1860 he located in Iowa for a short time and then returned to New York state for two years. Locating once more in Michigan, he engaged in farming at Coldwater, remaining in that location until 1864, when he became a pioneer of Montana, engaging in mining in Virginia City. After a few months he went to Lawrence, Kans., whence he came to California in 1874. He engaged in farming in Stanislaus county on rented property until the fall of 1881, when he came to his present location, purchasing at that time three hundred and twenty acres, all of which except eighty acres he has since sold off in small tracts. Of the eighty acres of land which form his home farm, located one mile southeast of Fowler, Fresno county, twenty acres is devoted to the cultivation of the raisin grapes, ten acres to orchard and ten acres to alfalfa, while the balance is unimproved. He gives the greater part of his attention to the cultivation of fruit, although he is also interested in stock-raising. In addition to this property he owns one hundred and sixty acres in Kern county and three hundred and twenty acres in Kings county.

In Jackson, Mich., in 1859, Mr. Harris was united in marriage with Nettie Pelham, a native of that state, and they became the parents of the following children: Belle, deceased, and Frank B., her twin brother, who is a large contractor in building irrigation ditches for the United States government; Howard A., the editor and proprietor of the *Fowler Ensign*; and Robert A., deceased. In his political affiliations Mr. Harris is a stanch Republican, and in the interests of his party as well as the general public he has served as school director for many years, acting as clerk of the board for about twenty years.

**RICHARD C. JAY.** Before William the Conqueror had brought his victorious armies to England the Jay family lived and flourished in the land of Normandy. Early in the history of America some of that name crossed the ocean from England and identified themselves with the patriots in the colonies. The most distinguished representative of that era was John Jay, the

first chief justice of the United States. Another of the family, Charles Jay, served in the continental army during the Revolutionary war, having come to this country a short time before the outbreak of the struggle. This Revolutionary soldier had a brother, Stephen, who remained in England and engaged in farming there throughout all of his life. Richard Jay, a son of Stephen, was born at St. Blazey, England, and in 1859 came to the United States, settling on a farm near Honesdale, Wayne county, Pa., and afterward removing to Jermyn, Lackawanna county, where he died. Before leaving England he married Mary Curtis, whose father, William Curtis, was a farmer in England. Her death occurred in Jermyn, Pa. In her family there were four children who attained mature years, namely: Joseph, who died at Jermyn; Thomas, who is engaged in mining and lives at Butte, Mont.; Rev. Stephen Jay, D. D., pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Fortyfort, Luzerne county, Pa.; and Richard Curtis, the only representative of the family in California.

The last named child, Richard Curtis, was born at St. Blazey, England, March 1, 1853, and at six years of age accompanied the family to Pennsylvania, where his education was obtained in the Honesdale common schools. While attending school in the winter, after the age of fifteen he clerked in a mercantile store during the summer months. Going to Jermyn, Pa., in 1869, Mr. Jay secured employment as clerk in the general store of John Jermyn, with whom he remained much of the time for twelve years. Meanwhile he had gained a local reputation as a musician. From boyhood he has been fond of music and readily acquired a thorough knowledge of various instruments. In addition to clerking he taught music and founded the Jermyn band, of which he was the leader. Under his skillful training the band won the medal for the district.

On coming to California in 1877 he was engaged as a musician in San Jose. Next he went to Virginia City, Nev., and later taught the band of Eureka, same state, for two years. In 1881 he returned to Jermyn, Pa., and the following year became teacher of the band at Nanticoke, that state, and was proprietor of a music store there. When he again came to California, in 1890, he settled in Madera and embarked in the furniture business. In September, 1894, he added an undertaking business in connection with his other work, and in 1901 converted the establishment into exclusively undertaking and picture framing. During the existence of the Madera band he was its leader.

The marriage of Mr. Jay, in Moosic, Pa., united him with Anna E. Swisher, who was born in Susquehanna county, that state. They

own and occupy a residence in the Hughes addition to Madera. Their eldest daughter, Mrs. Ella J. Tuggles, resides in Fresno, but the others, Robert Selden, Mattie S., Stephen and Mary E., are still at home. Mrs. Jay is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the family attend services there. Mr. Jay is an active member of the Madera Board of Trade, a believer in Republican principles, and a progressive citizen, contributing generously to worthy movements. In 1898 the Republicans nominated him county coroner and public administrator and he was elected by a majority of four hundred, taking the oath of office in January, 1899, for a term of four years. So satisfactory was his service that in 1902 he was re-elected by a majority of one thousand and thirty, his second term to expire in January, 1907. The duties of his office and the conduct of his business make him a very busy man, but he finds leisure to participate in the activities of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which he is past master workman; and also in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he was noble grand two terms. To prepare himself for satisfactory and efficient work in embalming, he took a course of study in the Champion College at Springfield, Ohio, and later enjoyed the advantage of a practical and thorough course in the New York Training School of Embalming, by means of which he has become fully qualified for the important task of embalming.

---

SOLOMON M. KING was born in Bedford county, Tennessee, October 26, 1830, a son of Jonathan and Jemima (Maxwell) King. The father was a native of the same state, but in 1831 removed to Illinois, locating in Washington county, where he engaged in farming, but later he sold this place and settled in Perry county, where he lived until his death. His wife, who died in Illinois, became the mother of ten children, only three of whom are now living: Solomon M. and two daughters.

Solomon King was reared on his father's farm in Illinois, his education being obtained in the district schools. He remained in that state, following farming, until 1876, when he came to California, first locating in Stanislaus county, where he remained for one year. He then came to Fresno county, where he has since resided. His first purchase of land was six and one-half miles east of Selma, where he lived until 1898, when he sold and moved to his present fine place, three miles northeast of Kingsburg. Here he owns thirty acres, which is devoted to fruit and alfalfa.

While still living in Illinois Mr. King was united in marriage with Miss Phoebe Farlier and

to them have been born eight children, namely: Mrs. Amey Marshall, deceased; Nannie, also deceased; Jonathan A., who lives in Parlier; Cornelius, of Fresno; James, deceased; Mrs. Abigail Sanderson, residing near Parlier; William R., at home; and one who died in infancy. In politics Mr. King is a Democrat, but has never cared to take a very active part in political matters. He is a stockholder in the Growers' Winery and was one of the first to work on the Centerville & Kingsburg ditch. He has made a success here and has a reputation for honesty of which he may justly feel proud.

---

JUDSON DOUGLAS JACOBIE, M. D. Early in the colonization of America the Jacobie family emigrated from Holland and settled in New York. Nicholas Jacobie, who was a native of that state and the son of a Revolutionary soldier, followed farm pursuits in the same locality throughout all of his active life, and died in Lewis county. Next in line of descent was William Henry Jacobie, likewise a native of New York and by occupation a tiller of the soil. After years of activity in agricultural circles he removed from Lewis county to the west in the fall of 1886 and established his home in Los Angeles. Until his death he remained retired from active cares, spending his time between his son's place in Fresno county and the city of Los Angeles. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Lydia S. Douglas, was born in Lewis county, N. Y., and died in Los Angeles, where also occurred his demise.

Among the three children (two sons and a daughter) of William Henry Jacobie, the youngest, Judson D., was born in Lewis county, N. Y., May 4, 1856, and at an early age planned his studies with a view to entering the medical profession. Upon the completion of his classical studies he matriculated in the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he took the regular course of lectures and was graduated in 1885. June of the following year found him in California, where for a time he made his home in Los Angeles, but in October, 1887, came to Fresno county and took up the general practice of medicine at Centerville. To a man alive to opportunities the purchase of land presented a field for profitable investment, and gradually he became the owner of a considerable acreage, which led him to embark in the stock business. Later, however, the stock was sold and he turned his attention to general farming, with a specialty of alfalfa. Eventually he became interested in horticulture, and now has fifty acres in figs, one hundred acres in alfalfa and twenty-four acres in oranges, the balance of the ranch of four hundred and forty acres being in pasture. In addi-

tion to this property, which is located at the foot of Mt. Campbell to the west, he is the owner of two hundred and ninety-five acres on the Kings river bottom, adapted not only for the grazing of cattle, but also to a considerable extent suited for general farming, and here may be seen excellent grades of stock, including a number of full-blood Polled Angus cattle. Besides his other ranches he is the owner of Wild Flower place of one hundred and fifty-four acres, situated near Conejo in the Duke school district.

After coming to Fresno county Dr. Jacobie met and married Miss Nancy E. Demasters, who is a native of Tulare county and has spent her life wholly in the west. Born of their union are two sons, Judson G. and Douglas L. (twins), and a daughter, Ninon Adell. While still a resident of New York Dr. Jacobie was initiated into Masonry and still holds membership with the blue lodge in his old home town. Conversant with public questions and familiar with the principles of each of the great political organizations, he gives his preferences to the Republican party and supports its candidates and measures by his ballot.

#### THEODORE CROCKETT DOUGLASS.

Four miles northeast of Sanger in the Centerville district lies the homestead purchased by Mr. Douglass in 1888 and since that year the scene of his activities. At the time of purchase the thirty acres had been under cultivation to wheat, but he soon made important improvements and now has seven acres in oranges, ten acres in vineyard and the balance in alfalfa. While giving careful attention to the improvement of his property he has found leisure for participation in various movements of a progressive nature, notable among which may be mentioned the Kings River Citrus Association (coöperative), a branch of the Southern California Citrus Exchange. In the organization of this important movement he bore a prominent part, and at this writing officiates as its president and manager.

On a farm in the mountains of East Tennessee Theodore Crockett Douglass was born, November 10, 1838, being a son of Jonathan and Jane Crockett (Young) Douglass, natives of Tennessee. Of a family of nine children he was the youngest and is now the sole survivor. When he was two years of age his father died while visiting in Missouri; afterward his mother remained in Tennessee until her death in 1861. The family being large, the father dead, and their means limited, he was early obliged to earn his own way in the world, and by chance drifted into photography, which in those days was far less of an art than at the present time. Daguerreotypes were much in vogue and he acquired a thorough knowledge of the process, but made

a specialty of the style familiarly known as tintypes, the right for which he purchased at considerable expense. With his appliances in a light wagon he traveled from town to town in the eastern part of Tennessee, and always found work in his line.

During the year 1862 Mr. Douglass gave up photographic work and settled in Denton county, Tex., where he became interested in raising sheep and horses, and for years had varying experiences of successes and reverses as the prices of stock advanced or receded. When he left Texas in 1887 he came to California and for a year made Fresno his headquarters, meanwhile with his well-boring machine doing considerable business throughout this part of the state, boring altogether about one hundred wells during the year. In 1888 he came to the eastern part of Fresno county, where he and his wife (formerly Emma C. Darden, and a native of Alabama) have established a comfortable home. They are the parents of nine children, namely: Mrs. Anna Cameron, of Sanger; John, whose home is in Centerville district; William, a rancher of Fresno county; Mrs. Mary Jackson, of Sanger; Charles, who resides with his parents; Viola, who is engaged in teaching school; Emma, Lottie and Kate, at home.

In politics Mr. Douglass votes with the Democratic party and fraternally he is allied with the Masonic order. His membership in the Sterling Price Camp, Confederate Veterans' Union, at Fresno, comes to him by virtue of his war service shortly after he removed to Texas. It was during 1862 that he joined the Confederate cause as a soldier and became a private in Company A of Alexander's Regiment, which was assigned to the Indian Territory to work in coöperation with the Indians there. Until the end of the war he remained in the army and when the cause was lost and the soldiers laid down their arms he returned to his stock farm in Texas and resumed the pursuits of civic life.

WILLIAM TEMPLE COLE. The family represented by this California pioneer of 1849 came to America from France, the first of the name on this side of the Atlantic being one William Temple Cole, who left his native land for the larger opportunities afforded by the new world. After some years spent among the planters of Virginia he joined Daniel Boone in crossing the mountains to the wilderness of Kentucky, where he hewed out a homestead from the timber and endured the hardships incident to frontier life among hostile Indians. At the outbreak of the war of 1812 he and his brother, Capt. Stephen Cole, with five other men, suffered an attack from savages to the number of seventeen. Only two

of the seven survived to tell the tale of their sufferings, and they, after seven days of fearful hardship, reached Lauter Island, where they found a settlement of white people. One of the two survivors was Captain Cole, a man of splendid physique and remarkable strength. Alone and unaided he had killed five of the Indians, throwing two of them into the fire and holding them there until they were burned to death. The others he kept at bay with his gun. It was his policy to refrain from shooting, but the Indians, knowing that he carried a loaded gun, were careful to keep out of his reach. During 1818 this indomitable Indian fighter fell a victim to their cruelties, being killed by them near Taos, N. M., and thus was ended a career as remarkable though less famous than that of his friend and associate, Daniel Boone.

When the wilderness of Kentucky began to come under the influences of civilization and settlers poured in from the east, the spirit of Daniel Boone pined for the unbroken forests of Nature primeval, and thus he was led to seek a new home beyond the confines of the white man's power. At the opening of the nineteenth century he took his family to Missouri, and in this journey he was accompanied by Samuel Cole, a Virginian by birth and a son of the Frenchman who founded the family in America. For three years this lad acted as errand boy to the famous frontiersman, and after Boone's death he accompanied the widow and her family to a new location, where a fort was built and the town of Boonville founded. Six years later he moved twelve miles south of Boonville and there remained until his death at ninety years of age. During the Indian wars in Missouri he proved himself as brave a fighter as his uncle, and the company of which he was captain did much to bring the savages under subjection.

After coming to Missouri Samuel Cole married Sally Briscoe, who was born in Kentucky and died in Missouri in 1856. Andrew Briscoe, her father, a Kentuckian by birth, became a farmer in Cooper county, Mo., and during the Creek war served as a colonel under General Harrison. In the family of Samuel Cole there were nine sons and five daughters, all of whom survive but two sons and two daughters, William Temple Cole being the eldest of the family and its only representative in California. Born in Cooper county, Mo., August 2, 1825, his lot in childhood was that of a pioneer's son in a region where work was plentiful and opportunities few. Once, when not well enough to work at breaking hemp, he was sent to school for three weeks, but with that exception he had no opportunity to acquire an education. Such books as he could get (and they were indeed few) he eagerly studied at night when the heavy labor of the day had ended. In

this way he has gained a knowledge equal to that of many a high-school graduate. After he started out for himself the world became his school and Experience was his schoolmaster, and who shall say that the lessons there learned were less valuable than those gleaned from the pages of the blue-backed speller, the encyclopedia of knowledge in those days? It is said of him that he possessed remarkable strength and endurance, and never found his superior in a wrestling match, while once in St. Louis he attracted considerable attention by lifting five hundred pounds. He has been a man of magnificent physique, and was a remarkable walker and runner in his day. He has beaten a stage many times, and has walked from Auburn to Sacramento, about fifty miles, in one day and carried \$5,000 in gold dust. He was a volunteer in the Mexican war from Boonville and boarded the steamer Louis F. Lin for St. Louis, where he was mustered in and joined a regiment under Colonel Hughes. His company, with Captain Stephens, was stationed in the courthouse and were well treated by the patriotic citizens. No member of his company was arrested for misdemeanor while in St. Louis. They were finally ordered back to Boonville, where they were paid off.

At the age of twenty-one years William Temple Cole started out for himself, and for two years traded with the Indians in Kansas. Upon learning of the discovery of gold in California he started across the plains with mule-teams. At Goose creek his party left their wagons and mules and proceeded with pack-horses to San Francisco, where he landed August 10, 1849. This now famous metropolis of the coast then presented a most unattractive appearance, being a mere brush thicket with nothing to attract settlers except its beautiful harbor of the Golden Gate. Not a house had yet been finished. Incoming vessels and pack-horses from the plains brought their constant throng of gold-seekers to swell the population of a settlement without laws and dependent upon a hastily organized vigilance committee to enforce order among a reckless and lawless band. After having secured the company's mail at San Francisco, Mr. Cole returned eastward and met them on Bear river, near the present site of Nevada City. With the members of the party he then proceeded to the vicinity of Johnson's ranch, where he spent one month in assisting the company to close out its affairs, and then made his way to the Yuba river, where he mined until a severe illness and the advice of his physician caused him to seek another location. Two miles from Sacramento he took up a tract of land, where he embarked in the stock business, and in addition furnished steamers with wood. For a time he was exceedingly prosperous, but all was lost in the floods of 1849 and



1850. After continuing in the stock business there for some years, in 1860 he removed to Fresno county and settled on the Kings river bottom. There, too, a flood soon came to bring him reverses, and in a second flood he lost about \$15,000 and a valuable farm.

Desiring to settle in a neighborhood where his children could enjoy educational advantages, Mr. Cole removed one mile above the present site of the academy, which institution he assisted in starting and building, and of which for years he officiated as a director. By gradual purchase he acquired six hundred and forty acres in one body, and this he has improved with neat buildings and good fences. For years he made a specialty of the stock business, but since 1897 he practically has been retired from large farming interests, preferring to enjoy in his declining years the comforts accumulated by long years of toil. Among associates he is regarded as a man of large heart and generous impulses. No one in need was ever turned away from his door empty-handed and hungry. During the early days he proved a friend to emigrants. On the top of the Sierras he had a little store, and when the emigrants landed there, destitute of provisions they gladly availed themselves of the opportunity to replenish their depleted stock of supplies. Flour brought him seventy-five cents a pound, and many willingly would have paid him twice that amount had he cared to demand it; to those who were out of money as well as supplies he gave freely of his supplies, so that emigrants came to regard him as a benefactor and personal friend.

In Solano county, Cal., Mr. Cole was united in marriage, January 12, 1854, with Miss Jane Sweany, a native of Dallas county, Mo., and a daughter of James Sweany, a California pioneer of 1850, for some years living in Nevada City, later carrying on a farm in Solano county, and eventually dying at Visalia. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Cole there are the following named daughters, all of whom received excellent educational advantages and became active church members: Sally, wife of D. C. Sample, of Academy; Alice, Mrs. William Hoskins, who died in Fresno; Mary, Mrs. John Stroud, of Oakland; Angeline, Mrs. Burkhead, of Fresno; Jane, who married Frank Estell, of Academy; Ida, wife of John Bell, of Fresno county; Kate, wife of W. H. Shafer, of Selma; William Grace, who married Robert Hoag, of Fresno; Emily, wife of William Haskell, of Dry creek; and Harriet, who married Alfred Blasingame, of Academy. In their church membership both Mr. and Mrs. Cole are active workers and at one time he officiated as a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, to the support of which he has always been a liberal contributor, as he is to

other organizations for the upbuilding of the community. At no time active in politics, he takes no part in public affairs aside from casting a straight Democratic ticket at all elections. In fraternal relations he formerly held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

HUGH L. HAMILTON. While Mr. Hamilton is still a young man he has accumulated a handsome property and is considered one of the substantial men in Tulare county. His success in life is the result of his own efforts, having made his own way in the world since 1881. He is a native of Arkansas, and was born in Mississippi county, near Osceola, January 16, 1861, a son of Andrew J. Hamilton, who was born in Ireland. The latter was a son of Charles Hamilton, who removed from Ohio to Virginia, afterwards going to Missouri, settling in Cass county, where he became actively engaged in general farming. During his residence in Cass county he made several trips across the plains, and in 1872 located in Tulare county. Here he lived until his death in 1882, at the ripe old age of ninety-seven years. His last days were spent at the home of his son Hugh, near Kaweah.

Andrew J. Hamilton spent most of his life in Arkansas, where he was a large farmer, dying there in 1869. Of his marriage with Elizabeth Moberly six children were born, Hugh L. being the youngest and the only one living. Mrs. Hamilton died in 1864 at her home in Arkansas.

Hugh L. Hamilton was eight years of age when his father died. His grandfather then took him to Cass county, Mo., where he remained until 1872, when he came to California, making his home with his uncle, Hugh Hamilton. Here he lived until the death of the uncle, October 3, 1883. Before this, however, in 1881, he had purchased two hundred and forty acres of land on section 2, which now adjoins the town of Exeter. Following the death of his uncle, Mr. Hamilton engaged in the grain and stock business, in which he has continued to be interested up to the present time. In addition to the land mentioned, he has from time to time made other purchases, some of which he has sold, but he still retains one hundred acres of the land adjoining the town.

Aside from his farming and stock business, Mr. Hamilton has followed his trade, that of a blacksmith, for several years, having opened the first shop in this section of the country. This he did for his own accommodation, but was soon compelled to do custom work for his neighbors, it being the only shop in this part of the county. Being a natural mechanic, Mr. Hamilton enjoyed the work and has continued his shop up to the present time. In addition to general blacksmithing work he also builds wagons and does other

work of a like nature, and it has been said there is nothing to be constructed of iron and wood that Mr. Hamilton cannot make.

Mr. Hamilton has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Mildred Ferril, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of John Ferril, who came to Tulare county in 1881 and now lives near Exeter. Mrs. Hamilton became the mother of five children, namely: Mary Leta, Hugh Meredith, John Henry (deceased), Camilla Eleanor and Milton Ferril. The mother of this family died January 15, 1895. In 1897 Mr. Hamilton married Ida M. Butts, who was born near Visalia, a daughter of James H. Butts, who now lives in Hanford. This marriage resulted in the birth of two children: Harry Wheeler and Marion Gertrude. The latter died very suddenly November 22, 1904, falling dead while playing with her little brother.

In political belief Mr. Hamilton is a Democrat and has taken quite an active part in the affairs of the county, serving for a time as a member of the county central committee. He has also been active in school work, being a member of the board of trustees of the Exeter district. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of Pythias. In both these lodge rooms he is at all times a welcome visitor, being popular with a large circle of acquaintances. Mr. Hamilton has an assured position in the affairs of Tulare county, where he has spent so many years.

**EMIL WOLFES.** In this state where such a large percentage of the population is made up of people who have migrated from other states it is pleasing to meet one who is a native son and who has made a success of the opportunities that have presented themselves. Mr. Wolfes is now the superintendent of the Eggers vineyard. He was born in San Francisco, in 1871, and is a son of Gerard and Caroline Eggers. The father was born in Germany and on immigrating to this country took up his residence in San Francisco, where he lived until his death in 1877. His wife is still living, making her home with George H. Eggers, the founder of the vineyard bearing his name. By her marriage she became the mother of two children of whom E. Wolfes is the eldest. His boyhood and youth were spent in the city of his birth where he obtained a practical common school education. At an early age, owing to sickness, he was compelled to give up his schooling and afterward entered an office as a clerk. Subsequently he became an accountant and bookkeeper, which occupation he followed until 1894, when he located in Fresno county. The first three years of his residence here were spent on the ranch that his

mother had previously purchased, but at the end of the two years Mr. Wolfes again took up his old occupation of bookkeeping, entering the employ of a winery. In 1900 he was put in charge of the books of the Eggers' vineyard and five years later was made the superintendent, which position he is now filling. This property is located six miles northeast of Fresno and consists of seven hundred acres, five hundred and fifty of which are in vineyard.

In political matters, Mr. Wolfes is a Republican, but he has never cared to take a very active part in public affairs, preferring to give his whole time to his employers. Enterprising and industrious he has attained an enviable position among the vineyardists of Fresno county.

**REUBEN JOSHUA GARRETSON.** Born in Pike county, Mo., March 8, 1861, Mr. Garretson is a son of William G. Garretson, a native of Virginia. At a very early day he removed to Missouri, locating in Pike county. Later he took up his residence in Audrain county, where he purchased a farm and lived until his death, March 10, 1900, at the age of seventy-one years. His wife, Lucinda Victoria Mooney, was born in the same state as her husband. In September, 1903, she came to California and is now living in Fresno with her children. Her marriage resulted in the birth of eight children, four sons and four daughters.

Of this large family Reuben J. was the eldest. After completing his education he secured a position as a brick mason, which trade he learned very thoroughly. In 1887 he disposed of his interests in the east and took up his residence in San Diego county, but a year later he came to Fresno and engaged in contracting and building, remaining in that place for another year, or until 1889, the year of his arrival in Conejo, although at that time there was no town here and it was called the "wild flower country." For a time Mr. Garretson worked on different ranches and in 1901, with the money he had saved, he purchased his present place of one hundred and sixty acres, just east of Conejo, and here he is now conducting a profitable dairy and stock business, also raising considerable fruit, mostly almonds and peaches.

Mr. Garretson was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Isabelle Frazier, who was also born in Pike county, Mo., a daughter of William Frazier. Her father died when she was young and her mother subsequently married John Atkinson, and Mrs. Garretson accompanied her mother and stepfather on their removal to California in 1888. Mr. Atkinson is now living in the Perin Colony. Mrs. Atkinson died several years ago. To Mr. and Mrs. Garretson have been



born six children: Eva May, deceased; William Everett, Lena Belle, Lillian Gertrude, Nellie Arreta and Walter Marvin, all of whom are living at home.

Mr. Garretson is highly respected by all who know him, not only for his high sense of honor, but for the influential position he has attained in the business world. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, while in politics he supports the men and measures of the Democratic party.

---

**JOHN W. SUMMERS.** The name of Summers belongs to one of the earliest of the California pioneers, A. G. Summers having come to the state in the historic days and located in Solano county. He was a native of Virginia and brought with him to the west the qualities which have ever distinguished the citizens of that state. His trip across the plains was necessarily filled with hardships and dangers, his early residence in the state from 1858 was one of privation and toil, but no discouragement had power to daunt his energy or ambition and in the succeeding years he became one of the prominent men of Solano county. He owned a thousand acres of land located six miles from Dixon, upon which he engaged in grain-raising for many years. His death occurred in August, 1900, when fifty-three years of age. He was prominent fraternally, being a Knight Templar Mason. His wife, formerly Susan Warfield, a native of Solano county and the daughter of Charles Warfield, who died there, still survives him, and makes her home on the old place. Of their five children four are living, the only son and next to the oldest child being John W. Summers, a well-known and much-esteemed resident of Tulare county.

John W. Summers was born in Dixon, Solano county, Cal., November 18, 1875, and was reared to manhood on the paternal farm. He received a preliminary education in the district school in the vicinity of his home, after which he attended college at Oakland and at College City and Heald's Business College of San Francisco, where he completed a commercial course. He was fourteen years old when he lost his father, and being the only son it soon became incumbent upon him to manage the home place. He engaged in farming for about three years there and in 1899 located in Tulare county on twelve hundred and eighty acres on sections 16 and 21, township 17, range 25, nine miles northeast of Visalia. Eight hundred acres of this large farm are under the Alta Irrigation ditch, his principal occupation being the raising of grain. He has made a success of his work and is numbered among the representative men of this section.

October 24, 1899, Mr. Summers was united in marriage near Woodland with Mattie Cramer, a native of that locality. Her father, Louis Cramer, was born in Kentucky, reared in Ohio and in 1848 crossed the plains to California and engaged in mining on the American river. He became an early settler of Yolo county and engaged in general farming and stock-raising, in partnership with J. L. Pace, the firm name being Pace & Cramer, calling to mind to the oldest inhabitants of the county the most extensive stockmen of their day. Mr. Cramer now owns two hundred and forty acres on Cache creek, within four miles of Woodland, Yolo county, where he is engaged in the fruit business, the entire property being in orchard and vineyard. In California he married Mattie Pace, a native of Missouri and a daughter of the Rev. Russ Pace, a Baptist minister of Missouri. Of their five children all are living, Mrs. Summers being the third in order of birth. She received her scholastic training in St. Mary's Academy, at Woodland. Mr. and Mrs. Summers have one son, Roscoe. The farm upon which they are located has been in the Summers family since 1883, when his father purchased it. Fraternally Mr. Summers is a member of the Woodmen of the World of Visalia, and both himself and wife belong to Women of Woodcraft. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

---

**WILLIAM M. GIBSON.** A mile and a half northwest of Conejo, Fresno county, is located the ranch which belongs to William M. Gibson, and where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He has a dairy of thirty-five cows, eight acres of vineyard, and is contemplating planting to orchard and vineyard a tract of one hundred acres adjoining the one hundred and sixty which forms the home place. He is a native of Jefferson county, Ky., where he was born August 8, 1838. His father, William M. Gibson, Sr., was a native of Bardstown, Ky., and was the son of another William M., who was born in Albemarle county, Va., and in manhood emigrated to Kentucky, where he became a large slave-owner and where his death eventually occurred. William M. Gibson, Sr., was a hatter by trade and also engaged as a teacher in the public schools, teaching in Jefferson county, Ky., and Clark county, Ind., for several years. He died at Gibson Station, Ind., aged eighty-six years. He was reared a Catholic. His wife, formerly Mary L. Hikes, was born and reared in Jefferson county, Ky., and died in Indiana. They were the parents of five sons and six daughters, of whom William M. was the eldest.

Educated in the public schools and in Oberlin

College, Ohio, William M. Gibson engaged in farming in young manhood, in 1862 enlisting in the Fourth Indiana Cavalry, Company D, in which he was elected sergeant and served for three years. He participated in many engagements, among them Perryville, Stone River, etc.; spent two weeks in Libby prison; was paroled with Gilroy's men, and was honorably discharged in July, 1865, in Edgefield, Tenn. He then engaged in farming in Clark county, Ind., where he remained until 1870, in which year he located in Sedalia, Mo. Ten years later he sold out and came to California, purchasing his present property of one hundred and sixty acres, where he combined the interests of farming with general teaming into the mountains. With nothing in the way of improvements Mr. Gibson has brought his property to rank with the best ranches in this section, adding various improvements in the way of buildings and fences, and bringing it up to a high state of cultivation. He now owns two hundred and sixty acres, one hundred of which he intends planting to orchard and vineyard at no distant date, while he also rents land for farming purposes.

In Clark county, Ind., Mr. Gibson was united in marriage with Eliza J. Bennett, a native of Lexington, Ky., and they have one child, Ella, the wife of Rolla Prather, who farms the ranch with his father-in-law. Politically Mr. Gibson is a staunch Republican and is a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Fresno Post.

**SAMUEL DAVIS.** A pioneer merchant of Kingsburg, Fresno county, Samuel Davis has been associated with the progress and development of the place since 1875. He is a native son of the state, his birth having occurred in Mariposa county, October 8, 1857, where his father, White Davis, located in 1854, having come to the United States a year previous from Austria, his native land. The elder man followed a general merchandise business in Coulterville, Cal., until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife, formerly Bettie Weinstock, also a native of Austria, died in San Francisco in 1892. They were the parents of four children, three sons and one daughter, of whom Samuel Davis was the youngest. He received his education in the common schools of his native state, and in young manhood followed the occupation of his father. He located in Merced in 1872, where he engaged in a general merchandise business, and three years later came to Kingsburg, Fresno county, and established a mercantile business, which he has since conducted, having his brother, Solomon Davis, for his partner. They have made a success of the enterprise and are

prominent business men of the town. Mr. Davis is associated fraternally with Kingsburg Lodge No. 9138, M. W. A., of this place, of which he acts as secretary, and politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party.

**JOHN LESTER** was born in Iowa, near Burlington, February 18, 1844, and is the son of James Lester, a native of Pulaski county, Ky. In that state he engaged in farming, later removing to Iowa, and becoming an early settler of Des Moines county. There he remained until 1863, when, accompanied by his family, he started for California, going by way of New York on the steamship Illinois. They were obliged to remain at Panama from Christmas until New Year's, when they took passage on the steamship America, bound for San Francisco, and reached that city January 13, 1864. On his arrival in California he settled on the Stanislaus river near Salida where he homesteaded land and engaged in grain raising. He died at the age of sixty-three years while visiting in Fresno. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Ann De Voe and was born in Baltimore, Md., a daughter of Col. William H. De Voe, who in the early days removed to Burlington, Iowa, where he lived at the time of his death. To Mr. and Mrs. Lester were born nine children, five of whom are living.

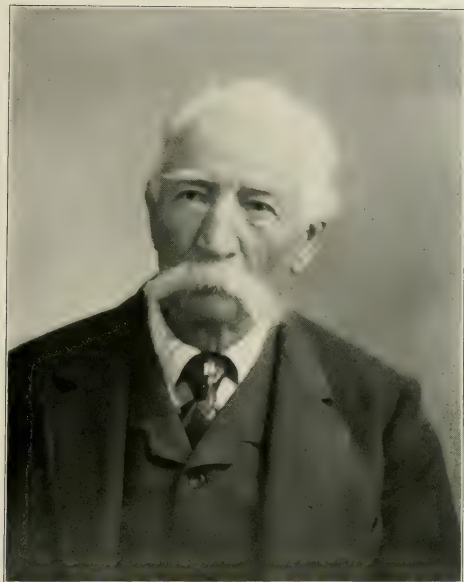
John Lester was reared on his father's farm in Iowa where he remained until attaining his majority. During this time he obtained a limited education in the district schools of the neighborhood, but in those days the youth was needed to assist in the work of the farm and little attention was given to educational matters. Upon the removal of his parents to this state, our subject accompanied them and for the two years following his arrival here worked on farms in the San Joaquin valley. At the end of this period he entered land near Salida and engaged in grain raising. Later he became interested in the lumber business on the Tuolumne river in partnership with J. D. Reyburn. Subsequently he again took up farming and also engaged in sheep raising, following the latter business for ten years, his ranch being located on the Cantura creek in Fresno county. In 1888 he disposed of his sheep business and located on his present place two and one-half miles southeast of Clovis. Here he owns six hundred and forty acres which he has improved and placed under a high state of cultivation.

In the city of Stockton, Mr. Lester was united in marriage with Miss Susan Sayre, who was born on Long Island, N. Y., and to them have been born the following children: Frank H.,





*Susan C. Hallison*



E. J. Hallison





who died in Modesto at the age of twenty-three years; Mary Ellen; Hattie S., now Mrs. Fred Dawson; Calvin De Voe, who lives in Santa Ana; Leroy, at home; Grace, now Mrs. William Keller of Fresno; Rose V. and Blanche H., both at home.

Ever since attaining his majority, Mr. Lester has been a stanch Republican but has never cared to enter the arena of public life. Nevertheless he has always been willing to do his part towards promoting the welfare of his county. His success in life is the result of hard labor, industry and perseverance. He started in life at the bottom of the ladder and that he has succeeded is a matter of which he and his children may well feel proud. Such men's lives contain much that is worthy of emulation.

**EZ. CALLISON.** Few pioneers of the San Joaquin valley have been more successful and none has gained a higher position in the regard of associates than Mr. Callison, who since 1870 has made his home on a farm four and one-half miles east of Tipton, and twelve miles southeast of Tulare. A member of an old Virginian family, who proved to be good citizens alike in war and peace, he was born in Ohio January 30, 1831, and was next to the youngest among eight sons and five daughters of Moses and Catherine (Bonnet) Callison, natives of Virginia. It is worthy of note that all of the sons attained mature years and only one of the number was less than six feet tall. Ez. is the only one in California. Several of his brothers enlisted in the Civil war and died during their service. His father, who was a soldier in the war of 1812 and fought under General Jackson at New Orleans, became a pioneer of Ohio, and in 1832 settled in Vermilion county, Ill., thence going to Greene county, Mo., in 1842, and remaining there until his death when about one hundred and two years old. When the Black Hawk war stirred to action the pioneers of the Mississippi valley, he gave his services in defense of home and country with the same fidelity characteristic of his previous military career. Throughout life he made agriculture his occupation. His wife, like himself, was a Virginian by birth, and died in Missouri when two years past the century mark.

The earliest recollections of Mr. Callison are associated with life upon the frontier. When an infant he was taken to Illinois, where his early years were passed in Vermilion county. When the family removed to Missouri he was ten years of age, and recalls vividly the early days of life in the new country, in a cabin illy adapted to render comfortable those who dwell therein. Nor was the log schoolhouse more comfortable than the home. With walls of logs and floor of earth,

with greased paper for windows, and rude benches for seats, there was little in the environment to aid the pupils in the attainment of a common-school education. After leaving this school he was a student in Ebenezer College at Springfield, Mo. While there he heard much concerning California and, fired with an ambition to see the far west, he left college and joined a company outfitted with ox-teams and wagons, and the other necessities of a trip to the coast. At Santa Fe the oxen and wagons were sold and the company, mounted on pack-mules, proceeded through the Rocky Mountains to Utah Lake, where their provisions were renewed. From there they journeyed to Los Angeles and on through the San Joaquin valley to the mines, where they arrived in the fall of 1849. During the next two years Mr. Callison prospected and mined in every part of Mariposa county, but in 1851 he abandoned mining and embarked in the cattle business on Big Dry creek, where he had a herd of about five hundred head. In 1857 he came to the San Joaquin valley, which has been the scene of subsequent activities. On the Tule river, south of Portersville, Tulare county, he established a stock ranch, finding the wild grass of the range furnished abundant pasturage for the cattle. In early days he frequently drove cattle to the Sonora mines for sale. In 1864 he drove a herd to Nevada, where they were sold at a profit.

The property owned and occupied by Mr. Callison since 1870 has been increased from the original tract of one hundred and sixty acres acquired by purchase and a homestead of eighty acres, until at this writing he has forty-one hundred and eighty acres on the Tule river, embracing section 31, township 21, range 26; sections 36, 35, 26, 25, and one-half of 27, township 21, range 25; one-half of section 1, township 22, range 25, and one-half of section 3, same township, all lands lying in one body. All of the improvements have been made under his supervision and prove him to be a thrifty, progressive and resourceful farmer, thoroughly modern in all of his ideas. About fourteen hundred acres are devoted to grain and there are also large tracts used for pasturage. The farm is one of the most extensive and valuable in the entire region and furnishes eloquent testimony to Mr. Callison's wise judgment.

At all times interested in the welfare of his community, Mr. Callison has been a willing contributor to movements of an educational or philanthropic nature, has served as school trustee a number of years, and has been one of Tulare county's most public-spirited men. In politics he gives his support to the Democratic party, of whose county central committee he was at one time a member. His wife, whom he married in

Stanislaus county, this state, was Miss Susan Caroline McGee, a native of Missouri, being a daughter of Richard McGee, who was born in Tennessee, became a pioneer of Missouri and in 1850 crossed the plains to California, where he engaged in the stock business until his death in Tulare county. Besides their only child, Louis Napoleon, now a farmer near the old home, Mr. and Mrs. Callison gave a home to a girl whom they reared and who is now Mrs. Mattie Talbott, a teacher in a neighboring school.

---

**JAMES F. MITCHELL.** Although Mr. Mitchell is now one of the leading horticulturists of Lemon Cove, Tulare county, he was for many years a prominent railroad contractor, having constructed many miles of road for different companies. But like thousands of others, the quiet life of a horticulturist appealed to him, and it is now his intention to pass the remainder of his life amid the orange blossoms.

A native of Missouri, Mr. Mitchell was born in Benton county, January 28, 1868. His father, Henry L. Mitchell, was a native of Indiana, but in later life removed to Missouri. During the Civil war he served in the Union army, being captain of his company. He saw some active service and at Cold Camp was quite seriously wounded. He died in Nevada, Vernon county, Mo. His wife bore the maiden name of Caroline Osborne, and to them were born thirteen children, ten of whom are living. One son, Edgar, resides in Modesto, and a daughter, Lucile, is now Mrs. Rohrer of Fresno.

James F. Mitchell was reared on his father's farm in Missouri, his educational advantages being limited to the district schools of the neighborhood. In 1877 his parents went to Colorado, where his father engaged in merchandising. James F. removed to Grand Junction at the time when irrigation was first started there, and soon afterward he engaged in general contracting, building many miles of ditches. In 1886 he migrated westward, taking up his residence in Walla Walla, Wash., where for one year he conducted a large livery business. Not being entirely satisfied with the prospects there, he went to Spokane Falls, where he continued in the livery business for five years. At the expiration of this time he moved to Tacoma, Wash., and later to Montesano, Wash., where he conducted a livery and became interested in railway construction as a subcontractor for the Northern Pacific. His next change found him in Astoria, Ore., where for eighteen months he was engaged in railroad construction. Going to Boise City, Idaho, he there followed contracting and building of ditches and roads and farming. The year 1896 witnessed his arrival in Tulare county and for the follow-

ing two years he was engaged in the deciduous fruit business. In 1898 he purchased ten acres of land at Lemon Cove, where he has since made his home. By purchase he has added to his first ten acres and now has in all twenty acres. This is nearly all set out in oranges and is one of the most valuable ranches in the Lemon Cove district. In addition to his own business he has engaged in contracting, caring for several other groves in this section.

Since coming to Tulare county Mr. Mitchell married Otie Southerland, who was a daughter of Charles Southerland, a resident of Fresno. This marriage has been blessed by the birth of one child, Velma. Fraternally Mr. Mitchell is a charter member of Lemon Cove Lodge, No. 712, W. O. W. In politics he is a Republican and takes an active part in the local affairs of his party, being a hard worker but not in any way a seeker for office. Alive to the future of the Lemon Cove district, Mr. Mitchell may always be depended upon to do all in his power to favor the interests of this section. He and his wife are very popular among the young people, having hosts of friends who are always pleased to greet them. They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

---

**RUTHVAN HENDERSON.** A descendant of Scotch ancestry, Ruthvan Henderson has inherited the sturdy qualities which have made those people desirable citizens in any community. He was born in Monroe county, Iowa, May 2, 1860, a son of Samuel Henderson. The latter was a native of Pennsylvania, born March 4, 1817, his father being an immigrant to the United States from Scotland. Samuel Henderson came to Iowa in young manhood and located in Keokuk, where he followed his trade of cooper during winters and farmed in the summers. He built up a large trade and acquired a success, but left that location in 1874 and came to California, settling as a farmer in Salinas, Monterey county, where his death occurred November 19, 1887. His wife, formerly Elizabeth J. Colwell, of Ohio, also died in this state. They were the parents of five sons and two daughters, of whom Ruthvan was the youngest.

Educated in the common schools of Iowa and California, Ruthvan Henderson grew to manhood in the latter state, his first independent venture being in the dairy business in Monterey county. Later he came to Fresno county and engaged as a farmer on rented land in the American Colony, and as the colony became more thickly settled he removed farther out and engaged in wheat farming. In 1890 he purchased his present place, consisting of sixty acres, since which time he has planted thirty-five acres to

vineyard, and five acres to orchard, while the balance is in alfalfa. In 1901 he located upon this property, where he has since been a resident, being four miles southwest of Fowler, Fresno county.

In Fresno county Mr. Henderson married Mary A. Burrows, a native of California and the daughter of Edward Burrows. The latter was a native of New York state, who came to California in an early day and built up a law practice, becoming judge of Calaveras county, his death occurring during his service on the bench. To Mr. and Mrs. Henderson were born two sons, Miller R. and William L. Fraternally Mr. Henderson is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, of Fowler, Cal., and politically is a staunch Republican, being active in the counsels of the party and a delegate to various conventions. He is a member of the United Presbyterian Church.

**J. V. TOSCANO.** From a quaint town in the province Di Potenza, Italy, to the energetic and promising Los Banos district, is a distance spanned with gratifying profit by J. V. Toscano, one of the most prosperous of the Los Banos merchants, and one of the most genial and successful of the town's citizens. Mr. Toscano was born December 1, 1868, and spent the first thirteen years of his life in the little village near his father's farm. The family immigration to America took place in 1881, the elder Toscano purchasing a farm of forty acres at Badger Flat, near Los Banos, where he has since continued gardening to his entire satisfaction, and where an outdoor life keeps him in excellent health and spirits. To himself and wife, Maria (Rose) Toscano have been born six children younger than J. V., all of whom have had fair advantages in the public schools.

In the new country to which his father's ambition had led him, J. V. Toscano began at the bottom round of the ladder, and as the oldest son assisted with the family maintenance by driving a vegetable wagon to town. For nine years his goods were as fresh, as varied, and as luxuriant as the soil of the state can produce, and in the meantime the village of Los Banos took on importance, and justified him in establishing a vegetable headquarters within its borders. He gradually added, as custom came his way, laying in a stock of groceries, and branching out as became a thrifty and farsighted citizen. His little store outgrew its usefulness, and in 1890 he erected the frame store now used for his furniture store, and which is 36x80 feet in dimensions. Still further increase in business necessitated greater capacity, till in 1899 he built his present store, 40x70 feet, two stories in

height, as well as a large warehouse. Various lines of goods have increased his usefulness as a merchant, including cigars and tobacco, fancy groceries and provisions, crockery and hardware, clothing and gentlemen's furnishings, hats and caps, boots and shoes, notions, paints and oils and agricultural implements.

Mr. Toscano's success and public spirit are indicated in his town and country investments, owning, besides his own residence, seven others which he rents, and four of which he built himself. He also is the owner of several valuable city lots and three farms, one of eighty-two acres at Badger Flat, and two five-acre ranches near Los Banos. All of the ranches are under alfalfa and are used for dairying purposes. Mr. Toscano is interested in insurance, representing such well-known firms as the Home Fire Insurance Company, the National Union and the Scottish, and he has a bureau of general travelers information and sells steamship tickets. Several years ago he established a home of his own in Los Banos, marrying, in Merced, Mary Sarbo, who was born in Italy, and who is the mother of six children: Joseph, Rosa, William, Maggie, Julia and Antoine. The political sympathies of Mr. Toscano are with the Republican party, and he is fraternally connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is past grand; the Foresters, of which he is past chief ranger; the Druids, of which he is district deputy; the Ancient Order of United Workmen; and the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Toscano's success is well merited, he possesses the best traits of the Latin race, with the additional advantage of true western grit and determination. He is high-minded and obliging, honorable and fair in his business transactions, and popular with all classes who patronize his establishment.

**REV. NICHOLAS GUSTAVUS NELSON** was born in Sweden July 14, 1853, and was the son of John and Margaret Nelson, who were descendants of old and honorable Swedish families. The father was an employe of the corporation railroad as a station master until he brought the family to America in 1868, locating in Pierce county, Wisconsin, where he entered land and cleared a farm from the forest. There he made his home and has reached the ripe old age of seventy-nine years. His wife died in 1904, aged seventy-nine years. They were the parents of four children, our subject being the oldest son.

Rev. Nicholas G. Nelson was educated in the common schools of his native country and also assisted his father in the station. At the age of fifteen he accompanied his parents to Wisconsin where he helped them in clearing the farm, remaining at home till 1876, when he entered the

Swedish Methodist Theological Seminary at Evanston, Ill., and was graduated in 1880, being ordained a deacon and two years later an elder. His first charge was at Keokuk, Iowa, in 1880, and in 1882 he removed to Rockford, Ill., where he remained two years. He was then transferred to Minneapolis, Minn., where he served three years, then to Clear Lake in the same state for one year. In 1889 he was appointed to Seattle, Wash., as pastor for two years, and in 1891 came to Kingsburg as pastor of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church. Here he labored faithfully and his efforts were crowned with success, thus aiding greatly in advancing the social, moral and religious welfare of the Kingsburg Colony that has since become so beautiful and prosperous. Afterwards he was pastor of the Easton and Fresno churches. In 1902 he was appointed presiding elder in charge of the Swedish district of the California conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1903 he retired from the ministry to devote his time to ranching. He owns eighty acres two miles northeast of Kingsburg; of this thirty-seven acres are devoted to raisin grapes, twenty acres in orchard and the balance in alfalfa. He takes a very active interest in the organizing and holding together of the raisin growers for the mutual advancement of the industry and securing a reasonable profit to all. He is secretary of the Scandinavian Mutual Protective Fire Insurance Association and was one of its organizers.

Rev. Nelson was united in marriage in Iowa to Miss Carrie Henrietta Peterson, born in Jefferson county, Iowa, and they have six children: Lloyd, Arthur, Lawrence, Clarence, Grace and Helen. The life of Mr. Nelson is worthy of emulation, as by his industry, integrity and great moral worth he wields an influence for good that is felt by all. California can well feel proud to welcome such men to aid in reclaiming and building up the great San Joaquin valley.

---

HON. ANDREW G. SMITH, a prominent citizen of Laton, Fresno county, Cal., was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, July 24, 1865, a son of Alexander Smith. The latter was also a native of Scotland, who came to the United States in 1872 and located in Pittsburg, Pa., and followed farming in that vicinity. He removed to North Dakota in 1884 and engaged in the same occupation in Dickey county for twelve years, when he came to California. He located first in Lemoore, Kings county, but has since removed to Santa Barbara, where he is now engaged in farming. His wife, formerly Jane Gibson, was also a native of Scotland. They became the parents of seven children, three sons and four daughters.

Andrew G. Smith received his education in the common schools of Scotland and the United States, after which he taught school in North Dakota for about three years. Following his parents to California, he located in Lemoore in 1898, where he engaged in a general merchandise enterprise, which occupied his attention for four years. Coming to Laton in 1902 he followed the same line until 1904, when he sold out in August of that year and gave his time to the real estate and insurance business. He was appointed justice of the peace in 1903 and also holds the office of notary public. He owns a ranch of thirty acres four miles west of Laton, devoted to alfalfa, and to this he gives his personal attention. He owns considerable town property, having built two business houses and his home residence.

In Chicago Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Maggie I. Byrne, a native of Illinois, and they are the parents of two children, Mary Juanita and Harvey, both at home. Fraternally Mr. Smith is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Laton, and the Modern Woodmen of America and Woodmen of the World, both of the same place. Politically he is an active Democrat. While a resident of Dickey county, N. D., he was elected in 1894 to the state legislature, serving two years. He is interested in educational work here, having served for some time as school director, being clerk of the board. He is one of the prominent men of Laton, taking an active interest in the upbuilding of the place, and giving his best efforts toward all movements pertaining to general advancement.

---

RASMUS MADSEN is one of this county's most respected citizens. Coming here but a few years ago he has attained not only success but a position among his fellow-men of which he may justly feel proud. A native of Denmark, he was born on the Island of Fyn, April 22, 1866, a son of Madsen Mortensen, who was also a native of the same locality. He was a farmer and in early life married Miss Anna C. Olsen. To them were born nine children, five of whom are living, two being residents of this state. Both the parents are deceased.

Rasmus Madsen was reared on his father's farm, obtaining a limited common school education. As soon as old enough he was obliged to assist his father in the work of the farm, remaining at home until 1885, when he enlisted in the Danish army, serving therein until 1887. The following three years he worked for different ones, saving enough from his earnings to purchase a ticket to America, and in the year last mentioned he bade good-by to his native land and sailed for the new world. The first two





*J. M. Farrard*



years of his life in the United States were spent working on farms in Iowa, but at the expiration of that period he came to California, locating in Fresno county. For a time he worked for others, but he had determined to have a place of his own and eventually leased a fruit ranch which he conducted until he had accumulated enough money with which to purchase forty acres in the Washington colony, seven miles south of Fresno. Since making his first purchase he has become the owner of one hundred and sixty acres more on section 18, which he still owns. It was in 1904 that he purchased his present home, formerly known as the J. J. Reyburn ranch, six miles east of Clovis. Here he has four hundred and eighty acres, which is devoted to grain and stock. It is one of the finest ranches in this section of the county, equipped with a beautiful residence, fine barns and outbuildings and all modern improvements.

Since coming to California Mr. Madsen has been united in marriage with Mrs. Johanna Petersen, also a native of Denmark. Mrs. Madsen is the mother of five children, namely: Christian, Peter, Annie and Mary Petersen, and Thora Matina Madsen, all of whom are at home. The first four children are by a former marriage of Mrs. Madsen to Madas Petersen, a native of Denmark.

Mr. Madsen has made a splendid success of his life and both he and his wife are highly respected for their many admirable traits of character.

---

THOMAS NEWTON JARRARD was born in Georgia, near Clarksville, November 15, 1827, a son of Thomas W. and Judes (Worley) Jarrard. The father was a native of Kentucky and a son of David Jarrard, who was born in Virginia and at a very early day removed to Kentucky, being a pioneer settler of that state. He was a farmer and was a soldier in the war of 1812. Later in life he moved to Georgia, where he finally died at the age of ninety-four years. His father, also named David, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in France, and met his death while fighting for the independence of the colonies under Washington. Thomas W. Jarrard was a farmer and also engaged in the manufacture of stoneware on his farm, thirteen miles from Clarksville. His first wife bore him one child, Thomas N. of this review, and she died at the early age of forty. His second marriage resulted in the birth of eight children.

Thomas N. Jarrard was reared on his father's farm, and while he was given the benefit of the schools of the neighborhood, he was compelled to take charge of the farm as soon as old enough, so that his father could devote his time to his

manufacturing business. Remaining at home until reaching man's estate, in 1851, he started for California, the trip being made via New York, where he embarked on the steamer Brother Jonathan for the Isthmus of Panama. Eleven days were consumed in crossing the isthmus and on reaching this side he took passage on a boat called the Victorine. Upon reaching San Diego the craft was condemned and the balance of the trip to San Francisco was made on the Monumental City, he finally reaching the end of his journey in March, 1852. Soon after landing he went to the mines in Coloma, Eldorado county, where he remained three months. Then, in company with three others, he prospected in the Bear river country until the spring of 1853, when he went to Montezuma. There he engaged in mining until the spring of 1855, when he bought a farm on John's creek, in Stanislaus county. Additions were made to his original purchase from time to time until he owned three hundred and forty acres of fine grain land. While residing there, July 4, 1861, he was married to Virginia Blair, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of James Blair, who was born in old Virginia. At a very early day he removed to Indiana and in 1853 brought his family to California, the journey being made with ox teams and consuming several months. The first settlement was made in Stockton, but he later located in Stanislaus county, where he engaged in general farming and there his death occurred at the age of seventy-nine years. He married Martha Ann Dickerson, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of James Dickerson, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Later in life he settled in Indiana, where his death occurred. Mrs. Blair died in 1899, at the age of eighty-four years. She was the mother of ten children, six of whom are still living. Mrs. Jarrard was the second child and crossed the plains in 1853. Prior to her present marriage she became the wife of Barney Cook, who died in the mines of Australia. By this union was born one child, Ina P. Cook, who lives near Lindsay with Mr. and Mrs. Jarrard. By the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jarrard one son, W. A., has been born.

In 1872 Mr. Jarrard located on the plains three miles west of Lindsay, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. Since then he has been engaged in the sheep and cattle business. He added to his first possession until he owned six hundred and forty acres, but during the winter of 1904-5 three hundred and twenty acres of this were divided into twenty-acre colony tracts, the land being especially adapted to the cultivation of oranges. In addition to the land owned by Mr. Jarrard, his wife has one hundred and sixty acres on section 9, which is highly improved.

Fraternally Mr. Jarrard is a Mason, uniting with that order in Tuolumne county, and he now belongs to Olive Branch Lodge No. 269 of Tulare. Socially he renews old acquaintances in the Pioneer Society of Tulare county. He served as school trustee of the Central district for many years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jarrard are highly esteemed in this section of the county, where they are best known. They have traveled the path of life together for many years, and in all his undertakings Mr. Jarrard has found in his wife a true helpmeet.

#### HON. DAVID VAN LEAR ROBINSON.

More than a half century has elapsed since Mr. Robinson cast in his fortunes with those of the new state of California. When he was a youth of seventeen years he left his Missouri home and, in company with a brother, John C., who was two years his senior, he joined a train of emigrants westward bound. Leaving Missouri, at Council Bluffs on the 10th of May, 1853, the train of thirteen wagons with ox-teams pursued the long journey over a trail whither had passed a long procession of Argonauts. Fortunately escaping any serious encounters with the red men who roamed the plains, they proceeded up the North Platte and by way of Devil's Gate up the Sweetwater. The 4th of July was spent in Salt Lake City, from which point they traveled down the Humboldt and Carson rivers and into California. After a brief stay at Jackson, Amador county, the brothers went to Tuolumne county and began mining. Knowing nothing of the business, they were persuaded into buying a claim they afterward learned was considered worthless. However, luck was with them, and they were fortunate in obtaining gold representing a value two times as great as the purchase price of the property. Other claims were taken up in the same locality, and for two years the brothers continued together in the mines.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Robinson holds a place among the pioneer miners of the state. In addition he was one of the early stock-raisers of the San Joaquin valley. Ever since coming to Tulare county, in 1867, he has been engaged in the stock business and in general farm pursuits, and has acquired a thorough knowledge of the possibilities of this section from an agricultural standpoint. To such men as he, far-seeing, shrewd, loyal and progressive, the county is indebted for the development of its material resources, and his fellow-citizens have recognized his ability and patriotic spirit by electing him to positions of trust and honor. In these various posts he has shown the same uprightness and intelligence characteristic of his management of

private concerns, and has gained a deserved reputation for energy and probity.

The Robinson family is of southern lineage. William L. Robinson, who was born in Lexington, Fayette county, Ky., in 1800, removed to Palmyra, Marion county, Mo., at twenty-one years of age, and began the cultivation of a tract of raw land. Later he added the raising of stock to a general farm industry. At the time of his death, which occurred in Missouri, he had reached the age of sixty-eight years. Afterward his widow joined her sons in California and died at Modesto. By birth and training she was a Kentuckian, and was born in Bourbon county in 1801, bearing the maiden name of Augustina Biddle. Of her twelve children six are still living. It is worthy of note that five sons came to California. Richard B., who was a pioneer of 1849, died at Long Beach in 1894. In 1850 the second son, William T., crossed the plains to the mines of the west, but his death occurred here during the year of his arrival. Milton is still living in California. John C., who came with David Van Lear, died in Montana.

On the home farm in Marion county, Mo., David Van Lear Robinson was born January 24, 1836. From there, at six years of age, he accompanied the family to Schuyler county, Mo., and settled on a farm near Lancaster. Free schools had not as yet been introduced into that section, the schools being still conducted on the subscription plan. During four or five months of the year he attended these schools, which were held in log buildings furnished in a most primitive manner. Although the method of instruction was as crude as the building itself, he gained the rudiments of a fair education, which later years of observation and self-culture have broadened and deepened. When the discovery of gold in California led one brother across the plains in 1849 and another in 1850 he began to dream dreams of the country across the mountains beside the sunset sea, and was eager to try his fortune in the undeveloped west. As before stated he and a brother engaged in mining for two years after landing in California. For the following twelve years he carried on a stage business between Big Oak Flat in Tuolumne county and Sonora.

Coming to Tulare county in 1867, Mr. Robinson remained in Visalia for two years and then pre-empted a homestead on the Cottonwood ten miles northeast of the town. From its primeval condition he transformed the land into a farm improved with buildings and other necessary equipments, and by the purchase of adjoining property he increased his holdings until he owned five hundred and sixty acres. In 1900 he bought nine hundred and forty-five acres on the Turusa road near Visalia and, having disposed of his

old homestead in February, 1904, he moved to the larger estate, which he now occupies, subletting much of the land to tenants. While living in Tuolumne county, September 10, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Elvira M. Harrell, who was born in Forsyth county, Ga., and in 1859 came to California with her parents, Edward and Nancy (Strickland) Harrell, natives of Jackson county, Ga. Her father, who was the son of John Harrell, a farmer of Georgia and a native of that state, became one of the pioneer orchardists of Tuolumne county, where he remained for many years, but died in Tulare county at the age of eighty. Her mother passed away at Visalia when seventy-six years of age. They were the parents of twelve children, but Mrs. Robinson and three others are the only survivors of the large family. In religious belief she is an adherent of the Christian Church. Born of her marriage are four children, namely: Lee, who at this writing is principal of the Visalia grammar school; Abi, a teacher by occupation; Ida, who is engaged in the photographic business at Visalia; and Tod, a photographer at Madera, Madera county.

From boyhood Mr. Robinson has been a believer in Democratic principles, and since coming to Tulare county he has served as a member of the county central committee. His interest in educational matters led him to accept the office of school trustee, which he filled for a long period. On the Democratic ticket in 1884 he was elected supervisor of the fourth district of Tulare county, his term lasting from January, 1885, to January, 1887. In 1886 he was re-elected, this time for a term of four years, and again, in 1898, he was elected to the office for a term of four years. As the representative of the sixty-fifth legislative district in 1894 he was elected to the state legislature, where he served in the session of 1895 and secured the passage of an irrigation bill of local importance, besides giving his influence to promote other measures of benefit to his constituents.

**JAMES THOMAS CROW.** One of the best conducted ranches in the vicinity of Crow's Landing is that owned by James Thomas Crow, three miles east of town, and comprising over four hundred acres of land. Mr. Crow's family is too well known in this section to require more than passing mention, for on every hand are evidences of the high regard in which his father was held, one of the most ambitious and resourceful of the grain raisers of the county. Mr. Crow was born in Pike county, Mo., December 13, 1855. In 1865 he came to California with his father. In addition to his public school training he had the advantage of a course at

Heald's Business College. After leaving college he farmed his father's land, and in 1884 purchased his present farm in partnership with his brother, B. T. Crow, which then comprised thirteen hundred acres. The tract was subsequently divided between the brothers, and in addition to the portion which James T. Crow owns he also has one hundred and sixty-six acres on the creek, and eight hundred acres of grain land in the Cottonwood district. His home farm is under a high state of cultivation, and the greater part of it is rented out, its owner at present devoting much of his attention to the management of a cheese factory erected on his farm in 1903, which has already proved a paying enterprise.

December 13, 1877, Mr. Crow was united in marriage with Mary D. Riggs, who was born in Ashley, Mo., and is a daughter of Ambrose D. and Ann Eliza (Purse) Riggs, natives of Kentucky and New York City, respectively. Mr. Riggs moved from Kentucky to Missouri with his parents when six years of age, and at Ashley followed his trade of saddle and harness making for the balance of his life. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Crow, of whom Jessie, the eldest, is the wife of W. W. Bruner, a coffee plantation owner of Honolulu, and Ralph, Walter and Georgia are living at home. Mr. Crow has voted the Democratic ticket ever since attaining manhood, but has never sought nor been willing to accept public office. He is a quiet, unassuming, home-loving man, a model husband and father and an excellent business man. He has the confidence of his neighbors and associates in the county, and his lifework maintains the agricultural prestige established by his father. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**EDWIN L. VAN VALER.** From the age of six years, when he accompanied his mother to California, until death terminated the business activities that had marked his career, Mr. Van Valer was a resident of Visalia and maintained the deepest interest in all movements tending to develop the resources of this city and the adjacent country. Of eastern birth and parentage, born in New York City September 8, 1849, he remembered the long journey in 1855, when he accompanied his mother, Mrs. Matilda Van Valer, to the Pacific coast, joining his brothers who had preceded them to Visalia. Upon the death of his mother in 1866 he was taken into the home of G. A. Botsford and about the same time began an apprenticeship to the tinner's trade, serving under Charles Strong. Proficiency in the trade led him to supplement the occupation with kindred lines of work, and for some years he not only manufactured tinware and engaged

in repair work, but also made a specialty of the manufacture of metal tanks. Later he gradually drifted into the business of well boring, in which he acquired such a reputation that his services in that capacity were in frequent demand, and many of the wells in this part of the country were bored under his personal supervision. That occupation continued to be his special line of work until his death, which occurred in Visalia May 30, 1894. The passing away of a man so long identified with the history of the city and one whose character had ever been above reproach was mourned as a public loss. Masonic honors were accorded him in burial, a tribute from his fellow-workers in the Visalia Blue Lodge. Through all of his life he was a pronounced Republican, voting the straight ticket.

The lady who for years was the faithful help-mate of Mr. Van Valer and who now survives him was Sarah C. Ridgway, a native of Mariposa county and a daughter of Jarrett M. and Ann Mitchell (Barnard) Ridgway, born respectively in Texas and Virginia. Her father, whose birth occurred in the year 1808, came to California at the time of the discovery of gold in 1849, when, after crossing the plains, he became a miner in Mariposa county, where he successfully opened and operated the Princeton mine. Previous to acquiring extensive mining interests he had carried on a butcher shop and also engaged in the bakery business, but these he sold upon engaging in the work of a miner. His death occurred March 9, 1866, long before the demise of his wife, who survived until 1903. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Van Valer was blessed with two sons, namely: Claude O., a traveling engineer for the Standard Oil Company, and Clarence, who represents the same company on the coast. Mrs. Van Valer continues to make her home in Visalia, where she has residence property.

**WILLIAM HOFFKNECHT.** This well-known farmer and stockman of the British colony, in Merced county, which has been his home for the past ten years, furnishes a good example of what a man may do by his own efforts when he has the brains and energy to improve his opportunity. Born in Westphalia, Germany, December 7, 1866, a son of Frederick and Lovina (Lindwick) Hoffknecht, William Hoffknecht was reared and educated in his native land. His father, a farmer by occupation, died at the age of sixty-three years, and at the age of sixteen William sailed for the United States. The year following his arrival in this country, he came to Sacramento county, Cal., where he had an uncle who kept a store, and for nine months he found

employment in this store. He then went into partnership with a brother in the stock business and the partnership then formed lasted for twelve years, which was a prosperous period for both.

In 1894 Mr. Hoffknecht came to Merced county and purchased the farm upon which he resides, located five miles west of Merced. Upon this farm, which contains fifty acres of fine land, he has forty acres devoted to alfalfa, the balance of his land being devoted to pasturage, upon which he raises a large number of hogs, realizing from the sale of the latter from \$400 to \$500 per year, and he also keeps about twenty-five fine dairy cows, which yield him a fair income. His place is well kept and contains a convenient and comfortable residence. In addition to his home place, Mr. Hoffknecht bought one hundred and eighty acres, and this farm furnishes pasturage for about one hundred head of cattle.

Mr. Hoffknecht was joined in matrimony with Miss Lillian Altnow, who was born in Minnesota, and accompanied her parents to Oregon when young. Her parents were prominent and well-to-do people, and they subsequently came to California. They have three children, Louisa, Frank and Gussie. Politically a Democrat of strong convictions, Mr. Hoffknecht is not an active politician. He is broad-minded, public-spirited, and one who willingly assists in any movement calculated to benefit his county.

**REV. FATHER J. D. MCCARTHY.** A man of much culture and great religious zeal, Rev. J. D. McCarthy, pastor of St. John's Church, in Fresno, is doing a most notable work for the people under his charge. By his ability, his quiet persuasion and his earnest enthusiasm, he has improved the material as well as the spiritual condition of those who have looked to him for help, comfort and advice, all of which he gives freely. Through his efforts the parish has been enlarged, its financial strength increased, new church and school buildings have been erected, and much energy and enthusiasm have been aroused among his parishioners. His ministries in many other ways, also, have been full of good works and faithful service.

A native of New York City, Father McCarthy was born in 1864. After leaving the grammar schools of his native city he prepared for college in Brooklyn, N. Y. Entering St. Francis' College in 1879, he was graduated from there in the class of 1884. Going immediately to Rome, Italy, he entered the American College of the Propaganda, where he remained until forced to give up his studies on account of ill health. In search of a more salubrious climate, he went to



Dublin, Ireland, and there completed the study of theology at All Hallow's College. June 24, 1890, he was ordained priest by Bishop Brownrigg, of Ossery, and sent immediately to the diocese of Los Angeles and Monterey, Cal. After remaining at Los Angeles for three years as assistant pastor of the Church of Our Lady of the Angels, Father McCarthy was appointed resident pastor of the St. Francis de Sales Church, Riverside, Cal., and during the five years that he was there he started missions at Jacinto, Elsinore, Perris and Corona. In October, 1898, he was appointed pastor of St. John's Church, Fresno, and has served most acceptably ever since. This parish was organized more than a quarter of a century ago by Rev. Father Val Aguilera, who built the first church structure in the place. In 1902 the parish erected a new brick church, and in 1903 made further improvements by building a new priest's house. In connection with the church is St. Augustine's Academy, for the instruction of young ladies, and St. Joseph's School, a parochial institution under the direction of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. This parish is very prosperous, owning much valuable property, and having a membership of five thousand souls, the largest of any congregation in the San Joaquin valley.

---

**JAMES LAKE HAMILTON.** A very extensive stockman, and one whose success has numbered him among the representative men of Tulare county, is James Lake Hamilton, who is located seven miles from Exeter. He was born on the Isthmus of Darien, July 4, 1852. His parents dying when he was a small child, James Lake was taken into the home of Hugh Hamilton, given the latter's name and reared with all the care and attention that could be bestowed upon him. Hugh Hamilton, a native of Virginia, came across the plains in 1852 and became the owner of a ranch on the line between San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties. On the 24th of December, 1864, he located on the Kaweah and engaged as a farmer and stockman until his death, which occurred in October, 1883, at the age of sixty-two years. He was very successful in his efforts and became the owner of a large amount of land, the ranch upon which he lived containing ten hundred and eighty acres, while he also owned considerable other property. His wife survives him and is now the wife of T. J. Dale of San Jose.

The only member of the Lake family which attained maturity James Lake Hamilton came to Tulare county at the age of twelve years, attending school in the Kaweah district, while he performed the duties which were his as the son of a farmer. He was also trained in the thrifty habits

and strict business methods which distinguished his foster father, and in manhood they have formed no small factor in his successful career. He remained with Mr. Hamilton to the time of the latter's death, the two carrying on the stock business and general farming operations which had engrossed the attention of the elder man for so many years. He was also taught the value of independence and at the age of twenty-two he took a number of hogs on shares, later doing the same with sheep and cattle. After his marriage he farmed on Kaweah, Dry and Yokohl creeks, and in 1887 began the improvement and cultivation of the property where he now makes his home. He owns one quarter of section 28, one-half of section 29, all of section 32, three-quarters of section 33, all of section 5 and one-quarter of section 4, aggregating twenty-four hundred acres in one body and all fenced for stock purposes. He also rents two thousand acres of the Dale property for stock-raising and general farming, and seven hundred acres in the hills adjoining his own lands. The irrigation ditch runs through his property, while he also has a pumping plant, operated by a gasoline engine, to use in dry seasons. He has about seven hundred head of cattle, full-blooded, graded Durham and Shorthorns, comprising one of the finest herds in the San Joaquin valley.

May 8, 1878, Mr. Hamilton was united in marriage with Rebecca Mehrten, a native of Calaveras county, Cal., and the daughter of Louis Mehrten, a pioneer miner. They are the parents of six children, namely: Louis Ray, John Garland, Charles Albert, Troy Edmond, Elizabeth May and Ethel. In national politics Mr. Hamilton is a Democrat, but locally gives his support to the man whom he considers best qualified for public duty. He has taken a broad interest in educational affairs of his community, serving as school trustee of the Kaweah district, having acted as clerk of the board for a time. A broad-minded, enterprising citizen, Mr. Hamilton merits the esteem and confidence which is given him in such large measure by all who have come in contact with him, either in a business or social way.

---

**ALFRED G. STONESIFER.** A man of great energy and enterprise, able and far-sighted, Alfred G. Stonesifer, of Newman, has contributed his full share toward the promotion and advancement of the agricultural and industrial prosperity of Stanislaus county. As a sheep breeder and raiser he carried on an extensive and lucrative business for many years, well earning his title of "King of the sheep industry." A native of Adams county, Pa., he was born December 31, 1831, a son of Solomon and Susan (Swope)

Stonesifer, being the youngest child in a family consisting of five boys and five girls. Neither of his parents are living, both having died in Littlestown, Pa., not far from the places of their birth.

On leaving school, Alfred G. Stonesifer began life for himself as a clerk in a store in Hanover, Pa., where he remained four years. Following the march of civilization westward, he went to Alton, Ill., in 1854, and was there similarly occupied for a short time. Going to Pike county, Mo., in 1855, he was engaged in mercantile pursuits in Louisiana for nine years. March 1, 1864, Mr. Stonesifer started with his family for California, crossing the plains with mule-teams. On September 1 of that year he arrived in Napa City, having only \$2.50 in his pockets. The ensuing year he worked at any honorable employment, and saved some money. Coming to Stanislaus county in the fall of 1865 Mr. Stonesifer located in the San Joaquin valley, amid the foothills, on the west side of the creek. Taking up one hundred and sixty acres of land, he stocked the range with sheep of a common grade, and did so well in the venture that he decided to try something better. Purchasing, accordingly, for \$4,000, one hundred and sixty head of French Merinos, he has met with noteworthy success in his operations, and is now owner of seven thousand acres of good land, and also has in his home ranch, near Newman, two hundred and thirty-seven acres of valuable land, which he devotes largely to alfalfa. Having by good management, judgment and investment accumulated a goodly property, he is now living somewhat retired from active business, enjoying a well-earned leisure.

In Missouri, Mr. Stonesifer married Sophia Weed, a native of Illinois, and of their union five children have been born, namely: C. A., deceased; Mary B., deceased; Catherine E., wife of Dr. W. H. Mays, of Honolulu; Augusta, wife of A. H. Mays, of California; and Lois, wife of Charles E. Evans, of San Francisco. Politically Mr. Stonesifer is a steadfast Democrat. For a number of years he served as justice of the peace, but while filling that office never brought a case to trial, settling all difficulties without bringing them into court. He married eighteen couples in his official capacity, but he never made a charge for a marriage or for a lawsuit.

**NEWTON PHILLIPS.** The varied industries which conduce to the development and maintenance of Letcher find in Mr. Phillips a staunch friend and supporter. From the time of acquiring mercantile interests in the village up to the present he has been a leading factor in the commercial life of the place and a contributor to movements for its substantial and permanent

progress. No influence has entered into the growth of the little town more important than that exerted by him in his capacity of general merchant, postmaster and proprietor of hotel. Since 1895 he has been at the head of a general store and since 1896 has officiated as postmaster, in addition to which for some years he has carried on the hotel here and superintended his farm of one hundred and thirty acres in the vicinity.

The early representatives of the Phillips family in America were planters in old Virginia. From that commonwealth John Phillips removed to Missouri and took up general farming pursuits. Austin, son of John, was born in Missouri, and became the founder of the family in California, starting across the plains as early as 1848. After he had gone as far as Salt Lake he stopped for a year and hence did not arrive in California until the spring of 1850. For a short time he engaged in prospecting and mining in Tuolumne county, after which he opened a general store at Sonora, and later became identified with ranch and stock interests in San Joaquin county. During 1865 he came to Fresno county and settled on the upper Kings river, where he gradually established large stock and farm interests. At the same time he became a prominent factor in local Democratic politics and for twelve years served as a member of the county board of supervisors. In addition he was active in the Masonic fraternity. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1885, he was fifty-nine years of age. After coming to the coast he married Miss Margaret Barton, who was born in Missouri and during 1852 crossed the plains with ox-teams in company with her father, Jackson Barton. At first Mr. Barton made his home in San Joaquin county, but during 1865 he removed to the upper Kings river and from that time to his death continued to reside in Fresno county. At this writing Mrs. Margaret Phillips makes her home near Letcher, where she has a host of warm personal friends. For years she has been an earnest member of the Christian Church and a staunch supporter of its doctrines.

In the family of Austin and Margaret Phillips there were four sons and two daughters, namely: Newton, whose name introduces this article; William, living in New Mexico; Mrs. Blanche Perry, of Sonora, this state; J. A., whose home is in the vicinity of Letcher; Theodore, now in New Mexico; and Mrs. Pina Bogard, living near Letcher. The eldest of the family, Newton Phillips, was born on the home farm in San Joaquin county February 4, 1857, and at eight years of age accompanied the family to the Kings river ranch, where he soon became an assistant to his father in the improvement of the property. During winter months he attended the



public schools and later was a student in the academy. After having assisted his father for a long period, at the age of twenty-six years he left home and started out for himself, embarking in the stock business and general farming on the upper Kings river. The property at that location was sold in 1887 and he then removed to a ranch two miles above Letcher, from there coming into the village during 1895 and embarking in the business he still conducts. For eight years he acceptably filled the office of school director in Dry creek district and for ten years held office as justice of the peace. As a Democrat he has been active in town and county politics and wields considerable influence in local party affairs. Possessing versatile ability, he successfully conducts his store, hotel, postoffice and stock and grain farm, and through these varied avenues of labor finds himself the possessor of a merited competence.

During 1882 Mr. Phillips established domestic ties. The lady who then became his wife was Miss Frances A. Greenup, a native of Cole county, Mo., and a daughter of John C. Greenup. After years of activity in farm pursuits in Missouri, in 1875 Mr. Greenup brought his family to California and settled on a farm in Fresno county, where he remained until death. At her father's home near Letcher Miss Greenup became the wife of Mr. Phillips, to whom she has since been a capable counselor and efficient helpmate. Their family consists of the following named children: J. Austin, Newton Allen, Claude, and Frank, but death has removed from the family circle the third son, who died at twelve years of age. The family are adherents of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and Mr. Phillips acts as recording steward of the local congregation, to which he also contributes generously of his means, time and influence in support of its various charities and societies.

**JOSEPH SULLIVAN.** A pioneer settler of Merced county, Joseph Sullivan has taken an active interest in developing the agricultural industries of this section of California, and while aiding in the upbuilding of the county has improved for himself a valuable farm, which is pleasantly located about four miles east of Merced. He has been an intelligent observer of men and events, and his broad experience and shrewd common sense have been important factors in his success as a farmer and a business man. A son of Lawrence and Catherine (Morrison) Sullivan, he was born in County Kerry, Ireland, in 1833, and when but three weeks old was left fatherless.

At the age of sixteen years, Joseph Sullivan, who was a bright and ambitious lad, emigrated

to the United States, the supposed poor man's paradise, crossing the ocean in 1849. Locating in Virginia, he obtained work on the Valley Railroad, and remained there and in the South for fifteen years. Coming to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama in 1864, Mr. Sullivan was employed in farming in Solano county for four years. In 1868 he removed to Merced county, and located on his present ranch, buying six hundred and forty acres of land, a part of which he has since sold. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres, and is one of the thriving and successful general farmers of this locality, raising principally wheat, barley and stock. His ranch is well improved and productive, yielding him a good annual income. In politics Mr. Sullivan is independent, voting for the best men and measures irrespective of party restrictions. He is a man of stanch integrity, much respected as a citizen, and is a faithful member of the Catholic Church.

In San Francisco, Mr. Sullivan married Margaret Kern, and they have six children living, namely: Mary, a teacher; Lawrence; Joseph; Margaret; Michael; and John.

**JOHN D. MCCARTHY.** Too much cannot be said in praise of the enterprise and thrift which have brought success to John D. McCarthy, one of the public-spirited and capable business men of Los Banos. Mr. McCarthy has built up a paying livery business since 1896, in which year he bought out the Gardner stable, which he enlarged and improved, and started upon what has proved a successful career. Obstacles have impeded his progress, however, for in 1900 the building burned to the ground, resulting in the erection of a more modern structure, 70 x 100 feet dimensions. He carries a line of equipages suitable for all occasions, and supplies his livery with thoroughbred horses raised by himself on his ranch of three hundred and twenty acres, three miles southwest of Los Banos. This ranch, with its three sets of improvements, and its exceptional value as a dairy center, brings one to a resume of the life of its original purchaser, John McCarthy, the father, for whom the subject of this sketch was named.

John McCarthy was born in Ireland and came as a young man to Boston, where he married Catherine McCarthy, who died in that city leaving one son, John D. of this review, who was born in Boston October 25, 1864. When his son was five years old, in 1869, the elder McCarthy came to California and located on a farm near what is now Los Banos, Merced county, the one now owned by his son and heir. He liked the state, its climate and people, and in 1873 returned east and brought his son, John D.,

back with him, the youth having in the meantime gotten a fair start in the public schools. Mr. McCarthy engaged in farming and stock-raising until his death in 1896, at the age of sixty years. He was prominent and successful, and unquestionably one of the best and most useful settlers which Merced county has known. He took an intelligent but not active interest in politics, and for years served as a member of the school board.

From 1873 until 1879 John D. McCarthy attended the public schools of San Francisco, then located on his father's Merced county farm, thoroughly learning the science of agriculture. In 1893 he journeyed to Guatemala, South America, and upon his return six months later bought his present livery business in Los Banos. He has leased his finely appointed farm and is devoting his entire time to conducting one of the best livery enterprises in Merced county. The first marriage of Mr. McCarthy occurred in Madera, with Jennie Griffin, born in Ireland, who died in Los Banos leaving three children, Mary, Katherine and Leo. The present Mrs. McCarthy was formerly Mary Maher, and she has two children, Genevieve and Zita. Mr. McCarthy is a Republican. He is a popular, genial, and enterprising member of the community, aiding it not only with his business success, but with his interest in all matters of public moment.

---

JOHN G. SIMPSON, Sr. No state in the Union maintains a deeper pride in her pioneers than does California, nor has any state a greater reason for so doing. It is the pioneers of California who by their hardships and sacrifices rendered possible the comforts of the present era. Their patient courage was the foundation stone upon which the permanent superstructure of a commonwealth was built; their zeal was a constant bulwark against disappointments, and their enterprise founded towns, improved farms and made the "desert to bloom as the rose." Among such pioneers an honored place belongs to the late John G. Simpson, Sr., whose memory is treasured as that of a resourceful citizen and kind friend, and whose name is perpetuated by descendants inheriting the qualities that inspired his successful career.

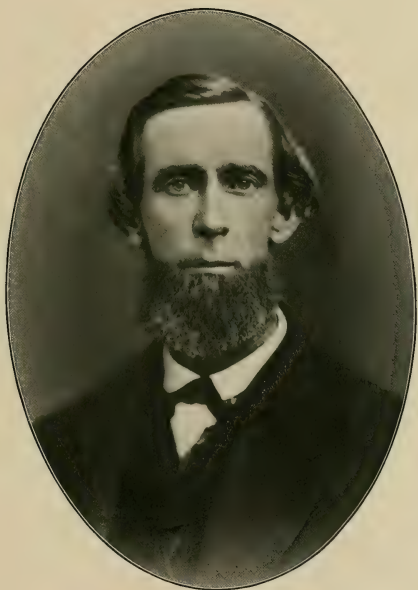
On a farm in Kentucky John G. Simpson was born October 22, 1829, and from there he went to Missouri with his parents, Robert and Keziah (Greenup) Simpson, settling with them on a tract of raw land in Miller county, where they remained until death. At the time of attaining young manhood he was confronted by the opportunity to settle in California, concerning which but little was known. Desiring to seek his fortune amid the untried conditions of the coast he

started with ox-teams across the plains, being a member of the party under Governor Edwards, with whom also came Joseph C. Thompson of Fresno county. At first he tried his luck at mining in Mariposa county, but the result was unsatisfactory, and he turned his attention to teaming from Fort Millerton to Stockton and the mountains. The next venture in which he became interested was a butcher and stock business with J. N. Musick as a partner. On the dissolution of the partnership in 1861 he became interested in ranching, at first renting land on Dry creek and later entering land from the government.

Coming to the vicinity of Academy, Fresno county, in 1863, Mr. Simpson began to buy land and sheep, and eventually acquired the title to about eight sections. The qualities which made him successful in the acquisition of property contributed to his pre-eminence in other departments of activity. The Democratic party, to which he always gave steadfast support, for many years retained him in the office of county superintendent of schools, and as a director he aided in the building of the academy. Indeed, the cause of education in this vicinity had no supporter more staunch than he, and his advice was often sought by those in whose hands rested the training of the youth of this locality. Fraternally he held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in religious connections affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in whose large and devoted congregation he became a leader by force of his upright character, sincere Christian life and sagacious judgment.

The marriage of John G. Simpson was solemnized at Visalia September 13, 1859, and united him with Miss Sarah M. Baley, who was born in Nodaway county, Mo. The Baley family is of eastern extraction. William Baley, an easterner by birth and education, followed the tide of emigration westward and settled among the pioneers of Missouri, where he passed his remaining years on a farm. Among his children was a son, William Wright Baley, a native of Madison county, Mo., and for some years a farmer in Nodaway county, that state. When the discovery of gold in California in 1848 drew the eyes of the entire world to this section he determined to try the fickle goddess, Fortune, in the far-distant regions. The year 1849 found him a pioneer emigrant on the plains, where he traveled with Judge Gillam Baley. Naturally the mines were his goal and, still following the experience of others, he had no especial good luck in the mines, yet the months were not wholly unfruitful of results.

Returning to Missouri in 1852 William Wright Baley took up agricultural pursuits which he had relinquished for the more adven-



JOHN G. SIMPSON, SR.



turous life of a miner. In 1857 he again started for the west, this time accompanied by his family. The second trip was marked by misfortune. After having spent the winter at Albuquerque the party proceeded westward via the Colorado river and there one evening suffered an attack from a large number of savage Indians. The white men were conquered by superior numbers and were forced to helplessly watch the red men drive their stock across the river. Left without any means of proceeding on their journey, men, women and children walked back to Albuquerque. A search there for new equipment was almost a failure, but they finally secured a few thin cattle and started again for the west. Soon the cattle gave out and were killed and eaten by the little band of almost starved emigrants. Again they were forced to return to Albuquerque, this time driven by pangs of keenest hunger. Their condition was pitiable in the extreme. Footsore and starving, they finally landed in the town, where comforts were procured for the suffering crowd. It was remarked by all that the women of the party had endured all of the hardships of this memorable journey without uttering a word of complaint; the frightful sufferings were endured with a patience-born of true heroism, nor did they give up in despair although it became necessary for them to walk the entire distance to California.

After having passed through Los Angeles in the fall of 1858 William Wright Baley settled at Visalia and engaged in teaming. Later he removed to Stockton. About 1865 he embarked in the stock business on Big Dry creek, Fresno county, and here he continued to make his home until he died in 1883. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Nancy Funderburk, was born in Tennessee and died in California. They were the parents of the following children: Sarah M., Mrs. Simpson, of Fresno county; Nancy J., who died at Visalia; Henry, a resident of Fresno; Berthena, who died in Missouri; William Washington, a stock-raiser and farmer at Tollhouse, Fresno county; G. Pierce, a merchant and farmer at Tollhouse; Caleb, who conducts a hotel at Tollhouse; Mary, who died in infancy on the Gila river; Benjamin, who died after the family settled on Big Dry creek; John, a farmer near Academy; and Dolly, Mrs. Parker, whose husband is a minister at Sanger, Fresno county.

As a child Mrs. Simpson was a pupil in subscription schools held in log buildings near her Missouri home, and naturally her advantages were few, yet she has attained a broad knowledge and is a woman of refinement. Since the death of her husband she has continued to reside at the old homestead near Academy, where she owns almost eleven hundred acres and makes a specialty of the stock business. For many years

she has been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, whose activities have in her a generous contributor and encouraging assistant. In her family there were seven children, but two have passed from earth, namely: Mary, Mrs. Henry Hazelton, who died at Academy; and William who was accidentally drowned in 1893 while bathing in Double ditch, at the age of thirty years. The sons and daughter now living are as follows: Thomas Jackson, Marvin and John G., all of whom operate large stock ranches near Academy; Lizzie, wife of John Fly, of Academy; and George Pierce, who conducts a stock ranch near Academy, Fresno county.

---

GEORGE PIERCE SIMPSON. Representative of one of the pioneer families of California is the progressive young stock-raiser whose lifelong identification with the county, intimate knowledge of its history, thorough familiarity with its soil and wide acquaintance among its people make him a forceful personality in a locality rapidly gaining prestige as one of the desirable locations afforded by the state. Having known no other home than the county of his present residence, Mr. Simpson naturally feels the deepest interest in the development of its material resources and in the enlargement of its products, and in his own chosen occupation he has accomplished much to benefit the citizenship of the district.

The record of the family appears in the sketch of John G. Simpson, a pioneer of honored memory, for years one of the liberal, popular and resourceful residents of this part of the state. George Pierce Simpson, who was the youngest son of this pioneer, was born at the family home in Academy, Cal., December 18, 1877, and received his education in local schools. Habits of close observation and extensive general reading perhaps have accomplished more for him in the development of a broad culture and the attainment of a liberal education than the study of text-books made possible. Until twenty-one years of age he remained at home, meanwhile preparing himself for life's activities by industry, perseverance and energetic application to the work in hand. In 1889 he established his headquarters on his present property at Academy, where he has erected necessary buildings, made important improvements and established a growing business as a stockman. In addition to superintending this property of eight hundred and thirty-five acres, he owns a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres in the Sycamore district, in the foot-hills, where he has the advantage of an abundance of range for his cattle.

The marriage of Mr. Simpson united him with Miss Imogene Humphreys, a native of Mechan-

iesville district, this county. In an early day her father, J. C. Humphreys, crossed the plains from Tennessee to California with ox-teams and after becoming a resident of the west supplemented the blacksmith's trade with the occupation of general farmer and stock-raiser, making his home at Mechanicsville. He is now a resident of San Bernardino county. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Simpson has been blessed by two sons, George Walter and Herbert Wright. Though not desiring political prominence, Mr. Simpson keeps thoroughly posted concerning matters affecting the welfare of the people, and has voted the Democratic ticket in all elections. Being of a genial, companionable disposition, he has found pleasure in the activities of fraternal organizations, and has identified himself with the Eagles at Fresno and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Sanger.

---

**RICHARD NASON BARSTOW.** Among the active, useful and highly esteemed residents of this section of the state is Richard N. Barstow of Fresno, the present county recorder of Fresno county. From a long line of New England ancestry he has inherited those cardinal virtues of industry, energy and thrift characteristic of the earlier settlers of the Atlantic coast. Many members of the honored family from which he is descended have acquired distinction in professional, business, political and military circles. His great-grandfather, William Barstow, Sr., a pioneer settler of Haverhill, N. H., was a soldier in the Revolutionary army. William Barstow, Jr., the grandfather of Mr. Barstow, was born, lived and died in Haverhill, N. H., where for many years he served as postmaster, and was also the leading merchant. He was a citizen of prominence, public-spirited and patriotic, and served in the war of 1812. One of his sons, Hon. George Barstow, was a prominent attorney in San Francisco during the '50's, and during one term of the California Legislature was speaker of the House. A large part of the great wealth which he acquired he devoted to charitable purposes, and after his death his widow continued the philanthropical work which he had established.

A native of New Hampshire, Mr. Barstow was born February 3, 1853, in Haverhill. His father, Hon. James Townsend Barstow, was a life-long resident of that place, dying there at the age of seventy-six years. He was a farmer by occupation, and very active in the management of public affairs. For many years he served as town clerk, and for two terms was a Representative to the State Legislature. He was a broad, liberal-minded man, exem-

plifying in his daily life the precepts of the Golden Rule, which was his daily guide, and his only religious creed. He married Sarah J. Brown, also of Haverhill, being a daughter of Richard N. Brown, a dealer in hardware and tinware. Of the six children born of their union, four grew to years of maturity, and one daughter and two sons are now living.

The eldest child of his parents, Richard N. Barstow grew to man's estate in his native town, acquiring a practical education in the public schools and the village academy. Going to Boston in 1874, he was for five years clerk in a wholesale oil store. In 1879 he came to California as superintendent of the Jones-Hill Hydraulic Mine Company, and had charge of two giant engines until the passage of the anti-Slickens law, and was subsequently general manager for the company until it gave up business, in 1889. Purchasing then a colony lot in Central Colony, five miles from Fresno, Mr. Barstow embarked in the culture of fruit, making a specialty of raisins. Selling out in 1895, he bought three thousand acres of land in the San Joaquin valley, and turned his attention to the raising of grain, in which he was quite successful. In 1901 he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land, and on this, by irrigation, he raises five crops of alfalfa each year, cutting five tons to the acre per season. In the fall of 1902, Mr. Barstow was nominated on the Republican ticket for county recorder, was elected by upward of one hundred majority, and in January, 1903, took the oath of office, and began his term of four years.

In Eldorado county, Cal., Mr. Barstow married Agnes H. Baldwin, who was born in Coulterville, Cal., the daughter of a pioneer family, her parents having removed there from Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Barstow have two children, George, an employee of the Raisin Growers' Association; and James Townsend. Politically Mr. Barstow is a Republican, and for two years was a member of the State Central Committee. Fraternally he was made an Odd Fellow in Georgetown, Cal., and now belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F.

---

**MANUEL GONZALES, Jr.** Among the younger generation of men who are successfully following agricultural pursuits in Merced county, and who are doing their part in a practical and intelligent way to make this county famous for its fine farms and excellent products, due mention should be made of Manuel Gonzales, Jr., who takes an active interest in all matters that are calculated to advance the interests of the community in which he lives. Residing



on a seventeen and one-half acre ranch in the Atwater colony, devoted to the cultivation of sweet potatoes, it may be said of him that he understands perfectly how to make a success of this product, having raised as high as two hundred bushels to the acre. This is considered an enormous yield and is brought about not only by the exceptional fertility of his land, but also by his excellent methods of planting and caring for his crop.

In Mariposa county, Cal., May 25, 1875, Mr. Gonzales was born, one of three sons born to Manuel, Sr., and Mary (Silva) Gonzales. His father, a native of the Island of Pico, Portugal, was a sailor. In the early '60s he landed at San Francisco and soon afterward he located in Mariposa county. There he followed mining, but subsequently engaged in sheep-raising. When thirty years old his marriage took place in the above named county, which continued to be his home until 1894. He then removed to Merced county and purchased land in the Buhach colony, and in this locality he still owns twenty-eight acres, being now sixty years old. His youngest son, Anthony, assists in caring for this place, and his two eldest sons, Joseph and Manuel, each have seventeen and one-half acres in the Atwater colony.

Reared and educated in Mariposa county, Manuel Gonzales, Jr., when of sufficient age, engaged in sheep-raising, with his father, and at one time they owned five thousand sheep. Upon the removal of the father to Merced county the sons all accompanied him and about two years ago Manuel removed to the farm where he now lives and engaged in raising sweet potatoes, as previously mentioned. He wedded Miss Mary Armas, who was born in Mariposa county, and they have one son, Thomas. In politics Mr. Gonzales affiliates with the Republican party, and as a citizen he is one of the highly esteemed young farmers in the Atwater colony.

**PATRICK BOLAND.** Engaged in the prosecution of an honorable and independent calling, Patrick Boland of Merced county exercises good judgment and commendable skill in his agricultural pursuits and is contributing his full share in developing and promoting the industrial interests of the community in which he resides. He holds a worthy position among those sturdy and energetic men who have come to the United States from a foreign land, and in the support of the institutions of their adopted country have proved themselves most loyal and patriotic American citizens. A native of Ireland, he was born in 1851 in the city of Dublin, which was also the place of birth of his parents, Patrick and Mary (McGuirk) Boland.

Obtaining his early education in his native city, Patrick Boland remained at home until about fourteen years old. In 1864 he emigrated to the United States and the following year enlisted in the United States regular army, with which he was actively associated for nearly thirty years. A part of this time he held various non-commissioned grades in the Nineteenth Infantry, and for fifteen years was employed in the medical department of the division to which he was attached. Retiring from the army on account of ill health in 1893, Mr. Boland at once located in California, and in the fall of that year purchased his present ranch, which is situated about five miles west of Merced. Here he has forty acres of land, fifteen acres of which he devotes to the culture of fruit, on the remainder raising alfalfa. He is also carrying on a successful business as a dairyman, having eighteen cows of a good grade, which produce a fine quality of milk that is highly appreciated by his customers.

Mr. Boland married first, in 1878, Libbie Fitzmaurice, who died in 1898, and they had seven children, namely: William P., Thomas, Edward, Francis, Harry, James and Mary, the two latter deceased. In 1901 he married Mrs. Nettie (Smith) Woodard, who had two children, Sadie and Ethel, by her first husband. Fraternally Mr. Boland is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**MRS. EMILY J. EDWARDS.** A resident of Merced county for many years, Mrs. Emily J. Edwards is widely known and appreciated for her many estimable traits of character, and the business sagacity and judgment which have marked her conduct of financial interests. She is now located upon her ranch of twenty acres, three and a half miles northeast of the city of Merced, in Yosemite Colony, the property being given over to the cultivation of figs, olives and alfalfa. Of sturdy English stock, Mrs. Edwards was born in Manchester, England, the daughter of William J. Molineux.

The Molineux family has flourished in England for generations, having crossed from France during the Norman Conquest. The later members of the family have become factors in the commercial life of their land, both William, Sr., and William, Jr., grandfather and father of Mrs. Edwards, being hardware merchants of Manchester. William Molineux brought his family to the United States when Mrs. Edwards was still an infant, remaining in New York for one year, when they returned to England. A little later they again crossed to the western world, locating in New Orleans, La., where the father engaged in business until 1856, at which time

he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Locating in Grass Valley he continued in his mercantile business, conducting a hardware establishment in Nevada county until his retirement from the active duties of life, when he removed to San Francisco, where his death occurred at the age of sixty-two years. Two years after his location in Grass Valley he sent for his family, who came west by the same route as that traversed by him in 1856. Mr. Molineux was a Mason and was quite prominent in the order, establishing a lodge in Nevada county. Mrs. Molineux, who was before marriage Mary A. Weaver, died in 1902, at the home of Mrs. Edwards in Merced, at the age of seventy-eight years.

In California Emily J. Molineux became the wife of C. R. Edwards, who is now deceased, and by this union she had one son, Henry E., of Los Angeles, who has been connected for sixteen years with W. P. Fuller & Co., of that city, and since 1904 has been in business for himself. He married Clara Doyle and they are the parents of two children, Clarence and Glenn. Mrs. Edwards made her home in San Francisco for fourteen years, when, on April 5, 1880, she located in the city of Merced and made that her home until 1903. Removing then to her ranch, as before mentioned, she is now numbered among the agriculturists of this section. In addition to her home property she also owns a business block in the city. In her religious affiliations Mrs. Edwards is a member of the Episcopal Church.

**HANS A. HANSEN.** A man of unquestioned ability and integrity, active and enterprising, Hans A. Hansen, as manager of the Selma yards of the Valley Lumber Company, is prominently identified with the industrial progress of Fresno county. He takes an interest in the public welfare of the community in which he resides, and enjoys to a high degree the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. A native of Germany, he was born May 28, 1869, in Schleswig, which was also the birthplace of his parents, Ehm and Elsa Hansen. His father, a farmer by occupation, spent his entire life in the Fatherland, where his widow still resides.

The youngest of a family of four children, Hans A. Hansen attended the common schools of his native town until twelve years old. In 1881 he came to the United States, and for two years was employed as a farm laborer in Dwight, Ill. Migrating to California in 1883, he entered the employ of the Prescott & Pierce Lumber Company, at Fresno, serving first as clerk, then as yardman and teamster. This company being merged in the Valley Lumber Company, Mr.

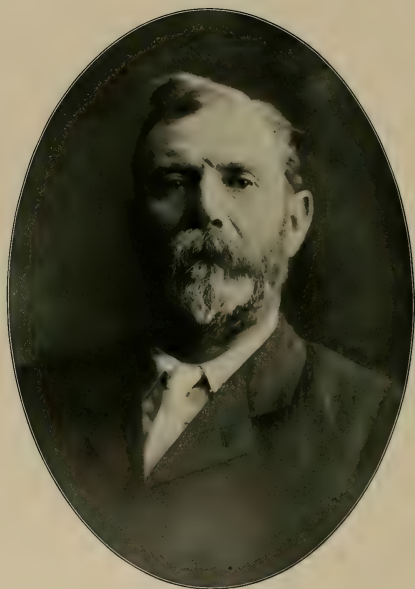
Hansen remained in its employ, being first sent to Caruthers as clerk of the yard in that place, and subsequently occupying a similar position in Sanger. He was afterward placed in charge of the yards at Kingsburg, remaining there until 1898, and from that time until 1899 was manager of the company's branch yard in Fresno. Coming then to Selma, Mr. Hansen has since had entire control of the Selma yards belonging to this company, and as a manager has been very successful in advancing and promoting the material and financial interests of the firm.

While living in Kingsburg, Mr. Hansen was married in 1893 to Minnie Kling, who was born in Iowa, a daughter of John Kling, a resident of that state. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have three children, Elsa L., Chester O., and Frank P. In political affairs Mr. Hansen is an active and useful member of the Republican party, and is now rendering good service as city councilman, a position to which he was elected in 1902 for a term of four years.

**GILLO EDWARD NORDGREN.** For some years Mr. Nordgren has been at the head of a furniture and undertaking business that is one of the largest of its kind in the entire San Joaquin valley. Situated on the corner of Main and Alameda streets, his store occupies a site 50x150 feet in dimensions, with the undertaking establishment adjoining 25x80 feet in size. A gallery enables him to command a greater amount of space than otherwise possible for the display of furniture and carpets, a full assortment of which he constantly carries in stock, together with the latest styles in wall paper and interior finishings. For his work as undertaker he prepared by taking a course in Clark's Embalming School in Chicago, from which he was graduated. In addition to the management of his large business he acts as coroner and public administrator, having been elected to the office in 1902 by a majority of two hundred and fifty-five, for a term of four years.

A native Californian, Mr. Nordgren was born at Saratoga, Santa Clara county, March 25, 1862, being a son of E. H. and Sophia Nordgren, who died at Saratoga. Both his father and grandfather were natives of Stockholm, Sweden, and the former learned the trade of a diamond setter in his native city, while the latter engaged in the occupation of a silver smith. Both came to America and settled in California during the early mining history of this state, having made the voyage hither by way of Cape Horn to San Francisco. For a time the father conducted a jew-





*R J Wigley*

elry store on Montgomery street, San Francisco, but later gave his attention to setting out and caring for an orchard at Saratoga. However, his ability as a diamond setter was so extraordinary that his services were in demand for such work, and for twenty years he was employed in that occupation by a large jewelry establishment of San Francisco. At the time of his death, which occurred April 17, 1903, he had reached the age of eighty-three years; his wife had died in 1889. Both were faithful members of the Lutheran Church, whose doctrines they endeavored to exemplify in their lives. After coming to America and acquiring citizenship, he voted with the Republican party, but never was active in public affairs, nor desirous of holding local offices, preferring to devote himself to his chosen occupation. Of his three sons and one daughter, there are two sons now living, Gillo Edward being in Merced and Seth in Hollister.

When eleven years of age Gillo Edward Nordgren removed with the family from Saratoga to San Francisco, where he spent the next few years in the grammar school. At the age of fifteen he began as an apprentice to the upholsterer's trade under W. J. Heeney & Co., with whom he served for two and one-half years. The following eighteen months were spent at his trade in Tombstone, Ariz., during the days of that mining town's remarkable prosperity. On his return to San Francisco he became an employee of the firm with which he had learned the trade, but three months later began to work for Clark & Co., in the same line. His residence in Merced dates from November 15, 1884, when he entered the employ of A. G. Clough in the furniture business, his work being in the upholstery department. It was his intention to remain only until after the holidays and then return to San Francisco, but the burning of the store caused a change in his plans and he remained to assist in the task of rebuilding, then became an employee in the furniture department. In 1890 he was admitted to partnership in the undertaking business, the firm title becoming Clough & Nordgren, but in 1899 he purchased the undertaking department and has since continued alone.

After establishing himself in Merced Mr. Nordgren met and married Miss Emma Ludescher, who was born in Mariposa county, and has been of the greatest assistance to her husband by her counsel and co-operation. She is a daughter of Joseph Ludescher, a native of Alsace, who, upon immigrating to America, settled in California during the early history of this state. Throughout much of his life he

followed the trade of a merchant tailor and built up a considerable trade in his line at Merced, where he resided during the last years of his life. Always pronounced in his allegiance to the Republican party, Mr. Nordgren has served as a member of the county central committee of his party and on that ticket was elected councilman, serving four years. In Masonry he is identified with La-Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M. While following his trade at Tombstone he was initiated into the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is now connected with Merced Lodge No. 208, also with the Encampment in that city. In addition he holds membership in the Woodmen of the World, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Merced Parlor No. 24, N. S. G. W.

**RICHARD JEFFERSON WIGLEY.** Among the prominent and enterprising farmers of Tulare county, Richard Jefferson Wigley is located within the vicinity of Poplar and engaged in the operation of his extensive ranch, consisting of twenty-five hundred and fifty-five acres. He was born in Gordon county, Ga., April 21, 1852, a son of Richard and the grandson of William Wigley, the former born in North Carolina in 1813, where the latter removed from his birthplace in Virginia and followed the occupation of farmer. In manhood Richard Wigley sought a home further south, locating in Gordon county, Ga., about 1850, where he farmed in Sugar valley. In 1866 he removed to Franklin county, Ark., where he engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife, formerly Minerva Mackey, was born in Georgia and died in Arkansas. They were the parents of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, of whom Richard Jefferson Wigley was the ninth in order of birth.

A limited education was all that Richard Jefferson Wigley could obtain among the primitive conditions of the early day. From earliest childhood he was trained in the practical duties which fall to the lot of a farmer's son, assisting his father in farming until 1872. In that year he went to Texas and located at Clarksville, where he engaged in farming for six years. He then went home to Arkansas, and spent the ensuing year with his parents, after which he came to California. For one year he remained in the San Joaquin valley, when he went to Walla Walla, Wash., and remained the same length of time. Returning to California, he located near Poplar, Tulare county, in conjunction with his brother purchasing two sections of land. Later he bought his brother's interest in the land and has continued to add to the original purchase until he now owns twenty-five hundred and fifty-five acres.

About thirty acres of this extensive tract is in alfalfa, while the balance is given over to the cultivation of grain. His interests are very extensive and he has met with success in all of his operations, his property ranking among the finest in this section.

In Visalia, Cal., Mr. Wigley married Laura H. Radliff, a native of Wisconsin, and they are the parents of the following children: Ethel, Amy and Carrie, all at home. In 1901 Mr. Wigley purchased property in Tulare city, establishing his home there in order to give his children the advantages of the high school of that place. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated by the Democratic party.

---

CHARLES A. ROGERS, M. D. The ancestry of Dr. Rogers of Bakersfield may be traced to England, Scotland and Ireland, and among his personal attributes may be noticed characteristics typical of each of these nationalities. His paternal grandfather, Alexander Rogers, came from Ireland to the United States and settled in Ohio, but soon went to Indiana, where he took up government land near Mechanicsburg, Boone county. By degrees he succeeded in clearing the land and placing it under cultivation. Improvements were made as his means permitted, and at the time of his death, which occurred at sixty-eight years, he owned a valuable farm and was accounted a successful man for those days. His wife, Katherine, also was a native of Ireland, and died in Indiana at fifty-seven years. Among their seven children was a son, William R., who was born near Urbana, Ohio, and in childhood accompanied the family to Indiana, where he assisted in evolving a farm out of the primeval soil. Following the westward trend of emigration he removed to Iowa and settled near Cedar Rapids, where he carried on a farm from 1863 until 1887. The latter part of his life was passed in Topeka, Kans., and he died in that city when sixty-eight years of age. During all of his mature life he was a staunch supporter of the Republican party and maintained a warm interest in politics. When the Civil war opened he offered his services to the Union, but failed to pass the required physical examination and thus was prevented from serving his country as he desired.

The marriage of William R. Rogers united him with Emily Davis, who was born in Indiana and grew to womanhood in her native county of Boone, later spending many years in Iowa, and thence going to Topeka, Kans., where she died at sixty-five years of age. Her parents, Charles and Susan Davis, were natives respectively of England and Scotland and attained the advanced

ages of ninety-six and ninety-two years. In a very early day Charles Davis shipped produce down the Mississippi river to southern markets, but later he gave his attention more especially to the development of a farm, meeting with a degree of success that reflected credit upon his energy and judgment. In their religious belief William R. Rogers and his wife were members of the Christian Church. They were the parents of three sons. The second son, J. A., is an attorney and federal commissioner at Clarion, Iowa, where he has long been a leading Republican. Ephraim P., who was graduated from the Topeka Medical College, carried on medical practice until his death, December 17, 1899.

The eldest of the three sons, Charles A., was born on a farm near Lebanon, Boone county, Ind., February 22, 1851, and at twelve years of age accompanied the family to Iowa, where he was a student in the Cedar Rapids high school. At the age of nineteen he entered Cornell College, where he remained for two years, a classmate of Leslie M. Shaw and M. L. Ward of San Diego. His rudimentary knowledge of medicine was gained through study under Drs. Mansfield and Carpenter, of Cedar Rapids, after which he studied in Rush Medical College, Chicago, in the winter of 1873-74. His first experience as a regular practitioner was gained in Brighton, Iowa, where he remained until 1876. The following year he practiced at Sergeant Bluff, Woodbury county, Iowa, and then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1878. A subsequent course in Rush Medical College gave him a diploma from that institution in the spring of 1879. Immediately afterward he came to California and settled in Kern county. After seven months at Kernville he came to Bakersfield, of which city he has since been a well-known citizen and leading physician. In point of years of active practice, he is the oldest physician in the place. He holds the commission of captain and assistant surgeon in the California National Guard, and during the Spanish-American war, while assistant surgeon of the Sixth Regiment of California Volunteers, he was ordered with his company to Benicia barracks and became post surgeon for three months, when he was transferred to the Presidio. On the organization of the Southern California Medical Society he became one of its charter members, and he is likewise identified with the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society and the Association of Naval and Military Surgeons.

In 1872 Dr. Rogers was united in marriage with Miss Frances Case, who was born in Mount Morris, N. Y. They have two sons, namely: Homer, a graduate of the medical department of the University of Southern California and now



engaged in practice with his father, and Guy, a graduate of the State University, and now a practicing dentist in San Francisco. Fraternally connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias, Dr. Rogers is a charter member of Bakersfield Lodge No. 266, B. P. O. E., which he has represented in the Grand Lodge. The Republican party has always received his ballot, but in no other way has he identified himself with politics, and he has refused to permit the use of his name as a candidate for office. His attention has been given almost wholly to professional duties. It is his ambition to keep abreast of the developments that are being made constantly in the science of therapeutics. With this object in view he is an intelligent reader of medical journals and a close student of every discovery made in the healing art. By his careful diagnosis and skillful application of remedial agencies he has won the confidence of the people of his home city and adjoining region, among whom he has a host of warm personal friends.

---

**WILBUR F. CLARKE.** In the days when Virginia was still a colonial possession of the mother country the Clarke family came from England and took up the occupation of planters in the Old Dominion. Christopher Clarke was the son of a native Virginian and was himself born and reared there, becoming in early life a planter and following this occupation through all of his active life, with the exception of the period of his service in the Revolutionary war. At the time of his death he was eighty-eight years of age, while his wife, Elizabeth Hope, lived to be almost one hundred. Their son, Rev. William G., father of W. F. Clarke, was born near Charlottesville, Va., in 1816, and while earning a livelihood from his plantation he devoted all of his leisure hours, gratuitously, to the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. A man of deep religious spirit, he counted no labor in vain that advanced the kingdom of God on earth, and many were the sacrifices he made in order that the growth of the church might be promoted. His death occurred in Virginia in 1884, when he was sixty-eight years of age. During the years of his young manhood he married Martha U. Huckstep, who was born in Virginia in 1819 and died there in October, 1902. The family of which she was a member originated in Germany, her grandfather having immigrated from that country to a Virginia plantation. Her father, Charles Huckstep, was a native of Virginia, where he became a prosperous

and extensive planter, and died at an advanced age.

In the family of Rev. William G. Clarke there were seven children who attained mature years, namely: W. F., tax collector of Merced county, Cal.; Mrs. Martha W. Taylor of Kern county, this state; Louisa, who resides in Missouri; Christopher, who enlisted in Company K, Second Virginia Cavalry, during the Civil war, and was killed in a skirmish near Winchester, Va., in the fall of 1863; Mrs. Elizabeth Cleveland of Selma, Cal.; Sarah M., who died in Virginia; and Maria, Mrs. Marshall, a resident of Virginia. W. F. Clarke was born near Charlottesville, Va., April 12, 1839, and grew to manhood on a farm twelve miles from that town. After being primarily educated in subscription schools he became a student in Palmyra Academy, and then continued his studies in Emory and Henry College in Virginia. While in the junior year his studies were interrupted by the outbreak of the Civil war. Immediately afterward he enlisted in Company D, Nineteenth Virginia Infantry, with which he participated in the first battle of Bull Run, the engagements at Williamsburg, Seven Pines or Fair Oaks Station, the seven days' battles around Richmond, second battle of Manassas and the engagement at Sharpsburg or Antietam. On being exchanged from the infantry to Company K, Second Virginia Cavalry, he served under General Fitzhugh Lee, in whose army he remained until the close of the war. Among his battles as a cavalryman were those at Fredericksburg, Winchester, Brandy Station and Buckland, Va., a skirmish at Beverly, W. Va., and the battles of Five Forks and High Bridge.

At the close of the war Mr. Clarke returned home to find that his father was financially ruined, the farm laid bare by devastating armies, and the sawmill burned to the ground. On every hand were tales of distress and bereavement. There was none to help and few to encourage. Undiscouraged by the gloomy prospect, the son began to aid in the support of the family. By remodeling and repairing the old sawmill he was able to operate it, and so began to saw pine and oak, which he shipped to Baltimore. By the exercise of patience and tireless labor he placed the business on a profitable basis; and, buying one-half interest in the milling business, he continued the manufacture of lumber until 1869, when he sold out in order to engage in farming. The year 1870 found him in California, where he taught school in Stanislaus and Merced counties, and in 1872 bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres on Los Banos creek,

three miles out from the city of the same name. After having engaged in raising grain on this farm for nine years, in 1881 he sold the property and bought one hundred and sixty acres four miles from Merced, where for years he engaged in farming, gardening and raising fruit. Eventually the tract was sold off in small lots. In 1893 he moved to Merced, where he now resides. For ten years after his removal to this city he owned twenty acres in the suburbs, but finally disposed of the tract.

In Fairfax county, Va., Mr. Clarke married, December 12, 1866, Miss Sarah Summers, whose ancestors were the first settlers of Belle Haven, Va. (now Alexandria), and built the first house in the place. Her father, William T. Summers, was born in Alexandria, as was also her grandfather, William Summers, a manufacturer by occupation. The lineage of the family is traced to Scotland. The grandfather married Jane Millan, two of whose brothers were colonels in the war of 1812. William T. Summers became a large and enterprising miller in Fairfax county. For a wife he chose Mariana Johnson, a native of Fauquier county, Va., and a daughter of Moses Johnson, a Virginian planter, whose father, William Johnson, was a hero of the Revolution. The Johnson family is of French extraction, but has been identified with American history since the colonial period. Long surviving her husband, who died in 1858, Mrs. William T. Summers died in Virginia in June, 1903, when advanced in years. She was the mother of six children, namely: Sarah, wife of W. F. Clarke of Merced; Mrs. Mildred Lucas, who died in Kentucky; Elizabeth, wife of J. L. Wright, who holds office as city clerk and assessor of Santa Cruz; Mrs. Isabelle Holden of Fairfax county, Va.; William, a merchant in Chicago; and George, a farmer of Merced county, Cal. Mrs. Clarke was born in Fairfax county and passed the years of childhood on the home estate, situated two miles from the site of the first battle of Bull Run. In this vicinity, indeed, were waged numerous engagements of the Civil war, and the peaceful valley was devastated by the grim hosts of war. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke comprises four daughters, namely: Inez, wife of W. A. Saunders of Merced; Mattie May, wife of E. Langenhovel of Merced county; Isabella, wife of Dr. J. C. Robertson of Modesto; and Ada, wife of Edgar Landram of Merced. The family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in which Mr. Clarke acts as steward and has officiated as chairman of the board of trustees. Fraternally he is connected with

the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In national politics he votes with the Democratic party, but in local matters he has never been radical. While living at Los Banos he served for six years as justice of the peace and notary public. As the Democratic candidate in 1902 he was elected tax collector of Merced county by a majority of two hundred and fifty votes, and entered upon his duties in January, 1903, for a term of four years.

JAMES EGGLESTON PETTUS. Bakersfield in its crude and undeveloped state formed the setting of James Eggleston Pettus' career for many years. At no time of his life did he retain a vivid memory of his home in Charlotte county, Va., where he was born February 26, 1827, for when seven years old he removed with his widowed mother to Arkansas, and was reared there on a farm, receiving a scant education in the public schools. Martin and Sarah W. Pettus were natives of Virginia, and the latter continued to live in Arkansas until her death, at the age of ninety years. James Eggleston came around the Horn to the mines on the Feather river in 1850, and while experiencing fair success made his home in Vallejo, then the capital of California. Afterward he kept a hotel in the town with his father-in-law, Charles H. Veeder, who from the standpoint of public spirit deserves to rank with the substantial upbuilders of the state. Colonel Veeder was born in Schenectady, N. Y., and married Lavina Watkins, a native of Canada. In his youth he was a merchant in New York, but removed at an early day to Illinois, and from there to New Orleans, where he studied law, and combined it with his mercantile ventures. With his wife, and daughter, Cornelia E., who became the wife of Mr. Pettus, he crossed the plains with ox teams in 1850, and in San Francisco established a steam laundry, which he operated with fair success for several months. He next went to Vallejo, where he practiced law and ran a hotel, and in 1852 removed to Petaluma, going from there to the site of Calpella, Mendocino county. He laid out the latter town, kept a hotel there, and attended to the legal complications that arose among the early settlers. In time his son-in-law managed the hotel, and for many succeeding years after that the lives of the two men were closely entwined.

In 1866 the Pettus and Veeder families moved down the coast with teams and wagons to San Bernardino, remained there a year, but not being favorably impressed, made their way again to Vallejo. A year later, in 1869, they came to Bakersfield and took up land on section 8, where Stockdale now stands, each man taking one hun-

dred and sixty acres, upon which they followed farming and stock raising. At the same time Colonel Veeder practiced law, finding opportunity especially in connection with contested land claims. He was the only person at the time who knew anything about the laws of the land, and was in consequence a man of prominence and great usefulness. Several years later his health began to fail, and he died in 1876, at the age of seventy-eight years, his wife having died February 28, 1867, at the age of fifty-three. The latter was a devout member of the Episcopal Church. Colonel Veeder, who possessed a strong character and constitution, won his title in the war of 1812.

Until the death of his wife, December 1, 1877, at the age of forty-three, Mr. Pettus lived on his ranch at Bakersfield, and afterward was an interested spectator of the growth of the city over what had once been a dreary desert. His death occurred July 25, 1898, and he left six children, five having died in infancy. Leonora, the oldest of the eleven children, was born in Petaluma, Sonoma county, and came to Bakersfield when a small child. There were four other girls in the place at the time, but she alone has been permitted to live and watch the rise of the populous city. March 6, 1873, Leonora was united in marriage with Howard A. Cross, a native of Farmersville, N. Y., who came to Los Angeles, Cal., as a child. His father, Anson, also born in New York state, came to California at a very early day, and for a time was engaged in the butchering business for the soldiers at Wilmington. With his son he came to Bakersfield about 1869, locating on a ranch near the town, and became prominent in various lines of activity in the community. His son ran a livery stable in Bakersfield for several years, and brought the first hack to the town, at the same time owning a meat market, and inaugurated the first milk delivery in the town. In the meantime the father went to the mines of Arizona, achieved fair success, and finally died in Placerville, Cal., in 1891. Howard A. Cross made a success of his life in Bakersfield, and his name will always be connected with its earliest and most substantial enterprises. In the early days his farm house stood on the corner of H and Nineteenth streets, where the Produce Bank is now located. He was a Republican in politics, but was always averse to accepting office. His death, September 17, 1890, removed from a field of great usefulness a citizen who had won the sincere respect of his fellowmen, and to whom his intimate friends accord a high personal tribute. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cross, of whom Lucy Cornelia is the wife of M. E. Carlock, of Shasta county, this state; Harriet A. is the wife of P. A. Dickman, of

San Francisco; James N. is engaged in the cattle business in Kern county; Carrie A. is the wife of D. B. Bristo; and Olive L. died at the age of seven years and seven months. Mrs. Cross is one of the interesting and observing pioneers of Bakersfield; is an entertaining talker, and possesses a fund of information regarding the early days. Her parents, her husband, and her husband's family were all pioneers, and as she was the eldest daughter, a well-loved wife, and always popular with her many friends, she has many memories to keep her heart young, and her life full of incentives to that kindness and consideration for which she is so well known.

CHARLES U. HENDERSON. As agent for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad at Laton Charles U. Henderson is classed among the rising citizens of this place. He was born at Ripon, Wis., a son of George M. Henderson, a merchant of Aberdeen, Scotland, who came to America and located in Northwest territory, Canada, where he became captain of a vessel in the employ of the Hudson Bay Company. Later he located in Chicago, Ill., where he engaged in business, finally removing to Brownville, Neb., as a merchant conducting a paying enterprise outfitting parties crossing the plains. The transportation business also occupied some of his time and attention, in both of which he met with success. His death occurred in that location at the age of fifty-two years. His wife, formerly Jane Merrill, a native of Connecticut, died in Oakland, Cal., whither she came in 1872. She was the mother of one son and two daughters, of whom the oldest was Charles U. Henderson. He received his education in the public schools of Brownville and the state normal at Peru, from which he was graduated in 1872. The following year he came to California and engaged with the Central Pacific Railroad Company as operator and agent at Alameda, after three years going to Milton, thence to Blue Canyon, Red Bluff, Downey, and in Stockton, San Joaquin county, becoming ticket agent, later having charge of the Stockton Railroad Agency for a period of five years. In 1883 he located on Kings river, south of Kingston, on property which he owned and there engaged in ranching and the cultivation of fruit. He was the first horticulturist in that vicinity, setting out two hundred acres in trees, building a canal for irrigation, etc. After the panic of 1893-4-5, he removed from the ranch and in 1900 was appointed postmaster at Kingston, which office was later removed to Laton, and also had a contract to carry the mail. When Nears & Saunders located in Laton and began to open up the Laguna DeTache grant, he entered their employ as local agent, the business

rapidly assuming an important place in this section. When the Santa Fe Railway Company built their road through the place Mr. Henderson was made agent. At the same time he became agent for the Wells Fargo & Co. Express, continuing in his various positions until the building of the station, since which time he has given his attention to the railway and postoffice alone. For a time he was connected with a lumber yard known as the Fassett Lumber Company, which he helped to open up and conducted for a time. Mr. Henderson has been interested in all that has pertained to the growth and development of this section, giving his time and energy in the promotion of irrigation concerns, and the building of good roads and schoolhouses. He was a member of the first committee sent to Sacramento to interest the legislature in the division of Kings county from that of Tulare, he suggesting the name of Kings, by which the county is known.

In Stockton, Cal., Mr. Henderson was united in marriage with Rose S. Sutherland, who was born near Kingston, Fresno county, Cal., and was reared and educated in Stockton. She is assistant postmaster and manages the office. Her father, John Sutherland, was born in England and came to the United States in an early day, locating in St. Louis, Mo., where he engaged as a coal miner. He crossed the plains to California and engaged in mining in Amador county, thence located in King river, Fresno county, and took up government land and added by purchase until he owned fifteen thousand acres south of that town. Later he located in Stockton, where he conducted retail meat markets. He had interests in various parts of the country and in Texas, acquiring considerable wealth before his death. Mr. Henderson is associated fraternally with the Modern Woodmen of America, of Laton; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Masons, having joined this organization in Hanford, Kings county, where he was raised to the Royal Arch degree, and now belongs to the Commandery of Fresno. Politically, he has always been a Jeffersonian Democrat, and on that party's ticket in the early '90s he was nominated for the assembly.

---

JUDGE CHARLES L. CLAFLIN, of Bakersfield, Kern county, Cal., attorney, and former superior judge of Modoc county, was born in Lebanon, Van Buren county, Iowa, August 17, 1858, and is a son of Ira and Hannah (Richardson) Claflin, both of whom were natives of Addison county, Vt. Both parents were reared, educated and finally married in Vermont, but in 1836 removed to Van Buren county, Iowa,

where Ira Claflin found abundant opportunity for the practice of his profession as surveyor and civil engineer. That territory was then wild and the inhabitants widely scattered. He purchased at public auction a tract of land which he set about to improve, developing a fine farm, upon which he lived until his death at the age of eighty-three years. His widow, now ninety years of age, still occupies the old home in Van Buren county. Ira Claflin became a man of prominence and influence in his Iowa home, serving as surveyor of Van Buren county for twenty years, and was also employed extensively by the federal government in surveying public land in Iowa and Wisconsin. Until six weeks before his death he continued in active life, retaining full possession of the faculties which rendered his career broad and successful. For many years he was identified with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He was a man of public spirit, and at all times exhibited an unselfish desire to do all in his power to bring the raw western territory in which he lived up to a high state of development.

Ira Claflin was a son of Nathan Claflin, a native of Massachusetts, who married a representative of the ancient New England family of Shelby. He was of Scotch descent, the family having been founded in America in 1660 by Robert Mackclothlan, who came from Scotland direct to Massachusetts. Representatives of this family have since become prominently identified with commercial, industrial and financial affairs throughout the country, especially in the eastern states.

At the age of fifteen years Charles L. Claflin left his home in Iowa and visited a sister residing in California. Returning home a year later to complete his education, he entered Troy (Iowa) Academy, going from that institution to the Southern Iowa Normal School at Bloomfield, from which he was graduated. At the age of nineteen years he began teaching in the public schools of Iowa, in the meantime taking up the study of the law. In 1880 he came to California, locating in Modoc county, where he was admitted to the bar in 1881. The following year he was elected district attorney of Modoc county, as the nominee of the Republican party, and served in that office two years. From 1884 to 1890 he remained in private practice in that county. In the latter year he was nominated for judge of the superior court of Modoc county by the Republican party, and though the county was overwhelmingly Democratic he was elected by a large majority, occupying the bench for a term of six years to the eminent satisfaction of all interested. Upon his retirement from this post he removed, in 1897, to Los Angeles, but soon afterward was compelled to abandon the delight-



ful home he had established in that city, owing to a severe attack of asthma. For the following year he practiced in Modoc county, and then went to Susanville, where he remained until December, 1900, since which time he has maintained an office in Bakersfield, where his professional labors have been rewarded with a rare measure of success. He is the attorney for and one of the directors in the Pacific Smelting Works, an industry which is contemplating making Kern its headquarters. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons. May 8, 1884, he was united in marriage with Nellie Welsh, a native of Nevada county, Cal. They are the parents of six children, namely: Harlan W. and Charles Leland, Jr., who are students in the Bakersfield high school, and Anita E., George Elwood, Harry L. and Teddie, students in the lower grades.

Judge Clafin is a strong and forceful man, gifted with keen insight into human nature and current events, and impressing all with his sincerity and courageous convictions. During the years of his residence in California he has made a marked impress upon the trend of public events, his striking personality and breadth of mind winning for him the confidence of all classes of intelligent men, and giving him a place among the leaders in public thought and action. Thoroughly grounded in the principles of the law, he has evidenced rare capabilities in the application of these principles to the causes intrusted to his care, and the success which has attended his practice has caused him to become recognized, by the profession and the laity, as a leader of the bar of southern California.

---

OSCAR WILLIAM STEINWAND, M. D. Talented, trustworthy, and well versed in medical lore, Oscar William Steinwand, M. D., of Selma, is especially adapted for his professional calling. As a general practitioner he has attained marked success, and during the comparatively brief time that he has been located in this city has won a generous patronage and gained the respect and esteem of the community. Of German ancestry, he was born May 12, 1869, in Chicago, Ill., a son of Joseph Steinwand.

A native of Württemberg, Germany, Joseph Steinwand grew to manhood in the fatherland, living there until 1850. Emigrating in that year to the United States, he followed his trade of carpenter and builder in many of the prominent cities of the Union, including New York, Chicago, Memphis and New Orleans, being also engaged to some extent as a millwright. Returning from New Orleans to Chicago, he remained in that city until 1875, when he came to California, locating in Oakland as a contractor and

builder. On January 19, 1881, he bought a raisin vineyard in Fresno county, four and one-half miles east of the city, and has since been successfully employed in its improvement and management. He married Elise Munch, a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and they became the parents of four children, of whom Oscar W., the subject of this biographical sketch, is the second child.

Acquiring the rudiments of his education in the primary schools of Chicago, Oscar William Steinwand came with his parents to this state, living first in Oakland and later in Fresno, in these places continuing his studies. Entering Cooper Medical College in 1893, he studied there two years, and was then engaged in hospital work in San Francisco and Fresno for one year, in 1897 being graduated from the Cooper Medical College with the degree of M. D. Locating in Fresno, Dr. Steinwand remained there until June, 1898, when he removed to San Francisco, where he continued the practice of medicine for one year. Coming to Selma in 1901, the doctor has here built up a large and lucrative general practice, his skill and professional knowledge being known and appreciated. He is a close student, and in 1903 took special instruction in bacteriology and pathology in San Francisco, perfecting himself still further in the science of medicine. He has a finely equipped office, in which, among other valuable instruments and machines, is a sixteen-plate X-ray machine.

In San Francisco, Dr. Steinwand married Louise E. Storz, a native of New Jersey, and they have a daughter, named Grace. The doctor is now serving as city health officer, as such performing the duties devolving upon him most faithfully. He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; of the California Medical Society; of the Fresno County Medical Society; of the San Joaquin Medical Society; and of the American Medical Association. In politics he is independent, voting according to the dictates of his conscience, regardless of party prejudice. In his religious views he is broad and liberal, and is a valued member of the Unitarian Church. Fraternally, the doctor is a member of Selma Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M.; of Selma Lodge, I. O. O. F.; of the Woodmen of the World; and of the Foresters of America.

---

ROBERT J. BUTTS. A prominent agriculturist, and an able business man, Robert J. Butts is an important factor in the industrial circles of Merced county, and one of the most valued and highly esteemed citizens of Ingomar. Since coming here to live, on the farm which his wife inherited from her father, the late Henry Whit-

worth, Mr. Butts has diligently improved the property, which, with its substantial buildings, gives ample evidence to the passerby of his thrift and skill as a practical farmer. A son of Daniel Butts, he was born January 15, 1850, in Rock county, Wis.

A native of New Jersey, Daniel Butts spent a part of his early life in Pennsylvania, and then removed to Rock county, Wis., where he was employed for a number of years as a tiller of the soil. Coming across the plains to California in 1850, he cast his lot with the miners, and was here numbered with the gold seekers for many years. In 1873 or 1874 he went to Oregon, locating in Salem. His wife, whose maiden name was Eunice Berry, was born in New Jersey, and died in Pleasanton, Alameda county, Cal., in 1877. Of the three sons and one daughter born of their union, Robert J. was the youngest child.

Having acquired the rudiments of his education in the public schools of Wisconsin, Robert J. Butts completed his early studies in the district schools of Illinois. He subsequently lived for several years in Illinois, at first running a threshing machine, and afterward being employed in the Chicago Steel Works for five years. His health becoming impaired, he came to California in 1872, hoping in this climate to find renewed vigor and strength. He first found employment in Pleasanton, Alameda county, and was later engaged in mining for two years at Bull Run, in Kern county. Returning from there to Pleasanton, Mr. Butts operated a threshing machine in that locality for several seasons. Settling at Big Valley, near Lookout, Modoc county, in 1884, he bought a half-section of land, and improved a fine ranch, which he still owns, and was there successfully engaged in general farming for twelve years. After the death of his father-in-law he removed to his present farm, and on its four hundred and thirty-five acres of productive land carries on a large and lucrative business as a raiser of wheat and barley.

In July, 1870, Mr. Butts married, in Ingomar, Mary Jane Whitworth, who was born in Tuolumne county, Cal., a daughter of Henry Whitworth. A native of England, Mr. Whitworth immigrated to the United States when a young man, and in 1849 made his way across the continent to California. He traveled extensively throughout the state, finally locating permanently in Merced county. Taking up land from the government, he improved the homestead now owned by his daughter, Mrs. Butts, and also bought other valuable pieces of real estate, becoming a very large landholder, and was here an honored resident until his death, in February, 1897. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Butts has been blessed by the birth of ten children, namely: Grace E.,

Lillie, Walter, Warren, Robert, Alfred, May Lois, Henry Dayton, Carrie Edith and John William. With the exception of Grace E., who resides in Pleasanton, and Carrie Edith, who is deceased, all of the children reside at home. Politically Mr. Butts is an active member of the Republican party, and one of its most loyal adherents. While living in Illinois he enlisted in the state militia, hoping to enter the army, but was refused admission on account of his youthfulness. Fraternally he belongs to Adin Lodge No. 273, I. O. O. F., of Modoc county.

JONAS A. ALLEN, who since 1898 has been a legal practitioner of Visalia, was born September 10, 1857, in Kane county, Ill., his parents being Aaron G. and Sarah (Lanfear) Allen, the former of whom was born in Benson, Rutland county, Vt., in 1816, and the latter in Ticonderoga, Essex county, N. Y., in 1821. Aaron Allen removed from Vermont to Whitehall, N. Y., and from there came overland to Kane county, Ill., in 1836, purchasing land of the government near Hampshire, in that county. About 1871 he located in Elgin, Ill., and now is living retired in the renowned watch-making city. His wife died in 1898, having reared a family of three sons and two daughters, of whom Jonas A. is the youngest boy.

Partly through the success of his father, and partly through his own ability to earn money, young Jonas entered the University of Illinois in 1877, at Champaign, remaining until the senior year. He then began to read law with Judge Henry B. Willis and John W. Ranstead, and in the fall of 1880 came west to Santa Rosa, Cal., leaving his legal studies uncompleted. After a year in Santa Rosa, and a year and a half in San Francisco, he returned to Illinois in 1883, and after further study under his old preceptors, was admitted to the bar of Illinois in 1884. Continuing with Mr. Ranstead for a year, he again removed to California in May, 1885, and in Tulare had charge of his brother's ranch business until December, 1886, when he began the practice of the law in Tulare. In 1887 he formed a law partnership with Hon. J. W. Davis, which continued until December, 1898. For years an active Republican, his political aspirations and legal qualifications were happily blended in his election as district attorney in 1898, during which year he took up his residence in Visalia, which has since been his home. He received the Republican nomination for superior judge of Tulare county in 1904, but was defeated by a plurality of forty-five votes, the county being Democratic by thirty-five.

In Belvidere, Ill., in 1885, Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Nettie E. Lawrence. a



native of Belvidere, the daughter of E. L. Lawrence, a farmer near Belvidere, and granddaughter of a judge of Illinois. Eugene Lawrence, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Allen, is living with his parents. Mr. Allen is an enthusiastic fraternalist, and is identified with the Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., of Tulare, the Eastern Star and the Woodmen of the World. He is a member of the Congregational Church, contributing generously toward its support. A man of commanding presence, and sane and practical view of life in general, he is a master of the theory and practice of law, and adorns a position in which strength of character, good judgment and integrity are leading requirements.

---

J. FRED KESSING. The home of J. Fred Kessing, in Plano, Tulare county, is one among the handsome and comfortable residences of this place. He not only built the house, but also furnished it according to his own ideas, filling the grounds with a variety of citrus fruits and plants, which make of it a garden spot even among the beautiful places of the cities of California. In addition to its beauty it also holds out the attraction of hospitality, for Mr. Kessing is widely known for this quality, with generous hands giving to others all wherewith he has been blessed in his efforts. He comes of one of the oldest families of California, being a native of Santa Rosa, where he was born June 3, 1863. His father, John F. Kessing, was born in Hamburg, Germany, and in an early day came to America as a pioneer. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California, settling as a pioneer in Sonoma county, where he served as the first revenue collector, and was one of the pioneer merchants of Santa Rosa. He was also one of the first merchants in Oroville. Subsequently he removed to San Francisco, where for many years he engaged in the commission business. Finally he sold out to his brother, who still carries on the business. Mr. Kessing had originally intended, with the many others who flocked to the west in that year, to mine, but gave it up as too precarious and uncertain a method of obtaining a livelihood. He came south to Tulare county and in 1872 laid out the town of Tulare, about that time becoming a warm personal friend of Mark Hopkins, of the Southern Pacific Railway Company. He is now retired from active labors and makes his home in Alameda, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife, formerly Maria G. Karenberg, of Osna-brück, Germany, is also living. They became the parents of two sons and three daughters, of whom J. Fred Kessing is the third in order of birth.

In the schools of San Francisco J. Fred Kes-

sing obtained a preliminary education and for a time thereafter attended the university. A natural mechanic, he turned to labors which gave him an opportunity to exercise this ability, in Tulare, in 1872, engaging in contracting and building and meeting with success. He has built over one hundred and sixty houses in Tulare county, as well as other buildings, among them the Rocky Ford schoolhouse. In 1886 he located in Plano and built the wagon road for the Portersville Land & Lumber Company, running from the reservation to the summit. With nothing as a foundation for his fortune, Mr. Kessing has made the best use of the talents given him, acquiring a competence by a steady effort. In 1887 he purchased four lots in Plano, and to this property has added fifty acres by purchase. Nine acres are in alfalfa and the balance is used as a pasture for a herd of twenty-eight Jersey cows; the dairy is superintended by his wife. Mr. Kessing continues to follow his trade of carpenter and contractor, being one of the popular men in this trade in Tulare county. Among other buildings, he put up the bath house at Hot Springs, a credit to his ability and the mechanical talent which he has always manifested.

In San Francisco Mr. Kessing married Gertrude C. McEntee, who was born in Detroit, Mich., in 1863, the daughter of Judge T. M. McEntee. They have two children, Albert F., attending the State University at Berkeley, and Clarence R., a student in the high school. Fraternally Mr. Kessing is a member of Orange Camp No. 333, W. O. W., at Portersville. Politically he is active in the Republican party, and gives his support to every movement calculated to advance the general welfare of Tulare county and California.

---

CARTER LANDRAM. Occupying a prominent place among the early settlers of Merced, Carter Landram has impressed his worth upon the community as a merchant and grain dealer, as a promoter of education and public utilities, and as an active and liberal member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He is one of the many native sons of Missouri who have found a field of activity in the San Joaquin valley, and who reflect credit upon the environment in which their youth was passed. Born in Macon county, Mo., April 13, 1840, he is a son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Dingle) Landram, the former born in old Virginia, and the latter in Kentucky, and of English parentage. His paternal grandfather, James Landram, was born in Virginia of Scotch-Irish extraction, and soon after the birth of his son Reuben moved to Kentucky, where the youth was educated in the public schools, and

where he married at an early age. From Kentucky, Reuben Landram moved to Macon county, Mo., where he died at an advanced age, and where several of his nine children were born. Seven of these children attained maturity, and six are now living, Carter being the youngest. Besides the latter, the family is represented in Merced by James E., who came to the west in 1850, and by Abner P., now a resident of Salinas. Reuben Landram was a farmer his entire active life, and to the end of his days recalled vividly his experiences as a soldier during the war of 1812.

Carter Landram was educated in a private school in Missouri, and at McGee College, in Macon county. Prior to the Civil war he engaged in school teaching, which occupation he abandoned to wear the gray of the Confederate soldier. Enlisting under General Price in a Missouri regiment, he served at the battle of Lexington, and was soon after taken ill and sent home to recover from an attack of typhoid fever. Rejoining the army, he was elected lieutenant under Colonel Poindexter, was taken prisoner in Randolph county, Mo., and was imprisoned in St. Louis, Mo., and Alton, Ill., receiving his parole at the latter prison. In 1864 he left home and crossed the plains with ox teams, being six months on the way, and experiencing trouble with the Indians, owing to the soldiers being withdrawn from the plains. Locating in Solano county, Cal., he worked on farms by the month until he had gotten a little ahead, and in 1873 located in Merced, where he invested his capital in a book, stationery and musical instrument store, later adding notions and jewelry. Success came his way and the capacity of the store was enlarged to meet the growing trade. This store was sold in 1884, and in the meantime Mr. Landram had become interested in the grain business in 1881, buying and shipping to different parts of the state until July, 1882. He then entered the employ of Geo. W. McNear, of San Francisco, as agent in Merced, and continued the buyer for the firm at this point until November, 1903. Since then he has conducted an independent grain business, but still continues to represent the San Francisco firm.

Mr. Landram has various interests scattered throughout the town and county. He is president of the Merced Lumber Company, and at different times has owned and operated farms in the county. He was one of the chief instigators, as president of the Board of Trade, to induce the Santa Fe Railroad to run through the town; aided the company in paying for lands, and raised about \$5,000 in the town of Merced. He contributed both time and money for this worthy cause, and won the gratitude of the merchants

and people in general for the success of his co-operation. He is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of La Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M., of which he was treasurer for many years. Mr. Landram is a Democrat in politics, but has never desired or accepted office. He was the first president, and held the position for eight years, of the old Board of Trade of Merced. Near Salida, Cal., Mr. Landram married Alice Kerr, a native of Pike county, Mo., who was reared and educated in California. Five children have blessed this union, of whom four attained maturity: John Max, representing the Merced Lumber Company and the grain interests of his father at Livingston, where there is a branch of the former and a warehouse owned by Mr. Landram; Margaret Mathena, widow of J. C. Landram, of Merced; Hugh Kerr, attending the University of Tennessee, at Lebanon; and Telete, living with her father. October 28, 1896, the devoted mother passed away, leaving a host of friends to mourn her death. Mr. Landram has been active in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for many years, is a ruling elder in the church, and was formerly superintendent of the Sunday school. In his life he bears out the teachings of his denomination, and is one of the high-minded, very liberal, and progressive men of the community.

#### JAMES FENNER CHAMBERLAIN.

Among the retired citizens of Merced who are drawing liberal incomes from extensive land holdings in Merced county, is James Fenner Chamberlain, representative of one of the old families established on the Pacific coast in 1849. Mr. Chamberlain, whose paternal great-grandfather followed the martial fortunes of Washington during the Revolutionary war, and whose maternal ancestors date their American occupation from the historic Mayflower, was born at Central Falls, R. I., October 18, 1847, a son of Adolphus Chamberlain, a native of Sharon, Schoharie county, N. Y. His mother, Eliza (Patt) Chamberlain, was born in Rhode Island, a daughter of Jabel Patt, born in Cumberland, R. I., and for many years machinist in the cotton mills of that place.

Adolphus Chamberlain was a builder and machinist by trade and being of an ambitious turn of mind came west in February, 1849, leaving his family in Rhode Island, until such time as he had gained a start in California. Setting sail in the ship Shemoset, he sailed around Cape Horn, arriving at his destination in San Francisco after six months of ocean voyage. Not realizing his expectations in the mines on the Feather and Yuba rivers and at Hangtown, he returned to San Francisco and worked at his

trade, being one of the contractors on the custom house and other buildings erected in the early days. Later he engaged in farming near Stockton and in 1860 bought a ranch in San Joaquin county, which he successfully devoted to grain farming. For one year he lived in Nevada engaged in business, and April 7, 1865, came to Merced county, where he engaged in the dairy business on the Miller & Lux ranch. This proved a substantial undertaking, and included the milking and care of two hundred and fifty cows, and the manufacture of butter and cheese. These commodities were taken to Stockton and to San Francisco by boat, netting their producer a handsome yearly income. In 1869 Mr. Chamberlain purchased four hundred acres of land in Merced county and engaged in the stock and dairy business. He also raised grain on this farm, and in its management duplicated his former pronounced success. His death occurred May 8, 1893, after a career of unusual activity. He was a typical pioneer, generous and unostentatious, making friends all along the course of his useful and well directed life. He was a staunch Republican, and in religion was broad and tolerant. His wife, who survived him until January 12, 1898, left two children, J. F. and Melissa, the widow of J. S. Potter, of San Francisco.

James Fenner Chamberlain was twelve years old when he accompanied his mother and sister to the coast to join his father, leaving New York on the steamer Northern Star and Panama on the Golden Age. After landing in San Francisco he lived in Stockton until his sixteenth year. He then entered the employ of Miller & Lux, upon whose farm his father was a department manager, working for them at stock feeding, and still later building fences for them along the San Joaquin river. In 1875 he engaged in an independent trucking business, and in 1881 bought a farm six miles from Merced, where he engaged in grain raising, and where he now owns seven hundred acres, well improved, fitted with modern buildings and implements. In 1886 he moved to Merced and built his present fine residence, at which place he is living practically retired, although having the supervision of his country properties. Mr. Chamberlain and his sister still own the old homestead of nearly nine thousand acres, of which they rent all but eight hundred acres, and upon that they conduct a stock business, raising principally Shorthorns and Hereford cattle. He also leases his farm near Merced.

Mr. Chamberlain married in San Francisco, Celina Fuller, a native of Rhode Island. They have one son, Fenner Adolphus, attending the University of California. Mr. Chamberlain is a Republican, and is fraternally connected with

the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is past grand. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is highly respected by his fellow townsmen in Merced, by the people with whom he has been connected throughout the county, and represents the solid and substantial men who have profited by the advantages of the great western country.

---

HON. JESSE RICHARD DORSEY. To none of her professional leaders does Bakersfield point with more pride than to Hon. Jesse Richard Dorsey, an attorney representing the concentrated energy of the west, who has had the inclination and persistency to step out of a trade and farm environment into the most promising legal atmosphere of the state, and in a few years acquire a reputation which would generally be considered liberal reward for a decade of earnest endeavor.

Mr. Dorsey was born in Argenteville, Lincoln county, Mo., September 2, 1877, but comes of southern ancestry, early identified with both Maryland and Kentucky, the family having been established in Missouri by the paternal grandfather, Richard Dorsey, for many years a large farmer in Maryland and Kentucky. At the time of the emigration overland, Richard, Jr., the father of Jesse R., was a small boy, and he was reared on the Lincoln county farm, in time witnessing the departure of his father for the war, in which he served in the Confederate army under General Price, in Texas, Arkansas and Missouri. Richard the younger learned the blacksmith's trade in Missouri, thereafter combining it with farming until coming to California in 1888. He married Mary A. Crosland, who lived to share his fortunes until 1896, when her death occurred in Delano, Kern county, Cal., at the age of forty-nine years. Besides Jesse R. she had a daughter, Belle, the wife of N. R. Mitchell, of Delano.

From the age of fifteen to eighteen Jesse R. Dorsey attended the public schools of Watsonville, at the same time working his way through a commercial school, from which he was duly graduated. In Watsonville he began reading law with Judge Dickerman, becoming also deeply interested in Republican politics. After eighteen months of preparation he entered the Northern Indiana Law School at Valparaiso, from which he was graduated in the class of 1898. Returning to California, he practiced law at San Pedro for ten months, and in 1899 was appointed deputy district attorney of Kern county, serving three years in that capacity, when he resigned.

In November, 1902, Mr. Dorsey was nominated on the Republican ticket for the general assembly, and was elected by a gratifying majority in a Democratic county. During the ses-

sion of 1903 his ability found vent in many directions, and he served as chairman of the committee on claims, and as member of the county and township governments, county boundaries, revision and reform of laws, mines and mining committees, rendering particularly efficient service in the department of mining. Mr. Dorsey is prominent fraternally, and is president of Bakersfield Aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles, and at the state convention of this order, held in 1903, he was elected state vice president. He is also a member of the Woodmen of the World, past commander of the Knights of the Macca-bees, and past chief ranger of the Foresters of America. December 30, 1903, Mr. Dorsey was united in marriage with Marion Stokum, who was born in Santa Barbara, and who resided for some time in Kern. Mr. Dorsey has a comprehensive knowledge of general law, but makes a specialty of probate and criminal law. He is conscientious in the discharge of his duties, is faithful to the interests of his large clientele, and throughout his private and public life maintains a dignity which presages a successful career.

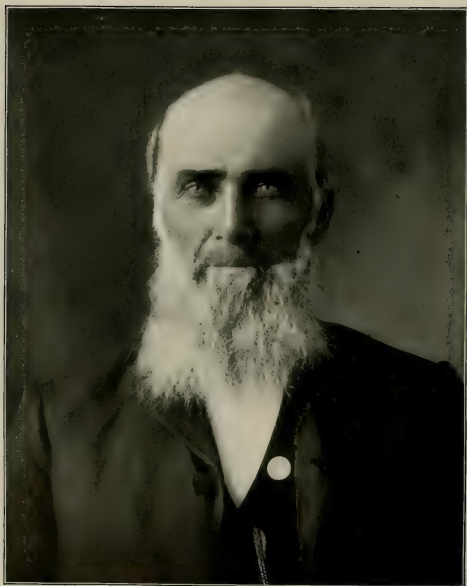
**J. A. BUTHENUTH.** The firm of Buthenuth & Miller is one of the representative enterprises maintaining the stock-raising prestige of Stanislaus county. Both men have years of practical experience behind them, and have a familiarity with the mountains and plains addicted to stock in general, oftentimes not acquired in a decade. J. A. Buthenuth, the senior member of the firm, is a pleasing example of the stockman at his best, his push and enterprise, enthusiasm for his work, and his success as indicated by a competence, and a fine family, conspire to place him among the encouraging and useful citizens of this section.

A native son of the golden west, Mr. Buthenuth was born in Jamestown, Tuolumne county, Cal., December 7, 1855, three years after the arrival on the coast of his parents, Frederick and Maria Anna (Mitchell) Buthenuth, both of whom were born in Germany. Frederick Buthenuth had previously lived a few years in New Orleans, and in 1852 came west by way of Panama, thereafter engaged in mining in various parts of the state, making his home in Jamestown for many years. Eventually he removed to Oakdale, and eight years later died at an advanced age, in 1891. He was a Democrat in politics, and was a substantial, moderately successful miner and business man. He left a widow and seven children, two of his children having died in infancy. Besides J. A., of this sketch, the other children are: Elizabeth, the oldest daughter, now Mrs. Lee, of Oakdale; Frederick,

making his home in Oakdale; Caroline, the wife of Mr. Woodside, of Oakdale; Henry F., engaged in mining in Amador county; Joseph, a resident of Oakdale; and Julia, Mrs. Huddleson, of Ceres, Cal. Naturally, the children of Frederick Buthenuth took kindly to mining, and at an early age began to follow their father's example. J. A. continued to mine throughout the state until the business began to wane, when he turned his attention to farming, at first working by the month. In 1892 he inaugurated an independent stock business, rented a range, and was successful as a sheep raiser until 1903. In the meantime he had roamed over the ranges and through the mountains, until the trails became like old friends, their difficulties disappearing the more closely he associated with them. He knows the Sierras all through this section, and carries in his heart a genuine appreciation of their grandeur and influence. At times reverses came to him as to all engaged in the stock business, but he met them calmly and philosophically, profiting by the lessons taught and starting in with renewed vigor to recuperate his losses. When he sold out in 1903 it was with a distinct sense of success and financial gain, and with a justifiable conviction that he had improved his opportunities, and learned all possible of sheep raising. Since then Mr. Buthenuth has been in business with Mr. Miller, raising about five thousand head of sheep a season, and owning a ranch of three thousand acres in Tuolumne county, near Coopertown.

September 25, 1884, Mr. Buthenuth married Clara Boone, a native of Tuolumne county, and daughter of Tobias Boone, a native of Maryland. Mr. Boone is a pioneer of 1852, who crossed the plains and engaged in mining for some years, but finally located on a farm in Tuolumne county. Latterly he sold his farm and lives in Knights Ferry, where he is highly esteemed and substantially identified with the general interests of the town. His wife, formerly Caroline Blackwell, is also of the south land, and was born near Nashville, Tenn. Reared on a farm, she is a daughter of William Blackwell, an emigrant of the early '50s, and who farmed in the vicinity of Browns Flat for the balance of his life. Mrs. Buthenuth is the oldest of eight children, seven of whom are living. Jefferson, the second oldest, having died in Modesto. Emma, Mrs. Coop, is a resident of Knights Ferry; Frank is a resident of Stockton; Henrietta is the wife of Mr. Morrison, of Knights Ferry; Ida is now Mrs. Morrison, of Knights Ferry; Tobias is a resident of Knights Ferry; and Lulu is Mrs. Collins, of Modesto. Mr. and Mrs. Buthenuth have six children, Emma, Eva, Albert, George, Clarence and Frank. Mr. Buthenuth is well known in politics. He was nominated by the





*Abraham R. Ball*



Republican party for the office of supervisor of the first district of Oakdale, but was not elected. He has attended many state and county conventions, and has labored zealously for his friends and the party. Fraternally he is connected with the Oakdale Lodge No. 228, I. O. O. F., of which he is past officer, and the Woodmen of the World. Before the discontinuance of the Encampment and Canton, he was active in both organizations, and past chief of the former lodge. Formerly he was active in the Oakdale Parlor No. 142, N. S. G. W., and was the first president of the parlor. Mr. Buthenuth is a man of strong and well directed convictions, of great progressiveness and public-spiritedness, and his character and deeds are a credit to the noblest type of self-made men.

---

**ABRAHAM R. BALL.** A veteran of the Civil war, Mr. Ball has an army record of which he may well feel proud. Not many men would reenlist in the service after being honorably discharged on account of physical disability, but in the case of Mr. Ball the first taste of war was just enough to spur him on, and as soon as he was able to pass the examination he again went to the front, taking part in the memorable march of Sherman through Georgia. Since the war he has been engaged in tilling the soil, meeting with excellent success in his undertakings.

Born June 22, 1839, Mr. Ball is a son of Willis and Achsah (Kinsley) Ball, the former born near Bowling Green, Ky. At an early age he removed with his parents to Indiana, where he subsequently engaged in farming, later following the same vocation in Iowa. His death occurred in Peoria, Ill. Mr. Ball was a lineal descendant of Col. William Ball, who was a brother of George Washington's mother. The chart containing this valuable information is in the possession of A. R. Ball and is prized as one of his most valued possessions. Mrs. Ball was born in Indiana, a daughter of John Kinsley, the latter a native of New York state who migrated to Indiana, where he was for years engaged in tilling the soil.

Abraham R. Ball is the youngest son in a family of six children. His boyhood and youth were spent in the state of his nativity, but at the age of sixteen he went to Iowa, where he secured employment on a farm, making his home with his parents until attaining his majority. On starting out in life for himself he worked on farms in Iowa and also engaged in breaking oxen for neighboring farmers. Later he purchased and improved a farm of his own near Osceola, where he was living in 1862, the year of his enlistment in Company H, Fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Later he was taken ill and

was finally given his honorable discharge, it being thought that he was in such poor health that it would be impossible for him to remain in the service. A few weeks at home, however, made a new man of him and soon afterward he reenlisted in Company G, Thirteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and in this company he served until the close of the war. He was at the front most of the time, being with Sherman during the Atlanta campaign. After the fall of the Confederacy Mr. Ball remained with his army corps until the grand review at Washington, when he returned to his home in Iowa and there he followed farming until 1884, when he disposed of his farm and came to California.

On arriving here he located in Fresno county, purchasing forty acres of land upon which he took up his old occupation of farming. Later he sold that place and bought the ranch that has since been his home. This consists of two hundred and fifty acres and is devoted to grain and general farming. From time to time Mr. Ball has added to his first purchase, until at the present writing he and his sons, Isaac and Harry, own nearly two sections of land, being among the most extensive farmers in this section of the county. The ranch is equipped with modern appliances, including a combined harvester and other labor-saving machinery.

While residing in Iowa Mr. Ball was united in marriage with Miss Mary Fouché, who was born in Indiana and is a descendant of one of the oldest families of that state. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Della, now Mrs. David Ash, of Iowa; Isaac, at home; Harry, also at home; and Achsah, now Mrs. James Sherwood.

Years ago Mr. Ball was made a Mason and he is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being a member of the Atlanta Post of Fresno. Politically a Democrat, he is at all times actively interested in the welfare of his party. Self-made in every sense of the word, he is to be congratulated on the success he has made of his opportunities, as he started without a dollar. Both he and his estimable wife are highly respected for their many excellent traits of character, and that they may live long and enjoy years of happiness is the wish of a large circle of sincere friends.

---

**CHRISTIAN A. NELSON.** For its longest established photograph gallery Bakersfield is indebted to Christian A. Nelson, who came to Bakersfield in the year 1888, when the town had much less than one thousand inhabitants within its borders, and was hardly able to support a resident photographer. Yet by economy, industry and fair dealing, the town in the mean-

time slowly gaining in size, he succeeded in establishing himself permanently and firmly, and built up a good business, which kept pace with the growth of the city and the improvements in the art of photography.

C. A. Nelson was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, January 4, 1847. He was reared in Odense, which is one of the oldest cities in northern Europe, being named in honor of Odin, the god of the mythology of the Germanic and Gothic nations. This city is also noted as the birthplace of Hans Christian Andersen, the author. As a boy Mr. Nelson enjoyed the advantage of a liberal education. After leaving school he went to sea in merchant vessels, visiting many ports on the shores of the Northern and Baltic seas. At the age of nineteen years, in the year 1866, he came to California and decided to remain here. Later he returned to Copenhagen to study navigation. There he married Eva J. Hoyer, also a native of that city, and brought her to San Francisco in the year 1874. She is the mother of three children, William O., who at this writing is engaged in the plumbing business in Seattle, Wash.; Clara, who is an artist in her father's studio; and Florence, who has received a commercial education as bookkeeper and stenographer in the high school of Bakersfield.

Mr. Nelson became master of vessels sailing out of San Francisco to ports on the Pacific coast of North and South America, from Alaska to Chili, but gave up the seafaring life in 1884, when he, being naturally of an artistic turn of mind, engaged in the study and practice of photography, which he has ever since cultivated. He is fraternally connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has at this time held the office of financial secretary of the local lodge for about three years.

GEORGE W. FRANCIS. Since establishing his home in Tulare county and embarking in the stock business Mr. Francis has met with a degree of success that enables him, in the afternoon of a busy life, to enjoy the comforts so richly merited. The possession of large tracts of land indicates that he has displayed wise judgment in investments. Included in his property holdings may be mentioned his old homestead northeast of Visalia, consisting of four hundred and eighty acres; one hundred and twenty acres in close proximity to Visalia; one hundred and sixty acres in Goshen valley and a forty-acre tract near the last-named farm. Although practically retired from agricultural activities he still attends to the buying and selling of cattle and maintains the oversight of his lands.

The father of Mr. Francis was a Virginian by birth and parentage and in boyhood accompanied

his parents to Ohio, settling in Muskingum county and engaging in the tilling of the soil. When the war with Mexico broke out he enlisted in the United States army and started for the front, but was never heard from afterward, and it is supposed that he died in battle or in a hospital unknown. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Susan Holmes, was born in Virginia, and passed away in Ohio in 1899. In their family of seven sons and five daughters George W. Francis was third in order of birth, and was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, March 13, 1830. The family being large and their means small, it was impossible for him to devote much time to school, and his education was acquired principally by self-culture, he having been from childhood a close observer and great reader.

With ox teams, wagons, and a party of emigrants, George W. Francis crossed the plains to California in 1853, and after a journey of five months and thirteen days he arrived at Hangtown, where he began mining. A few years later, in 1856, he went to the mines of Mariposa county. In 1858, abandoning mining, he went to the Kings river region and settled in Drums Valley, where he and Andrew Drum engaged in the hog business. The presence of wild animals, especially bears, incurred constant danger for their drove of hogs, and after a year he disposed of his interest in the business to his partner. About the same time (1859) he removed to a cattle ranch not far from Visalia, where eventually he acquired the control of four thousand acres and had large herds of cattle grazing on the plains. When the compulsory fence law was passed, the cattle business no longer being profitable there, he took his herds to San Luis Obispo county, although still retaining his residence near Visalia.

At Visalia, in 1860, Mr. Francis married Clementine Shipp, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of George Shipp, one of the earliest settlers of the San Joaquin valley. Mr. Shipp was born in Tennessee and there grew to manhood and married. Accompanied by his family, in 1852 he crossed the plains, following the southern route, and settled in what is now Tulare county. Immediately after his arrival he pre-empted land four miles northeast of Visalia and there raised cattle and general farm crops. In 1863 he removed to San Luis Obispo county and devoted his attention to stock raising for some years, but finally retired from active labors. His death occurred in 1894. In Tulare county his name is perpetuated as that of a very early settler. At the time he came to the county he found only a very few residents, and about the time of his arrival there came to this part of the valley such pioneers as Dr. George, Mr. Jennings, Abraham Murray, S. C. Brown, Dr. Cut-

ler, R. Chatten and Nat. Vise, in whose honor the town was named.

Of the eight children comprising the family of Mr. and Mrs. Francis three sons and two daughters are living, namely: Gilmore, who lives near his father's home; Simeon; Walter, residing near Kingsburg; Mrs. Ida Wilkes and Mrs. Katie Weatherman, of this vicinity. The children deceased were named Andrew, William and Fred. During all of his life Mr. Francis has been an advocate of Republican principles and has supported his opinions at the ballot box. There is one thing that Mr. Francis takes pride in, and that is that he voted for Abraham Lincoln at Venice, Cal., in 1861, when there were but seventy-one votes cast and but two of these were Republican. He was implored at that time to change his principles, as Tulare county never would be won by his party, and also at this time the men raised a purse of \$2.50 each for the two men who cast the Republican votes. Mr. Francis owned up to his principles but would not accept the money, and said that he wanted to live and would live to the time when his county would be carried by that party. They then told him he would have to live a thousand years, which he said he would do, it making no difference to him. That this desire was gratified was shown by the election held November 8, 1904, when the Republicans carried the county by an overwhelming majority. All through his active life he has officiated as a school trustee, in which capacity he has been helpful in promoting the interests of the school in his district.

**SAMUEL HALL.** At the time of his arrival in Visalia in 1874 Mr. Hall found a small hamlet planted in the midst of an uncultivated stretch of country, whose value was unknown and possibilities unrecognized. To the south Los Angeles and its outlying country were attracting permanent settlers; to the north the valley of the Santa Clara presented an inviting aspect, while westward lay the mountains that shut off the coast counties and formed a barrier to the ocean. The accident of location had prevented pioneers from investigating the possibilities of the soil, hence the San Joaquin valley was left for the civilization of the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Appreciative of the opportunities offered to permanent settlers, Mr. Hall has never regretted the decision that led him to cast in his lot with the people of Visalia. He is an Englishman and descended from a long line of English progenitors. His father, Thomas Hall, crossed the ocean from England to America in 1841 and settled in Albany, N. Y., where he followed the butcher's trade. Later he was similarly em-

ployed in other parts of the same state. January 1, 1853, he left Rome, N. Y., and proceeded to New York City, where he took ship for Panama enroute to California. The journey was uneventful, except for a serious attack of Panama fever. His first location was in Trinity county and from there he went to Shasta county, engaging in the butcher's trade. Eventually he embarked in the wholesale sheep business in San Francisco, where he remained until his death in 1872. In common with the majority of the pioneers he never lost his interest in mining, and not only did he prospect to some extent in his own state, but he joined the gold-seekers at the time of the Frazer river excitement in Montana and also went to Idaho at the time gold was discovered there. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Charlotte Smith, was born, reared and married in England, and died in San Francisco September 1, 1901, having survived him almost thirty years.

Manchester, England, is Mr. Hall's native city, and October 17, 1840, the date of his birth. He was the eldest in a family consisting of six sons and two daughters. When his parents came to the United States he was an infant, hence his earliest recollections are associated with the country which has since been his home and of which he is a loyal citizen. The common schools of New York state afforded him fair educational advantages, which have since been supplemented by extensive reading and habits of close observation. In 1858 he joined his father in California and for a time worked with him in business, later taking up the butcher's trade for himself in San Francisco. For seven years he remained in business in that city and then, in 1874, came to Visalia, where he carried on a meat market for fourteen years, meanwhile also buying and shipping stock. During 1866 he set out an orchard of twenty-five acres upon his tract of fifty-six and one-half acres, the balance of which is devoted to general farm purposes. The value of the property is enhanced by the fact that it all lies within the city limits of Visalia.

The family home of Mr. Hall, at No. 743 Goshen avenue, Visalia, was presided over by the lady whom he met and married in this city, and whose death, June 23, 1903, was a sore bereavement to him and their only child, Glenn Whitt. Mrs. Hall bore the maiden name of Hannah Whitt and was born in Missouri, being a daughter of John G. Whitt, by birth a Kentuckian but after 1812 a resident of Missouri. When quite advanced in years, during 1874, he came to California, and settled in Visalia, where he made his home with Mr. Hall until his death October 7, 1904, at the age of ninety-two years. Fraternally Mr. Hall is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Inde-

pendent Order of Odd Fellows. In national problems he supports the Republican party, but in local matters he votes for the men and measures he considers best qualified to promote the welfare of the people.

**HENRY CLAY DAULTON.** Especial interest attaches to the lives of those men who, during the adventurous days following the discovery of gold in California, braved the dangers of deserts and mountains and in the midst of perils known and unknown made their difficult way toward the Pacific coast. Such a man was Henry Clay Daulton, the son of a soldier in the war of 1812, and the grandson of a Revolutionary soldier, from whom he inherited a steadfast courage and fearlessness of character. The eighth among ten children, he was born at Marysville, Ky., April 7, 1827, and in childhood accompanied the family to the vicinity of Hannibal, Mo., where he grew to manhood. By the death of his parents when he was fourteen he was thrown upon his own resources for a livelihood at an age when most boys are unhampered by cares and responsibilities. Working in the employ of farmers, he continued in the home neighborhood until after news had reached him concerning gold in the far west. Immediately he resolved to seek his fortune in the mines. April 7, 1850, with a brother, he started across the plains with ox-teams, arriving August 11 in what is now Placerville. For two years he prospected in the northern mines, but, deciding after a time he could reap larger profits from a stock business, he returned east via Panama to purchase sheep and cattle for a stock ranch. While en route for his home the ship, Republican, was wrecked in a storm and taken into port of Acapulco for repairs, thus delaying him for weeks. After a tedious delay he arrived at home and at once set about purchasing sheep and cattle. In 1853 he started across the plains with his stock, being accompanied by Thomas Hildreth, who later founded the town of Hildreth. The party arrived in Los Angeles early in November, 1853, and for a few years he remained in the San Gabriel valley, but later settled on a farm twelve miles northeast of Madera, where he purchased a large tract of government land.

At the San Gabriel mission, Los Angeles county, in 1854, was solemnized the marriage of Henry C. Daulton and Mary Jane Hildreth, a daughter of Jesse, and sister of Thomas Hildreth, and who had accompanied the party across the plains. She is still residing at the old homestead in Madera county. Of her ten children five are living, namely: Mrs. Ida Saxe, of Madera; John F., of Madera; Jonathan, who is engaged in the sheep business in Madera county; Mrs.

Maude L. Mann, of Oakland; and James William, living at Imperial, San Diego county. In 1854 Mr. Daulton was elected justice of the peace of Los Angeles and held the position until his removal from the county. In 1857 he settled on what is known as the Santa Rita ranch in Fresno county, and later purchased the present homestead, which he called Shepherd's Home. In 1860 he was elected to the office of supervisor of Fresno county, and held the position until 1875, when he declined re-election. However, three years later he was persuaded to accept the position again and served for one more term. At one time the American party nominated him for the senate and he made an excellent race, although the party was numerically weak. When the subject of organizing Madera county was brought up, he became a champion of the movement, and acted as chairman of the commissioners appointed to conduct the election which decided the proposed county division. At that election, May 20, 1893, he was elected a supervisor, and when the county was organized he was made chairman of the board, which position he was filling at the time of his death. Fraternally he was connected with the Lodge and Encampment of Odd Fellows and the Blue Lodge and Chapter of Masonry.

There are few men whose influence has been felt throughout Madera county in a greater degree than that of Henry C. Daulton, and his sudden and accidental death was widely mourned. October 28, 1893, when he was driving home from town, his horse ran away, and he was thrown from the cart, his foot catching in the shaft in such a manner that he was dragged a considerable distance. When found he was dead. His untimely death cast a gloom over the community which he had so long honored by his citizenship and whose growth had been so continuously fostered by his enterprise and progressive spirit.

**JOHN L. BROWN.** A staunch Republican and business man of recognized ability and integrity, John L. Brown is proving his all-round worth as postmaster of Turlock, an office to which he was appointed seven years ago by President McKinley. Mr. Brown comes of very old and prominent New York ancestors, and his birth occurred in New York City, November 28, 1848. His father, James M. Brown, was born in the same city in 1811, and his largest field of usefulness was the temperance cause, in which he worked zealously for many years. He had the gift of oratory and earnestness, augmented by a singing voice which greatly added to his effectiveness in his chosen work. For years he lived in Yonkers, and so well known



was he that he was called "Brown of Yonkers." A member of the Brooklyn board of health, he was also a police officer of that city, his original occupation being that of cabinet-making and building, which he practically renounced for the temperance cause. In New York he married Mary Von Tassel, a member of an old New York family of Dutch descent, and whose father's farm became a portion of the present site of the city of New York. Mr. Brown transferred his allegiance to California in 1867. His brother, John L. Brown, had immigrated to the coast in 1849, locating in Milton, Calaveras county, and thither he went after a brief residence in Stockton, and there his death occurred at the age of sixty-one. He was a man of strong character and fine moral courage, and during his all too brief existence accomplished a world of good among his fellow-men.

Attending the public schools of New York City during his childhood, John L. Brown, the subject of this sketch, later in life learned the printer's trade, and was employed on the *Brooklyn Times* and at job work until coming to the coast in 1866. Embarking at New York City on the clipper *Seminole*, under Captain Holmes, he sailed around the Horn on a four months' voyage, joining his paternal uncle in Milton and remaining with him until 1868. He then came to the San Joaquin valley, in the county of that name, and in 1870 moved to Stanislaus county, where he farmed until 1876. During that year he began to work in the Turlock warehouse. In 1889 he was made foreman and held that position for three years before severing his connection with that concern. For a year he lived with his family in Berkeley, and since then has resided in Turlock, having served as postmaster of this city for the past seven years, fulfilling the duties of his position with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the entire community. At one time he served as justice of the peace, and is now a member of the school board. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. Brown married Mary J. Laughlin, a native of California, whose children have all been born in Stanislaus county. The eldest daughter, Mamie, is deceased, and the others are Lulu F., Walter M., Leroy Van T. and Aetna.

---

NEWTON W. MILLER. Although comparatively a recent acquisition to the society of Orosi, Tulare county, Newton W. Miller has already demonstrated his ability and has won the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact, either in a business or social way. A native of Montgomery county, Ind., he was born near Ladoga January 9, 1857, the rep-

resentative of a Virginian family, the first of the name born on American soil being Robert Miller, his grandfather, who was a child of English emigrants. He served in the war of 1812 and was a prominent citizen in his community. His son, James, was born in Virginia, and in manhood he located in Montgomery county, Ind., where he engaged as a farmer, and where his death occurred. He married Elizabeth Kinder, a native of Pennsylvania, who also died in Montgomery county. Her father, William Kinder, was a native of Pennsylvania, born of German ancestors and he also became an early settler in Montgomery county, Ind. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller were seven children, five sons and two daughters, of whom four sons and the two daughters are now living.

Newton W. Miller was the fourth child in the family of his parents and is the only one located in California. He spent the first eleven years of his life in Montgomery county, Ind., after which he went to live with a sister on a farm in Parke county. In pursuit of an education he attended the public school and also Wabash College. In young manhood he went to Iowa, where he remained two years, eventually returning to Indiana. He there engaged in farming in Parke county until 1890, when he came to California. He spent the first year in the west in Visalia, engaged in the nursery business with his brother-in-law, Robert S. Demaree, the two together putting out six hundred thousand grape cuttings. The following year he located in Orosi, purchasing twenty acres of land, which has since been set to fruit trees, having now an orchard devoted principally to peaches and plums. He has also improved his property by the erection of commodious and substantial buildings, among them a fruit shed and packing house, while a railroad connects the dryer and grounds with the sulphur house. In addition to this he owns a ten-acre tract adjoining, given over to the cultivation of grapes, figs and peaches. A half mile above the Alta canal he has forty acres, which he planted to peaches and plums in 1905, the water for which is obtained from his own well. The well known Transvaal Nursery, in the northern part of Tulare county, is also owned by Mr. Miller, and in the foothills, twenty-five miles northeast of Orosi, he owns a ranch of three hundred and twenty acres, where he makes a specialty of apple trees, this ranch being known as the Hooligan Heights apple ranch. Mr. Miller has made a success of his work and holds high rank among the most progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Tulare county.

In Parke county, Ind., December 1, 1881, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. McCampbell, a native of that county, and a daughter of John and Nancy (Henderson) Mc-

Campbell. Her father and mother were both natives of Kentucky, of Scotch ancestry, the former a farmer by occupation in Parke county, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Miller became the parents of five children, namely: Blanche, Winnie, Ralph, Maude and Stella. Mr. Miller is a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he officiates as ruling elder, and politically is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias of Orosi, in which lodge he is a past chancellor, and is a member of the Woodmen of the World, his wife being a member of the Women of Woodcraft, of which she has served as president.

IRA CHRISMAN. Honored as the descendant of a pioneer family of prominence, and distinguished not only as a native-born son, but as one of the capable and popular public officials of Tulare county, Ira Chrisman is well deserving of special mention in a work of this character. In the positions of responsibility to which he has been called, Mr. Chrisman has invariably discharged the duties devolving upon him with promptness, fidelity and success, winning the approval of his constituents. A son of the late Henry Tyler Chrisman, he was born, April 24, 1863, near Visalia, of thrifty German ancestry. His great-grandfather Chrisman emigrated from Germany to the United States, bringing with him a number of horses, and locating first west of the Blue Ridge. During the old Indian war, he was scalped by the savages while fighting in Tennessee. His son, Job Chrisman, Mr. Chrisman's grandfather, settled first in Virginia, but subsequently removed with his family to Arkansas, locating near Clarks-ville, Johnson county, where he improved a stock farm. During the Civil war marauders set fire to his barn, and when he went to loose his stock he was shot dead by the incendiaries.

A native of old Virginia, Henry Tyler Chrisman was but a child when he was taken by his parents to Arkansas, where he was reared and educated. In 1852, with B. G. Parker, he came across the plains with ox-teams to Tulare county, being six months en route. Locating in Visalia, he continued with Mr. Parker, who was a man of much influence, until 1860, when he bought one hundred and sixty acres of government land, adjoining Mr. Parker's on the west, and began the improvement of a ranch. In 1853 he went east by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and after remaining there two years came back across the plains to the Pacific coast. The following year, 1856, he again went east, again returning to California by teams across the plains in 1857, in the five years between 1852 and 1857 making a wonderful record as a traveler. He

met with many narrow escapes from the Indians, just missing the Mount Meadow massacre by separating from the train with which he started, taking a different route the latter part of the journey. Succeeding well in the improvement of his original purchase of land, he bought adjoining tracts, enlarging his farm to six hundred and ninety-four acres, and on his estate, lying two miles northwest of Visalia, he resided until his death, March 16, 1892. He was enterprising and progressive in his agricultural methods, being interested in the Uphill Ditch Company from its inception, serving as its president a number of years. He put his entire ranch under irrigation, and engaged in raising wheat and alfalfa after giving up the stock business. He married Elizabeth Parker, who was born in Arkansas, and died, September 8, 1882, on the home farm, near Visalia. Of the five children born of their union, four grew to years of maturity, namely: Ira, of this review; Anderson, formerly deputy county clerk, who died at the age of twenty-six years; Mrs. L. O. Cutler, of Tulare county, and Elbert, engaged in the stock business in Tulare county.

Brought up on the home farm, and attending the district schools during the days of his boyhood and youth, Ira Chrisman completed his education at Heald's Business College, in San Francisco, where he was graduated in 1883. He subsequently assisted his father in farming for four years, after which, from January, 1887, until January, 1889, he served as deputy county sheriff under George A. Parker. The ensuing two years, from January, 1891, until January, 1893, Mr. Chrisman was deputy county recorder under C. E. Evans. After the death of his father, Mr. Chrisman, as executor of the estate, operated the home farm until it was sold, managing it most successfully. In 1894 he was elected county recorder, on the Democratic ticket, by a majority of two hundred and seventy-five. Taking the oath of office in January, 1895, he served until January, 1899, when he was not a candidate for re-election. His ability as a public official being recognized, Mr. Chrisman was not allowed to retire then to private life, but the same year, 1899, under the old charter, was elected mayor of Visalia, and at the close of his term was re-elected to the same high position. Six weeks later, on the adoption of the new charter, he was elected as the first mayor under the new charter, and served for two years as head of the municipal government of Visalia.

Becoming interested in the oil possibilities of California, Mr. Chrisman became one of the incorporators and organizers of the Devil's Den Development Company, with oil wells in the northwestern part of Kern county, and served as its superintendent for over a year, when he re-



signed from the position. He then served for a time as deputy county assessor under J. F. Gibson. In 1902, becoming the Democratic candidate for the office of county recorder, he was elected by a majority of nine hundred and ninety-four votes, leading his ticket, and in January, 1903, took the oath of office, for a term of four years. His record of public service has been honorable in every respect, and the handsome majority of ballots which he received at the polls give evidence of his popularity as a man and a citizen.

Mr. Chrisman married, in Visalia, May E. Robertson, a native of Georgia, and they have two children, namely: Ireta and Errol. Politically Mr. Chrisman is one of the leading Democrats of Tulare county, and active in party work. Fraternally he is a member of Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., of the Knights of Pythias, of which he has served as an official, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, which he has served as master workman two terms, of the Woodmen of the World, and was one of the first members of Visalia Parlor No. 79, N. S. G. W. Mrs. Chrisman is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

---

**WILLIAM H. LAREW.** On account of the revocation of the edict of Nantes and the massacre of St. Bartholomew the Huguenot family of La Rue were forced to flee from France and seek safety in another land. It was in this way that they became established in America and their settlement in Augusta county, Va., antedated the opening of the Revolutionary war. From there they removed to Monroe county, now a part of the state of West Virginia, but then included in the Old Dominion. Later generations gave the family name to Larue county, Ky., noted in history as the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. The original spelling of LaRue is still followed by some branches of the family, but others have adopted the simpler form of Larue, while still others have changed the spelling to Larew.

The founder of the family in America was Abraham La Rue, whose son, Isaac, born in Augusta county, Va., was the father of Jacob, a planter of Augusta county and the first to adopt the Americanized spelling of Larew. His son, Peter, removed to Monroe county, where he was the owner of a large plantation and remained on that estate until his death. During the war of 1812 he was a soldier in the American army. Of his two sons the elder, Jacob, removed to Missouri. The younger, John M., who became the possessor of the old plantation, lived to be about seventy-seven years of age and died in the house where he was born. During the Civil war he served in the commissary department and his old-

est son, Peter, was also in the army for a short time.

The Larew estate comprises a plantation of five hundred and fifty-five acres, situated three miles from Red Sulphur Springs in what is now West Virginia. The residence was erected by the grandfather, Peter Larew, and has since been added to from time to time. Built after the southern style of architecture, it forms one of the picturesque features of the locality. Since its purchase the property has never been out of the family's possession and is now the home of several of the children of John M. Larew. The latter married Sarah Peters, who was born in Monroe county and died there in 1862 thirty years before the death of her husband. She was a daughter of Col. Conrad Peters, who was born in Monroe county, Va., of German extraction, and married Clara Snidow, of Giles county, Va., also a descendant from German ancestry. In the family of John M. and Sarah (Peters) Larew there were eight children, all of whom are still living. Clara Peters, Peter and Mary Ann still occupy the family residence and Conrad Lewis resides upon a portion of the old homestead. William Henry and his youngest brother, John Snidow, are attorneys-at-law in Madera and Mariposa respectively. Margaret R. married Walter McClaugherty, an attorney of Bluefield, W. Va., and James Alexander follows farm pursuits in Mariposa county, Cal.

At the family homestead in Monroe county, W. Va., William Henry Larew was born February 8, 1855, and there he attended the district schools. At the age of sixteen he began to teach not far from the old plantation. From the time he was eighteen until twenty years of age he taught in the home district where he had attended school in boyhood. In 1875 he came to California with his brother Peter, the latter returning east in 1884. The former secured work in a warehouse at Winters, Yolo county, and then attended the state normal school at San Jose for seven months. His first term of school was taught at Salmon Creek in Humboldt county. In the fall of 1876 he taught in Yolo county and then returned to the normal to take up the studies of the senior year, leaving, however, before graduation to take a school in Hollister, San Benito county, where he was employed as vice-principal for one term. In the fall of 1878 he began to teach in Mariposa county and during the period of his residence there served as a member of the county board of education and also as county superintendent of schools.

When he came to Madera in 1891 it was Mr. Larew's purpose to engage in the manufacture of adjustable blackboards, which he had patented, but he abandoned the plan in order to take up the study of law, his early knowledge of which had

been gained during his leisure hours as a school teacher. In the fall of 1891 he was admitted to the supreme court and began to practice in Madera, where he has since become a prominent attorney. Under appointment he held the office of district attorney for two years. In 1892 he organized the movement to divide Fresno county and organize a new county under the name of Madera. Aably seconded by J. W. Watkins and John M. Griffin, he launched the movement, which was successfully presented to the legislature, and the county was organized in May of 1893. He was appointed a member of the county board of education and became its first president, filling the position for a number of years. A thorough believer in education, his children have been given good advantages, in order that they might be prepared for positions of responsibility and honor. His eldest daughter, Clara Peters, married Ernest Brimmer, of Madera; the only son, James W., a graduate of the Madera schools, is employed by the Madera Sugar Pine Company; Virginia is a graduate of the Madera high school and is employed in her father's office, and Christine is a student in the grammar school. At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Law was made a Mason in Buckeye Lodge No. 195, F. & A. M., at Winters, Cal., and is now connected with Mariposa Lodge No. 24, also Woodland Chapter No. 46, R. A. M., and Opal Chapter of the Eastern Star at Winters. In political views he has always been a believer in Democratic principles and has supported that party and its candidates by his ballot and influence.

E. D. FARROW, M. D. The distinction of being the oldest practicing physician of Tulare county doubtless belongs to E. D. Farrow, M. D., who began his professional career in Farmersville in 1875, thirty years ago. Talented and skilful, he has been very successful in his career, and has established a fine reputation throughout this part of the state as a general practitioner and likewise in eye, ear and throat diseases, which he treats with good results. He is now located at Visalia, where he has a wide and remunerative practice, extending far beyond local limits. As a boy he served in the Civil war as the mascot of the Fifteenth Maine Infantry Volunteers, entering the army before he was fifteen years old, but to this day does not know whether his name appeared on the company's roll, although he afterward drew his clothes, rations and pay, and had a good time, being a favorite with the older soldiers, who cared for him, and protected him whenever they could. A son of John P. Farrow, he was born, May 21, 1849, at Summerside, Prince Edward Island, where his Grandfather Farrow settled on emigrating from England.

John P. Farrow grew to manhood in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, but subsequently settled in business in Portland, Me., as a manufacturer of stoves. Selling out his interests in that city, he afterward removed to Oldtown, Me., where he was successfully engaged as a merchant until his death, at the advanced age of seventy-four years. He married Margaret Stewart, who was born on Prince Edward Island, where her father settled on coming from Scotland to America. She now resides in Oldtown, Me., a bright and active woman of eighty years. Of her children, three are living, Dr. E. D., the special subject of this sketch, being the oldest child.

Brought up and educated in Portland, Me., E. D. Farrow attended the grammar and high schools of that city. During the progress of the Civil war he enlisted without his parents' consent. Leaving his books under a plank sidewalk, he ran away from home, going to Washington, D. C., where he joined the Fifteenth Maine Volunteer Infantry, entering the quartermaster's department, but afterward was attached to Company H as a musician. During the last year of the war he accompanied the regiment through the Shenandoah valley, serving until the close of the war, when, with his comrades, he returned home. He was at that time a strong, wiry and hardy boy, full of life and activity, overflowing with fun, ready to see the humorous side of any situation, and the anecdotes of army life which are indelibly impressed on his mind are both amusing and interesting. Although he had some hard experiences, he stood the long, hard marches most remarkably well.

Returning to Portland from the scene of conflict, the youth completed the course of study in the high school, after his graduation working for a year in the Portland office of the Grand Trunk Railway Company. He subsequently worked as a clerk in a wholesale establishment, later being employed in a drug store in that city. Going thence to Missouri, he located in Hamilton, where his uncle, Dr. R. D. King, was a practicing physician and a druggist. He at once began work in his uncle's drug store, and at the same time read medicine under his instruction, continuing for five years. Entering then the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, he took four courses of lectures there, being graduated in March, 1874, with the degree of M. D. Returning to Hamilton, Mo., Dr. Farrow practiced medicine there for a year, and then, in March, 1875, migrated to California. Locating immediately at Farmersville, Tulare county, he built up a thriving practice in that vicinity, traveling on horseback over a large territory, his trips oftentimes extending over fifty miles. For four years the doctor was away from Tulare county, spending two years in Ama-

dor county, and for two years practicing medicine in Salt Lake City. Returning from there to California, he has since been one of the leading physicians of Visalia, having built up a large practice. By his excellent business ability and foresight, the doctor has been financially successful. For a number of years he served as county physician, and now fills that position; he is also district surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company.

In 1876, in Tulare county, Dr. Farrow married Mary E. Overall, a native of the county and a daughter of one of its honored pioneer settlers, D. G. Overall, a large landholder and a capitalist. Dr. and Mrs. Farrow are the parents of three children, namely: Mary Edna, wife of W. L. Fisher, of Tulare county; Daisy, living at home, and E. D., Jr., a student at the Berkeley high school. Politically Dr. Farrow is a staunch supporter of the principles advocated by the Democratic party, and formerly belonged to the county central committee. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, he is a member of the County Medical Society and of the Pacific Coast Association of Railway Surgeons.

---

**JAMES SHURTLIFF STONE.** The history of Stanislaus county runs parallel with the best years of James Shurtliff Stone, a California pioneer of 1850, whose death, December 27, 1900, removed yet another of that brave class of men whose physical and mental strength carried them safely through Indian-infested plains, and made clear their duty to conquer whatever lay in the way of the civilization of the Pacific slope. Mr. Stone is recalled as one of the best and most successful farmers and stock-raisers which this county has known. He was born February 10, 1829, in Jefferson county, N. Y., whither his father, Andrew, had removed at an early day, and where he had cleared a farm in a timbered wilderness. The youth was one in a large family which taxed the resources of the farm, and his educational and other opportunities were strangely in contrast with those enjoyed by the farmer boys of Jefferson county today. His twenty-first year found him with hardened muscles and great capacity for work, and with an ambition which reached out beyond his father's fences, and groped in the little understood country bordering on the Pacific. The early spring of 1850 found him aboard a vessel turned toward the south sea, and eventually he rounded the Horn and proceeded north to the land of his youthful dreams. Four years in the mines of the state enlarged his horizon, made him acquainted with more phases of life than he had ever heard of, and familiarized him with the bravery and good

fellowship which often has its being under rough and uncouth exteriors. Returning to New York in 1854, Mr. Stone married Mary McAlister, with whom he had attended the little log school-house of Jefferson county, and who had been his chief inspiration in seeking a fortune in the west. The ceremony gladdened the hearts of the neighbors and friends May 28, 1854, the bride being a daughter of Alexander McAlister, a native of Ireland, and who came to the United States with his parents when twelve years old. Locating in New Orleans, the McAlisters were overtaken by disaster shortly after, for yellow fever was raging, and the parents died leaving five children. Alexander attained his majority amid much tribulation, for responsibility fell thick around him, and left little time for the enjoyment or improvement of his life. Eventually he settled in Jefferson county, N. Y., having previously farmed for a time in Oswego county. In the latter he established a home of his own, marrying Isabelle Lindell, born in Rhode Island, and daughter of English parents who became pioneers of Oswego county. He finally removed to Theresa, N. Y., where he rounded out his busy life managing a grocery business. Like his grandfather, who removed from Scotland and established the family in Ireland, Mr. McAlister lived to a good old age, seventy-four years and several months, being survived by his wife until her eighty-fourth year.

Discontented in the east after his experience in the west, Mr. Stone started for Pike's Peak in 1859, but on the way changed his mind and continued his journey to California. In February, 1860, his wife joined him after a journey across the Isthmus of Panama, and together they followed farming in Tuolumne county, at the same time becoming interested in mining. Mr. Stone opened a mine two miles above Knights Ferry, expecting to realize largely on its output, but a flood filled it with water and cut short his operations. Thereafter he lived on rented farms in different parts of Tuolumne county until 1864. He then bought property three miles above Knights Ferry, and engaged in the stock business. Success came his way, for he was both frugal and industrious, and as good a manager as his neighborhood has ever known. At the climax of his prosperity he owned seventeen hundred and eighty acres of land in one body, and raised hundreds of high-grade stock.

After the death of Mr. Stone his widow continued to live on the farm until 1903, when she rented the property to her brother, Spencer McAlister, who devotes it to stock and grain. She has since built a handsome residence in Oakdale, where she is surrounded with material comforts, and where she enjoys the companionship of many warm friends. A son, Burton W., died

in his nineteenth year, and a daughter, Mattie, is now Mrs. Anthony Arnold of Oakdale. Mrs. Arnold has four children: Mrs. Bertha Capps, Edna, Gertrude and James. Mrs. Stone is a gracious and hospitable woman, a believer in the Democratic party, and a staunch supporter of schools and wholesome diversions. She treasures the memory of her kind and sympathetic husband, recalling the noble traits which animated his life and the broad and tolerant sympathies which he held for all mankind.

**J. WILBUR CATE.** Thoroughness has been the watchword of J. Wilbur Cate of Fresno in whatever he has attempted to do, so whatever of failure has attended his efforts has not been the fault of himself but rather that of a combination of circumstances, while he has labored persistently and untiringly for that success which to-day places him among the representative men of Fresno. As a member of the real estate firm of Moore & Cate he is actively interested in the development of the city and surrounding country, and while seeking his own success also bends every energy to promote the general welfare. Deservedly popular and esteemed, he ranks among the first men of the community. A native Californian, Mr. Cate was born in Los Angeles county, near San Gabriel, November 17, 1866, the youngest member of the family born to his parents, his father dying in March, 1900, and his mother still living in Los Angeles. The elder Mr. Cate was a pioneer of this state, having crossed the plains with ox-teams from New Hampshire and became the first white settler between the two San Gabriel rivers. For more complete details concerning the life of this pioneer refer to his sketch which appears on another page of this work.

In 1888 J. Wilbur Cate attended the Los Angeles Commercial College, and in 1893 he came to Fresno and engaged in business here. With his father he entered into the milling business at Clovis, the firm being known as J. W. Cate & Son, in the course of three years improving and enlarging the business until they had a capacity of one hundred barrels per day. At the expiration of that period they met with a loss of about \$30,000 by the burning of the mill. The junior member of the firm then went to Edmon-ton, Alberta Province, Canada, and in 1897 outfitted a party to establish an overland route to the headwaters of the Pelly river, a tributary of the Yukon. Mr. Cate became captain of the party of twenty-seven men, who took with them an outfit which cost \$20,000, consisting of one hundred and sixty head of horses packed with provisions, etc. The expedition met with disaster; the horses died from exposure about

a thousand miles out, and with the exception of Mr. Cate and two comrades the party went into winter quarters. These three made their way out by going down Slave lake and river, and Athabasca river, and thence on foot to Edmon-ton. Mr. Cate then returned to Fresno and engaged as a vineyardist, but shortly afterward bought out the Fresno Undertaking Company and established and built up a successful undertaking business, being located on J street, where he remained for four years. He met with success in this work, becoming widely known as a successful embalmer, and there was every inducement for him to remain so engaged, but he sold out, at the same time giving up the position which he had occupied as deputy coroner under Dr. G. L. Long, having conducted the inquests for the county for four years. In October, 1902, he bought out the interest of I. G. Nees of the firm of Moore & Nees, real estate, loan and insurance men, and since then has been identified with this business.

In Rivera Mr. Cate was married to Jennie A. Coffman, a native of Marysville and the daughter of Alfred Coffman, a pioneer of the Sacramento valley. Mrs. Cate is a finely educated woman, being a graduate of the state normal school at San Jose. Mr. and Mrs. Cate are the parents of three children, Clyde, Leroy and Alfred. Socially and fraternally Mr. Cate occupies a prominent position in Fresno, being a member of the Apollo Club and Fresno Auto Club, and belongs to the following orders: Fresno Lodge No. 274, F. & A. M.; Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M.; Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F.; Fresno Encampment No. 78; Fresno Canton No. 30 of the Rebekahs; Fresno Lodge No. 138, K. P.; Uniformed Rank, K. P., and is now serving as quartermaster with the rank of captain in the California No. 4; Woodmen of the World, Fresno Camp No. 160; M. W. A., Sunset Camp No. 7199; and Fresno Parlor No. 25, N. S. G. W. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and president of the Young Men's Christian Association, and politically is a Democrat. Always interested in the advancement of the city's prosperity he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

**OSCAR NELSON.** Among the younger generation of men who will long be remembered for the influence their personality left upon the community in which they resided is Oscar Nelson, who was born near Oskarsom, Smoland, Sweden, April 30, 1867, a son of Nels and Hannah Nelson, the latter of whom died there in 1883. Nels Nelson was a large land holder, and is now a lumber manufacturer in a nearby city.

Oscar Nelson received a common-school edu-



cation in his home city and in 1886 left Sweden and came to America. Going to Kansas, he remained there a few months, then left for California and located in Tulare county in 1887. He found employment in the lumber camps for about one year, and in 1888 embarked on an independent venture, eventually becoming an extensive dealer in wood, shipping to Kern and Fresno counties, also supplying the railroads. He manufactured charcoal, for which he found a ready market. Purchasing timber land, he cleared it and embarked in the stock business. As success came his way he enlarged his operations and became the owner of two hundred and twenty acres on the St. Johns river. He made Visalia his home until the fall of 1904, removing then to the house he had erected on his land, and where he died December 12, 1904.

Besides his home place he owned eighty acres on the Mineral King road, devoting this and the home ranch to the stock business. He was a member of Four Creeks Lodge, I. O. O. F., a Lutheran in religious belief, and a Republican in politics.

July 6, 1897, in Visalia, Mrs. Sadie E. (Burnham) Carlton became his wife. She was born in Waterloo, Iowa, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Vanderbergh) Burnham. Mr. Burnham was a native of Massachusetts, and followed carpentering in Waterloo, Iowa. Coming to California, he settled in Visalia and followed his trade until his retirement. He was a soldier in the Thirty-second Massachusetts Regiment during the Civil war: was wounded in battle and taken prisoner, being confined in Libby prison. His wife was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa, and became the mother of six children. Mrs. Nelson, the eldest child, was educated in the schools of Iowa and Massachusetts and engaged in educational work until her marriage to David Carlton, in Clear Lake, Iowa. Mr. Carlton died four years later, leaving two children born of this union: Ernest W. at home, and David, deceased. In 1891 Mrs. Carlton came to Visalia and was here married to Mr. Nelson. Four children were born of this marriage, Carl, Paul, Nadine, deceased, and Idene. Mrs. Nelson is a Methodist, becoming converted when sixteen years of age.

Oscar Nelson was a self-made man in every sense of the word. Of strong character and public spirit he made friends wherever he went, was devoted to his family and true to his friends, and his death is a loss felt by the whole county.

#### CHESTER WORTHINGTON WOOD.

Among the foremost and substantial exponents of western success in Merced county is Chester Worthington Wood, one of the incorporators and vice-president of the Uriah Wood Company,

and president of the firm of C. W. Wood & Company, commission merchants, 406-408 California street, San Francisco, also owner of one of the finest fruit ranches and one of the most modern country homes in Merced county. Mr. Wood possesses the shrewdness, adaptability and practical common sense which characterizes the men responsible for the upbuilding of the state. He not only is able to recognize an opportunity, but knows how to take advantage of it to the permanent good of himself and others. Behind his effort is the pride of all worthy native sons of California, and more especially that of one thoroughly in harmony with the present and the future of the west. Born in old Gilroy August 21, 1864, he is a son of Uriah Wood, whose life and deeds are set forth elsewhere in this work, and who is numbered as one of the resourceful and successful pioneers of the state.

The oldest of four children, C. W. Wood had exceptional educational advantages in his youth, going from the district schools to St. Augustine College at Benicia, from there to the Military Academy of San Mateo, and later attending the Hopkins Academy of Oakland. After graduating from Heald's Business College in San Francisco he inaugurated his business career as a bookkeeper and assistant cashier of the Bank of Hollister, and eight months later, in 1885, he started a dairy business with three hundred and seventy acres of land and one hundred and twenty head of cattle at San Felipe. His business grew apace, and he established a cheese and butter manufactory on his ranch, having plenty of alfalfa and excellent water from numerous artesian wells. From 1885 until 1889 he supplied the San Francisco markets with butter and cheese, and after disposing of his enterprise came to Los Banos and leased the Los Banos ranch of five thousand acres, devoting the same to grain and stock until 1893. He then permanently located on his present ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, two and one half miles northeast of Los Banos, all under irrigation from the old canal, and upon which he had already set out an orchard consisting of one hundred acres of prunes, ten acres of peaches and five acres of apricots. This was an experimental venture, and was found to be fairly successful, notwithstanding the fact that ten acres of prunes were set out on low ground, and the apricots did not come up to requirements. Mr. Wood has his own dryers and packing house, and furnishes direct to Eastern markets. He has given the study of fruit growing and packing exhaustive consideration, availing himself of every possible means of keeping in touch with the best producers in all tropical climes.

As one of the incorporators and the vice-president of the Uriah Wood Company, Mr. Wood

has assumed a large and varied responsibility, having the management of the four thousand five hundred acres belonging to the company in Merced county; of the San Felipe dairy, which is leased as a seed farm; and of residence and business property in San Jose. They expect to bring their dairy up to a thousand cattle, and indications promise one of the most complete dairying enterprises in this part of California. As a Republican Mr. Wood has taken a prominent part in the local deliberations of his party, has represented his district in state and county conventions, and served on the county central committee. His influence along educational lines has resulted in constant improvement in school buildings, and in the standard of instruction adopted in both county and towns. He was a member of the school board from 1885 until 1904, and during most of that time was clerk of the board. Fraternally he is connected with the Los Banos Lodge No. 312, F. & A. M., and was a charter member of Fremont Parlor No. 44, N. S. G. W., of Hollister. In Hollister Mr. Wood was united in marriage with Minnow Ingels, born in 1864, while her parents were on a trip to California. Her father, the late Benjamin F. Ingels, eventually settled in the state, becoming a grain and stock-raiser near Hollister, later removing to a fruit ranch near San Jose. Mr. Ingels is survived by his wife, formerly Martha Stewart, who at present resides in San Jose. Mrs. Wood is a graduate of the Hollister College, and is the mother of two children, Chester Earl, born in 1886, now attending the University of California, class of 1908; and Hazel Vivian, born in 1888, a student in the high school of Los Banos. Mr. Wood is one of the substantial and reliable business men of Merced county, and one in whom the future commercial interests of the locality are safely vested. Scattered over the state are many who enjoy his friendship, who feel a just pride in his business success, in his conversational and other gifts and his faculty of diffusing an air of prosperity, happiness and energy. He has a just appreciation of the social duties of life, is a capital shot and sportsman and has in his possession many prizes and trophies of the chase.

---

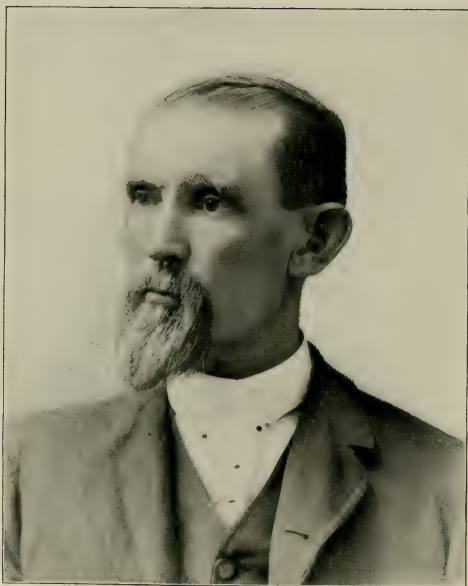
ALFRED EDWARD PURCELL, one of the original proprietors of the site of Oakdale, was born in Kentucky in 1825, and when a mere boy removed with his parents to Montrose, Lee county, Iowa, where he was reared on a farm in a new and sparsely settled country. His active mind received its first educational impulse at the rude schoolhouse in the vicinity of his home and his muscles were hardened and his exuberance curbed, in the hard struggle for existence which

confronted the youth of his time and place. Into his uneventful farming existence came an opening for something better and broader with the breaking out of the Mexican war, in which he enlisted and veteranized, a volunteer in two Iowa regiments.

With the desire for achievement surging in his brain, Mr. Purcell followed the universal trend of 1850 and crossed the plains in an ox-train, enduring the hardships, suffering and imminent danger common to the lot of the men of daring and courage who comprised the fortune seekers of that time. Not realizing his mining expectations, he turned his attention to sheep raising in partnership with A. J. Patterson, who is still living, purchasing a large tract of land, a part of which eventually became the site of the prosperous and homelike town of Oakdale. Success came his way, and his worldly possessions took on dignified and substantial proportions. The partners, out of the fullness of their opulence, and their public-spiritedness, presented one-half of the town site and the right of way to the railroad company to locate the town, the deeds to lots bearing the signatures of Patterson, Purcell & Jackson. The partners also owned a large tract of land in San Luis Obispo county, twelve miles from Paso Robles, where for some years Mr. Purcell lived, and engaged in an extensive stock business. On returning to Oakdale, he resumed his farming and stock raising at this point, his farm being one and a half miles south of the town, but eventually the approach of old age brought its additional burdens of ill-health and loss of energy, and his last years were spent in Oakdale, where he suffered greatly, although patient and uncomplaining. In this emergency the superintending of his farm and general business devolved upon his step-daughter, Sadie Kelley, now Mrs. Mehler, to whom he was devotedly attached, and in whose good judgment and ability he placed implicit confidence. Mr. Purcell married, in Keokuk, Iowa, in 1873, Mrs. Sabra (Williams) Kelley, who was born in Mansfield, Ohio, the widow of Dr. James Kelley, a graduate of the Keokuk Medical College, and a prominent physician and surgeon of Montrose for many years. Mrs. Purcell had one child by her first marriage, and two by her second. She is now living with her daughter, Sadie, in Oakdale. Mr. Purcell died in Oakdale July 24, 1902, and not within the memory of the oldest inhabitant of the town, has there been more sincere regret at the passing of its most honored men. He was the soul of integrity, the embodiment of industry, and the rarest example of good judgment, large-heartedness, and public-spiritedness, and his services in behalf of the early upbuilding of Stanislaus county and Oakdale cannot be overestimated.







*J. D. Ryburn*

Mrs. Edward M. Mehler's career presents many claims upon the appreciation and gratitude of her fellow citizens of Oakdale. She is a woman of ability and resource, and in any emergency which has presented itself for her consideration, has proved herself apt and ready and faithful. As the manager of her step-father's estate she has shown unusual shrewdness and reliability. Prior to her marriage she engaged in educational work for ten years, nine of which were spent in her home town. In 1897 she started what has since become the largest, most complete and finest millinery establishment in Stanislaus county, bringing to bear upon her chosen occupation the taste, discretion, obligingness and business sagacity needful for the conduct of an enterprise patronized by the best and most exclusive trade in this part of the county. Mrs. Mehler is the mother of one son, Alfred Edward. Of the other children of Mr. Purcell's family, Alfred Edward died at the age of twenty-three, and Maude L. is the wife of Frank Anderson, of Seattle, Wash. The Purcell family, as established by the grand old pioneer, is honored for its good name, the beneficence of its members, their business ability, and their social and generally useful qualities.

---

JOSEPH DAVIDSON REYBURN. A pioneer among primitive scenes and conditions, Joseph Davidson Reyburn has been an active participant in all that has tended to develop this section of the San Joaquin valley, his home now being three miles east of Clovis, Fresno county. He is a native of Burlington, Iowa, where he was born December 25, 1840, a son of J. S. Reyburn (see sketch of J. J. Reyburn in another part of this volume). He was reared in his native state and educated in the public schools, which were held in log buildings. Trained to practical farm work, when twenty years old he engaged in this work for himself, being employed on neighboring farms. In 1862 he came west in company with others, traveling by mule team across the plains, via the Platte river to The Dallas, Ore., thence down the Columbia river to Portland, where they obtained their first good meal after leaving home. They went on to Marion county, where they wintered in Howell's Prairie, but on account of the rain they were dissatisfied with the climate, and in 1863 drove over the mountains on the stage route to California. From the Sacramento river they went to Folsom and crossed the mountains into Carson City, Nev., where Mr. Reyburn engaged in teaming to Virginia City until the fall of that year. In September he drove the same team to Stockton, San Joaquin county, Cal., in the vicinity of which place he spent the winter and disposed of his mules at that time. The follow-

ing season he went to Nevada once more and was employed until the fall of 1864, when he returned to California and settled on the Stanislaus river in the county of that name. Upon the present site of Salida he pre-empted and homesteaded three hundred and twenty acres, for the first two years engaging in the lumber business on the Tuolumne river. He was married in 1869, when he began the cultivation and improvement of his property, continuing in grain farming until 1881, when he sold out for \$50 per acre. He then came to Fresno county, and with J. P. Vincent purchased three sections of land on the plains, but later sold two to his partner. The next year he bought three sections more, and with the one which he had reserved in the sale to Mr. Vincent he then owned four. One of these he eventually sold to John Lester, leaving him then three sections located on sections 11, 12 and 13, of township 13, range 21, east. Since his location in California he has been engaged in the raising of wheat, his entire service as an agriculturist being about thirty-eight years, during which he has never had a total failure of crops. Having so much land, he summer fallows a half each year, and in this way keeps it as rich and productive as when he first entered it. He plows three times between crops, the first plowing being between eight and nine inches, the second about four inches. He replants, and in the seeding time he plows again and seeds it. The last few years he has rented to his son, but the same process has been carried out since he has so ably demonstrated the success of the idea. He also improved a home on section 13, where his son now resides. In 1892 he erected a large and handsome residence on section 11, where he makes his home, forty acres in this location being in Muscat grapes, while twenty acres is devoted to a peach orchard.

The first marriage of Mr. Reyburn united him with Mary Ella Lester, a native of Iowa, who came to California and located in Stanislaus county, near the property homesteaded by Mr. Reyburn. She died in 1893, leaving a family of the following children: Charles T., a clerk in Fresno; Leslie D., farming on the home place; Glenn W., attending Stanford University; Emery Everett, superintendent of the home farm; C. Ray and Ida May, twins; Walter P. and John L., all at home, and one child, who died in infancy. In San Jose, May 9, 1897, Mr. Reyburn married Anna P. Buckley, a native of Auburn and a graduate of the State Normal at San Jose. Before her marriage she engaged for eleven years as a teacher. They are the parents of five children, namely: Gilbert Rowell, who died at the age of two years; Gladys, Alfred, Doris and Mary Margaret. For over thirty-five years Mr. Reyburn has been a member of the Cumberland Presby-

terian Church, and in the Clovis church is ruling elder, which office he has filled for twenty years. He has also served as superintendent of the Sunday school. His children all inherit musical talent and are in demand socially on account of their splendid voices. Politically Mr. Reyburn is a Republican and is strong in national politics. He has always taken an active interest in all public affairs. He took a prominent part in the organization of the Jefferson school district, and has been a director for many years. The building erected then is still standing. He assisted materially in the organization of the state grange in Napa in 1876, and was the first master of the local grange at Salida.

**WALLACE FERGUSON.** The manager of the Oakdale Water Works is eminently fitted for his important responsibility, not only because he is faithful to trusts imposed, and conscientious beyond the average, but because years of his life have been devoted to a trade bearing upon his present occupation. As a blacksmith he was proud of his handiwork, and was never at a loss for occupation, and it is safe to predict that under his management the water works will continue to fulfill their mission of usefulness to the citizens of Oakdale in a manner both gratifying and progressive. Mr. Ferguson is a westerner by adoption, having been born in Amsterdam, Montgomery county, N. Y., September 15, 1842. His ancestry is that of the rugged products of the Scotch highlands, and his tendencies are in accord with their high regard for plain living and honest dealing. His Grandfather Ferguson brought his family to America when John P., the father of Wallace, was five years old, settling in Montgomery county, N. Y., where he lived to an advanced age. John P. Ferguson was reared on a farm, and in early manhood married Maria Van Warner, a native also of Montgomery county, and daughter of an early Dutch settler of that vicinity. The family was an old one on the Mohawk river, owning extensive lands along its placid waters. Not content with farming, John P. in middle life turned his attention to railroad contracting on the New York Central, but died in comparatively early life, when Wallace was eight years of age. He was survived by his wife until her fifty-fifth year. His oldest son, William, served in the Civil war during its entire course, his death occurring while on an expedition up the Red river. John is a retired mechanic of Amsterdam, N. Y.; Almeran P. also lives in Amsterdam; Mark lives in Marquette, Mich.; and Mary E. is the wife of Mr. Davis, of Amsterdam, N. Y.

Until his seventeenth year Wallace Ferguson lived on a farm near Amsterdam, and during

that time gleaned whatever of education was to be found in a little red schoolhouse somewhat remotely situated from his home. A leaning toward things mechanical led himself and brother John to learn the blacksmith trade, and he apprenticed in Amsterdam to a man for three years, receiving, in addition to room and board, \$25 for the first, \$35 for the second, and \$45 for the third years, in all \$105 in money, for the three years. He afterward worked in a foundry and machine shop for three or four years, and then, with his brother John, bought out the shop in which they served their apprenticeship and ran it for eight years. Feeling the limitations by which he was surrounded, and having great faith in the west as a field of activity for the industriously inclined, Mr. Ferguson came to California by way of Panama in 1874, continuing his journeyings from San Francisco to Burnett by rail, and from Burnett to Knights Ferry by boat. Here he worked at his trade until 1876 for another man, and then rented a shop for a year, at the end of that time purchasing its business and good-will. Twenty-five years he continued the increasingly successful and popular artisan, having a trade extending far beyond the borders of the town, and accumulating a comfortable fortune through the exercise of caution and economy. Weary of the close confinement, and desiring an all-around change, he rented the shop, which he still owns, in 1901, and in 1902 removed to Oakdale, where he built a residence the following year.

In the meantime, December 25, 1879, Mr. Ferguson married, in Knights Ferry, Anna Roberts, a native of that town, and daughter of Thomas Roberts, a native of Cornwall, England. Mr. Roberts immigrated to America and California in 1855, living in Knights Ferry for many years, and in 1884 starting the Oakdale Water Works, of which he eventually became sole owner. The death of himself and wife in 1899 put an end to his management of the enterprise, or rather to his supervision, as he had previously leased the works to a Mr. Rand for a period of ten years. Mr. Rand in the meantime had died suddenly, and his administrator, Dr. C. A. Case, undertook the management of the works. Mr. Ferguson had been appointed administrator of the Roberts estate, and in 1903 bought out the lease of the works and assumed the active management himself. Mrs. Ferguson is the second oldest in a family of five daughters, the others being Salina, now Mrs. Boling, of San Francisco; Nellie, now Mrs. Harriman, of Oakdale; Laura, Mrs. Abernethy, of Santa Cruz; and Mabel, the wife of Gilbert Baker, of Oakdale. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson have three children, of whom Herbert J. is in San Francisco, and Beatrice C. and Irma are at home. Mr. Ferguson adds to his business

success an inclination toward general affairs, and is of an especially social turn of mind. His standing in the community is attested by membership in the Masonic fraternity, he having come here from the Artisan Lodge No. 84, of Amsterdam, N. Y., and also the Royal Arch Masons. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Ferguson impresses all who know him as a man of latent as well as developed resources; as a man of energy and dignity of character, yet as the most genial and approachable of associates. He is honorable and sincere, public-spirited and enterprising, and as such adds to the importance of an enterprise intimately connected with the welfare of the city.

---

ORAMIL MCHENRY. One of the soundest and most conservative financial institutions of Stanislaus county is the First National Bank of Modesto, of which that popular and progressive citizen, Oramil McHenry, is the president and propelling force. In his efforts to elevate the standard of his adopted city, though he is himself a native of Stanislaus county, he has given his voice and vote to all worthy causes and has lent the weight of his influence on the side of advancement. He is connected with various of the business movements of the city, and has from time to time become the possessor of much country property, including twelve thousand acres in the Modesto and Turlock districts, the greater part of which is now rented. Possessing a splendid knowledge of finance, which is his by inheritance as well as training, he has made the best of the opportunities with which he was surrounded from childhood, and has, besides, the satisfaction of knowing that all who know him wish him well, and rejoice in the strict integrity which characterizes all of his dealings.

Born November 14, 1861, Oramil McHenry is the son of Robert McHenry, a citizen for many years connected with the business interests of Modesto and revered for the many fine qualities which were manifest in his life. The elder man was a native of Vermont, from which state he emigrated in manhood to New York, later locating in Louisiana, where he had charge of a large plantation. During the Mexican war, in 1846, he came to California via the Isthmus, locating in 1849 in Stockton, where he was engaged in draying. Going to the mines at Chinese Camp, he remained for a period of six months, after which he came to Stanislaus county, and took up the land which now constitutes the ranch known as Bald Eagle. This then consisted of two thousand, six hundred and forty acres, but was afterward increased to four thousand. In 1878 he located in Modesto and engaged in the banking

business, becoming the cashier of The Modesto Bank, in which capacity he remained until 1884. Upon the incorporation of the First National Bank of Modesto he became its president and so continued until 1890, when he was succeeded by his son, his death occurring June 2 of the same year. He married Matilda Hewitt, a native of Ohio, whose death occurred here in 1896 at the age of fifty-six years. She had crossed the plains with ox-teams in the early '50s, her father, Samuel, locating in the San Joaquin valley, where he spent the remainder of his life.

The only child of his parents, Oramil McHenry was reared to manhood in Stanislaus county, receiving his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home, afterward attending the State University for three years. He then engaged with his father in the First National Bank, acting as bookkeeper until the death of his father, when he became president, assuming the duties in 1890 and acceptably filling the position to the present time. Besides being largely interested in the real estate of Stanislaus county, he is connected with the general merchandise company of Modesto, known as G. P. Shaffer & Co., the stock of their store being valued at \$155,000. He is also interested in The Modesto Bank, being a director and the largest stockholder. The growth of the First National Bank has been remarkable, at the time of its incorporation in 1884 having a capital of but \$50,000, and three years later doubling that amount, while the capital is now \$100,000 with a reserve of \$75,000.

The marriage of Mr. McHenry occurred in Modesto and united him with Myrtle Conneau, a graduate of Stanford University, class of 1901. Fraternally he is a member of Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E., and is also identified with the Masons, belonging to the Blue Lodge and Chapter of Modesto, and with the Native Sons of the Golden West. Politically he is a Republican.

---

R. E. HYDE. The career of no leader in commercial affairs of Tulare county furnishes a more striking example of the wise application of sound principles and safe conservatism than does that of Richard E. Hyde. Like many others who were important factors in shaping the destinies of the new west, he is a product of the east, bringing to the coast the priceless heritage of industry, energy, brains and confidence. These are the men whose influence has been far-reaching and notable in the history of the west. The Bank of Tulalia, the pioneer monetary institution of Tulare county, Cal., and one of the oldest in the San Joaquin valley, was established by Mr. Hyde in August, 1874, and has since been under the presidency of this able and high-

minded financier, his present associates being C. J. Giddings, cashier; S. C. Brown, C. L. Adams and E. O. Larkin, directors.

Richard E. Hyde was born in what is now Port Ewen, Ulster county, N. Y., and is a son of David and Sarah (Houghtaling) Hyde, natives also of New York state. The circumstances surrounding his youth were such as to inspire an appreciation of honest toil, of frugality and sterling integrity, and also of sympathy with and good-will toward his fellow men, and with these assets he set forth at a comparatively early age to earn his own living as clerk in a mercantile store. He had six brothers: Abram, Jeremiah, Alfred, Christopher, John and William. His father dying when he was quite young, the training of the sons was watched over by a devout Christian mother, whose love and ceaseless devotion were rewarded by the knowledge that all of the sons developed into exemplary men and were a credit to their respective communities. Two of them, Christopher and John, settled on pioneer land in Wisconsin, and became important agricultural factors in their neighborhoods. John reared a large family, and Christopher reared two daughters and one son, the latter, Clarence, being now in business in Oakland.

Mr. Hyde began his western career as clerk in a mercantile store in one of the mining districts of California. Later he engaged in the mercantile business on his own responsibility in Santa Cruz, still later establishing the Bank of Visalia. Mr. Hyde combines the conservatism and caution of the east with the energy of the west and opportunity has never had to knock twice at his door. His interests are large and invade many avenues of activity, and the faculty of success has found in him a master of strong proportions. The many buildings erected by him in Visalia and his association with commercial undertakings attest his faith in the city and county. He is known as the wealthiest, as well as one of the most dignified and reserved men in the business world of the San Joaquin valley, where he embodies the personification of commercial and social honor. Newer generations will profit by his example and revere his memory.

C. ELMER CODY, who has already gained considerable prominence as an orchardist in Fresno county, Cal., is one of the younger generation of citizens who are rapidly working their way to a place of honor and success by their untiring efforts, ability and energy. Although from his earliest recollections he remembers no other than a California home, he was born August 18, 1871, in Tecumseh, Neb., a son of Truman B. and Mary A. (Vaughn)

Cody, the former born in New York in 1832 and the latter a native of Wisconsin, and it was in the latter state that their marriage took place.

T. B. Cody and his wife came to California in 1875, and located in Tulare county and this continued to be their home for a number of years, and while residing there, farming occupied the attention of Mr. Cody. It was in 1884 that the family came to Fresno county to live, and Mr. Cody purchased at that time a ranch in Rosedale school district, and here it was that his subsequent years were spent until 1903. Leaving his sixty-acre ranch to the care and management of his son Elmer, he retired to Los Angeles, Cal., where he anticipates spending his declining years in the quiet enjoyment of his life of toil.

Being but a few years old when brought to California by his parents, C. Elmer Cody, during his early boyhood days, attended school in Tulare county and after the removal of the family to Fresno county, his education was completed within its borders. Having been reared in the rural districts, he very naturally followed ranching pursuits. In addition to managing his father's farm he owns a sixty-acre farm four miles south of Sanger and upon this he raises fruit extensively. By his marriage October 15, 1896, he united his fortunes with those of Anna E. Powell, a Virginian, and they have three children, Rose Ellen, Hattie May and John C. At all times a staunch supporter of the Republican party, Mr. Cody is not an active politician nor an aspirant to office, and fraternally he is allied with the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Brotherhood of Del Rey. He is one of the enterprising men of his locality and is a man of shrewd and unerring judgment.

JOHN JAY VANDERBURGH. As editor, publisher and proprietor of the *Selma Irrigator*, John Jay Vanderburgh is widely and favorably known, and is carrying on a successful business. Under his judicious management, the paper exerts a healthful influence throughout the community, encouraging the establishment of beneficial enterprises, and promoting as far as possible its industrial, financial, educational and moral progress. A son of the late Isaac K. Vanderburgh, he was born April 13, 1866, in Waterloo, Blackhawk county, Iowa.

A native of Canada, Isaac K. Vanderburgh was born in Norwich, Oxford county, on the parental farm. After his marriage he settled in the United States, and as a member of a government party helped survey the state of Iowa. He made his residence in Blackhawk and adjoining coun-



ties, where he resided nearly twenty years. Coming to California with his family in 1875, he continued in his chosen occupation, living near Firebaugh, Fresno county, four years, and in Santa Cruz county two years. Returning to Fresno county in 1881, he bought forty acres of land lying five miles north of Selma, it being a railway claim, and was there engaged in ranching until his death in 1890. He was a very successful business man, and an active member of the Republican party. He married Pluma Gaines, who was born March 16, 1834, in Barre, Oswego county, N. Y. She is a woman of considerable business ability, and since the death of her husband has been very successful in the management of the home ranch, among other improvements which she has added to the place being the setting out of a peach orchard. She bore her husband six children, all of whom are living, namely: B. D., owner of a stock and dairy ranch near Hanford, Cal.; C. M., living near the home ranch; Annie, wife of S. Bondsen, a dairy farmer and stock-raiser, in Tulare county; Mrs. P. H. McDowell, living with her mother; Mrs. C. C. Cavin, wife of a prosperous farmer of Madera; and John Jay, the subject of this sketch.

Obtaining his elementary education in the common schools of California, and afterward attending the Selma high school two years, John Jay Vanderburgh began his active career as a teacher, and for four years taught school in Fresno county. Engaging in journalistic work in 1893, he bought one-half interest in the *Selma Irrigator*, and four years later purchased the remaining interest of the paper, of which he has since been editor, business manager and sole proprietor. This paper was established in 1886 as a weekly, being a pioneer in its line, and has now a weekly circulation of six hundred. In addition to publishing the *Irrigator*, Mr. Vanderburgh also does job printing, carrying on a remunerative business. He is a Democrat in politics and for two years, from 1900 until 1902, served as chairman of the board of city trustees.

Near Selma, in 1889, Mr. Vanderburgh married M. Isabelle Bowen, a native of Missouri, and they have two children living, Zoe and Isabelle. Fraternally Mr. Vanderburgh is a member of Fresno Lodge, B. P. O. E.; of Selma Lodge, I. O. O. F.; of Selma Encampment; and of the Rebekahs.

---

HON. STANTON LESTER CARTER. Upon its establishment in America the Carter family was first associated with the history of colonial Virginia, but more recent generations have been identified with the activities of the north and west. Judge Carter's father, Levi Carter, was a native of Jefferson county, N. Y.,

and during early manhood was interested in lumbering in that state and Canada. In 1854 he became a pioneer farmer near Mount Carroll, Carroll county, Ill., and from there in 1860 crossed the plains to the west. After a short time in Nevada and California, in 1861 he returned via Panama for the purpose of bringing his family to the coast with him. The little party, with Mr. Carter as captain, started on the long journey over mountains and deserts in 1862, joining others who had a similar destination in view. While on the way the party was compelled to battle with the Indians on Goose creek, in which two men were killed. After three months their horse-train arrived in Washoe, Nev. A short time afterward the Carter family proceeded to Diamond Spring, Eldorado county, Cal., and from there to Folsom, Sacramento county, where Mr. Carter engaged in teaming. Next he bought land eight miles east of Stockton and took up farm pursuits. From there he removed to the San Joaquin valley, and in 1868 settled in Stockton, but continued to follow farming until advancing years rendered further manual work impossible. His death occurred on his ranch in Stanislaus county at seventy-six years of age. Three weeks after his demise Mrs. Carter passed away. She was Fama Eve Shoup, of Canadian birth and Dutch descent. They were the parents of five children, of whom three sons and a daughter survive.

The next to the oldest of the children was Stanton L. Carter, who was born in Clayton, Jefferson county, N. Y., January 16, 1853. His earliest recollections are associated with Illinois, for he was only a year old when the family settled in Carroll county. In 1862 he crossed the plains with the family and witnessed many memorable scenes during that eventful journey, as well as later when the family were undergoing the privations and dangers attendant upon life on the frontier and in mining regions. In 1871 he was graduated from the Stockton high school. His first independent work was as manager of a grain warehouse at Ceres, Cal., which he operated during the vacation months. In 1874 he completed the course of study in Head's Business College. Previous to this he had taken up the study of law, and April 10, 1876, he was admitted to the bar. After gaining considerable experience through clerking in the law office of Byers & Elliott in Stockton, in 1878 he opened an office in Stockton, where, from 1884 to 1888, he was a member of the firm of Carter, Smith & Keniston. In September, 1879, he was appointed city attorney of Stockton to fill a vacancy and subsequently was twice elected to the office.

Removing to Fresno in 1891, Judge Carter has since been a well-known citizen of this place. In 1894 Governor Markham appointed him judge of the superior court of Fresno county to fill a vacancy in the office, and he served for two years, when, the legislature having divided the county and reduced the number of judges from three to two, abolishing the department over which he presided, he retired from the bench and resumed the practice of law. Since 1903 he has been a member of the firm of Carter, Ricketts & Dolph, his partners being A. H. Ricketts, one of the most prominent mining attorneys on the Pacific coast, and Chester V. Dolph, son of the late United States Senator J. N. Dolph, of Portland, Ore. The firm maintains offices in Fresno and San Francisco. Judge Carter acts as attorney for the Santa Fe Railroad Company, the Sanger Lumber Company, the Fresno Building & Investment Company, and the Reedley State Bank at Reedley, and served as counsel for the Emigrant Ditch Company until its consolidation with similar companies. He is also attorney for numerous other corporations. He is a director in various local companies of Fresno. Through his connection with the County Bar Association his influence has been further enhanced among those of his own profession. Staunchly Republican in his political faith, he is one of the local leaders of his party, and had the honor of acting as chairman of the county central committee in 1900, when William J. Bryan's majority of eleven hundred and ten in Fresno county in 1896 was reduced to a tie. On the organization of the Sequoia Club he became one of its charter members. Though not connected with any religious denomination, he is a contributor to the support of the Presbyterian Church, with which his wife is connected. Mrs. Carter, whom he married in Salt Lake City, was Armenia Oliva, a native of Stockton, Cal., and the daughter of pioneer parents. They have three children, Lester L., Royle A., and Armenia Mignon.

Especial interest attaches to Judge Carter's association with the Knights of Pythias, for he has been a leader in that organization. Initiated at Stockton, he has since been active in the work of the order. In 1884 he was elected grand chancellor from the floor. From 1891 to 1899 he held office as supreme representative, and for four years of this time he was chairman of the judiciary committee. In the Uniform Rank he holds rank as colonel on the major-general's staff and is now chief tribune of the Grand Tribunal of California. The Endowment Rank also numbers him in its list of members. During the convale of 1898 at

Indianapolis, his name was brought forward for the office of supreme vice-chancellor of the order, and he lacked only eight votes of being elected. Throughout the order he has a host of warm personal friends, who have been attracted to him by those qualities of mind and heart which win admiration in every association, whether political, professional, fraternal or social.

In the practice of the law, Judge Carter's labors have been rewarded with a rare measure of success. He entered upon his legal career unusually well equipped, with a sound foundation of knowledge of the principles of the science, and his ability correctly to apply these principles to the cases in hand has been demonstrated in a marked manner. He is now regarded as one of the leaders of the bar in the San Joaquin valley. Personally he is a high-minded, public-spirited citizen, warmly advocating all measures which, in his judgment, have for their end the advancement of the welfare of the community. He has become recognized as a potential factor in the progress and prosperity of Fresno county, and as a citizen of the highest utility in the daily walks of life.

---

HON. WILEY J. TINNIN. One of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of the San Joaquin valley is Hon. Wiley J. Tinnin of Fresno, an honored pioneer of the state, and a lawyer of note. He has had a busy and eventful career, and has wisely and faithfully served his fellowmen in various capacities. A man of honor and integrity, he has exerted a healthful influence in whatever community he has resided, and has ever been among the foremost in advancing the interests of town, city and county. A native of Mississippi, he was born near Jackson, October 7, 1829, a son of Asa Tinnin. His grandfather, William Tinnin, was a life-long resident of North Carolina, and was the descendant of a family of Scotch people that settled there in colonial times. One of Mr. Tinnin's paternal ancestors was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, serving in the swamps of the Pedee under Generals Marion and Sumter.

A native of North Carolina, Asa Tinnin subsequently settled in Mississippi, where he was engaged in raising cotton until his death in 1843. He was a man of patriotism, and served under General Jackson in the Seminole Indian wars in Florida. The maiden name of his wife was Matilda Carr, who was born in Alabama, of Scotch-Irish ancestors, and died in Mississippi in 1836. Eleven children were born of their union, two of whom survive.

Three sons came to California in pioneer times: Wiley J., the subject of this sketch; John, who came in 1849, subsequently becoming a miner at Grand Junction, Colo., where he was murdered by robbers; and William W., who came in 1850 and died in 1880.

Reared on his father's cotton plantation in Mississippi, Wiley J. Tinnin attended first a private school in Jackson, afterward going to Tennessee, where he continued his studies at Franklin College, remaining there until the close of his junior year. In 1850, joining a party of ten well educated and intelligent young men, he started for the Pacific coast. Leaving New Orleans on February 27, he went by boat to the Isthmus of Panama, and from there the party were poled up the Chagres river to Gorgona by naked natives. The party then proceeded on the backs of hired mules to Panama, where they were unable to find a steamer going northward. While waiting in that city for transportation, the party enjoyed themselves as well as they could, considering that the majority of the population spoke Spanish, a language of which they were entirely ignorant, and found ample amusement. At the end of ten days, they embarked on a sailing vessel, the Paola, and on May 12, 1850, landed in San Francisco, just two days after the great fire had nearly ruined the city.

Mr. Tinnin went immediately to a hotel, where he paid \$10.00 a day for a room and \$1 for each meal. Remaining there but four or five days, he went to the mines on the American river, and for three months was located at Fisher's bar. Going then to Nevada county, Cal., he worked in the mines until the breaking out of the Gold Lake fever, when he joined a party starting for that region. On the Yuba he was taken ill, and while the party waited there the crowd that had preceded them by mule trains began to return, having found out that the man who had started the stampede that cost a half million dollars was insane. The price of mules immediately dropped from \$500 to \$100 apiece. With his companions, Mr. Tinnin was employed in mining on Poor Man's creek until the fall of the year, when he returned to Nevada county, where, during the big storm that occurred that fall, hundreds of people died from pneumonia, among others being two of Mr. Tinnin's partners. Subsequently, with his two brothers, John and William, he went down the Sacramento valley to Benicia, but finding the prospects for making a living no better than in their former location they started back. On their way home, near Sacramento, they came across vast numbers of geese. A happy idea striking them, they shot a large number,

which they packed on their backs to Sacramento, where they sold them for \$1 apiece. The business proving profitable, they subsequently bought a mule to do their packing, and in course of time had made a sufficient sum of money to purchase four mules. Loading these animals with a quantity of provisions, Mr. Tinnin and his brothers started for the Salmon River mines, but the Indians proved to be so troublesome in that region that they concluded to stop at the Trinity River mines, remaining there from March, 1851, until the following March. The ensuing year Mr. Tinnin was successfully engaged in mining at French Gulch, in Shasta county.

Returning to Weaverville, Trinity county, Mr. Tinnin then embarked in the mercantile business with his brother, William W., who had loaned money on a tin-shop, which then came into his possession, the tinsmith not being able to pay his indebtedness. Taking charge of the business, they added a stock of hardware, stoves, paints and glass. Subsequently erecting a two-story brick building, 40x110 feet, they embarked in general mercantile business at Weaverville under the firm name of W. W. Tinnin & Co., and also established a bank, and bought all the gold dust brought into the place. In 1861, Mr. Tinnin erected a house in Weaverville, and in partnership with John W. Owens continued in mercantile business as head of the firm of Tinnin & Owens. In 1867 the junior partner of the firm died and Mr. Tinnin sold out his business. Removing then to San Francisco, Mr. Tinnin became a dealer in real estate, and in 1870 he entered the political arena in Trinity county, serving in the house of representatives for two terms and for one term being state senator. In 1879 he was a member of the constitutional convention, and came within one vote of being elected chairman, the vote standing in seventy to seventy-one.

In 1880 Mr. Tinnin was admitted to the bar, and began the practice of his profession at Weaverville. In 1884 he was nominated state elector on the Democratic ticket, and in 1886 was appointed by President Cleveland surveyor of the Port of San Francisco, a position which he filled for four years and one month, during which time he did his best to enforce the Chinese restriction laws. In 1890 he opened a law office at No. 420 California street, San Francisco, but on account of a catarrhal trouble was advised by his physician to seek a warmer climate. Accordingly, in 1891, he located in Fresno, where he has since been actively and successfully engaged in the practice of his profession. He is still interested in mining property, in company with C. J.

Beck owning the Minerette mines on the headwaters of the San Joaquin river. He is also referee in bankruptcy for Fresno county, having been appointed by the United States District Court.

In 1861, in Weaverville, Trinity county, Mr. Tinnin married Irene Lowden, who was born in Brown county, Ill. Her father, Spencer Lowden, a farmer by occupation, came to Trinity county, Cal., in 1856, joining his sons, William, who crossed the plains to the Pacific coast in 1849, and Matthew, who came here in 1852. Politically Mr. Tinnin is an uncompromising Democrat, and is always active in state conventions. Fraternally he is very prominent in the Masonic order. In 1854 he joined Trinity Lodge No. 27, F. & A. M., at Weaverville, which he served as master, and is now a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. In 1855 he became a member of Shasta Chapter No. 9, R. A. M., of which he is past high priest, and is now a member of Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M. In 1885 and 1886 he was grand master of the Grand Lodge of California; in 1880 and 1881 he served as grand high priest of the Grand Chapter of California; and he is also a member, and ex-vice-president, of the Order of High Priesthood. Mrs. Tinnin is active in the social affairs of the city, and is now president of the Wednesday Club.

**WILLIAM B. BANISTER.** A model little farm is that of William B. Banister, a well-known vineyardist of Central Colony, his property of forty acres being located within four and a half miles of Fresno. Eighteen acres is devoted to the cultivation of grapes, running about five hundred vines to the acre, and turning out about twenty-three tons per year; three and a half acres are in orchard, one of his principal crops being figs, as he has thirty trees of this kind; and has also seventeen acres in alfalfa. This farm, which consisted originally of twenty acres, was purchased by Mr. Banister in 1876, shortly after his arrival in Fresno county, but he did not locate permanently upon it until two years later, since which time he has been engaged almost exclusively in ranching. A native of Massachusetts, he was born in Middlesex county August 1, 1855, a son of Seth W. Banister.

Seth W. Banister was likewise a native of the Bay state and was a Baptist minister. He married Fanny Cummings, also of Massachusetts, and died at the age of forty years. Being left an orphan at an early age, Mr. Banister experienced many hardships in his younger days, but these only served to bring out the strong points

in his character. His young manhood was spent in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and he started out in the world for himself at the age of fifteen years. He learned the trade of boiler-maker, and when only twenty-one years old was second hand and had over two hundred men working under him in a factory in Rhode Island. Interested in the manifest advantages of the West, he came to California in 1876 and at once located in Fresno county. During the first two years in this county he engaged in teaming in the mountains, which was a remunerative employment, and in 1878 he located upon his farm, where he has since resided.

In this state Mr. Banister was united in marriage, in 1883, with Milly F. Bartlett, a native of Massachusetts, and the daughter of Charles L. Bartlett, who came to California in 1888. To Mr. and Mrs. Banister have been born two children, Zilpah, aged seventeen, and Albert W., aged thirteen. In politics Mr. Banister is a staunch Republican, and fraternally affiliates with the Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World.

**JOHN H. SIMONSON.** In financial and political circles John H. Simonson, of Merced, is an active and important factor. Public-spirited and progressive, he has served the county with efficiency and fidelity in various official positions, and is now carrying on a substantial business as head of the well-known firm of Simonson & Harrell, dealers in real estate, and insurance agents. A native of Germany, he was born November 6, 1850, near Hamburg, the same province in which the birth of his father, Jasper Simonson, also occurred.

Having served an apprenticeship to a cabinet-maker, Jasper Simonson followed his trade near Hamburg for a few years. Emigrating with his family to this country in 1857, he settled in Minnesota, buying land in New Ulm, where he was engaged in farming for a year. Removing to Marine Mills, Minn., in 1858, he followed his trade in that city until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Anna Maria Clausen, was born near Hamburg, Germany, and died in Minnesota. Of the six children born of their union, but two are living, John H., the youngest child, being the only one in California.

Obtaining his early education principally in the public schools of Marine Mills, Minn., John H. Simonson began life as a wage-earner at the age of thirteen years, becoming clerk in a general store. Later being promoted to the position of bookkeeper, he remained with the firm until 1876. Coming to Merced, Cal., in the fall of that year, he accepted a similar position in the mercantile house of Simon, Jacobs & Co., general merchants, and continued as bookkeeper for two



and one-half years. In 1879 Mr. Simonson was the Republican nominee for county clerk, and being elected served for two years, from March, 1880, but on account of the new constitution, which went into effect in 1880, his term was extended until January, 1883. Being twice re-elected, he served for four years more, until January, 1887, giving satisfaction to all concerned. Subsequently embarking in the real estate and abstract business, Mr. Simonson compiled and completed a full set of abstract books. In 1890 he was nominated on the Republican ticket for county assessor for a term of four years, was elected, and at the expiration of his term was re-elected for another four years. In this position he served acceptably from January, 1891, until January, 1899, but in the fall campaign of 1898 was not a candidate for re-election. Resuming his former business, he has since been busily employed as an abstracter, and a dealer in real estate, as senior member of the firm of Simonson & Harrell, handling both city and country property. He is also engaged in the insurance business, representing several of the old-line insurance companies.

Mr. Simonson married, in Merced, Jessie B. Stoddard, who was born in Calaveras county, Cal., where her father, E. M. Stoddard, was an early settler, and they have one child, Stanley Simonson. Mr. Simonson is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and has done much to promote the good of this order. He was made a Mason at St. John's Lodge No. 1, F. & A. M., at Stillwater, Minn., where he is still a member; was demitted from Stillwater Chapter, and now belongs to Merced Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., in which he has served as high priest; at Sonora, Cal., united with Pacific Coast Commandery, No. 3, K. T., and now belongs to Fresno Commandery No. 20, K. T.; and is a member of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He is also a member, and past chancellor, of the Knights of Pythias, and formerly belonged to the Uniform Rank, K. P. In his political views he is a Republican, and is a member of the Republican County Central Committee.

**WILLIAM O. MILES.** As the present incumbent of the county clerk's office and through previous business associations, William O. Miles has become well known to the people of Fresno county. He is a member of a pioneer family of Indiana, his grandfather, Nathan Miles, with two brothers, having settled in that state in an early day. During the excitement caused by the discovery of gold in California, W. J. Miles, a native of Indiana and father of William O., started across the plains with that host of emigrants whom the year 1849 brought to the coast.

The trip consumed six months and was made with ox teams. Many perils were faced and many hardships endured; but he was young and robust, as well as ambitious and brave, and all the difficulties of the journey failed to lessen his enthusiasm. In the mines of Eldorado county he gained his first experiences as a gold seeker. While living in California he married Adelia M. Hutchison, who was born in Illinois. Some years after his marriage he returned to Indiana with his wife and children. It was his intention to remain there only temporarily, and to return to the far west, but his death in 1871 wrecked all plans for the future. At that time he was about thirty-nine years of age. At one time he filled the office of justice of the peace, but at the expiration of his term he declined to serve longer.

Another emigrant of '49 was George Hutchison, the maternal grandfather of William O. Miles. Later he crossed the plains many times, his first trip back east being made for the purpose of bringing his family west with him. A son, W. J. Hutchison, and a daughter, Mrs. A. A. Schaeffer, still live in Fresno county. In the spring of 1871, after the death of her husband, in Indiana, Mrs. Miles came with her children to California. She is the mother of three children. The eldest, Walter, died at Centerville when fifteen years of age. The only daughter, Ida, acts as deputy county clerk of Fresno county, and she and her mother make their home with Mr. Miles in Fresno.

William O. Miles was born at Sullivan, Ind., April 7, 1870, but his earliest recollections are of Fresno county. After studying in the Fresno public schools he entered the San Jose Business College, from which he was graduated in August, 1888. On returning to Fresno he secured employment as cashier and bookkeeper with A. J. Wiener, a merchant. The next year he became deputy tax collector under A. D. Ewing. In 1891 he was appointed deputy to W. C. Guard, serving for a year. During this time he was also deputy county assessor.

After spending the year 1893 in San Jose Mr. Miles returned to Fresno and for six months was employed by T. J. Hammond, the wholesale seed merchant. For a similar period he was assistant bookkeeper and cashier for Kutner, Goldstein & Co. In January, 1895, he was engaged as bookkeeper by S. Evenger, wholesale and retail butcher, with whom he remained for five years. In the meantime, in 1898, he was elected public administrator of Fresno county, which position he filled from January of 1899 to January of 1903. Upon resigning his position with Mr. Evenger in 1900 he entered the Fresno National Bank as assistant cashier. From the beginning of the development of the

oil fields he has been interested in this work, and in January, 1901, he resigned from the bank in order to devote himself to his interests in the Coalinga and Bakersfield districts, where he was associated with Messrs. Murdoch and Ingels in developing oil.

The active support Mr. Miles has always given the Democratic party, received recognition from that party in 1902, when he was nominated for county clerk. Although Fresno is a Republican county, he received a majority of one hundred and eighty-seven votes at the election. In January of 1903 he took the oath of office for four years and has since devoted all of his time to the duties of the position. A leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, he is a member of its board of trustees and board of stewards. He was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., and was raised to the chapter degree in Trigo Chapter No. 60, R. A. M., in which he is an office-holder. The Templar honors were conferred upon him in Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T. In addition, he is identified with Lodge of Perfection No. 6, of Fresno, and Islam Temple, N. M. S., of San Francisco. He is also a member of the Woodmen of the World.

ISAAC B. HINES, M. D. Not alone through his private practice, but also through his connection with the Agnew hospital in Fresno, Dr. I. B. Hines has gained a wide reputation. The hospital was opened in March, 1903, and is situated at No. 634 I street. Its appliances are such as belong to the most modern buildings of the kind. A specialty is made of surgery and the equipment for the operating table is complete. In connection with the hospital Dr. Hines built and fitted up the Fresno Swimming Baths, where may be had Russian, Turkish, medicated and electro-chemical baths; also a swimming pool, 25x50 feet in dimensions.

The ancestry of Dr. Hines is traced to Virginia, whence William Hines removed to Tennessee in a very early day and there operated a mill and cleared a farm. Isaac Bright Hines, a son of William, was born at Gap Creek, Knox county, Tennessee, September 15, 1795, and through his active life engaged in the milling business and the manufacture of lumber. During the War of 1812 he served in the American army, the most important engagement in which he participated being the memorable battle of New Orleans under General Jackson. Archelaus D. C. Hines, son of this veteran, was born March 20, 1825, in Knox county, Tenn. He followed in his father's footsteps in the selection of an occupation, but, in addition to milling and manufacturing lumber, he also conducted farm

pursuits. About 1892 he relinquished his business interests and came to California, since which time he has made Fresno his home. At this writing (1904) he is seventy-nine years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Pressure Margaret Bowman, was born November 7, 1835, at Calhoun, Tenn., of German descent, and is still living. Her father, Rev. John N. Bowman, a native of Tennessee, followed farming as a means of livelihood, but gave his attention largely to ministerial work in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Alabama and Tennessee, and was one of those pioneer circuit riders who exerted so large an influence upon the early settlers of our country.

In the family of A. D. C. Hines there were six sons and three daughters all of whom except one son are still living. The surviving sons are as follows: I. B., of Fresno; John Newton, a merchant of Fresno; Francis Marion, a rancher of Fresno county; Samuel Bowman, who is connected with mercantile interests in Fresno; and A. Don, who received the degree of M. D. from the Boston University School of Medicine and is now engaged in practice at San Jose. The three sisters, Edith M., Mary and Alice M., also reside in California. Dr. I. B. Hines was born eight miles from Knoxville, in Knox county, Tenn., July 5, 1856. As a boy he attended the Knoxville schools and assisted in the lumber-mill and on the home farm. In 1881 he was graduated from the University of Tennessee with the degree of A. B., and the following year received the degree of B. S. For five years afterward he was employed as an observer in the weather bureau of the Engineering Corps of the United States army, being successively stationed at New York City, Sandy Hook, N. J., and Block Island, R. I. At the expiration of his time he received an honorable discharge.

During 1887 Dr. Hines began his medical education in the Boston University School of Medicine, from which he was graduated in 1890 with the degree of M. D. For some years after graduating he remained in Boston, and while there had charge of the infirmary connected with the Massachusetts General Homeopathic Hospital. December 18, 1894, he arrived in Fresno, on a visit to his parents, and being so favorably impressed with the country and its possibilities he decided to make California his future home. In 1897 he acted as surgeon for the Fresno Flume and Irrigating Company's mills at Shaver, Fresno county, since which time he has given his attention wholly to professional work in his home town, where he resides at No. 333 Blackstone avenue. He still retains membership in the Massachusetts Homeopathic Medical Association. Since coming to Fresno he has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce. In religion he



is an adherent of the Baptist Church, while in politics he votes with the Democratic party. While stationed on Block Island he was made a Mason in Atlantic Lodge No. 31, F. & A. M., and later, in Boston, was admitted to Roxbury Lodge No. 211, I. O. O. F., with which he still holds membership. His fraternal connections also include membership in the Woodmen of the World.

LOUIS KAHN. Endowed with a strong personality, exceptional executive and financial ability, and an almost marvelous business instinct, Louis Kahn, of Oakdale, has been a dominant force in the upbuilding of Stanislaus county. During the quarter of a century that he has resided in Oakdale, he has been actively identified with its growth and prosperity, and a leader in the establishment and maintenance of beneficial projects. A native of Germany, he was born March 20, 1855, near Baden-Baden, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, Daniel Kahn.

Born, bred and educated near Baden-Baden, Daniel Kahn belonged to one of the oldest and most respected families of southern Germany. He began life for himself as a merchant, but subsequently served in the German army as a soldier, taking an active part in the Revolution of 1848. Being forced to leave the Fatherland for a time, he came to America, remaining in New York until after the amnesty proclamation, when he returned to his native country, and was there engaged in mercantile pursuits until his death, while in manhood's prime. He married Fannie Hirschfelder, who was born in Hohenzollern, Germany, where her father, Jacob Hirschfelder, was a farmer and merchant. After the death of her husband, she came to California, and spent the remainder of her life in San Francisco. Of her family of two sons and four daughters, all are living with the exception of the second son, Jonas Kahn, who died in San Francisco, in 1903.

The oldest child of the parental household, Louis Kahn received excellent educational advantages, after completing the course in the public schools, being graduated from the Baden-Baden Gymnasium. Immigrating to the Pacific coast in 1871, he spent a short time in San Francisco, and then went to Austin, Nev., where he accepted the position of clerk in a large general store, and while thus employed became familiar with the English language. Going thence to Belmont, Nev., Mr. Kahn was engaged in business, as a partner of J. J. Koenigshofer until 1873, when the firm transferred its business to Helena, Mont., where Mr. Kahn had charge of its large store for four years. Closing out

its Montana establishment in 1877, the firm opened a store in Oakland, Cal., and the junior member continued as manager of the business for three years. Severing his connection with the firm in 1880, Mr. Kahn located in Oakdale, Stanislaus county, as a member of the firm of Haslacher & Kahn, opening a general store in this city, and one at Knights Ferry, putting in a complete stock of merchandise in each place. In 1881 the store at Knights Ferry was burned down, and the firm, instead of rebuilding, transferred all the business to Oakdale, and continued its management until 1887, when it was sold. Since that time, Mr. Kahn has been a promoter and supporter of many of the most extensive and important business enterprises that have been established in this section of the state, doing more, perhaps, than any other one man, to increase the growth and prosperity of town and county.

In January, 1888, Mr. Kahn was one of the organizers of the Bank of Oakdale, one of the leading financial institutions of the county, and is now the principal stockholder and its cashier, Thomas B. Dorsey being president, and Joseph H. Kahn assistant cashier. Subsequently, in partnership with Mr. Haslacher, he organized the Haslacher & Kahn Warehouse Company, which has since carried on an immense grain business, operating warehouses in Farmington, Cometa, Clyde, Burnett, Oakdale, Occidental, Paulsell, Warnersville, Claribel, Waterford, Hickman, Montpelier, Amsterdam, Merced, Athlone, Cressey, Ceres, Modesto, Salida, Escalon, Riverbank and Claus, all of which places are connected by a private telephone system. This company has its main office in Oakdale, with branch offices in Modesto, Merced, and Farmington.

In April, 1903, the Haslacher & Kahn Company was legally incorporated, with Mr. Kahn as president, and his son, Joseph H. Kahn, as secretary, and has already established a very large business in loans, real estate, grain insurance and grain dealing, being widely and favorably known by its large operations in these lines throughout the San Joaquin valley. This enterprising company was the first to subdivide land in Stanislaus county, and was the first to obtain water for irrigating purposes in the eastern part of the county. Among Haslacher & Kahn's additions to the town of Oakdale are two hundred and fifty acres of land, divided into five and ten acre tracts, all subject to irrigation, and devoted to the growing of oranges, fruits and alfalfa, and the Villa and Syndicate tracts, containing four hundred and fifty acres, divided into lots of one or more acres, all well irrigated, and adapted for raising alfalfa, fruit and berries. This company also laid out the Orange Blossom Colony tract of seven thousand acres, lying four miles east

of the city. One thousand acres of it, laid out in small lots, is under irrigation, and devoted to the culture of oranges, berries and alfalfa. In January, 1904, Mr. Kahn bought out Mr. Haslacher's interest in the Haslacher & Kahn Company, and has since continued the business alone, having his principal office at Oakdale and a branch office at No. 315 California street, San Francisco. He is also president of the Oakdale Irrigation Company, of which he was one of the originators.

A man of unusual business aptitude and integrity, Mr. Kahn has accumulated large wealth, being the owner of numerous valuable grain farms, which he rents, and has good business and fine residential property in Oakdale. In financial and business circles, he holds a place of prominence and influence, belonging to the Merchants' Exchange of San Francisco; to the State Bankers' Association, and to the American Bankers' Association. In the upbuilding of Stanislaus county he has been very active and conspicuous, having been the first to bring its superior advantages for business and residence to the public notice by advertising, and the first to have made and published a bird's-eye view of the city of Oakdale.

In Stockton Mr. Kahn married Cecilia Hoensberger, who was born in San Francisco, a daughter of Joseph Hoensberger, a pioneer merchant of that city, and of Knights Ferry. Mr. and Mrs. Kahn are the parents of three children, namely: Joseph H., educated at the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, assistant cashier of the Bank of Oakdale, and secretary of both the Haslacher & Kahn Company and of the Haslacher & Kahn Warehouse Company; Rheta L., a graduate of Mills College; and Bertha, attending Mills College. Fraternally Mr. Kahn is a member of Oakdale Lodge No. 275, F. & A. M.; of Modesto Chapter, R. A. M.; of Stockton Council; and is prominently identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to the Lodge, Encampment and Canton, and in the latter organization was chief of equipment of the Pacific coast.

**REV. AMOS FRANKLIN GILBERT.** The career of Rev. Amos Franklin Gilbert is unique among the men who are living in and laboring for the welfare of the west, in that it demonstrates anew the possibility of harmonizing large business interests with self-sacrificing and noble work in the ministerial field. He is not a man of the past, whose deeds are seen through the haze of years, idealized by distance and strengthened by the telling of loving friends, but is a wideawake citizen coming and going in business circles of Oakdale, at the head of an extensive

and successful lumbering business, while at the same time laboring for the spread of the gospel of good cheer, for the diffusion of Christian education, for the relief of the suffering and the uplifting of the lowly.

Mr. Gilbert inherits his strong and vitalizing tendencies from an English-Scotch ancestry, represented on both sides of his family among the early settlers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He himself was born in Cumberland county, Nova Scotia, July 6, 1849, and is the only one of six survivors in a family of ten children to make his home in California. His oldest brother, Thomas, came to the coast in 1865, and died in San Francisco. His father and grandfather were both named John, and the latter came from England at an early day, settling in Nova Scotia after a short residence in Boston, Mass. He farmed for the balance of his life, attaining to the advanced age of ninety-two, while his wife Fannie lived to be eighty-nine years old. The second John lived in Nova Scotia from his sixth year, and farmed there until his death at the age of seventy-eight. He married Mary J. Simpson, a native of Keith, Scotland, and member of a time-honored family of the highlands. Captain Alexander Simpson, the father of Mrs. Gilbert, was a sea captain, an early arrival in New Brunswick, and a later settler in Nova Scotia. He died at the age of eighty-four. Mrs. Gilbert lived to be eighty-four, and is recalled by her children as a woman of lofty Christian character, and great strength of mind.

As a youth Amos Franklin Gilbert possessed strong religious convictions, and wanted only confidence to engage in missionary and evangelistic work at the outset of his career. The need of self-support becoming paramount when he was about seventeen, he applied himself to learning the ship carpenter's trade, and the planing mill business at Parrsboro, Nova Scotia, and with the proceeds of his labor was able to supplement his discouragingly meager education by a year at the high school at Amherst, Nova Scotia, and the same length of time at Sackville College, Mount Allison, Nova Scotia. In 1871 he went to Boston and found a promising field for his trade, and did so well that he branched out into contracting and building, following the same until coming to California in November, 1875. December 30, the same year, he was united in marriage with Annie J. Dodge, whom he had known in Nova Scotia, and who was born there in Annapolis county, a daughter of a planing mill operator, L. M. Dodge. Mr. Dodge had come to San Francisco some years before, and had continued his former business in the Pacific city. After working for a year in a planing mill in San Francisco, Mr. Gilbert removed to Stockton and engaged in building and

contracting until 1882. He then located in Modesto, built the first planing mill in that town, and thereafter engaged in the lumber manufacturing business for fourteen years. In 1895 he settled in Oakdale, having purchased a lumber yard there in 1893, and which had been under the management of his nephew in the meantime. Taking hold of the business himself, he increased it to its present large proportions, and besides manufacturing all kinds of builders' materials, deals in lime, cement, brick, coal and wood. His enterprise has assumed the dignity of a paying and influential concern, based upon the rare business sagacity of a man whose reliability and integrity are unquestioned, and who embodies the highest principles of finance, and the most courteous and considerate regard for his increasingly important patronage. In the interests of lumber dealers through this part of the state, he helped to organize, and has since upheld with his support, the Retail Lumber Dealers' Association of central California, of which he is president at the present time.

It was while living in Modesto that Mr. Gilbert found the opening for religious work which his nature had long craved, and for which he was eminently fitted. Want of confidence in himself as a leader had hitherto prevented his stepping forth into the lime-light of public service, and but for the earnest solicitations of Rev. D. W. Calfee, whose entreaties extended over a year or more, he might never have been known as one of the most zealous and earnestly helpful Christian workers which this section has known. For ten years he had been superintendent of the Sunday-school of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which he joined at the age of fifteen, and for the ministry of which he began to study when arrived at twenty years. Other things intervening, his ambition was left to smoulder or lose itself in lesser channels of usefulness, but for fifteen years he has uninterruptedly preached, often at great physical and general inconvenience. Often his congregation was assembled in some remote schoolhouse, where a Sunday-school was organized and started on its way, and a community of Christian activity turned into a channel of ever-widening influence. He has been known to drive fifty miles, and before returning preach in three different places, and his errands of mercy to the sick and afflicted are of a kind and extent which will probably be known only to himself and his Maker. He now preaches regularly at Orange Blossom, and has various other intermittent charges, besides still keeping up his work of organizing Sunday-schools. He is a trustee of the church at Oakdale and at Modesto, contributing generously toward their maintenance, as well as toward the upbuilding of various charitable and humanizing

enterprises in the county. Moderate and cautious in all things, it is not surprising that he should feel keenly the evils of drink, and should persistently lend his influence to the Prohibition cause. As a speaker he is earnest and forceful, using his gifts of expression convincingly, and appealing to his hearers by the sanity and reasonableness of his teaching. His creed is simple, his belief in humanity unbounded, and his desire to help bounded only by his physical endurance and the necessary limitations of his moderate fortune. That his financial success is a strong argument of appeal is unquestioned, for more and more is a proper share of worldly goods recognized as the rightful heritage of the industrious and capable, as against the indigent and slothful. Mr. Gilbert owns property in Modesto as well as in Oakdale, and in 1904 completed his beautiful residence in the latter town, where his friends and associates bask in a refining and uplifting atmosphere. This noble teacher is a genial and whole-souled man, looking on the bright side of things, and believing in the optimism and good cheer of the world. In his children are reflected not only his strength and uprightness, but his ability and thriftiness. His oldest daughter, Laura, is a teacher who is at present attending the University of California; Eva is a graduate of that institution of learning, and as vice-principal of the Gilroy high school, is fulfilling her destiny as an unusually gifted educator; Irving, his father's assistant in the lumber business, is a graduate of the high school, and attended the University of California for two years; Lindley D. is a student at the high school; and Bernice and Mildred are school girls.

---

HON. ROBERT S. JOHNSON. Prominent among the pioneer settlers of California is Hon. Robert S. Johnson, of Fresno, the well-known proprietor of the Excelsior livery stables. Of pronounced business ability, he has been successful in mercantile pursuits, and as a breeder and trainer of standard-bred horses has acquired a wide reputation. He is a veteran of the Civil war, and has long been influential in public affairs, from 1886 until 1890, serving as a member of the state legislature. A native of England, he was born April 10, 1835, in Bedford, Bedfordshire, which was likewise the place of birth of his father, R. B. Johnson. His grandfather, William Johnson, or Johnston, as the name was then spelled, was born in Scotland, but as a political refugee fled to England, which was afterward his home. R. B. Johnson spent the earlier years of his life in his native country, living there until after his marriage, and the birth of his children, of whom Robert S., the subject of this sketch, is the only survivor. With

his family he emigrated to America, settling first in Montreal, Canada, and then in Chicago, Ill. Subsequently coming to California, he spent the later years of his life in Stockton. His wife, whose maiden name was Ann Smith, was born in Hertfordshire, England, and died in Stockton, Cal.

Coming with his parents to this country when about seven years old, Robert S. Johnson received his early education in Montreal, Canada. In 1850 he accompanied his parents to Chicago, which was then in its infancy, there being but one brick building then standing on Lake street. Entering the employ of Frank Newhall, a wholesale fruit dealer, he gradually worked his way upward, in course of time becoming manager of the business. While thus employed, he became a charter member of the old Chicago Light Guard, and was also a member, and for a year chief engineer, of the old volunteer fire department. Going from Chicago to Racine, Wis., Mr. Johnson was engaged in the manufacture of hollow wooden-ware for a few months. During the Pike's Peak excitement of 1857, he started across the plains with an ox-team train, and prospected for awhile along the South Platte, but not finding pay dirt he returned as far as the Missouri river with oxen, thence to St. Louis by boat, and from there by rail to Racine. Starting for California by way of Panama a short time after, Mr. Johnson landed in San Francisco in September, 1858, and for a year thereafter was employed in a wholesale fruit house. In 1859 he embarked in the wholesale produce and fruit business in Stockton, and subsequently became a member, and first sergeant, of the Stockton Company California National Guard.

In 1861 he organized Company K, First California Volunteer Cavalry, of which he was commissioned captain by Governor Stanford, and by an order issued from the war department was afterward commissioned major of the regiment. Believing, however, that there were men more competent for the position than he, he returned the commission, and remained captain of his company. Going to Arizona, he fought the Apaches, the Kiowas and the Comanches, in that territory, New Mexico and California, and was with Kit Carson on many of his scouting expeditions. With his regiment he was engaged in battle with Gen. Sterling Price at Kansas City, and afterward returned to New Mexico, where he, with the noted scout, Kit Carson, was employed in fighting Indians until the close of the war. Being mustered out of service at Fort Union, N. M., Mr. Johnson returned to Stockton, where, at the time of his enlistment, in 1861, he was making \$50 a day. During his service as a soldier, he was wounded in a hand-to-hand fight with an Indian, the red man's toma-

hawk grazing his left temple, and coming within a quarter of an inch of killing him.

For several years after his return to Stockton, Mr. Johnson was employed as a commission merchant, and then embarked in the livery business, building up one of the largest and finest stables in the state. He paid much attention to raising thoroughbred horses, owning several that developed great speed for that day, being among the fastest trotters in California. Selling out in 1899, Mr. Johnson went to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he began contracting for concrete work. In this enterprise he was very successful, but being injured in an accident, and in addition taken ill, so that for four months he was unable to attend to his affairs, he sustained business losses. Under the direction of his physician, Mr. Johnson came back to California, locating in Fresno June 1, 1903, and there purchased the Excelsior stables, which are situated at No. 1234 I street. The main stable, a large brick building, 50x150 feet, is one of the finest in Fresno county, and is fully equipped in every department.

Mr. Johnson has always taken an intelligent interest in public matters, and while living in Stockton was for seven years a member of the City Council, a part of the time serving as president. He was a representative to the state legislature two terms, and for four years was one of the board of directors of the State Insane Asylum. He also belonged to the old volunteer fire department. Fraternally Mr. Johnson joined the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks in Honolulu; is a member of Rawlins Post, G. A. R., of Stockton; of California Commandery, Loyal Legion; and is past junior and past senior vice-commander of the Department of California. In Fresno he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Johnson has five children, namely: W. R., of Stockton who was colonel of the Sixth California Volunteer Infantry during the Spanish-American war; Charles R., of Bakersfield; Mrs. Eva L. Brown, of Fresno; Mrs. Ida M. Davis, of Alameda; and Roy R., of Stockton.

---

GEORGE W. WEAR. Nearly a third of a century has been passed in the community where Mr. Wear now makes his home, and in that time, as he so graphically describes in an article which appeared in the *Daily Californian* the last issue of the year 1903, many changes have taken place; each New Year's day finds some one of the old pioneers gone, sees some new improvement or invention which adds to the prosperity of the country,—a forward step which leaves still farther behind the primitive condition of the early days. But though



these changes inevitably come, the memory of the pioneer, his courage, self sacrifice and devotion to the cause of the country which he made his own by a cheerful acceptance of the conditions, will outlive the passage of time and go on to brighten the beginning of many new years. Mr. Wear is himself a pioneer and the pioneer newspaper man of the community, and in the last twenty-eight years has been active and earnest in the development of all which has tended to bring about the present prosperity of the city and county, and the affection and esteem of all who know him is accorded him and his efforts. Born in Carroll county, Miss., February 28, 1852, he was the son of George W. Wear, Sr.

The elder Mr. Wear was a native of England, and when only a mere lad he came to the United States, and on attaining manhood married in North Carolina. Shortly afterward he went to Mississippi, and there taught music, having been finely educated in this line before crossing the ocean. Later he located permanently in Mississippi, and became a prominent man in the community, first conducting a hotel, after which he became a planter and the owner of many slaves. He became a wealthy man, owning much country and town property, and was deservedly numbered among the successful planters of that region. Though in no sense of the word a politician, he was very decided in his views, and during the Civil war served in the state troops of the Mississippi Home Guards. He died when about sixty years of age. His wife, formerly Julia Holt, was born, reared and educated in North Carolina, and her death occurred when about eighty years of age. She was a member of the Methodist Church.

George W. Wear was the fourth in a family of seven children, and received his education in private schools in Mississippi. When about fifteen years old he entered a printing office and learned the mechanical part of the work, and was soon afterward engaged as a printer, before he was twenty-one owning a paper which he himself established. Before leaving the state he owned three different papers, which he successfully conducted, and also engaged in farming for one year. In the winter of 1874 he sold out and came to California, and for a short time worked on the *Express*, *Mirror* and *Star*, in Los Angeles. In the spring of the same year he came to Kern county, and locating at Bakersfield, which was then only a small village, went to work upon the *Californian*. Two or three years later he purchased the *Gazette*, a weekly, and later closed out and discontinued the publication, after conducting it for twenty years. In the meantime he had purchased the ranch where he now makes his home, this consisting of eighty acres located three and a half miles west of

Bakersfield. About half of this property is now devoted to the cultivation of grapes and various other fruits and has all improvements in the way of comfortable and substantial buildings and forms an ideal home for the man who correctly appreciates the dignity of the farmer's life.

In 1872, in Tennessee, Mr. Wear married Fannie Nash, a native of that state. They are the parents of three children, namely: Earl, who is employed upon the *Echo* in Bakersfield; Bessie, the wife of E. R. Putnam, a rancher in this district; and George, still at home. Politically Mr. Wear is a Democrat, and for many years was an important factor in local affairs, doing all in his power to advance the principles which he endorses. In 1889 he represented his district in the state legislature, ably supporting the cause of his constituents, and in Bakersfield he served on the school board for six years. He has since devoted the greater part of his energies to the cultivation of his ranch, and has practically withdrawn from public life, though he is serving as trustee in his district at the present time. One of the principal interests in the life of Mr. Wear at the present time is his articles which he writes for the various papers of Bakersfield, one appearing nearly every week. His writing is graphic, clear-cut and forcible, and in later days holds much interest for the younger generation for the reminiscent strain which calls up for them a picture of the past.

---

JAMES W. WARREN. Actively and industriously engaged in the prosecution of the independent and honorable calling upon which the life, strength and wealth of the nation largely depends, James W. Warren holds a substantial position among the esteemed and successful farmers of Ingomar, Merced county. A son of Asahel Warren, Jr., he was born July 20, 1834, in Windsor county, Vt., of thrifty New England ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Asahel Warren, Sr., was born and reared in Massachusetts, but removed to Vermont, settling on a farm in Windsor county, where he passed the remainder of his life. Asahel Warren, Jr., and his wife, whose maiden name was Rhoda Bailey, were both life-long residents of the Green Mountain state, living on a farm in Windsor county, where they reared five children, two boys and three girls.

The second child of the parental household, James W. Warren, in common with the children of the neighboring farmers, obtained his education in the district schools, and from his father acquired a practical knowledge of New England farming, which he subsequently followed for awhile amid the rocks of his native state. Following the march of civilization westward, he

settled in Ogle county, Ill., in 1855. Four years later, in 1859, he started for Pike's Peak, taking the overland route. While crossing the plains he changed his plans, deciding to come to California. Locating first in Butte county, Mr. Warren turned his attention to any employment that he thought would prove profitable, working in the mines for a time, then making shakes, and finally becoming a freighter. He afterward drifted to Plumas county, then to Humboldt county, Nev., going from there to Sonoma county, Cal., and thence to Washoe county, Nev., where he worked for wages in a logging camp. Returning to California in 1869, Mr. Warren located on the west side of the San Joaquin valley, in Merced county. Buying one hundred and sixty acres of land, five and one-half miles southwest of Ingomar, and fourteen miles from Newman, he immediately began the improvement of his present homestead. He met with excellent success as a general farmer, and was also employed at carpentering and building for a number of years; his services as a skilful mechanic being in great demand throughout this part of the valley. He leases other land besides his own ranch, carrying on three hundred and eighty acres in all, raising as his principal crops wheat and barley, which invariably do well in this region.

In Modesto, Cal., Mr. Warren married Carrie Fink, a native of Ohio, and they are the parents of three children, namely: Etta May, wife of W. S. Wicks, of Fresno; James Frederick and Ida Matilda, living at home. A staunch Republican in his political views, Mr. Warren takes an intelligent interest in the public welfare, and for a number of years was school director in the Clay district.

---

**HIRAM HUGHSON.** The keen and far-seeing judgment which led Mr. Hughson to cast in his destiny with that of the far west in the early and untried days of adventure also led him to make investments in property, large tracts of which he purchased in the days when prices of realty were low. By this course of action he has become one of the extensive land owners of Stanislaus county, and is ranked among the successful men of the county. A native of Schoharie county, N. Y., he was born November 22, 1840, the son of Nicholas M. and the grandson of George Hughson. The latter was a very prominent man in his community, being an old-line Whig politically, and in the cause of his country having an arm blown off by a cannon ball in the Revolutionary war. Upon the return to peace in the colonies, or what was then our own United States, he was elected to the offices of county treasurer, constable and

collector, respectively, being able to use his left hand in writing. By occupation he was a farmer; and died in New York when over seventy-five years old. Nicholas M. Hughson was born on Long Island, and as a farmer spent his life in Schoharie county, where he was numbered among the successful men of the community. Politically he was a Republican, and in his religious affiliations subscribed to the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married Charlotte Duncan, born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and who came to the United States at the age of ten years. Her father, Charles S., was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, as well as a capable blacksmith and farmer, practicing the two occupations during the week and preaching on Sunday. He died at the age of eighty years, after a useful life in whatever community he had made his home, as a broad, noble character, a profound student and an earnest and progressive citizen making his presence felt among his fellow townsmen.

Of the six sons and four daughters born to his parents Hiram Hughson was the fifth in order of birth. He received his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home, after which he attended the Norwich Academy for a period of three years. Upon becoming dependent upon his own resources he engaged as a clerk in a general merchandise store at Elmira, N. Y., his employers being R. & E. Covell & Co., with whom he remained for nearly four years. He then became a partner with his brother, O. M. Hughson, in a general merchandise establishment at Norwich, remaining in this connection until 1857. He then emigrated to California, traveling by way of the Isthmus of Panama on the steamer *Star of the West*, and arriving in San Francisco on Christmas night. He remained in San Francisco for about a week, after which he went to Marysville and engaged as a clerk in the store of Kirby & Burns, continuing in that employment for a year and a half. In 1858 he entered the mines at Monte Christo, where he remained six months, afterward spending seven months at the mines on Fraser river, British Columbia. In the following year he worked his passage to San Francisco on the old Pacific steamer, not having met with financial returns as he had hoped to. On his arrival in the city he borrowed \$20 from George Walton, a friend in Marysville, going to work for him on a ranch for the following six months. In 1860 he engaged with John Campbell in taking beef cattle to the mines, later engaging in the work for himself, continuing in the work for one year, when he had made \$3,000. The following year he engaged in teaming over the mountains, receiving \$100 per ton for freight between Sacra-



mento and Virginia City. Within the period of two and a half years he had made \$7,000, the business then becoming profitless through the building of the railway. Coming then to San Joaquin county, Mr. Hughson rented five hundred acres of land near Stockton, four miles southeast, upon which he engaged in raising grain for three years. In 1872 he bought five hundred acres located in the vicinity of the rented land, paying \$25 per acre; farmed this property for fourteen years and then sold it for \$50 per acre, the value having doubled in the passing years with the natural increase of land and that given to it by Mr. Hughson's progressive methods and improvements. In 1882 he moved his family to Stockton, after which he bought one thousand acres located eight miles east of Modesto, Stanislaus county, erecting thereon a substantial and comfortable home and making many improvements calculated to increase the value of his property. With the passing years he has invested heavily in real estate, now owning over seven thousand, five hundred acres of land, of which four thousand, three hundred and sixty are valued at \$60 per acre, and the remainder at \$25 per acre, all located in the irrigation district. No part of his land has ever been encumbered with a mortgage, a striking evidence of the business ability and thrift of the owner. In 1901 Mr. Hughson rented his land and located in Modesto, purchasing a fine property here, spending his days in retirement with the exception of such cares as are entailed by his vast landed interests. All of the success of Mr. Hughson has been achieved by his own exertions; through no royal road has he won his way to fortune. Like all pioneers, he suffered numberless hardships and discomforts before he had surrounded his family with the comforts of existence. One of the greatest misfortunes which came to him was the loss of his left arm, the spring on his mowing machine breaking and throwing him to the ground and against the sickle. Notwithstanding this, he continued to advance in success, and today occupies a position only won by those whose own efforts have brought them through trials and privations.

In Stockton Mr. Hughson was united in marriage with Luella R. Avery, of New York, who came to California with her father, Demas, also a native of that state, journeying from Iowa, in which state they had formerly settled. He engaged in mining upon his first arrival in the west, but later became a farmer, and so continued until his death. The following children were born to Mr. Hughson and his wife: Belle C., the wife of R. T. Hudelson, of Stanislaus county; Ore M., located on a ranch; George, also on a ranch; Mary M., the wife of J. H. Deal, of Stockton; Edna M., the wife of C. W. Craig,

of San Jose; Minnie L., the wife of Harry Sturgell, a conductor on the Santa Fe railway, located in Berkeley; Hiram; Lavina; Olive, and Lester, the four last named being still at home with their parents. Politically Mr. Hughson is a Republican.

---

JOHN B. NEWPORT, president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, of Hanford, Kings county, has been a resident of California since 1874, and for a number of years has been intimately identified with the most important upbuilding forces of the county in which he resides. He was born in Warren county, Ohio, July 28, 1852, a son of Joseph C. and Elizabeth (Montgomery) Newport. His paternal grandfather, David Newport, a native of Scotland, immigrated to America in young manhood, locating in Pennsylvania, where he resided for many years. During the early years of the colonization of the Western Reserve, now the state of Ohio, he erected a cabin in sections, and started overland, with teams and wagons, for the then new and wild country. After a long and tedious journey he arrived in what is now Warren county, Ohio, where he found a heavily timbered country, with Indian trails as the only roads, and almost complete isolation from the rest of the white settlers. Setting up his primitive cabin, he cleared some land, sowed grain and planted such crops as he deemed essential to the maintenance of life, and then erected a more modern and commodious residence for himself and family. He prospered as the country yielded of its abundant natural resources, and as his sons attained young manhood, they put their shoulders to the wheel and rendered material assistance in the accumulation of a competency. He lived to be eighty-six years of age, and was recognized as a man of great influence among the pioneers of his community. With him from Pennsylvania came his son James, then a small boy, who served in the war of 1812, and afterward received a commission as captain in the Ohio state militia. The latter attained the age of seventy-six or seventy-seven years, and devoted his entire active life to agriculture. Joseph Corwin Newport, son of James and father of John B. Newport, was born on the farm in Warren county in 1816. He became widely known as a successful farmer and horticulturist, and accomplished much toward developing the pomological resources of Ohio. In young manhood he married Elizabeth Montgomery, a native of either Pennsylvania or New Jersey, who removed to Ohio with her parents in childhood. Her father, William Montgomery, was a native of Ireland, and when a boy immigrated to the United States, living for several years in Penn-

sylvania. Joseph C. Newport lived to be seventy-five years old, and before his death celebrated his golden wedding in the midst of many friends and great rejoicing, while on a visit to what is now Kings county, Cal. He is survived by his wife, who is now eighty-six years old, and who is still active and bright, and able to do her own work in her Warren county home.

At the age of nineteen John B. Newport left home and began to work on neighboring farms, for the first three months receiving his room and board in compensation for his services, but after that \$20 a month, until he had enough to pay his way to California in 1874. In Sonoma county, this state, he rented a farm near Petaluma with his brother, W. J., and after harvesting a fifty-acre crop of potatoes went to San Francisco and became a fireman on the San Francisco & North Pacific (now the California Northwestern) Railroad. Later he was given charge of an engine, running the same until 1878, when he resigned the post. The summer of that year he helped his brother move to Kings county, arriving here December 8, 1878, and settling three and a half miles northwest of Hanford on one hundred and sixty acres of land. The cost of the land was \$30 an acre, and they were obliged to run in debt for it, and also for the threshing machine which they operated throughout the county for several years. From the first they were successful with their crops, and the threshing machine soon paid for itself, so that both felt encouraged and hopeful of the future. In the meantime Mr. Newport had left much of the management of the farm to his brother, while he worked at the carpenter's trade during the winter time, returning to the farm in summer.

In 1881 J. B. Newport was united in marriage with Emma Tait, a native of Iowa. She died in 1889, leaving a son, Fred T., now twenty years of age, who has just completed his training at the Mt. Tamalpais Military Academy. In 1891 Mr. Newport married Louise Horlock, who was born in London, England. In 1890 he sold one hundred and sixty acres of his property, having in the meantime purchased an adjoining eighty acres. He received \$200 an acre for this tract, a forty acre tract later brought him \$260 an acre, and the balance \$200. He continued to operate his ranch until 1900, and became known as one of the most substantial and successful ranchers of the county, being one of the first to engage in the cultivation of raisin grapes. A variety of high-grade stock contributed a handsome yearly income, and blooded horses constituted a source of constant satisfaction to their owner. It is needless to say that the ranches were improved according to the highest tenets of agricultural science, and

represented the acme of independent and luxurious country life.

Mr. Newport's banking experiences began in 1887, when he helped to organize the first bank of Hanford. In 1891 he became one of the organizers of the Farmers & Merchants Bank, and has served as a director continuously since, and in July, 1902, was elected president of the board. He has been prominent in politics for many years, but although a staunch supporter of the Republican party has never been willing to accept offices within the gift of his fellow townsmen. When the county was divided in 1893 he came to the rescue with his influence and money. Many other enterprises have been rendered secure through his timely assistance, and the citizens who count upon the resources of this unrivaled region to furnish their homes and sustenance have reason to be grateful for his far-sightedness and public spirit. When the raisin growers were on the verge of collapse through inability to sell their products, he took an active part in organizing the Raisin Growers' Association, which secured good prices for their products, and practically saved the cause. He was active also in securing right of way through the county for the Santa Fe Railroad Company, giving of his time and money, and urging the advantage to settlers and shippers.

Yet another resource which has profited by the business ability of Mr. Newport is the oil in the Coalinga and Sunset districts. He is a stockholder in the Kern Sunset Oil & Development Company, which has the brightest of prospects, and whose property is now being developed. For five years he was the president of the Esperanza Oil & Gas Company, which spent \$35,000 before oil was produced. The prospects at one time were so doubtful that Mr. Newport and his brother bought the shares of discontented members, thus holding a very large interest in the enterprise. When oil was finally discovered they felt fully repaid for their effort to allay hard feelings, the first well producing three hundred barrels of oil per day, and another five hundred barrels per day. They sold their interests at a gratifying advance above the purchase price.

For nearly a quarter of a century Mr. Newport has been an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has extended material assistance in the erection of three different houses of worship. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. He is a man of high moral principle, broad-minded, liberal and possessed of a high public spirit, exhibiting genuine concern when measures for the promotion of the welfare of the community are under consideration, and giving generously of his means toward the furtherance of all worthy and

well-considered efforts to elevate the social, moral or industrial status of the whole people. His name is indissolubly linked with the progress and prosperity of Hanford and Kings county, and is entitled to a permanent place in the historical literature of the state of California.

FRED M. HART. The desire to do all things well, and the ability to concentrate upon a given subject until complete mastery thereof is obtained, are universally acknowledged to be stepping-stones to success in almost any line of activity. At the bottom of the endeavors of Fred M. Hart has lain this excellent view of life, and to its practical fulfillment is due his success as an apiarist, as a practical rancher and a promoter of the county's prosperity. He represents the second generation thus to contribute to the well-being of Kings county, and to his father, Charles C. Hart, was due credit for introducing bee culture in this county.

The Hart family is numbered among the California emigration of 1855. Charles C. Hart, the founder of the name on the Pacific coast, was born in the conservative rural district of central Connecticut, and being of ambitious tendencies set sail for Panama and San Francisco from New York in the spring of 1855. The departure to the west was not an occasion of great importance to the family circle, for in 1849 his brother, John H., had come to the coast, and sent back favorable accounts of the opportunities existing here for the ambitious and industrious young man. Charles C. Hart avoided mining and settled near Gilroy, Santa Clara county, where he engaged in bee culture and dairying until 1859, establishing a pleasant home for his wife, formerly Helen Payne, who was born in New York. Here their son, Fred M., was born.

In 1859 Charles C. Hart and his brother purchased half a section of land one mile east of Visalia, one-half of which was under fence, the largest fenced property in the San Joaquin valley at that time. The brothers had brought with them about a hundred colonies of bees, and in the spring of 1860 they were able to supply many ranchers desirous of embarking in the business, among them Dr. Cobb, to whom they delivered thirty-seven colonies for \$3,700. The Hart brothers continued in partnership for two or three years, when Charles C. bought a ranch of one hundred and twenty acres three miles south of Visalia, half of which is still owned by his widow, and where he lived until 1866. He then removed to near Farmersville, Tulare county, and took up government land, where he also conducted general ranching and bee culture. In 1878 he turned his bees over to his son Fred M., whom he had thoroughly trained in the science of bee culture,

and thereafter devoted his energies entirely to farming and stock-raising. In all he farmed about three thousand acres, owning one hundred and twenty acres below Visalia, one hundred and sixty acres on his homestead, and a section or more in partnership with his son, C. W. At the time of his death at the age of sixty-six his estate was valued at \$35,000, all won through his persistent and untiring efforts as a pioneer rancher and apiarist. He was never active in politics, but was a staunch supporter of schools and churches, donating liberally to the latter, and to other worthy enterprises in his neighborhood. His ranch in Tulare county is still occupied by his widow, who is sixty-eight years old, and an active worker in the Baptist Church.

Fred M. Hart was born in Gilroy, Santa Clara county, October 20, 1867. At the age of thirteen he left the home farm and went into camp to care for his father's stock, a lonely occupation at best, for the country was sparsely settled. When he took charge of his father's apiary in 1878 he had about one hundred and fifty colonies, and to these he added fifty colonies, and devoted his entire time to the study and care of his small charges. Moving into his present neighborhood, seven miles northeast of Hanford, in Kings county, in 1884, he bought five acres of land, and soon afterward purchased one hundred and sixty acres near Traver which he still owns. He combined farming and bee culture until 1899, when he purchased his present farm of sixty acres, and in all owns four hundred acres in Tulare county, including a two-hundred-and-forty-acre farm six miles from Visalia. Besides his home place of sixty acres in Kings county, he owns a twenty-acre fruit farm which he rents. He has seven hundred colonies of bees divided into ten separate apiaries in the northeastern part of the county, the precaution of small lots being taken because the pastures are so closely cropped by the stock. Mr. Hart has had remarkable success with his industry, and in addition to being one of the most scientific and well posted apiarists in the state, is one of the most extensive. His stock and fruit and general produce have helped to swell the dimensions of his ample fortune, and place him among the substantial and well-to-do men of Kings county.

February 17, 1889, Mr. Hart was united in marriage with Kizzie Smith, who was born and reared at Centerville, Iowa. Two sons and one daughter have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hart, Elmer D., Leora Miles, and David Payne. Mr. Hart is a broad-minded and public-spirited man, taking a keen interest in local Republican politics, and has filled a number of offices with credit to himself and the community. He is the friend of education and progress, and has interested himself in the establishment of a high standard

of mental training as a member and trustee of the school board. Fraternally he is valued as a member of the Hanford Lodge No. 275, I. O. O. F., and the Encampment; is also identified with the Rebekahs, his wife belonging to the latter organization, and Hanford Parlor No. 37, N. S. G. W. Mr. Hart is a generous and large-hearted man, practical and possessing a fund of business sagacity. A valuable lesson is taught in his straightforward, industrious and manly life.

**LEWIS J. CROW.** Distinguished as an early pioneer of Stanislaus county, and as one of its most esteemed and honored residents, Lewis J. Crow stands prominent among the intelligent, enterprising and progressive men who have been influential in promoting the agricultural, industrial and social prosperity of this part of the state. His fine homestead and farm, containing nearly five hundred acres, situated partly in San Joaquin and partly in Stanislaus county, is one of the most valuable and attractive in the San Joaquin valley; in point of improvements and equipments ranking with the very best. Skilled in the use of rifle and gun, Mr. Crow is an expert marksman, and has acquired wide fame as a hunter, both he and his hounds enjoying the chase. A son of Walter Crow, he was born March 27, 1829, in Pike county, Mo., at Ashley, near Bowling Green, of old Virginia stock. His grandfather Crow served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

Walter Crow was born and reared near Danville, Ky., being bred to agricultural pursuits. He took an active part in the Black Hawk war, after which he settled in Ashley, Pike county, Mo., where he carried on farming for a number of years. In 1849, accompanied by his son Lewis, he crossed the plains to California, coming here to investigate the conditions for stock-raising. Finding the conditions most favorable, he went back by way of Panama to Missouri, and the following year, 1850, again crossed the plains, bringing with him a large herd of cattle, in the driving of which he was assisted by his sons William, Benjamin, James and A. M. Arriving at the mouth of the Feather river in the fall of 1850, he was taken ill and died of mountain fever. His wife, whose maiden name was Susan Pritchett, was born in Kentucky (where her father, Abraham Pritchett, spent his entire life) and died in Missouri. Nine children were born of their marriage, namely: Isaac, a resident of Crows Landing, who came to California in 1865; William, who died near Ripon, San Joaquin county; James A., of Stockton; Benjamin H., of Crows Landing; John B., who died in Oakland, while his home was at Crows Landing; A. M., who died at Crows Landing; Lewis J.,

the special subject of this sketch; C. P., of San Jose; and Susan, wife of Capt. J. W. Smith, of Stockton.

Brought up on a Missouri farm, Lewis J. Crow obtained a limited common school education in Ashley, and in his boyhood days was initiated into the mysteries of farming, being made to plow corn barefooted when but eight years old. Determining to seek his fortune in the newly-discovered gold-fields of California, he came with his father across the plains in 1849, leaving Pike county in the spring, and coming with ox-teams via Fort Hall, down the Humboldt river, and along the Carson route to Placerville, arriving September 10. The father soon started on his return trip, but Lewis J. Crow began mining on the Yuba river, and remained in that locality until fall, 1850, when he went to meet his father and brothers, and assist in driving the five hundred cattle that they brought with them. At the mouth of the Feather river, as previously stated, the father died, and the brothers came to Stanislaus county, and spent the winter on the present site of Ripon. In the spring of 1851 they settled near Ripon, where they carried on an extensive and lucrative butchering and dairy business until 1864. In the meantime, in 1854, they entered land on the west side, becoming owners of a large tract, and having built warehouses there for convenience in shipping grain down the river, the town and railway station were both named in their honor, Crows Landing. Mr. Crow had a ranch of seven hundred acres eight miles west of Crows Landing on which he lived and labored several seasons. In 1863 he bought his present farm of four hundred and eighty-two acres, which is advantageously located on the Stanislaus river, about five miles from Oakdale, and at once began its improvements. His tasteful and substantial residence, and his large and convenient barns and outbuildings are located in Stanislaus county, but the major part of his ranch is within the limits of San Joaquin county. On the bottoms he has three hundred acres, all under the plow, with seventy-five acres devoted to the raising of alfalfa. In addition to general farming, he has been extensively engaged in stock growing, and his brothers having been the largest mule raisers in the valley. Since 1900 he has rented his land, and lived retired.

In Stockton Mr. Crow married Mary E. Rose, who was born in Iowa and at the age of four years, in 1850, came with her parents to Napa, where she was reared and educated. Of the children born of this union six are living, namely: Thomas A., a farmer, living near Modesto; Frank, engaged in farming near Crows Landing; Herbert M., of Oakdale, proprietor of a creamery; Harry L., a resident of Oakland; Mrs.



Edith Epley, of Oakland; and Mrs. Ethel Leitch, of Oakdale. A daughter, Estella, married John Conant, and died February 13, 1896. In his political affiliations Mr. Crow is a Democrat. A man of unusual worth and integrity, his business dealings have ever been characterized by fairness and honesty, and he and his good wife are held in high respect throughout the community, where their hospitality and generosity are proverbial. Mrs. Crow is a faithful member of the Free Methodist Church of Oakdale.

**JOHN W. KEEFER.** A typical representative of the self-made men of our country, John W. Keefer has made rapid strides along the pathway of prosperity, and is now numbered among the business men of the city of Merced. Beginning his career with but little capital save that of courage, pluck and persistency of purpose, he has labored industriously, working as a wage-earner many years. By means of thrift and economy, he accumulated a sufficient sum of money to establish himself in business, and is now proprietor of a large and well-patronized livery, feed and sale stable, which he is managing with characteristic enterprise and success. He was born, October 8, 1855, in Exeter, Lower Canada, a son of Joseph Keefer.

Born and reared in Germany, Joseph Keefer immigrated when a young man to America, and first engaged in farming in Upper Canada, and afterward near Goderich, Ontario. Removing with his family to Nebraska in 1867, he located near Columbus, on the North Fork, where he carried on general farming the remainder of his life. His wife, whose maiden name was Louisa Nolan, was born in Germany, and now resides in Idaho. Of the nine children born of their marriage, all grew to years of maturity, and eight are living, John, the subject of this brief personal notice, being the eldest child, and the only one on the coast.

Receiving limited educational advantages in his Canadian home, John W. Keefer began to work out as chore boy on a farm when but nine years old. Accompanying his parents to Nebraska when twelve years of age, he continued in his agricultural labors, assisting his father, or working for neighboring farmers in order to help support the family. Coming to California in 1875, Mr. Keefer was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Sacramento county for two and one-half years, and then went back to Nebraska, where he remained eighteen months. Returning then to the Pacific coast, he traveled through Washington and Oregon, and for nearly two years was a resident of San Diego county. He has since resided in Merced county, and for more than twenty years was engaged in general

farming, having charge of a ranch of seven hundred or more acres, which he devoted principally to grain raising.

In 1899 Mr. Keefer established himself in the livery business on South Main street. Although he had but a small sum to start with, he put forth his best efforts and was very successful until burned out. Fortunately he at that time saved all of his stock and vehicles, his actual loss being but \$75. He subsequently continued business in small quarters until his present stable was completed. This is a brick building, 60 x 130 feet, two stories in height, with stalls for fifty head of horses. He is popular as a liveryman, and has built up a remunerative business in this line of industry, being liberal and accommodating to his numerous patrons.

Mr. Keefer married, in Merced, Mary Collins, a native of Missouri, and into their household seven children have been born, namely: Albert, Annie, Ray, Charles, William, Leo and Elsie. Politically Mr. Keefer is a steadfast adherent of the Democratic party, and is now a member of the Merced board of school trustees. He belongs to the Woodmen of the World, and is a member of the Catholic Church.

**JOHN B. AVILA.** A successful farmer and merchant, John B. Avila commands the respect and esteem of all who have witnessed his steady progress up the ladder of success since he located in Merced county in 1888. He had located in the state five years earlier, having emigrated from St. George, in the Azores Islands, where he was born March 19, 1865, settling first in Alameda county. There he followed ranching until he removed to Merced county, with the proceeds of his five years' work purchasing twenty acres of land located in the Buhach Colony. Here he engaged in farming with the same energy and ability which had characterized his first years in his adopted land, becoming one of the pioneer sweet potato growers in the county. This business he has found exceedingly profitable in the passing years, and now devotes ten acres exclusively to the cultivation of this tuber, the average yield being from one hundred to one hundred and fifty sacks to the acre. He ships his own products to various localities, the principal points being Denver, Colo., Washington and Oregon, disposing of as many as one hundred and forty-five carloads in one year. With his constantly increasing financial ability he has added to his ranch until he now owns forty acres of well developed land, ten acres of which is devoted to fruit, ten to sweet potatoes, and twenty to alfalfa. In addition to his ranching interests he conducts a general merchandise establishment in Merced, in partnership with I.

J. Pimentel, Jr., carrying a well assorted stock valued at \$5,000. He resides upon his ranch, which is located five miles west and north of Merced.

Mr. Avila has been twice married, his first wife being Emilia Pacheco, by whom he had the following children: Delfina and Belmira. His second marriage united him with Puliscena Duarte, also a native of the Azores, and of this union was born a daughter, Maggie. In his political convictions Mr. Avila is a Republican, and though undesirous of official honors for himself has nevertheless taken an active interest in the advancement of his party's interests. In fraternal orders he is quite prominent, being a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Religiously he is a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

---

**FREDERICK BONTADELLI.** Conspicuous among the most intelligent, influential and progressive dairymen of the San Joaquin valley is Frederick Bontadelli, who has a thorough knowledge of agriculture in its various branches, and stands high among the practical and successful farmers of this locality. His ranch, which is situated two miles southeast of Newman, is finely improved, his residence, which he erected in 1901, being one of the most attractive in the dairy country, while his conveniently arranged barns and outbuildings, and all of his machinery and equipments, are such as are required by a first-class modern agriculturist. A son of Peter Bontadelli, he was born November 11, 1857, in Personico, Canton of Ticino, Switzerland, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, and of his grandfather, Joseph Bontadelli, a lumber manufacturer and dealer.

A prominent and influential citizen of Personico, Peter Bontadelli spent his entire life in his native town, being actively engaged in business as a lumber and flour manufacturer, and as a general merchant. Of his union with Mary Filosi, the descendant of an old and honored family of the Canton of Ticino, fourteen children were born, eleven of whom grew to years of maturity, seven now living, five residing in California, namely: Emil, of Guadalupe; Peter, of Watsonville; Philomena, of Salinas; Modesto, just now in Alaska; and Frederick, the subject of this sketch.

After his graduation from the Personico High School, Frederick Bontadelli, at the age of nineteen years, served for four months in a military company. He subsequently learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed for a few years in connection with the mercantile business, remaining in his native land until 1879. Emigrating in that year to America, he arrived in

San Francisco with ninety-three dollars in his pockets, his entire assets. With a courageous heart and willing hands, he started out to make his living in a new country, a stranger in a strange land. Having previously worked with a veterinary in his old home, Mr. Bontadelli felt somewhat familiar with the care of cattle and horses, and was soon working on a ranch. Subsequently locating in Gilroy, he worked on a ranch, and as a butter and cheese maker for five years. Removing thence to Monterey county, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land near Salinas, and embarked in dairying, successfully managing not only his own dairy, but a dairy of one hundred and sixty cows belonging to a neighboring farmer.

Visiting the west side of the San Joaquin valley in 1896, Mr. Bontadelli quickly perceived its advantages as a dairy region, and tried to interest the people in the subject of raising alfalfa, for which the land was especially adapted. During the dry season of 1898, when Monterey county, especially, suffered with the excessive drought, he returned to this valley, bringing his family with him, and settled on the west side. For two years thereafter he rented land from C. C. Eastin, and then, in 1900, purchased eighty acres of unimproved land, and set about improving it. Fencing it, he subsequently dug a well seventy-one feet in depth, erected a windmill, and the following year built his attractive residence. He was very successful in the raising of alfalfa, and now rents fifty-six acres of adjoining land, on which he also raises the same crop, and is now carrying on dairying with marked success, keeping about one hundred cows, mostly Durhams. He likewise raises horses and cattle, having about one hundred and ninety head of stock, and keeps about three hundred hogs.

In Switzerland, Mr. Bontadelli married Mary Borcine, a native of the Canton of Ticino, and they have one child, namely: Frederick F. Bontadelli, a graduate of the Newman High School and now a student at the Santa Clara College. Politically Mr. Bontadelli is a Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Druids, and is serving as treasurer of his lodge. He is recognized as an authority on all questions connected with dairying, and is one of the directors of the New Era Creamery.

---

**LUTHER M. SAY.** From his earliest recollection Mr. Say has known no other home than California until he reached mature years. He was born in Venango county, Pa., December 3, 1873, being the fourth child born to James H. and Laura (Coates) Say, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Wisconsin. The



father followed farming for a livelihood and in 1874 came to California with his family, locating for a time in Mendocino county. He subsequently settled in the vicinity of Parlier, in Fresno county, at an early day in the history of this county. His widow still lives on the old home place in this locality, a short distance from Luther M.

The recipient of a good education, gleaned from the common schools of California and from the three years' attendance at the Selma high school, Mr. Say started out to make his way in the world more thoroughly equipped than the average young man, so far as education is concerned. Like his father, he followed farming for a time, but in 1895 he went to San Francisco, and for four or five months was engaged as gripman on the street cars in that city. In 1896 he secured employment on the police force, and for a period of about five years he was on duty between Fourth and Sixth streets and northward with the Chinatown squad.

In 1900 he went to Alaska and for one year officiated as bookkeeper in the mines of his brother, W. H. Say. Returning home, he took possession of his place near Parlier, in 1901, having previously purchased the ranch in 1897. Mr. Say has one of the most productive farms in this part of Fresno county, owning eighty acres, thirty in vineyard, twenty-five in peach orchards, the balance in alfalfa. In 1903 he built a modern cottage which adds greatly to the appearance of the place, in addition to adding to the comfort of the family. By his marriage in San Francisco, he was united with Diantha L. Tremper, who was born in Lake county, Cal. Their home is made happy by the presence of one son, Harry. Politically Mr. Say is an unswerving Republican, and socially he is allied with the Woodmen of the World and the Widow and Orphans' Aid Society for Policemen, of San Francisco. Mr. Say is rapidly attaining a high place in the estimation of his neighbors, as a conscientious, energetic young man, whose dealings with everyone are both upright and honorable.

---

MRS. DORA (JANTZEN) UNGER. It gives us much pleasure to place in this volume a brief biographical record of the life of Mrs. Dora J. Unger, widow of the late Frederick Unger, who for a score of years was actively identified with the development of the agricultural resources of that part of Fresno county lying near Selma. She is a most estimable woman, of superior character and endowments, and well deserves the respect and esteem of the community in which she has so long resided. A daughter of Herman Jantzen,

she was born April 10, 1835, near Dorum, Hanover, Germany.

A lifelong resident of Hanover, Germany, Herman Jantzen followed the trade of baker during his earlier life, and was afterward employed as a tiller of the soil until his retirement from active pursuits. His wife, whose maiden name was Helen Schleier, died at a comparatively early age, leaving one son and one daughter, Dora J., the special subject of this sketch, being the youngest child.

Receiving a limited education in the common schools of her native town, Dora Jantzen remained at home until twenty-three years old. Having two half-brothers and a brother in the United States, in Philadelphia, and one in California, she determined to join them, and in August, 1858, landed in New York City. A short time later, accompanied by her brother, she came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco, where a half-brother was living, and with him made her home until her marriage in 1860 with Frederick Unger.

A native of Schanning, Brunswick, Germany, Frederick Unger grew to manhood in the Fatherland, obtaining his education in the public schools. Emigrating to the United States in 1854, he spent a few months in New York City, from there coming by way of the Nicaragua route to the Pacific coast. After working in the mines for some time, he settled near Santa Clara, where, in 1858, he purchased a small ranch on which he lived four years. Removing then to Centerville, he was engaged in farming in that locality for three years. In 1865 he bought land near Petaluma, living there until 1873, when he established himself as a farmer and dairyman at Bird's Landing, Solano county. In 1880 Mr. Unger rented land in Fresno county, near Selma, and two years later, in 1882, bought the homestead now owned and occupied by his widow and her family. From the one hundred and forty acres of land included in his purchase he developed a most productive ranch, having a finely-bearing vineyard of sixty acres; an orchard of forty acres planted to fruit trees of different kinds, while on fourteen acres he raised alfalfa. In the management of his farm he was very successful, his energetic industry and thrift being well rewarded. On November 8, 1903, Mr. Unger passed to the life beyond, leaving a large circle of friends who deeply deplore his loss. He was highly esteemed throughout the community as a man of sterling worth and integrity, and was an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Unger seven children were born, namely:

Charles Frederick, proprietor of a stationery store in Selma; Herman Theodore, living near Selma; Caroline, wife of John Seaton of Port Townsend, Wash.; William, residing near Selma; Angie, the wife of M. E. Browe of Selma; Dora, wife of John Anderson of Los Angeles, and G. A., of Selma. Mrs. Unger is a woman of good business qualifications, and is administratrix of the estate left by her late husband. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

**JOHN H. HUTCHINSON.** One of the most promising features of the commercial life of California is the fact that its climate, soil and business possibilities have attracted to its citizenship many of the educated and ambitious young men of the east. Coming from the older city of Cleveland to the younger but no less progressive city of Fresno, Mr. Hutchinson has thrown his energies and resourceful mind into his duties as secretary of the Fresno Consumers' Ice Company, and by supplementing the judicious management of the president, Calvin S. Hill, has contributed to the already encouraging success of this enterprise.

The Hutchinson family is of Scotch-Irish extraction, and its first representatives in America identified themselves with the province of Ontario. George H. Hutchinson, who was a native of Otterville, Ontario, removed to Cleveland, where he remained until death, meanwhile engaging in the lumber business. His wife, Mary E. Martin, was born and reared in Cleveland, whither her father, John Martin, had migrated in an early day. He was a native of the north of Ireland and a shipwright by trade. After settling in Cleveland he engaged in shipbuilding and conducted a yard until his death, which occurred at the age of forty-nine years. At this writing Mrs. George H. Hutchinson resides with their only child, John H., in Fresno.

In Cleveland, Ohio, where he was born February 17, 1871, John H. Hutchinson had the advantages offered by the excellent schools, supplementing which he also took a full course of study in Duquesne College, at Pittsburg, Pa., from which he was graduated in 1892, with the degree of B. S. Immediately after the completion of his college course he entered the office of the Curll-Hutchinson Lumber Company, his father being one of the members. For three years he continued with that firm, and then went to Niles, Ohio, as office manager for the Columbia Manufacturing Company. He filled the duties of this responsible position with rare judgment and tact for three years, and then resigned in order to return to Cleveland, where in 1899 he was chosen cashier of the Garry Iron

& Steel Company. In addition to the office of cashier he filled the position of head bookkeeper, remaining with the company until April, 1903, when he resigned. The following month he came to Fresno and bought an interest in the Fresno Consumers' Ice Company, of which he has since been secretary and a director. While the period of his residence on the coast has been comparatively brief, he has become a staunch believer in the great west, an enthusiastic supporter of its industries and an admirer of its climate. Socially he is popular among his acquaintances, an active member of the Society of Hoo Hoo's, and a welcome guest into the most select circles of Fresno. Reared in the Episcopal faith, he has always been in sympathy with the work of that denomination and a contributor to its charities. Political affairs have never won him from business duties, yet he is interested in questions affecting the prosperity of state and nation, and gives his allegiance to the Republican party.

---

**PETER P. HANSEN.** Ever since he was old enough to step out and learn the miller's trade in far-off Denmark, the life of Peter P. Hansen has moved along in quiet, safe grooves, far from the fret and worry of large ambitions, and the trouble incident to useless and out-of-the-ordinary requirements. His life began on a small farm in the village of Scoby, in northern Denmark, where he was born March 13, 1866, and where his parents, Nis and Mary (Clausen) Hansen, are passing their declining years. His cradle was rocked by a mother who was the soul of industry and high principle, and who had besides five sons and two daughters, he being the sixth child. Industry and frugality reigned in the humble home, and little remained after the purchase of necessities for the schooling or advantages which the children craved. Peter P. improved whatever chances came to him, attending the public schools whenever able, and diligently performing his duties around the home place. After completing his trade he worked thereat for some months, and in the meantime planned to enlarge his horizon as soon as his means permitted.

At the age of eighteen Peter immigrated to America and located in Cleveland, Ohio, but instead of following the miller's trade, began to drive a street car for the city railroad company. This occupation netted fair returns to a lad accustomed to economize and save, and in 1888 he came to San Francisco and drove a street car team for the company of that city. In his next home in Los Banos, Merced county, he worked on the canal for Miller & Lux, becoming manager of a section of the canal, and remaining in

that capacity for eight years. He was bright and faithful, and won the approval of his employers, hence his long retention in their service. His work on the canal proved profitable in the light of his continued thrift and patience, and he was able to purchase a farm of forty acres near Newman, Merced county, which he operated as a dairy until 1903. He then invested in his present home of sixty acres, which he has placed under alfalfa, and is devoting to a dairy of forty cows. His improvements are in accordance with the kind and extent of his operations, and it is his intention to increase both his possessions and his business. His house, barns and implements are sufficient for his needs, and neatness and order, the chief essentials of dairying, are the keynote of his success in that direction.

Mr. Hansen met and married Ida Werner, a native daughter of San Francisco, and who presides over his country home with economy and good judgment. He is in sympathy with the Democratic party, and finds recreation and companionship in the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. While Mr. Hansen is cautious and conservative, and less prone than many to accept innovations and advances, he is genial of manner and large of heart, and has won deserved and substantial success.

---

OLIVER D. MCPHERSON. Among the foremost citizens of Colony Center, O. D. McPherson, the genial and popular proprietor of the Center Hotel, holds an honored place. Public-spirited, liberal and enterprising, he takes great interest in advancing the welfare of the community in which he resides, and is much esteemed as a man of worth. A son of Aaron McPherson, he was born, October 25, 1869, in Iowa Falls, Iowa, of Scotch ancestry. His Grandfather McPherson was for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits in Indiana, but spent his declining years in Iowa.

Born in Indiana, near Indianapolis, Aaron McPherson enlisted in an Indiana regiment soon after the breaking out of the Civil war, and served as a soldier during the greater part of the conflict. At the close of the war he settled at Iowa Falls, Iowa, where he improved a farm. In 1871 he removed with his family to Geneva, Neb., where he continued in farming and stock-raising for many years. Migrating still farther westward in 1894, he came to Merced county, locating in the Dos Palos Colony, where he purchased twenty acres of land, on which he made substantial improvements. He set out an orchard of choice fruit trees, and was employed successfully in fruit growing and dairying until his death, in 1903, at the age of sixty-two years. He was highly respected as a man, and was ac-

tive in the Grand Army of the Republic, taking a keen interest in the organization. He married Elvina Jones, who was born and reared in Wisconsin, and now resides in Colony Center. Of their union eight children were born, seven of whom survive, O. D., the subject of this review, being the second child in order of birth.

Growing to manhood on a Nebraska farm, O. D. McPherson attended first the common schools, afterward entering the Geneva high school, where he completed the full course, obtaining his diploma. Engaging in business for himself at the age of twenty years, he ran a large broom factory in Geneva, Neb., until 1896, when he gave up the business, and came to California. Taking up his residence with the Dos Palos Colony, Mr. McPherson bought ten acres of land, built a residence, and engaged in the raising of fruit and alfalfa, also resuming his trade of making brooms. Material for his manufactures being scarce, Mr. McPherson, with true enterprise and thrift, rented about forty acres of land, and began the raising of broom corn, devoting his entire crop to broom making, a venture in which he was quite successful. In 1901 he built the Center Hotel, which has since been well patronized by the public, who speak of his management in very complimentary terms, finding him a most accommodating and pleasant host, well acquainted with his duties, and ever mindful of the comfort of his guests.

In Wayne county, Neb., Mr. McPherson married Dora Fox, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Emmor Fox, who settled as a farmer in Geneva, Neb., and there brought up his family. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. McPherson, namely: Roy and Velma. Politically Mr. McPherson is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the clerk of his lodge, and also a member of the Knights of the Maccabees.

---

THEODORE C. SCHMIDT. Energetic, industrious and capable, Theodore C. Schmidt, well known in Newman and vicinity as a skillful mechanic and as one of the foremost blacksmiths of the place, is carrying on an extensive and flourishing business. A native of Denmark, he was born November 17, 1863. His father, Peter Schmidt, a blacksmith by trade, was born in Denmark and is now living retired from active pursuits in Schleswig, Germany. His wife, whose maiden name was Maria Sorensen, died at the early age of thirty years. For his second wife he married a native of Denmark and she is the mother of four sons. Of the four sons and one daughter born of the

first marriage, Theodore C., the special subject of this sketch, is the second child.

Having acquired a good common school education in his native town, Theodore C. Schmidt worked for a number of years in his father's smithy, serving an apprenticeship at the blacksmith's trade. Emigrating to the United States in 1883, he came to California, locating first in Rio Vista, where he followed his trade for a year. Going then to San Joaquin county, he worked first in Lathrop and then in Linden. From 1885 until 1888 Mr. Schmidt was a resident of Salem, Ore., where he was employed in various kinds of labor. Returning then to California, he worked at his trade for a year in Dos Palos, Merced county, being in the employ of Miller & Lux. Coming to Newman in 1889, he continued at his trade, working the first two years in partnership with A. S. Jensen, and the next two years in partnership with L. H. Kahrt. Buying out his partner, Mr. Kahrt, in 1894, Mr. Schmidt has since carried on a substantial business as a general blacksmith, having built up a large and lucrative patronage. By dint of hard labor and good management he has acquired considerable property, in addition to his other holdings being a half owner of a ranch of thirty-three acres, which he devotes to pasturing and the raising of alfalfa.

Mr. Schmidt married first, in Modesto, Cal., Anna Krogh, a native of New York. She died in 1899, leaving two children, namely: Howard and Theodore. Mr. Schmidt married second, in San Francisco, Mrs. Hansine Sorensen. In politics Mr. Schmidt is a zealous Republican, active in party ranks, and has represented his town as a delegate to county conventions. He is identified with two of the leading fraternal organizations of Newman, being a member and past officer of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**HENRY F. W. C. MEIER.** Energetic, enterprising and industrious, Henry F. W. C. Meier is actively identified with the business interests of Newman as a manufacturer and bottler of soda water and soft drinks of all kinds. A native of Germany, he was born August 5, 1854, in Prussia, which was also the birthplace of his parents, Henry and Catherine Meier.

Having acquired a practical education in the elementary schools of his native country, Henry F. W. C. Meier emigrated, in 1871, to America, hoping in this land of plenty to secure greater opportunities for bettering his financial condition. Coming directly to California, he spent a year in Rocklin, Placer county, working for his

brother-in-law, Henry Nieman. The following six years he was a resident of San Francisco. From there he went to Hill's Ferry, but being not very well satisfied with his prospects in that place, went to Sacramento, where he remained nearly two years. Returning to Hill's Ferry in 1880, Mr. Meier worked there eight years, when, in 1888, he settled in Newman, taking charge of the Newman Hotel. Giving up the hotel in 1896, he continued the saloon business until 1899, when he gave that up also. Since that time he has devoted much of his time and attention to the management of his bottling business, which he established in 1896, although for more than three years, from 1899 to 1903, he was in business in Tulare county, having charge of the Lindsay Hotel. He bottles soda waters and soft drinks of all kinds, having one of the largest plants of its kind in this section of the county, and has been exceedingly successful in its management, having built up a large and profitable business.

In Sacramento, Cal., Mr. Meier married Elizabeth Miller, a native of Hunsbach, Prussia, and of their union twelve children have been born, namely: Emil, of Lindsay, Cal.; Mrs. Lola Robin, of Eureka; Henry, of Newman, Cal.; Albert and Clarence, twins, of Newman, the latter proprietor of a confectionery store; Bertha, Minnie, Freddie, Lizzie, Eunice, deceased; Louie, and a child that died in infancy. Politically, Mr. Meier is an earnest adherent of the Democratic party. Fraternally he is a member and past officer of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Knights of Pythias.

**THOMAS FREEMAN NEWELL.** The agricultural community of Selma has no more worthy representative than Thomas Freeman Newell, a farmer of experience and skill, who has met with success in his independent calling, and is now living retired from active pursuits. A son of Edward Newell, he was born August 1, 1843, in Cumberland county, Me. His grandfather, Enoch Newell, a native of Massachusetts, came from honored colonial stock, being descended from one of four brothers who emigrated from England to the old Bay State. When a young man he removed to Maine, and there spent his remaining years. A life-long resident of Cumberland county, Me., Edward Newell followed the trade of a ship-carpenter and joiner. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary W. Freeman, was born in Massachusetts, and died in Maine. Of their family of five boys and two girls, of whom one son and the two daughters are deceased, Thomas F., the subject of this biographical sketch is the youngest.

Reared and educated in his native state,



Thomas Freeman Newell remained at home until eighteen years of age, when, accompanied by a brother, he came by way of the Isthmus of Panama to the Pacific coast. Locating in Amador county, Cal., he was engaged in mining in Volcano for four years, and the ensuing year was a resident of Sonoma county. Visiting his old home and friends in 1867, he stayed in Maine eleven months. Returning to California in 1868, Mr. Newell bought land in San Mateo county, and was there prosperously employed in stock-raising, dairying and general farming for twenty years. In 1888 he settled in Fresno county, locating on the line of the Centerville and Kingsburg ditch, and buying one hundred acres of land lying one mile northeast of Selma. At the time of the purchase, six acres of the ranch was devoted to the raising of fruit. He has since improved the entire ranch, having now an orchard of forty acres and a vineyard of thirty-four acres, while the remainder of his land yields bountiful crops of alfalfa. Although he still lives on his ranch, he rents the land, receiving a good annual income.

In San Mateo county Mr. Newell married Alice M. Shields, a native of Illinois. She died on the home farm, in Selma, in 1895, leaving three children, namely: Mabel F., wife of Orland Dolson, of Los Angeles; Mrs. Marie Ross, living near Selma; and Lillian May, wife of Alexander McDonald, of San Francisco. Politically Mr. Newell is a steadfast Republican, but has never been an aspirant for official honors.

---

**HENRY A. HANSEN.** Among the representative business men of Colony Center, Dos Palos, is Henry A. Hansen, an enterprising and highly esteemed citizen, who is carrying on a large and successful business as a general merchant. A native of Illinois, he was born November 16, 1868, in LaSalle county, near Ottawa, a son of Hans Hansen. His Grandfather Hansen, a life-long resident of Norway, was a prosperous agriculturist, and the owner of the noted farm "Hjelmeland."

Hans Hansen was born on the parental farm, in Qvinherre, Norway, in 1835, and was there bred and educated. At the age of sixteen years, in 1851, he immigrated to America, and began life in this country as a farm laborer near Ottawa, Ill. In course of time he became owner of a good tract of land, from which he improved a farm, on which he lived a number of years. In 1874 he removed to Ford county, Ill., where he bought land, and continued in agricultural pursuits for nearly twenty years. Settling in Stanhope, Hamilton county, Iowa, in 1892, he is now carrying on a successful mercantile business in

that place. He is a man of upright principles, a staunch Republican in politics, and a consistent member of the Lutheran Church. He married Anna Sorbe, who was born in Ronnes Island, Norway, where her father, Andreas Sorbe, spent his entire life. She came with her mother, and the other children, to America when a child of eight years. She died February 15, 1901, in Stanhope, Iowa, leaving three children, namely: Mrs. Johnson, of Iowa; Henry A., the special subject of this sketch; and J. E. a contractor in Marshalltown, Iowa.

Receiving a practical education in the public schools of Illinois, Henry A. Hansen began the battle of life for himself at the age of eighteen years, becoming a clerk in a mercantile establishment at Elliott, Ford county, Ill. Removing with his parents to Stanhope, Iowa, in 1892, he was there similarly employed for some time. Locating at Lorenz, Iowa, in 1900, Mr. Hansen was engaged in the grocery business for several months. Selling out in December, 1901, he came directly to Dos Palos, and five days after his arrival here purchased a half-interest in a mercantile business, and in partnership with C. A. Bibler established himself as a general merchant at Elgin Corners, becoming junior member of the firm of Bibler & Hansen. When the town moved to Colony Center, this enterprising firm erected a large store on the corner now occupied by John Kincaid, and there built up a good trade. In May, 1903, Mr. Hansen disposed of his interest in the firm, and four months later, in November, 1903, opened a new store, and has since been in business alone having won a lucrative patronage.

In Webster City, Iowa, Mr. Hansen married Grace Bibler, a native of Hamilton county, Iowa, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Verne and Keith. Politically Mr. Hansen is actively identified with the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member of Polar Star Lodge No. 113; F. & A. M., of Legrand, Iowa; of Sigma Chapter, R. A. M., of Marshalltown, Iowa; and of the Modern Woodmen of America. Religiously he is a Lutheran.

---

**REV. MICHAEL McNAMARA.** Among the pioneers of California worthy of special mention in this work is Rev. Michael McNamara, who has had charge of St. Patrick's Church, in Merced, for upward of thirty years. A man of deep religious devotion, and of extreme earnestness of purpose, he has performed noble work in this section of the state, building up good congregations in different localities, and everywhere elevating the moral and religious status of his people. He is finely educated, familiar with the classics, a philosopher and a theologian

and a noted student of history. He was born, March 19, 1837, in the parish of Croom, County Limerick, Ireland, being the second child in a family of ten children born of the union of Thomas and Nora (Joyce) McNamara, who were life-long residents of the parish of Croom, County Limerick, and respected members of the farming community.

Brought up in Limerick, Michael McNamara obtained his classical education partly in Killmallock, Charleville and in the Jesuit Seminary of Limerick, after which he studied theology at St. John's College, in Waterford, County Waterford, Ireland. In June, 1870, by the Bishop of Australia, he was ordained in the college for the diocese of San Francisco, and at once started for California. After spending a short time at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, Father McNamara began his missionary labors, going first to Mariposa to look after St. Joseph's Church and its people. He subsequently organized a parish on Bear creek, at present the city of Merced, where, in 1873, he was successful in establishing a Catholic Church. Since 1875 he has made his residence in Merced, but long continued to attend the church in Mariposa, and in other places. At Los Banos, he took up contributions for the building of the church there, which were afterward turned over to the Los Angeles and Monterey diocese. In his work along this western frontier, he endured all the hardships and privations of the early pioneers, traveling by stage over rough roads, walking long distances through the mountain districts, making his own pathway in many cases, and fording streams oftentimes; sleeping wherever night overtook him, be it in cabin, tent, or with no roof between him and the firmament on high. Father McNamara is connected with various church societies, and is an honorary member of the Young Men's Institute.

---

ARCHIBALD L. SILMAN. Among the most active, skillful and successful ranchmen of Dos Palos A. L. Silman, manager of Miller & Lux's Santa Rita ranch, holds an assured position. Of honored ancestry, he is a native son of Merced county, and a worthy representative of one of its most respected pioneer families. He was born on the Merced river, in Merced county, Cal., February 26, 1874, a son of William Silman. His grandfather Silman, a native of the east, spent the major portion of his life in Arkansas, where he was an early settler.

Born in Arkansas, William Silman was there reared and educated. In 1851, with two of his brothers, he came across the plains to the Pacific coast, and for a while worked with shovel and pick as a miner. He subsequently formed a

partnership with Archibald James Stevenson, whose daughter he afterward married, and embarked in the stock business on the Merced river. In the valley he entered land, becoming owner of a ranch of two thousand acres, and in course of time accumulated much wealth in grain and stock-raising. He built a residence in the town of Merced, and with his partner erected the first water works of that locality. He was very prominent in town, county and state affairs, being one of the leading members of the Democratic party. He had the honor of being one of the first trustees of the city of Merced, and in 1892 served as presidential elector, casting his vote, in Sacramento, for Grover Cleveland. He died at his summer home, in Pacific Grove, in 1896. He married Charlotte Stevenson, who was born in Boone county, Mo., where her father, Archibald J. Stevenson, settled on removing from the east. Mr. Stevenson served in the Mexican war, after which, in 1847, he located in California, engaging in the cattle business in the Merced River and San Joaquin valleys, his headquarters being at Fremont's Ford, on the San Joaquin river. This ford was named in honor of one of his particular friends, Gen. J. C. Fremont. Mr. Stevenson was an extensive landholder, owning twenty thousand acres of land, and was one of the best-known cattle men of central California. His death, which occurred in 1882, was a loss to the community as well as to his family. He reared three children, two daughters and one son. His daughter Charlotte, Mrs. Silman, died in 1896, leaving one child, Archibald L.

After his graduation from the San Francisco Business College, in 1892, A. L. Silman was engaged in various capacities for five years. In 1897 he made a bold start in life, going first to Seattle, and from there, on the Rosalie, to Skagway, Alaska, thence over the Chilkoot pass to Dawson, where he was engaged in prospecting and mining for fourteen months, remaining until the fall of 1898, when he returned to Merced. In 1899 he took charge of the Inglassbe ranch, on the Merced river, retaining its management until 1902, when he resigned. The next two years Mr. Silman was grain buyer at Merced for Haslach & Kahan. Entering the employ of Miller & Lux in February, 1904, he was foreman on their Temple ranch for three months, but since that time has filled his present position as manager of the Santa Rita ranch, at Dos Palos. This ranch, containing several thousand acres, is one of the largest owned by the firm, and is especially devoted to the breeding and raising of fine horses. Mr. Silman owns a farm on the Merced river, having a ranch of seven hundred and twenty acres, finely located, about fifteen miles from the city of Merced, and well adapted



for raising corn, being under irrigation. This estate he rents.

In Stockton, Cal., Mr. Silman married Marie Inglasbe, who was born in Merced county, the daughter of Daniel Eames Inglasbe, a large land owner and an extensive stockman. Politically Mr. Silman, true to the faith in which he was reared, is a strong Democrat. Fraternally he belongs to La Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M., of Merced; to Merced Chapter, R. A. M.; and to Yosemite Parlor No. 24, N. S. G. W.

---

**JOSEPH SPENCER SPARKS.** A man of undoubted ability, industry and enterprise, the late Joseph Spencer Sparks was for many years intimately associated with the development and growth of the agricultural interests of Merced county, and contributed his full share towards its advancement and prosperity. Dependent entirely upon his own efforts, he applied himself diligently to his chosen work, and in course of time won a place of distinction among the most successful farmers and stock-raisers of his neighborhood, and a place of honor among the industrious and respected citizens of the community. A son of Madison Sparks, he was born, May 12, 1830, in Kentucky.

Born and reared in Virginia, Madison Sparks settled in Kentucky when a young man, and as a planter and a slaveholder there spent the remainder of his life, dying at the venerable age of eighty-two years. He married Winnie Thomas, who was born in Virginia, and died in Kentucky. Eight children blessed their union, seven sons and one daughter, Joseph Spencer being the third child in order of birth.

Having acquired a good common school education, Joseph Spencer Sparks remained in his native county until after attaining his majority. His enthusiasm having been aroused by the enthusiastic reports concerning the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast, he followed the tide of emigration westward, coming overland to California in 1852. Locating claims in Placer county, he was there engaged in mining for many years, sometimes being quite prosperous in his ventures and sometimes meeting with reverses. About 1867 he removed to Butte county, settling near Chico, where he was engaged in the lumber business for two or three years, filling contracts for hauling logs to the mills. Coming to the San Joaquin valley in 1869, Mr. Sparks purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land at Cottonwood, and the next year, in 1870, bought the ranch now owned and occupied by his widow. It contains three hundred and twenty acres of land and is pleasantly located near Ingomar, and but ten miles southwest of Newman. With characteristic courage and energy Mr. Sparks began

his agricultural career, making practical improvements on his estate and placing the land in a high state of cultivation. In addition to general farming, he carried on a large business as a stock grower, and became noted as a breeder and raiser of valuable horses. He rented other land than his own, his operations being extensive and profitable, and was known as one of the most thorough-going and skilful ranchmen of this vicinity. As a man, a neighbor, and as a citizen, Mr. Sparks deservedly held high rank, and his death, which occurred at his late home, in 1892, was regretted as a public loss. In his political relations he was a steadfast Democrat, active in local affairs, and for several years rendered good service as school trustee. He was a man of strong religious convictions, and a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow.

In Chico, Butte county, Cal., Mr. Sparks married Melissa C. Eachus, who was born in Iowa, and came with her parents across the plains to California in 1865. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Sparks has managed the home ranch with marked ability, adding from year to year to the improvements already established, in 1901 having erected the commodious residence that now adorns the estate, besides adding one hundred and sixty acres to the home place. She raises large crops of grain and hay, and below the canal has twenty acres of alfalfa. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sparks six children were born, namely: David William, deceased; Lucy May, living at home; Nellie Bird, deceased; Margaret Russell, a teacher in the public schools; George Madison, living at home; and Joseph Spencer, Jr., at home.

---

**FRANZ BUCKREUS.** The fact that Franz Buckreus has held the important position of superintendent of the Kern County Hospital for over twenty years is by no means the only evidence of his ability and faithfulness received by his fellow townsmen of Bakersfield. From the time of his arrival in Kern county in 1875 he has impressed his general worth upon those with whom he has been associated, proving himself a stable and energetic citizen, conscientious to an unusual degree, and having the knowledge of how best to further the interests of his fellow men. He is a native of Bavaria, and was born November 30, 1845. He received the practical home and educational advantages accorded the average youth of the Fatherland, supplemented by a course in surgery, for which he evidenced particular aptitude. When he arrived in New York City in July, 1871, he was twenty-six years old, and soon afterward found a position as steward in a New York hospital, later filling a sim-

ilar office in the city of Brooklyn. In both places he was able to add to his knowledge of surgery. He also gained a general knowledge of hospital management, which was of inestimable value to him upon assuming his present large responsibility. Finding the work congenial, humane and satisfying, he resolved upon his future course of action, should opportunity come his way.

Arriving in Bakersfield in 1875, Mr. Buckreus turned his attention to operating a barber shop in the old Arlington hotel. The enterprise soon proved the best of its kind in the town, many personal characteristics of the manager contributing to his popularity and success. He was well informed, jovial, sympathetic and ready at repartee, besides being neat and temperate in his habits, high-minded and generous in his thoughts, and always ready to do a good turn for one in trouble. In connection with these days of early prosperity, he is glad to recall that some of his patrons are still his warmest friends and supporters. For eight years the little barber shop was a busy center of activity, and the proprietor, having the natural thrift and economy of his race, saved money.

Mr. Buckreus left his barber shop to assume the superintendency of the hospital in 1883, and two years later, in 1885, he was elected coroner and public administrator on the Democratic ticket. This responsibility he filled with satisfaction to all concerned until 1892, and in 1896 was re-elected, serving until January, 1903. It is doubtful if any occupant of the office has invested it with greater dignity and ability, his shrewdness, tact, general knowledge and unquestioned integrity, supplying the chief requisites of the responsibility. Mr. Buckreus is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He is genial, practical and thorough in his management of the hospital, understanding well how to harmonize the various factions with which he has to contend.

---

FRANK L. GOULARTE. To Frank L. Goularte belongs the distinction of being one of the pioneer sweet potato raisers in the Atwater Colony, in Merced county, Cal. The entire acreage of his farm is utilized in raising this crop, and in addition he rents ten acres of adjacent land for the same purpose. So successful was he in this venture that many of his neighbors followed his example, and now thousands of acres are planted in sweet potatoes in the county, the soil being especially adapted to their culture, the general average being seventy-five sacks to the acre. Born in the Azores, Island of Pico, Portugal, in 1858, Mr. Goularte was reared on

a farm and at the age of twenty left his home and crossed the ocean to the United States, pursuing his way across the continent to California.

In Monterey county he worked on a sheep ranch for four years and at the close of that time he went to Fresno county and began raising sheep on his own behalf, continuing with success for eight years. Removing to a new location in Madera county he followed similar work there, still doing a profitable business up to 1899, when he discontinued the stock business and purchased forty acres of land near Atwater, in Merced county. Upon this land he has since lived. He at once began the cultivation of sweet potatoes, having retained twenty acres of his original purchase. In Madera county he owns some valuable real estate, having twenty-two town lots in Madera, a number of them containing residences, and from the rent of these cottages a steady income is derived.

By his marriage, in California, Mr. Goularte was united with Miss Belle Mallo, a native of Mariposa county, and three children have been born to them, Anna, born in 1895; Marion, born in 1897, and Belle, born in 1901. The family are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Goularte is a member of the I. D. E. S. and U. P. E. C. lodges. He is well known as a farmer of the best type, and one whose individuality and force of character have been felt even in the few short years of his residence in Merced county. In politics he is a Republican.

---

JASPER PARNELL. Among the native-born citizens of California who have spent their lives within its precincts aiding in every possible way its growth and development, whether relating to its agricultural, industrial or financial prosperity, is Jasper Parnell, one of the best known and most highly esteemed residents of Merced county, owning and occupying a ranch near Ingomar. Of pioneer ancestry, he was born November 14, 1853, in Calaveras county, a son of John Parnell.

A native of England, John Parnell grew to manhood in the British Isles, living there until 1846. Immigrating then to the United States, he settled first in Galena, Ill., as a steamboat engineer, but subsequently became a pioneer resident of Wisconsin. Crossing the plains with horse teams in 1850, he located in Calaveras county, Cal., where he followed mining and ranching for a number of years. In 1867 he located on the west side of Stanislaus county, near Grayson, where he took up one hundred and sixty acres of government land, from which he improved a good ranch. As a tiller of the soil he met with unbounded success, and from time to time bought more land, increasing his

estate until he had one thousand acres of land. Far-sighted, capable and practical, he accumulated much wealth, and, on retiring from active pursuits, purchased a residence in Stockton, and also had a beautiful summer home at Pacific Grove, Monterey county, where his death occurred July 28, 1902. He was a man of unblemished character, deeply respected by all, and was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, whose maiden name was Julia Stevens, was born in Cornwall, England and died, January 2, 1903, in Stockton, Cal. She was laid to rest beside her husband, and on the monument that marks the place their son Jasper has had this epitaph carved, "They lived to enjoy this life, and by faith to enjoy Eternity." Of their happy union three boys and one girl were born, Jasper being the second child and the oldest son.

Having completed his early education in the common schools of Calaveras county, Jasper Parnell came with his parents to Stanislaus county, where he assisted his father in improving a homestead, becoming familiar at the same time with the various branches of farming. In 1887 Mr. Parnell bought his present ranch of four hundred and eighty acres, which is advantageously located in Merced county, near Ingomar, and about ten miles south of Newman. He has also other valuable real estate, owning a cattle ranch of four hundred and eighty acres in the mountains, and having a farm equally as large in Stanislaus county, not far from Grayson, where he raises large crops of wheat and barley. On his home farm he makes a specialty of growing alfalfa.

In Stockton, Cal., Mr. Parnell married Cassie Barney, a native of Pennsylvania, and they are the parents of three children, Stella, Harold and Cora. Mr. and Mrs. Parnell live on the home ranch the greater part of the year, although they spend their summers at their home in Pacific Grove, where they enjoy the invigorating sea breezes. Politically Mr. Parnell is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the Woodmen of the World.

---

**WILLIAM T. ALLEN.** As a successful rancher William T. Allen is doing much to advance the agricultural interests of the community about Bakersfield, his forty-acre ranch being located just seven miles west of that city. Empty-handed he came to Kern county less than ten years ago, and with indefatigable energy and perseverance has already established himself among the men whose efforts have counted in the battle of life. A native of Kenton county, Ky., he

was born September 1, 1853, the representative of an old colonial family, and one in which the pioneer element had no little place. The grandfather, Hugh Allen, was a native of Virginia and was one of the first to cross the mountains into Kentucky, in time establishing himself as an extensive farmer and the owner of a large number of slaves in Woodford county, where he lived to an advanced age. He married Hannah Trumbull, who belonged to the family which numbered Governor Trumbull of Ohio among its members. Carey T. Allen, their son and the father of W. T. Allen, of this review, was born in Kentucky and spent his entire life in that state as a farmer, meeting with great success in all his operations, but losing his fortune in later life through security debts. He died at the age of fifty-six years. His wife, formerly Charlotte Cleveland, was born in Kentucky in 1818 and died in 1878, with the exception of a few years in Indiana, having spent her entire life in her native state. She was a member of the Baptist Church.

Of the ten children born to his parents William T. Allen was the sixth in order of birth. He remained at home on the farm until early manhood, when he married and entered into an independent life as a farmer and dairyman. In 1894 he came west to California, where he rented property for four or five years, when he purchased the forty acres which now constitutes his home, located on section 23, township 29, range 26, east, his postoffice being Rosedale. This has become a very valuable piece of property, the land being devoted to the cultivation of alfalfa and grapes, besides which he has a water franchise. In addition to managing his ranch he moves houses and makes considerable money in that way. December 20, 1881, he was united in marriage with his second cousin, Elizabeth Allen, who was born and reared in Kentucky, the daughter of James Trumbull and Louisa (Robertson) Allen. The father was born in Kentucky in 1828, and is now storekeeper and gauger for the government in Kentucky, being hale and hearty, though past seventy-five years. Politically he is a Republican. His wife was a native of New York, her parents being emigrants from Scotland, and he is still living at the age of seventy-two years. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Allen were born two children, namely: Hugh S., now a student in the State University at Berkeley, taking a course in mining engineering; and Louisa Robertson, who is attending the high school of Bakersfield. Politically Mr. Allen is a Democrat and in the interests of his party and the general public as well has served for many years as school trustee. Both himself and wife are members of

the Congregational Church at Rosedale, and both take an active interest in the church and Sunday school. The life of Mr. Allen has been such as to call forth the esteem and respect of all with whom he has come in contact, all honoring him for his energy and perseverance and evident business ability, and for the unswerving integrity which has characterized all his dealings. He is often chosen to fill responsible posts as he well represents the best interests of the people.

---

CAPTAIN NORRIS H. DORSEY. The present postmaster of Delano has come into his rank through meritorious service on the battlefields of the Civil war, and is honored for his patriotism, his even, temperate life, and his example as a painstaking, conscientious and high-minded pioneer. Mr. Dorsey was born in Schuyler county, Ill., July 25, 1835, and on the paternal side is of Irish ancestry, his immigrating forefather having settled in Maryland at a very early day. His grandfather, Azel Dorsey, removed from Maryland to Kentucky, and from the latter state to Schuyler county, Ill., in 1828, and died there at the age of seventy-eight years. He was a noncommissioned officer in the war of 1812. His son, G. G., the father of Captain Dorsey, was born in Kentucky, but reared on the Schuyler county farm, and from Illinois enlisted for service in the Black Hawk war in the same regiment with Abraham Lincoln. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Calvin and Sarah Hobart, who was born in Vermont and settled in Schuyler county with her parents in 1825. The conditions at that time were extremely crude, and her mother was the first white woman at the old military reserve. Her parents came from old New England families, and the father served in the war of 1812, while his father was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Dorsey lived to be forty years old, and left six children, of whom Captain Dorsey was the oldest.

At the age of twenty Captain Dorsey left the Schuyler county farm and removed to Red Wing, Minn., where he attended the Hamlin University, supplementary to his common school and academic education received in Illinois. Eventually he engaged in educational work in Red Wing until the breaking out of the Civil war. He enlisted December 19, 1861, in Company A, Fifth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, as a private, going south with his regiment in the spring of 1862. He participated in many of the famous battles of the Civil war, including Corinth, siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Nashville, Spanish Fort, Blakely and the Red River campaign. For meritorious service he was elevated to the rank of sergeant in the spring of 1862; to that of

second lieutenant in November, 1862; to first lieutenant in the spring of 1863, and to captain in December, 1864.

Returning to Minnesota after the close of the war, Captain Dorsey engaged in farming about four years, and then purchased a mill at Winnebago City, which he operated until coming to California in 1886. Securing a government homestead adjoining the town of Delano, he has since made his home upon it, devoting it to general farm produce. April 1, 1901, he was appointed postmaster, a position maintained by him with distinct credit. He has otherwise served the interests of the Republican party, having served for many years as justice of the peace in Minnesota, and held minor offices in Kern county, this state. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is fraternally connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Dorsey has been a hard working, painstaking man, and deserves all praise for the wise disposition he has made of the opportunities within his reach. He is quiet and unassuming, kindly in manner and judgment, and deeply interested in the welfare of the town of his adoption.

---

PETER BLADT. A skillful and successful agriculturist, thoroughly understanding the details of the different branches of farming, Peter Bladt is actively identified with the development and progression of the industrial interests of Merced county. Residing seven miles south of Newman, he is widely and favorably known as a true citizen in every respect, and has an excellent reputation as a straightforward and upright man. A native of Germany, he was born, January 17, 1854, in Schleswig-Holstein, where his parents, Peter and Elizabeth (Clausen) Bladt, spent their entire lives, being engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The youngest of a family consisting of three sons and five daughters, Peter Bladt received such educational advantages as were afforded in the common schools of his native land. As a boy he began working for wages on a farm, continuing to thus earn his living until 1872, when he emigrated to the United States, locating on an Illinois prairie farm, near Chicago, where he worked for a short time. In 1873 he came to California, and for awhile was employed on a ranch in the Salinas Valley. Coming to the San Joaquin Valley in 1876, Mr. Bladt secured work on a ranch at Crow's Landing, and there continued in his chosen occupation four years. Wise in his savings, and prudent in his expenditures, he had then accumulated sufficient money to warrant him in starting in business on his own ac-



count. Accordingly, in 1880, he rented eight hundred acres of land near Newman, and in the raising of wheat and grain was very successful. Investing the money he thus made in land, Mr. Bladt bought the ranch that he now owns and occupies. It lies about seven miles south of Newman, and contains two hundred and forty acres of land. In its care and cultivation he has been exceedingly prosperous, the land being as rich and fertile as can be found in this part of the county, and has all the buildings and machinery required by a first-class modern agriculturist. He also owns twenty-three acres of alfalfa land lying about three miles from Newman, and leases four hundred and eighty acres adjoining his home ranch, and this he devotes to the raising of wheat.

In Stanislaus county, Cal., Mr. Bladt married Katharin Peterson, who was born in Germany, and into the household thus established two children have been born, namely: Peter, Jr., a carpenter and builder, residing in San Francisco; Anna, at home. The mother of these children died in 1886 near Newman. On March 28, 1888, Mr. Bladt was married to Miss Anna Klemm, also a native of Germany, and a daughter of Frederick and Carolina Klemm, natives of Germany, where they still reside. The present Mrs. Bladt is the mother of three children: Rosa C., Stella H. and Fannie Bladt. Of these, Rosa C. is a student in the Heald's business college in San Francisco. In his political affiliations Mr. Bladt is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.

**CAPT. WILLIAM HENRY PAYSON.** Life on the sea has its attractions for many and by selecting the life of a mariner, Captain Payson not only followed the bent of his ambition but emulated the example of his ancestors. Born October 2, 1836, in the town of Lincolnville, Me., and educated in the common schools of his native state, young Payson, at fourteen, went to sea as cook on a coast vessel. At seventeen he began to learn the art of shipbuilding under his father. Three years later he again took up a sea-faring life. For twenty-seven and one-half years he followed the sea, becoming master of a vessel at twenty-three, and during all this time he met with but one accident and lost but two and a half months' work. He engaged only on vessels on the Atlantic, and in 1883 he discontinued sea life, locating for a brief time in Camden, Me. In the fall of the same year (1883) he took passage for California, arriving November 9. Very soon after his arrival he proceeded to Fresno county, purchased twenty acres of unimproved land on California avenue, three and three-fourths miles from the city of Fresno, and

at once engaged in viticulture. Many fine improvements were made on this place, and he had eighteen acres in vines. In March, 1904, he sold this place and purchased twenty acres adjoining, where he is principally engaged in raising alfalfa, and dairying.

The Payson family is of Scotch, English and German descent, and the great-grandfather of Captain Payson was a brave soldier in America's war for freedom. His son, Noyes Payson, was born in Maine and participated in the war of 1812, in which he was a captain. He died in 1850, at the age of seventy-two years. In tracing the ancestry one generation farther down, we come to the life history of the captain's father, Erastus Foote Payson, born October 8, 1803, in South Hope, Me. As a mechanic of no mean ability, he was successful as a shipbuilder during the active years of his life and had almost rounded out his four score years when cut off by death, in April, 1883. By his marriage he was united with Caroline Gilkey, who was born at Long Island, Me., December 17, 1811, a daughter of John Gilkey, a native of Massachusetts. Her father, who was a seaman, removed from the Bay State to Long Island, Me., and followed a sea-faring life until he was fifty years old, when he turned his attention to farm pursuits.

Being the fourth child in a family of nine children born to his parents, William H. Payson is one of only two survivors. His sister, Fidelia C., widow of the late F. C. Hastings, is a resident of Massachusetts. The beloved mother died in 1886, at the home of her daughter in South Framingham, Mass. The marriage of Captain Payson was solemnized June 17, 1866, in Connecticut, when he was united with Frances Caroline Gould, born March 31, 1839, in Camden, Me. They have reared three daughters, all residing in Fresno. They are Caroline E., wife of J. A. Webster; Adeline G.; and Lucy R., wife of F. W. Gregory. Fraternally, Captain Payson affiliates with but one secret society, holding a membership in St. Paul Lodge No. 82, F. & A. M., of Rockport, Me. In politics, he is independent in both local and national issues.

**THEODORE ANDERSON.** The thorough knowledge which Theodore Anderson possesses of the millwright's and machinist's trades admirably qualifies him to discharge the varied responsibilities of his present position as head miller for the Sperry Milling Company of Fresno. During the period of his connection with this company he has risen, by successive promotions, and in recognition of his mastery of the milling business, from a humble position to one of trust. He is of Swedish birth and ancestry and was

born at Wadstena, on Lake Wetter, in the southern part of that country, December 12, 1868. He learned the millwright's trade under the painstaking instruction of his father, John Anderson, a machinist and millwright, who through much of his active life has engaged in the flour milling industry, but at this writing, and for some time past, has been interested in the stone business.

At the time of coming to America in 1888 Mr. Anderson had acquired the complete acquaintance with his trade which is the custom in the land of his birth. Every detail of millwrighting was carefully explained to him, in order that he might be fitted for reliable work in the occupation. For a few months after his arrival in the United States he worked in Massachusetts, but during the same year came to California, joining his uncle, Axel Carlson, in Fresno, where he has since made his home. At the time of his arrival he could find no position in a mill, so temporarily took up other work pending a vacancy that would furnish him a suitable opportunity to prove his skill as a millwright and machinist. After working for some years in planing mills and warehouses, in 1897 he was taken into the employ of the Sperry Flour Company, being at first given a very humble position, but rising step by step by force of industry and good workmanship. In July of 1903 he was placed in charge of the mill, and in November of the same year was appointed head miller of the Fresno mills, the largest in the San Joaquin valley, operated by electric power and having a capacity of three hundred and fifty barrels each twenty-four hours. In his native land he was trained in the Lutheran faith, and still adheres to the religion of his forefathers. Since coming to Fresno he has become a naturalized citizen of the United States, and a supporter of the Republican party, voting for its men and measures both in local and general elections. Movements for the benefit of the workmen receive his co-operation and support, particularly the Fraternal Brotherhood, of which he is an active member. His wife, whom he married in Fresno, bore the maiden name of Edna Johnson, and, like himself, is a native of Sweden.

CHRISTIAN BACHTOLD has been particularly interested in the culture of cereals in Fresno county for the past eighteen years, especially in the region of Selma, his home, having purchased in 1886 the Valley View flouring mills, which he improved, changed into a roller mill, and has operated ever since, giving it the name of the Selma flouring mill. This mill manufactures several choice brands of flour, and the output—seventy barrels per day of twenty-four hours—is shipped principally to the nearby mar-

kets. An expert miller of broad experience, Mr. Bachtold has made a life work of this business, which he learned in his native country, Switzerland, and after immigrating to America, he followed his trade in New York, San Francisco, Portland, and in other cities. Although he first came to California in 1874, it was not until twelve years later that he took up his residence in Fresno county, where he now ranks among her most prosperous and well-to-do business men.

Born January 20, 1853, in the canton of Schaffhausen, Switzerland, Mr. Bachtold is the second in a family of twelve children born to Casper and Verena (Myer) Bachtold, both of whom were also natives of the above named canton. Of their children, ten were sons and two daughters, and of these five sons and one daughter left their native land for a home in the United States. The father was a manufacturer of tools for the greater part of his life, but his declining years were spent in farm pursuits. Both he and his wife are now deceased, the latter having passed away in 1880, aged about fifty-six years, and the death of Mr. Bachtold occurring in August, 1903. He was a very successful man, financially and otherwise.

Educated in the common schools of Switzerland, Christian Bachtold, at the age of sixteen, became apprenticed at flour milling on the border line between Germany and Switzerland, at a place called Stulingen, in Baden. At eighteen he went to Geneva, and spent one year as miller in a large mill there, subsequently going to Germany and working in the same capacity until 1873 at Speirr, Bavaria.

In April, 1873, Mr. Bachtold started on his way to America, and the first year of his residence in this country was spent at his trade in Syracuse, N. Y., the trip to California being made in December of the following year. After spending one week in San Francisco he proceeded to Portland, Ore., and for three months followed milling in that city, but in May, 1875, returned to San Francisco. The following two years were spent as a miller in the employ of George P. McNear in his mills at Petaluma, but on New Year's day, 1878, Mr. Bachtold tendered his resignation in order to accept a more lucrative situation in Winnemucca, Nev., and there he followed milling until 1886.

In addition to his milling interests, Mr. Bachtold is largely interested in various other enterprises in this section, being an advocate of expansion. He is vice-president of the First National Bank of Selma, and vice-president and director of the Selma water works. He served as town trustee for eight years, being chosen to fill that office March 15, 1893, and for four years he officiated as chairman of the board. He is also interested in the oil development of the



San Joaquin valley, being president of the Hico Oil Company, which has a number of paying wells at Coalinga. In fraternal circles Mr. Bachtold affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias of Selma. His political preferences are given to the Republican party, and he is among the most active politicians of his locality, having served upon various occasions as delegate to the county and state conventions. By his marriage in Selma, in 1888, he was united with Mrs. Libbie Hartman, a native of Indiana, and they have one child, John C., who is a student in the public school.

---

**SAMUEL A. SMITH.** Among the substantial and successful dairy farmers of Merced county is Samuel A. Smith, a well-known and highly respected resident of Los Banos, his ranch lying half a mile from the city limits. A pioneer settler, having the distinction of being the longest established resident of the west side, he has been very prominent in the upbuilding of this section of the county, having been especially active in advancing the educational and moral welfare of the community in which he resides. Laboring with zeal and earnest purpose in his efforts to improve his estate, he has acquired an excellent reputation as an intelligent and skillful agriculturist, and as a most capable and prosperous business man. A son of the late Lewis Smith, he was born, February 14, 1839, near Rock Island, Ill., where he lived until two years old. In 1841 he was taken by his parents to Winnebago county, Ill., where he obtained his early education, attending the district schools. In 1856 his parents became pioneers of Fayette county, Iowa, where he assisted his father in clearing a homestead.

Leaving home in 1862, Samuel A. Smith crossed the plains to California, hoping in this genial climate to easier obtain a living from the soil. After living a year in Yolo county, he removed to Solano county, where he was engaged in general farming for several seasons. Locating in Merced county, on the west side, in October, 1868, Mr. Smith pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land on section twenty-three, township ten, range ten, and has since resided there, the north line of his ranch being but one-half a mile from the present limits of Los Banos. He subsequently purchased an adjoining tract of one hundred and sixty acres, after which he added thirty-six acres of land lying near by, enlarging his estate to three hundred and fifty-six acres. A part of this land Mr. Smith has since disposed of, having divided one hundred and sixty acres of it among four of his sons, giving to each forty acres of land,

on which the individual owners are raising alfalfa in large quantities. Mr. Smith has now one hundred and ninety-six acres of valuable land in his home ranch, the larger part of which he devotes to alfalfa, and is extensively engaged in dairying, keeping over two hundred head of stock, the business at the present time being under the management of his son, Charles P. Smith, of whom a sketch appears on another page of this work. He has made noteworthy improvements on his place, having the land all under irrigation, and furnished with a substantial set of farm buildings.

In Iowa, in 1860, Mr. Smith married Nancy Dollarhide, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of John Dollarhide, who came to California in pioneer days, settling on the Sacramento river. Mrs. Smith passed to the life beyond in 1879, leaving seven children, namely: Oscar, Jasper, Grant, Frank, Charles P., Alice and Amanthus. The sons are all successfully engaged in farming on the west side. Politically Mr. Smith is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Democratic party, and for many years rendered good service as justice of the peace. He was a member of the school board of the first district, and helped build the first schoolhouse on the west side. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a prominent and leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is now chairman of its board of trustees.

---

**ANDREW P. JENSEN.** Among the active and prosperous residents of Newman, no one is better known to the general public than Andrew P. Jensen, the genial and popular proprietor and landlord of the Farmers' Hotel. A man of energetic temperament, and good business ability, he has succeeded well in his undertakings, and is well deserving of the respect and confidence so universally accorded him. A son of James H. Jensen, he was born November 10, 1867, in Ringkjøbing, a seaport town of Denmark, located on the west coast of the peninsula of Jutland.

Also a native of Ringkjøbing, James H. Jensen has been a life-long resident of that place, being now a hale and hearty man of seventy years, residing on the home farm. He is a man of sterling worth, and a member of the Lutheran Church. His wife, whose maiden name was Elsie M. Petersen, was born, lived and died in Ringkjøbing. Of their seven children, three are living, Andrew P. being the only son. One daughter, Mrs. Paulsen, is also a resident of Newman.

Bred to agricultural pursuits, Andrew P. Jensen obtained his early education in the common

schools, remaining at home until becoming of age. Emigrating to America, he located in Newman, Cal., May 29, 1889, and for six years worked on a ranch in this vicinity. Going to San Francisco in 1895, he learned the barber's trade, and subsequently opened a barber's shop in Newman, on Front street, where he carried on a successful business until 1900. Giving up his trade in that year, Mr. Jensen leased the Farmers' Hotel, and met with such success in its management that, in 1903, he purchased the entire hotel property, and is now its sole owner and manager. The house is conveniently arranged for regular or transient guests, and all are sure of finding a warm welcome and generous treatment at the hands of the accommodating host, whose highest aim is to please his patrons.

In Newman, Mr. Jensen married Amalia Jacobson, who was born on the Island of Moen, Denmark, and they have three children, namely: Elsie, Clarence M., deceased, and Clara. Fraternally Mr. Jensen belongs to Newman Lodge, I. O. O. F., and to the Danish Lodge. Religiously, true to the faith in which he was reared, he is a Lutheran.

JASPER N. STUHR. To whatever country the Dane transfers his citizenship he brings the qualities of thrift, economy and perseverance that make his native land a power among larger and greater European countries. In the career of Mr. Stuhr in California these traits have been manifested and have made him an influential factor in the commercial growth of Stanislaus county. Varied as are his interests, he maintains a close oversight of all. In Newman, where he has his home and business headquarters, he represents twelve old-line insurance companies, including the Liverpool-London Globe, Home of New York and German-American. Since about 1892 he has acted in the capacity of notary public. As a member of the firm of Williams & Stuhr he negotiates important real estate transfers and handles the Acme colony tract, comprising seven hundred acres of alfalfa land, now laid out in twenty-acre lots. Through his instrumentality was organized the Realty Development Company of Newman and he now acts as president of this important organization, having for its object the growth and prosperity of this part of Stanislaus and Merced counties. To him also belongs the credit of having taken the initiative in the establishment of the first creamery in this vicinity, thereby making the dairy business profitable for farmers of the county.

A resident of California since 1872, Mr. Stuhr was born at Erteberg, on the island of Alsen,

province of Schleswig, Denmark. His father, Joachim H., a native of the same island, and a merchant by occupation, served in the Schleswig-Holstein war of 1848-51, and was a sutler in the army in 1864. He lived to be eighty-four years of age, dying in 1901 at his island home. His wife, who had died there in 1888, bore the maiden name of Dorothea Iversen, and was a daughter of Nicholi Iversen, a farmer and member of a very ancient family of the island. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Stuhr was Christian Stuhr, of German ancestry, and for years engaged in the coasting trade as master of his own vessel. In the family of Joachim H. Stuhr there were eight children, three of whom are living. Jasper N. was born November 5, 1854, and received a grammar school education at Erteberg. When sixteen years of age he went to the island of Lyø, Denmark, where he secured work on a farm. Crossing the ocean to America in 1871, he proceeded direct to Chicago, and the next year came to California. After some four years of work in the lumber yard at Salinas, in 1876 he went to Hill's Ferry, Stanislaus county, where he followed farm pursuits. In 1877 he began to work on the old canal as a section foreman, remaining in the position until 1885. The next year he returned to Denmark and spent a year with old friends, coming back to the San Joaquin valley in 1887 and resuming work on the canal.

Shortly after the founding of the town of Newman Mr. Stuhr in 1888 opened the first lumber yard here, acting as manager for the San Joaquin Lumber Company. For four and one-half years he continued in the same position, retiring when the yard was sold to other parties. His next venture was as real estate agent, in which work he continues to the present time. Under the firm title of J. M. Lathrop & Co. he began in the business, later was alone, and since 1900 has had Mr. Williams as a partner. One of the enterprises which now engages his time is the supervision of fifteen hundred acres lying ten miles southwest of Newman, on which he and his partner are building a canal from the outside canal. Ever since coming to this locality he has been an indefatigable worker for the development of the valley by irrigation and improvement. Realizing the importance of a creamery, he organized the New Era, which was the first creamery started in this locality. While filling the office of secretary he assisted in building the structure utilized by the creamery company for its plant and situated two miles south of Newman. This industry was the nucleus of local creameries and established the dairy business upon a profitable basis for the first time in the history of the region. Later he organized and bought stock in the Acme creamery, three

miles north of Newman, which company he served as secretary. At this writing the shipments from creameries in the vicinity of Newman amount to \$1,000 per day. What this means to the stock raising and business interests of the neighborhood only those familiar with previous conditions can conceive. It has wrought a transformation in the dairy industry and has indirectly promoted other lines of activity. Without doubt no movement has been more productive of benefit to the people of Stanislaus county than the establishment of the creameries here.

The marriage of Mr. Stuhr took place in Salinas, and united him with Miss Annie Kathrine Iversen, a native of Schleswig, Denmark. They are the parents of four children, Christine Dorthea, Alfred J., Jasper N., and Ivy R. As a member of the county central committee and in other ways Mr. Stuhr has been an active worker in the interests of the Democratic party. He holds the office of secretary of the Newman Board of Trade, and is serving his third term as a member of the board of county horticultural commissioners. In his native land he was reared and confirmed in the Lutheran religion, to which he has always adhered. Fraternally he is identified with Dania Lodge, Woodmen of the World, and Hill's Ferry Lodge No. 236, F. & A. M., in which he was made a Mason, and which was transferred to Newman on the founding of this town. No citizen has been more interested than he in the promotion of the welfare of Newman. Through his able service for three years as postmaster, and in many other ways, he has aided the interests of the city and been a contributor to its material progress.

---

JAMES THOMAS DOWLE, M. D. Inspiring his fellowmen with confidence in his superior ability as a physician and surgeon, and winning the faith and esteem of his many patients, James Thomas Dowle, M. D., has built up an extensive and lucrative medical practice in Newman and vicinity, where he has been located since 1893. A son of J. T. Dowle, he was born June 21, 1864, in Kent county, England.

Having obtained a practical common school education, James Thomas Dowle came to California, taking up his residence in San Francisco in 1884. Deciding upon a professional career as the one most suited to his tastes, he entered the Cooper Medical College in 1887, and three years later, in 1890, was graduated from that institution with the degree of M. D. From 1891 until 1892 Dr. Dowle was an interne at the French Hospital in San Francisco, where he made good use of his professional knowledge, and acquired a valuable experience. In Febru-

ary, 1893, he located in Newman, where he has met with distinguished success in his chosen work, attaining a noteworthy position among the leading physicians of the city. In connection with his residence and office, the doctor has built a small sanitarium, which he is managing with great success, devoting to it much of his time and best effort.

Dr. Dowle married Louisa Dahl, who was born in Germany. The doctor cordially endorses the principles of the Republican party, but has never been an aspirant for public office. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons; to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; to the Woodmen of the World; and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

---

ADOLPH DOBRZENSKY. Numbered among the prosperous and respected residents of Newman is Adolph Dobrzensky who, as proprietor of the Vendome Stables, is actively identified with the industrial progress of this section of Stanislaus county. Like many others of California's most enterprising and successful business men, he is of foreign birth, and has brought from his native land those traits of industry, economy and thrift that are the dominant factors in advancing the welfare of our country, and in establishing the prosperity of its people. He was born March 13, 1857, in Posen, Germany, which was likewise the birthplace of both of his parents, Samuel and Minnie (Ries) Dobrzensky.

In 1876 Samuel Dobrzensky emigrated with his family to the United States, settling in San Francisco, where he first found employment in a gas manufactory, and was subsequently engaged for a number of years in teaming. After the death of his wife, he removed to Newman, and now makes his home with his son Adolph, the special subject of this sketch. Of the six children born of his marriage with Minnie Ries, three sons and one daughter are living.

Reared and educated in Germany, Adolph Dobrzensky learned the trade of a brass finisher in San Francisco, serving an apprenticeship in the Union Brass Foundry, in which he worked for eight years. Entering then the employ of James Stot & Co., proprietors of a brass foundry, he did special work for fifteen months, making all of the brass knobs for the Palace Hotel. Subsequently giving up his trade, Mr. Dobrzensky was for fourteen years engaged as a teamster in San Francisco, doing both light and heavy teaming. For two years thereafter he carried on a good business as a real estate dealer. Leaving that city on June 16, 1895, Mr. Dobrzensky located in Newman, where he has since been

actively engaged in the livery business, being proprietor of the Vendome Stables, which are well stocked, and furnished with carriages and vehicles of all kinds.

In Livermore, Cal., Mr. Dobrzensky married Anna Levi, who was born in San Leandro, Alameda county, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Milton and Doris. In politics Mr. Dobrzensky is a supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He is very much interested in Masonry, belonging to Hill's Ferry Lodge No. 236, F. & A. M.; and to the Modesto Chapter No. 49, R. A. M.

---

ST. AUGUSTINE'S ACADEMY. Occupying almost one-half block on Mariposa and R streets lies the academy which, since its establishment, has been recognized as one of the leading educational institutions of Fresno. While its influence has been greatest among those of the Roman Catholic faith, yet it has received students of all denominations and the religious convictions of each has been sacredly respected. Under the capable yet kindly supervision of Sister Florian, superior of the academy for the Sisters of the Holy Cross, connected with the mother house at Notre Dame, Ind., and with the assistance of an efficient corps of instructors, thorough instruction is furnished in all branches of higher education as well as primary classes. The department of art, voice culture and instrumental music, offer advantages that are appreciated by many students. To aid those who may have their own livelihood to earn, stenography, typewriting and bookkeeping are taught, while for the benefit of those whose tastes turn to domestic affairs plain sewing, fancy work and lace work are taught by teachers of experience. To develop natural dignity and noble simplicity of character is the aim of the academy's system of education, and every teacher has this ideal placed before her pupils. Sister Florian and her assistants endeavor to implant in the heart of each student a love for truth and a devotion to duty that will enable them, whether called to high or inconspicuous spheres of life, to wield a helpful and abiding influence on their associates.

Sister Florian is a native of Watertown, Wis., where her parents were pioneers. She completed her education at Notre Dame, Ind., under the oversight of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, to which order her active life has been consecrated. In the fall of 1892 the first steps were taken toward the establishment of an academy at Fresno. During November of that year the Mother-General Augusta of Notre Dame, accompanied by Mother Praxadesse, Sister Florian and Sister Elenore, visited Fresno and founded the academy, which was opened January 5, 1893.

At that time three other teachers were sent as assistants, Sisters Sylvia, Angelita and Lilliosa, none of whom is now connected with the school. As soon as the preliminary arrangements had been completed, the Mother-General returned to Notre Dame and left Sister Florian in charge. At the opening there were only fourteen pupils, but when the term closed, June 15, 1893, the number had been increased to forty. In 1897 property on N street was purchased, to which was moved the old high school building. On the evening of the completion of the remodeling of the structure, it burned to the ground. A building was then rented on N street, where the school remained until October, 1898, and was then moved to Mariposa street, this site having been purchased the preceding February. The residence was remodeled and converted into a building suitable for academy purposes and a new parochial school was built on the adjoining lots, the two institutions now having an attendance of one hundred and seventy-five pupils. While students are in attendance from all parts of the state, the majority of them come from the San Joaquin valley, the institution being best known through this region. Much of the success of the work is due to the faithful, intelligent and tactful labors of Sister Florian, who has abundantly justified the wisdom of the Mother-General in selecting her for this responsible position.

---

JAMES M. DAVIS. In Merced county, Cal., few men hold so important a position as James M. Davis, who since 1890 has been superintendent of the Buhach Plantation, which is without doubt one of the finest plantations in the San Joaquin valley. By his individual efforts Mr. Davis has been instrumental in making this place the pride of Merced county. A descendant of distinguished Virginia ancestors and born July 31, 1839, in Xenia, Ohio, he is the son of John and Catherine (House) Davis, both of whom were natives of Virginia. His father left that state when a young man for a home in Ohio, and was a pioneer settler in Xenia, Greene county. In 1848, accompanied by his family, he went farther west and settled in Missouri, where he again took up a mercantile life, which had been his occupation in the east. Here he became a prominent citizen and served as justice of the peace for a number of years prior to his death, which occurred at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

Being but nine years old when his parents removed to Missouri, J. M. Davis was educated principally in the latter state and remained at the home place until 1859, in the meantime becoming a telegraph operator in Kansas City, Mo. During the excitement following the dis-



covery of gold at Pike's Peak, he left home for that scene of activity, and afterward followed mining in Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Arizona. In 1869 Mr. Davis discontinued mining and came to California, where other occupations engrossed his attention. In Lake county he engaged in the saw-milling business for a time, and afterward built a saw-mill in Sonoma county, following that business for eleven years near Middletown.

In 1880 Mr. Davis turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and during that year he took the contract of planting the Olivina vineyard, in Alameda county. Two years later he planted the big vineyard at Folsom, one of the largest in the state, and from 1886 to '88 he had charge of various vineyards in Napa county. By this time, having gained a reputation as a successful vineyardist, he received a call to become superintendent of the Buhach Plantation, which he accepted, assuming the numerous duties of this position in 1890.

Mr. Davis has been twice married, his first marriage, in Idaho, in 1865, uniting him with Amerette Holly, who died in 1880, leaving three children to the care of her husband, namely: Katie, Amy and Walter. In 1882 Mr. Davis again married, being united with Susan Patterson, a native of California and a daughter of the late M. G. Patterson, who left North Carolina in 1846. He served under General Fremont during the Mexican war and was wounded. Mrs. Patterson survives her husband and resides with Mr. and Mrs. Davis. She is a native of Tennessee, and to her belongs the distinction of being the first white woman to live in Livermore, Alameda county, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have one son, Frank P., who is a student at St. Matthews Academy. Politically Mr. Davis is an unswerving Democrat. As superintendent of the Buhach ranch his position is one of importance, and in connection with a sketch of his life a brief description of this prominent ranch is herewith appended.

**THE BUHACH PLANTATION.** Generally conceded to be one of the finest and most productive as well as one of the most extensive ranches in the San Joaquin valley, this plantation is conveniently located on the main line of the Southern Pacific Railway, six miles west of Merced and one mile east of Atwater. It is owned by J. D. Peters, of Stockton, Cal., and comprises twelve hundred acres, one thousand acres being under irrigation. The entire place, which is well kept, is a delight to the eye, being completely surrounded by magnificent poplar and umbrella trees. Under the efficient management of J. M. Davis, who is assisted by J. F. Peters, the place

furnishes employment for from thirty to one hundred and fifty men, according to the season. Seven hundred acres are in vineyards of both wine and table grapes, the latter varieties being shipped to the northern and eastern states. An extensive winery and distillery are located upon the plantation and a number of fine port wines and brandies are made. One hundred and fifty acres are devoted to raising sweet potatoes, so profitably grown throughout the Buhach Colony; fifty acres are in orchards and contain choice varieties of peaches, pears and plums; and eighty acres are in almonds.

But it is from the cultivation of pyrethrum, to which two hundred acres of this place is planted, that this plantation as well as the entire colony adjacent have come into prominence, for from this flower is made the famous Persian powder known as "Buhach," from which the plantation and colony derive their name. This flower in appearance resembles the chrysanthemum; the plants are placed in rows four feet apart and the plants eighteen inches apart in the rows. It is harvested with the old-fashioned sickle, the flowers stripped from the stems by iron fingers. After being thoroughly dried they are sent to Stockton, where the whole is ground into powder and put up in packages, being then sent for sale to all parts of the world. This powder is said to be deadly to insects, bugs, flies, etc., but is harmless to human beings and it commands a good price, the sales being enormous. Twenty-five tons of Buhach is raised on this plantation each year. The expert manner in which the whole place is managed reflects great credit on the untiring efforts of Mr. Davis.

**ELMER JEWETT FARR.** The family represented by Mr. Farr, a well-known contractor and builder of Fresno, was established in New England during the colonial period. Both of his grandfathers, James Farr (a blacksmith) and Chester Goodrich, were lifelong residents of Vermont, and his parents, L. B. and Clarissa (Goodrich) Farr, were natives of the same state, the former born in Rutland county, the latter near Middlebury. After having followed general farm pursuits for some years in Vermont and New York, about 1863 L. B. Farr settled in Marshall county, Iowa, and took up a tract of wild land eight miles from Marshalltown, where in the course of time, by untiring industry, he transformed a half section of wild acreage into a finely improved farm. While he still conducts farm pursuits, he now makes his home in Cherokee county, Iowa. His entire family, consisting of wife and six children, are still living. Of the children Elmer J., who was next to the youngest, is the only one on the Pacific coast.

He was born near Stockholm, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., April 27, 1862, and in infancy was taken to Iowa, where his earliest recollections are of the home farm with its frontier surroundings.

When eighteen years of age Mr. Farr began to work at the carpenter's trade in Grinnell, Iowa, and after a year was made foreman of work in Aurelia, Iowa. Another year found him in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., and Sioux City, Iowa, in which latter place he took up the work of a contractor and builder, which he has successfully followed for many years. Prior to this he was foreman on the Minnehaha county court house at Sioux Falls, also as contractor erected Banker Bailey's residence. Among his contracts in Iowa were the Lindholm Block, and residences of Thomas Green and A. C. Stephens in Sioux City. Coming to California in the fall of 1895, he spent the winter in Stockton and during the spring of 1896 settled in Fresno, where he was first employed by the Santa Fe Railroad Company as division foreman in charge of the round-house, carworks and engines. This position he filled until 1899, and then resigned in order to start in the building business, his first work in that capacity being as foreman for F. J. Stone. In 1902 he took up contracting and building. Among the buildings which he has had in charge are the residence on Butler avenue owned by Fred Dow, William Kennedy's house, and the remodeling of the residence owned by Thomas Patterson.

While living in Sioux City, Iowa, Mr. Farr married Carrie Hamsher, who was born in Wisconsin. They, with their two children, Forest and Vida, reside at No. 519 L street. The family are identified with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In matters political Mr. Farr has always given his support to the Republican party, but his interest in such matters is wholly that of a private citizen, not an office-seeker. In addition to being a member of the Woodmen of the World he has fraternal relations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, into which he was initiated at Sioux Falls, but is now a member and past noble grand of Central California Lodge No. 343, at Fresno.

**EDWARD H. HOFFMAN.** Closely allied with the industrial and business interests of Los Banos is Edward H. Hoffman, the pioneer plumber and tinsmith of this section of Merced county. He is a man of practical energy and judgment, taking an active part in advancing the welfare of the community in which he resides, and of which he is an esteemed member. A native-born Californian, his birth occurred March 14, 1864, in Alamo, Contra Costa county,

a son of H. Hoffman. A brief account of his parents and immediate ancestors may be found on another page of this volume, in connection with the sketch of James J. Sweeney.

After completing his early studies in the public schools of Alamo, Mr. Hoffman learned the blacksmith trade with William Snyder, at Dutch Corner. Going then to Stockton, he worked for a year in the sash and blind factory of White & Thomas, after which he returned home and the succeeding year engaged in the cattle business on the Aqua Frea ranch. Not content with that occupation, he went to San Francisco, where he entered the employ of J. T. Farrell, with whom he served an apprenticeship of three years at the plumber's and tinsmith's trade. Thoroughly equipped for the business in which he was to enter, Mr. Hoffman went directly to Los Banos to establish himself as a plumber and tinsmith, being the first of his trade to locate here. Erecting his present establishment in June, 1890, he has since resided here, and in the time that has elapsed has built up an extensive and lucrative business. He is agent for the Pacific Pump and Windmill Company of San Francisco, and in this line of industry, also, does a great deal of work, his business extending up and down the west side of the valley.

In his political views Mr. Hoffman is a zealous advocate of the principles of the Democratic party. Fraternally he belongs to Los Banos Lodge No. 312, F. & A. M. He was a charter member of Santa Rita Parlor, N. S. G. W., belonging to it until it disbanded.

**MRS. ETTA MOORE SOPER** has long been known in Merced county in the realms of education, art, and dairying. In the former capacity in particular her name is associated with continuous effort to maintain a high standard, and probably no other woman in the county has exerted a broader or more practical influence toward this end. Before her marriage Mrs. Soper was Etta Moore; she was born in Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., and reared in Washington county, Vt., whither her parents removed when she was a child. Her father, Samuel Moore, was born in England. Mrs. Soper's father died when she was a child, as did also her mother, whose maiden name was Pray, and who was of Scotch-Irish descent. She was the mother of six children, four of whom are living, the oldest son, Truman, having died at Alexander, Va., as a member of a Vermont regiment.

Mrs. Soper was educated in the public schools and at Godard Seminary, at Barre, Vt., working her way through the latter institution by teaching, which she began at the age of fifteen. Continuing to teach in Washington county, Vt., until



1885, she then came to Merced county and taught in the school at old Central Point for a year, since then teaching in different schools in the county for eight years. Having always a predilection for country life, she became the owner of a thirty-eight-acre ranch in 1892, and has in the meantime converted its bare and wild aspect into one of beauty and usefulness. Her residence, barns and general buildings, her orchard and garden, bespeak the care and painstaking methods which characterize her life, and more especially her courage in the face of discouraging obstacles. In 1899 her house was burned to the ground, and her library, paintings, and treasures, became things of the past. Her land is all under alfalfa, and she is engaged in dairying. Mrs. Soper is gifted in art, having a comprehensive knowledge of the work and methods of the principal masters whose genius has embellished the world, and she is apt in expressing in oils and crayons both animals and landscapes. She is a member of the Universalist Church. Her farm is located a mile and a half southeast of Los Banos. Mrs. Soper's intellectual qualities have not eliminated the traits most desirable and lovable in women. She is popular with her friends, numbering them among the best people in the county.

**FRANK J. BURLEIGH.** Descended from an old Massachusetts family of English extraction, Frank J. Burleigh of Fresno was born at Hill, N. H., February 25, 1848, being a son of J. M. and Harriet N. (Privier) Burleigh, also natives of New Hampshire. His maternal grandfather, Joseph Privier, for years carried on a farm in New Hampshire, but finally removed to Illinois, and died at Buda, Bureau county. In the days when agitation was keen concerning the fate of Kansas as a free or slave state, J. M. Burleigh in 1854 went to that region for the purpose of giving his support to the anti-slavery side. Settling at Lawrence, he opened the old Free State hotel, the first inn kept there, his guests being entertained in a rude but comfortable sod building, with a thatched roof. In 1855 he removed to Deep creek, Wabunsee county, where he entered land and improved a farm. After ten years on that place he changed his place of residence to Manhattan, and later engaged in stock-raising and farming on the head of Timber creek, in the northwestern part of Riley county. During the period before the Civil war he was a leading abolitionist of his section. Politically a Republican, he served as postmaster and as justice of the peace while living in Kansas. During 1874 he came to California and bought property in Fresno, where he made his home until he died at seventy-two years of age. In religion

he was connected with the Christian Church. His wife, who is now (1904) seventy-nine years of age, makes her home with members of her family in Fresno county. Of her six children four are living, all in Fresno county, namely: Frank J.; Frederick L., a stockman and vineyardist; Howard E., who owns stock and vineyard interests, and at this writing holds the office of county supervisor; and Mrs. Sarah McNeil.

When six years of age Frank J. Burleigh was taken to Kansas by his parents. The state being then a frontier region, he had no advantages of an educational or social nature, and the knowledge he has acquired represents his unaided exertions. In 1868 he enlisted in Company M, Nineteenth Kansas Cavalry, with Captain Moody and Colonel Moore, and after having been mustered into service at Topeka was sent in pursuit of the Cheyenne Indians, taking part in the battle against them on the Washita river. Supplies were exhausted while the regiment was at the front, far from the commissary headquarters or from any town where relief could be secured. For fourteen days the twelve hundred soldiers subsisted on wild berries and the meat from one buffalo. A train with supplies was sent to their relief at Wichita, but failed to reach them, so that three days' government rations was all the provisions they had for twenty-one days. After six months of service the regiment was mustered out in the spring of 1869, at Port Hayes, Kans. On this expedition General Custer was in command of the Nineteenth, as well as the old Seventh United States Cavalry.

During 1867-68 Mr. Burleigh was employed in the building of the Kansas Pacific railroad through the frontier regions of Kansas. In 1872 he married Mary A. Harris, a resident of Riley county, Kans., and a native of England, being a daughter of John Harris. The latter brought his family to America when his daughter was five months old and settled in Illinois, but later went to Kansas, and from there to California, his death occurring in Fresno. The two children of Mr. and Mrs. Burleigh are Charles M. and Harriet, the wife of Walter C. Penn of Fresno. Charles M. is a graduate of the Fresno Business College and now engaged with his father in the stock and grain business. Two years after his marriage Mr. Burleigh sold his stock ranch in Kansas and came to California. For a time he was with Donahue & Glass, who owned what was one of the first lumber mills in Fresno county, near Pine Ridge. While working there he always made Fresno his home. In 1879 he embarked in the warehouse and lumber business on H street, between Tulare and Kern, and continued

there until selling out in 1885. In 1889 he built a warehouse 60x250 feet, on G street, and the following year erected a brick building adjoining, 60x150, for the storage of raisins and fruits. The old warehouse has been utilized for grain and barley, and has a capacity of ten thousand tons. In addition, a large business is conducted in the buying and shipping of cattle, sheep and hogs, some of the latter having been sent to Honolulu. The Fresno Meat Company, incorporated in 1903, consists of himself and son as stockholders and directors. Besides the varied business interests which he manages he superintends his orchard of twenty acres one mile north of the city, as well as other valuable property which he owns in Fresno. Though not a partisan, he is a staunch Republican, and always supports the party in whose faith he was reared. Through his membership in the Chamber of Commerce he has given his influence to movements of benefit to Fresno, whose rise to a position as a recognized center of a great fruit growing industry is a source of profound satisfaction to him as well as to all progressive citizens. In fraternal matters he is connected with and a charter member and one of the organizers of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

---

ANDREAS OTTO. Unusual interest attaches to the name of Andreas Otto, for it was he who built the first mill in the United States for the manufacture of sugar, and, although many attempts had previously been made, he was the first successfully to manufacture sugar from the beet. His knowledge of the refining and making of sugar was gained in Germany, where for seventeen and one-half years he engaged in the business near Magdeburg on the river Elbe. He was born near that city May 6, 1825, being a son of Peter and Maria Sophia Otto, natives of Germany, where the former was interested in general farming and the stock business. At the age of eighteen Andreas Otto entered a sugar-mill near his home for the purpose of learning the business, which he studied in every department, finally becoming foreman and superintendent of the plant. At the time of the revolution of 1848 he entered the German army and for three years served as a soldier, returning to the mill at the expiration of his service.

On coming to the United States in 1867 Mr. Otto settled at Fond du Lac, Wis., where he lived in a block house and built a crude mill, which was the first of its kind in the country. Sixteen acres of his land was under sugar beets, which he used in the manufacture of

sugar. People ridiculed his enthusiasm on the subject of sugar beets, and declared his mill would be a failure. One old man, in particular, scoffed at the idea of making sugar out of beets. After the season's crop was harvested he manufactured some sugar. When the old man came he was shown the product, and on tasting found it excellent. Not knowing it was beet sugar, he asked where it had been purchased. His surprise was great on being assured that it was a product of beets. At first he was incredulous, but finally was convinced that he had tasted genuine beet sugar. The success of the mill became known elsewhere. Papers contained glowing accounts of the manufacturer's success in the new industry. As a consequence he received letters of inquiry from all parts of the United States asking for information concerning his methods of making sugar.

Upon the solicitation of people in California who were interested in the manufacture of sugar, Mr. Otto was induced to come west in 1870. Messrs. Flint, Dyer, Hutchinson and others formed a company and built at Alvarado the first mill in California. For five years Mr. Otto had charge of this plant. At the expiration of that time it was removed to Santa Cruz and rebuilt on a larger scale, with a capacity of fifty tons of beets per day. As manager he remained in Santa Cruz for five years, but during the entire time there was constant dissension among the stockholders, which finally resulted in the disintegration of the corporation. In 1880 Mr. Otto was engaged by Claus Spreckels to go to the Sandwich Islands, where he built a sugar mill at Paahau, and engaged in the manufacture of sugar from cane. The mill had a large capacity, and was successfully operated. During the period of his residence there, in 1882, he invented and patented a machine for saving the sugar from the waste scum that had been turned into the ocean previously. By reason of this new machinery the mill was enabled to turn out more sugar from the same amount of cane than any other mill on the island. He also built tanks to hold the syrup so the sugar that theretofore had been wasted would become crystallized and saved. His patent covered only ten years, and therefore brought him little financial profit, but he has the satisfaction of knowing that it is now in universal use to the benefit of all sugar refiners.

After six years on the Sandwich Islands, Mr. Otto returned to California. In 1882 he had purchased eighty acres on what is now East avenue, four and one-half miles from Fresno, and in 1886 he settled on the place, which has since been his home. All of the improvements now noticeable here are the result of his energy and careful oversight. It was his ambition to make

of the property one of the most valuable in all of this section, and in this hope he has not been disappointed. The residence that he erected is a comfortable and attractive abode. Orchards and vineyard have been set out, and through an excellent system of irrigation have been made to bear abundant harvests. A special feature of the estate is the dairy industry, for the management of which he has a steam pumping and cooling plant. Of recent years he has rented the place to his son, Ewald R. Otto, who is profitably conducting the dairy business. While living in Germany Mr. Otto married Miss Elizabeth Elise Wienbeck, a native of the same province as himself. They became the parents of eight children, five of whom are living, namely: Emil F., who is connected with the packing house in Fresno; Emma, wife of George Noble, of Visalia; Bertha, who married Thomas Givens; Rosa, Mrs. George W. Cartwright; and Ewald R., who rents the home place.

---

**FAUSTINO M. NORIEGA.** Among the men who have made possible the enormous sheep raising business in Kern county, none stands higher in the public regard than F. M. Noriega, for many years a trusted employe of Miller & Lux, extensive sheep and cattle ranchers, and since identified with the buying and selling of sheep and the purchasing and improving of country and town property. It is doubtful if any man in Kern county is a better judge of the animals who contribute so generously to the making of western fortunes, for during his active life he has purchased many herds of sheep, often paying as high as \$30,000 a herd. He has made a practical study of the habits and conditions under which sheep are best cared for, and the fact that he is a pioneer in this line of industry, and has watched with keen interest its development up to the present time, gives special weight to his judgment and opinion.

As his name implies, Mr. Noriega is a Spaniard, and was born in Santander, Spain, February 15, 1856. At the age of fifteen he left his parents' home and became errand boy in a near-by city, but when tired of this work came to California in 1872, his choice of location being influenced by the fact that his god-father, Vincent Noriega, lived in Tulare county. The journey here was an event to the untraveled boy, and consumed many weeks, for he immigrated first to New York, and from there came to the coast by way of the Isthmus of Panama, reaching San Francisco October 4, 1872. His first experience of importance was not calculated to impress him favorably with his adopted country, for upon stepping off the train at Oakland he broke his ankle. Recovering, he was taken by

friends to Visalia, where he worked with his cousin at sheep herding, and in time managed to save enough money to take up land on his own responsibility. He became identified with the Kern County Land Company as a sheep driver in 1879, later being advanced to the position of foreman for the same company. In 1882 he began to work for Miller & Lux, and was foreman of the ranch until 1893. During that time his operations as buyer and seller were conducted on a large scale, and he had from thirty to forty men under his charge. That his services were satisfactory in the extreme is evident from the fact that he remained in the same employment for eleven years.

In December, 1893, Mr. Noriega came to Kern and erected the Ivoria hotel, for which he was obliged to borrow \$3,500, and which he himself operated successfully until leasing the same in 1901. He has also erected the new brick Hotel Pyrenees costing \$9,000, and besides, is the owner of other houses and property in the town. His interest in sheep is in no way abated, for he is half owner of a herd of eight thousand, which in winter are grazed in this county, but are driven to Nevada for the summer season.

February 14, 1893, Mr. Noriega married Louise Inda, a native of France, and the mother of three children: Martha Lena, Julia and Christian. Through all of his varied experiences Mr. Noriega has preserved a genial temperament, and has never lost track of the innate courtesy and consideration of his race. He is high minded in the extreme, and a public-spirited citizen to whom his townsmen look for support in all efforts at general municipal improvement.

---

**SAMUEL ALEXANDER MOOREHEAD.** For more than forty years a citizen of the glorious state of California, Mr. Moorehead, during his long and eventful life covering a space of seventy-one years, has followed diversified occupations, but the main occupation in which the greater part of his hopes have been centered is agricultural pursuits, with kindred branches; this line of work still claims his attention on his beautiful home place five miles west of Crows Landing. Here he has a fine ranch of two hundred and six acres of choice land, devoted to general farm pursuits, but principally to raising wheat and barley. In addition to this he owns two hundred and forty acres near his homestead.

Born January 10, 1833, in Greenbrier county, West Va., Samuel A. Moorehead is a son of John Moorehead. His education commenced in his native state and was continued in Iowa, whither his parents had removed with the family in 1850. They located on a farm in Louisa county and in

this vicinity Mr. Moorehead began farm pursuits on his own behalf. In 1863 he was induced to start for California, crossing the plains behind horse-teams and stopping for a short time at Carson City. In December of the same year he reached Marysville, Cal., remaining there also but a short time. In January, the year following, he began teaming to and from the mines hauling freight. This occupation, although somewhat hazardous, was a paying business and he followed it up to the time of his marriage, in 1868, afterward working in a sawmill.

It was in the fall of 1869 that Mr. Moorehead took one hundred and sixty acres of land among the foothills in the San Joaquin valley. This land is located near the present home of Mr. Moorehead, along Crow creek, in Stanislaus county and here for years Mr. Moorehead followed ranching pursuits. By a subsequent purchase, eighty acres of additional land were added and Mr. Moorehead still owns this fine ranch, which now contains two hundred and forty acres. In 1889 he removed to his home place, which he purchased at that time and upon it he has lived ever since. His land is very productive, but with the aid of his combination harvester, he is enabled to handle the harvest easily.

April 8, 1868, in Placerville, Cal., Mr. Moorehead married Alice Morgan, who was born in Ireland, but who accompanied a brother to New York and afterward to California. Of the six children born of this union, three are deceased. They are Alexander, Etta and Walter. Those living are Rena, now Mrs. Charley Carver; Lee, who resides at the home site; and Fannie, now Mrs. Gilbert Ostrum, a resident of Knights Ferry, Cal. A Democrat in his political views, Mr. Moorehead has been useful to his party in many ways, and he has served many years as school director, being largely interested in the educational affairs of his locality. Fraternally he is a Mason, joining the order in Truckee, this state.

---

**GEORGE FEAVER.** A well-known and successful fruit-grower and vineyardist of Fresno county, George Feaver is located on his eighty-acre ranch in the Fowler district, eight and a half miles southeast of the city of Fresno. A native of England, he was born in 1838, and there remained for many years, earning his livelihood among the more or less hampering conditions of a thickly peopled country. He was forty-seven years old when he decided upon emigration to the western world, in 1883 crossing the ocean and seeking a new home for his family. California was his destination, and on his arrival here he settled in Fresno county, in Washington col-

ony purchasing land upon which he remained for three years. He then moved to the Fowler district, and in 1902 he removed to his present location and is now devoting his energies to the cultivation of raisin grapes and fruit of various kinds. Though having nearly reached the biblical allotment of years he is still active and energetic, and takes a keen interest in the supervision of his affairs.

Mr. Feaver married Ellen Andrews, a native of Wells, England, and they are the parents of ten children, namely: George, who is the superintendent of the Scott vineyard; Ethel, who married F. L. Bennetts; May, who married Charles Bennetts; Ernest; Lillian; Claude; Cecil; Morris; John; and Helen. In his political convictions Mr. Feaver is an adherent of the principles of the Republican party.

---

**HENRY L. KUNS.** One of the most prominent, enterprising and thrifty agriculturists of the San Joaquin valley is Henry L. Kuns, a man of strict integrity and high moral character, and one of the most respected and valued citizens of Merced county. In his agricultural work he displays excellent ability and skill, his farm, lying near Ingomar, being in a good state of cultivation and well improved. A son of David Kuns, he was born, November 19, 1847, in Cass county, Ind. His grandfather, John Kuns, was born and reared in Pennsylvania, but when a young man removed to Ohio, and later to Carroll county, Ind., from there going to Illinois, where he spent his closing years. In his religious faith he was a Dunkard, having inherited his beliefs from his ancestors, who were among the pioneers of that denomination in the United States.

A native of Ohio, David Kuns was born in Dayton, in 1820, on a farm, and when six years of age accompanied his parents to their new home in Carroll county, Ind. Until after his marriage he continued a resident of that state, living in Cass county until 1853. In that year he migrated to Illinois. Coming to California in 1890, he is now living retired from active pursuits in Los Angeles. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Lamb, was born in Virginia, the descendant of a family of prominence, her birth having occurred in 1828.

The only child of his parents, Henry L. Kuns received the rudiments of his education in the common schools of Illinois, after which he was graduated from the Monticello, Ill., high school, and for two years continued his studies at Wabash College, in Crawfordsville, Ind. Under his father's careful training he acquired a good knowledge of the science of agriculture while still



young, and was subsequently employed in various branches of industry in Illinois, having been an engineer, a merchant, a nurseryman, a grocer and grain dealer and for three years a farmer. Migrating to California in 1878, Mr. Kuns purchased land in Gilroy, and for several years carried on a substantial business in general farming, his large orchard and nursery also bringing in good returns. In 1892 Mr. Kuns assumed possession of the large ranch of five thousand acres which he had previously purchased in Merced county, lying near Ingomar, and ten miles south of Newman. Here he has continued his agricultural labors with characteristic success, making noteworthy improvements on the place, among them a large pumping plant, furnished with water from wells. He has fourteen hundred acres under canal and three hundred acres in alfalfa, a profitable crop, which he increases each year, while the remainder of his grain land is devoted to wheat. In his orchard of sixty acres, the only one in the vicinity, he raises almonds, apples, peaches, prunes and pears, all of which yield well in this climate.

Mr. Kuns married, in Ohio, Marv Pearce, a native of that state, and they have five children, namely: Henry A., a civil engineer; Margaret, wife of W. Williams, of Lordsburg; Lena, wife of John Nenr; David, living at home; and Ora, at home. Politically Mr. Kuns is an active worker in the Prohibition party, and has served as a delegate to the national conventions. Religiously he is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

INGVART TEILMAN. A prominent place is accorded Ingvarth Teilman, a civil engineer of Fresno, in the business activity of this place, which has felt in no small degree the influence of his splendid ability. The city of Fresno is indebted to Mr. Teilman for its sewer system, which he laid out and surveyed under the difficulties which would necessarily confront the engineer in a place so nearly level as this. The plan which he drew up and submitted was adopted on account of having a gravity out-fall sewer, while all others were designed for the use of pumps, he having discovered a gentle slope from Fresno southwesterly in the surveying of canals and ditches. He superintended the construction of the sewers, and since 1901 has served, as city engineer, his work being an important feature in the future of Fresno from both a commercial and sanitary standpoint.

A native of Ribe, Denmark, Ingvarth Teilman was born February 15, 1860, the youngest in a family of seven children, of whom five are now living, one sister, Mrs. S. M. Toft, being located

near Fresno. His father, Hans N. Teilman, was also a native of that place, and the descendant of an old and honored family. He engaged as a farmer for many years, his death occurring at an advanced age. His wife, formerly Anna Nielsen, was born in the same place, where she also died. They were members of the Lutheran Church. When fourteen years old Ingvarth Teilman was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade, working for three years, when he was employed as a journeyman in Germany. Deciding to seek the more abundant opportunities of the western world, he came to California in 1879, and November 9 of the same year located in Fresno. He followed farm work until he learned the English language and then engaged in the prosecution of his trade. He entered the employ of the Madera Planing mill, as carpenter, where he met with an accident which caused the loss of his left hand. Forced to seek some other means of livelihood, he followed the advice of friends and took a business course in the Pacific Business College of San Francisco. While there the professor in charge of mathematics noticed his talent for this science and induced him to take up surveying. He accordingly entered Van der Naillen's School of Engineering, from which institution he was graduated in 1885, after which he returned to Fresno and entered upon his new line of work. Since that time he has met with marked success, advancing steadily to the front rank of his profession. He has laid out the greater portion of the additions of Fresno and has also served various companies and corporations of this city, among them the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, of which he is chief engineer, also serving in the same capacity for the Consolidated Canal Company, having charge of construction works of about four hundred miles of main canals and miles in distributing ditches in the two systems. He was also chief engineer for the Madera Canal and Irrigation Company, for which he constructed a reservoir system, and the Madera Sugar Pine Company, for the latter laying out the new lumber flume fifty-four miles in length, from the mills in the mountains to the plant in Madera, and also their logging railroad which carries logs about twenty miles. In 1902 he became associated with Chris P. Jensen, a civil and hydraulic engineer of Fresno. Since 1901 he has served as city engineer. In addition to these interests Mr. Teilman also owns two vineyards in the vicinity of Fresno, in the success of which he is very much interested and gives a portion of his time to them. He is a man of energy, talent and ability, and has turned his attention to various lines in the course of his career, making each object more or less a success. After his accident he secured an artificial hand, but it had a leather cuff and

the lacing produced such heat and pressure as to cause a shrinkage of the arm. He ingeniously planned one on his own ideas, and later had it manufactured in aluminum, which has served him successfully for many years, and he finds that it cannot be improved upon.

Mr. Teilman's beautiful home, which he built at No. 470 Neilsen avenue, is presided over by his wife, formerly Anna K. Holm, a native of the vicinity of Ribe, Denmark, and whom he married in Fresno. They are the parents of four children, namely: Ingvar H., Maren, Dora and Henry. Since 1883 Mr. Teilman has been associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is past officer, and is also a past officer of the Encampment. He is an active member of the Danish Brotherhood of America and was its representative to the national convention. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Politically he is a Republican. He is a charter member of the Lutheran Church (Danish), and during the erection of the building was chairman of the board of trustees.

HIRAM NEWTON RUCKER, M. D. Devoted to the practice of his profession, Hiram Newton Rucker, M. D., of Merced, well deserves the reputation which he enjoys of being one of the most skillful physicians of the San Joaquin valley. His superior knowledge and medical experience have rendered him especially proficient in his chosen work, and gained for him the confidence and respect of a wide community. He is a popular and highly esteemed citizen, and one of the influential and prominent members of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has been, and is, an active worker, being Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California. A native of Missouri, he was born September 6, 1844, in Arrow Rock, Saline county, a son of William T. Rucker. On the paternal side he is of French descent, the immigrant ancestor having come from France to the United States, settling in Virginia, where the doctor's grandfather was born, and where the family for several generations was known by its French surname, Roquier. On the maternal side they are of German ancestry.

Born and bred in Virginia, William T. Rucker left his ancestral home in early manhood, migrating to Missouri, where he acted as agent for old Dr. Sappington, and later was manager of his estate. In 1852, he, with others, organized a large party and started across the plains with ox-teams for California, arriving here after a trip of five months. Locating in Santa Clara county, he bought a pueblo grant of two hundred and twenty-five acres, paying \$1,500 for the tract, but subsequently had to buy the land a second

time in order to get a title, paying thirty dollars an acre for it. After being engaged for some time in general farming and stock-raising, he sold off his estate in small lots, and removed to Santa Clara, where he lived retired until his death, at the age of threescore and ten years. He married Verinda S. Taylor, who was born in Madison county, Va., and died in Santa Clara, Cal., at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. Of their union twelve children were born, namely: Joseph E., died in San Jose in 1890; Mary L., married Benjamin Campbell, of Campbell, Santa Clara county; John S., died in Gilroy, Cal.; James T., died in infancy; William D., of San Jose; Robert T., a farmer, living near San Jose; Hiram N., the subject of this sketch; Zachariah T., of Santa Rosa, Cal.; Nancy C., wife of J. P. Finley, of Portland, Ore.; George F., of Lompoc, Cal.; Mrs. Maggie E. Clark, of Campbell, Cal.; Benjamin W., real-estate dealer in San Jose.

Leaving Missouri with his parents when seven years old, Hiram Newton Rucker was crossing the Sierras when the eighth anniversary of his birth occurred. His early education was obtained in the district schools of Santa Clara county; he then continued his studies for three and one-half years at the University of the Pacific, and then studied medicine with Dr. A. B. Caldwell, of Santa Clara, and, subsequently entering the medical department of the University of California, he was graduated with the first class from there, with the degree of M. D., in 1870. The following five years Dr. Rucker practiced medicine in Plainsberg, Merced county, where he met with excellent success. Removing then to Merced, he continued his professional labors for thirteen years, acquiring knowledge, skill and fame. In the meantime, in 1884, he was appointed by Governor Stoneman a director of the State Insane Asylum at Stockton, and four years later, in 1888, he was elected superintendent of that state institution by its board of trustees. Taking charge of the asylum in November, 1888, he retained it until November, 1892, when he resumed the practice of his profession in Oakland. During the winter of 1885 and 1886, the doctor took a post-graduate medical and surgical course in New York City. In 1901 he left Oakland and took up his residence once more in Merced, where he has built up an extensive and remunerative general practice of medicine and surgery, being one of the foremost physicians and surgeons of Merced county. He is considered an expert on insanity and is frequently called as a witness in cases of insanity.

In San Francisco, Dr. Rucker married Emma F. Abbott, who was born in Lawrence, Mass., and they have one child, Ella Robin. The doctor is a sound Democrat in his political affiliations,



and served as chairman of the Democratic county central committee. For several years he served as county coroner of Merced county, for five years was a member of the Oakland pension board, and for two years was president of the Oakland board of health. Dr. Rucker is a member and past master of La Grange Lodge No. 99, F. & A. M.; was elected junior grand warden in 1883 and '84; in 1885 was elected senior grand warden; was deputy grand master in 1886; was grand master of the Grand Lodge in 1887; is a member and past high priest of Merced Chapter No. 12, R. A. M.; was made a Knight Templar in Pacific Commandery No. 3, of Sonora, and now belongs to Stockton Commandery No. 8, K. T.; to Stockton Council, R. & S. M., and is a demitted member of Scottish Rite Lodge of Masons, of Oakland. The doctor also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, being a charter member of Merced Lodge No. 74. He has been a member of the State Medical Society since 1876 and of the American Medical Association since 1893; is a member and vice president of the Merced County Medical Society and a member of the San Joaquin Valley Medical Society. He is a Methodist in religious belief.

In September, 1904, Dr. Rucker received a call from the trustees of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, located at Decoto, Alameda county, to assume the duties of superintendent of that institution, which he accepted, and took charge November 1st.

---

**THOMAS JACKSON SIMPSON.** One of Fresno county's native sons, Mr. Simpson is a son of John G. Simpson, a pioneer of California, who came here from Missouri, the state of his nativity, in 1850, the long journey being made via the southern route. Mr. Simpson was accompanied by ex-Governor Edwards, of Missouri. The winter of 1850-51 was spent in New Mexico, the trip being renewed in the spring. Arriving at Stockton, Mr. Simpson there worked at teaming until 1855, when he removed to Milerton and engaged in the livery business until 1858, when he sold out and started a stock business in partnership with J. N. Musick. This association was continued until 1865, at which time the firm dissolved partnership and Mr. Simpson continued in the stock business alone until his death. In 1856 he was in the Indian campaign in Tulare county, and in every way took an active part in the pioneer work of the state. His death, at the early age of forty-seven years, was much regretted by all. He was one of the first stockmen to locate on Dry creek, and was one of the early supervisors of that county. He purchased land at what is now Academy, and before his death accumulated nearly six thou-

sand acres. He was one of the builders of the Academy on Dry creek, being a director of the company. This school was for years one of the best in the state. In fraternal relations he was a member of the Odd Fellows and in politics was a staunch Democrat.

His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah M. Baley. She was a native of Missouri and a daughter of W. Wright Baley, a brother of Judge Gillam, who came to California in 1849. Mr. Baley crossed the plains and settled at Visalia, where he was for some years engaged in teaming between the latter place and Stockton. He died at his home on Dry creek. His wife died at her home near Academy.

To Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were born seven children, as follows: Mary K., who married Henry Hazelton and has since died; William, who was drowned in the canal near Sanger while bathing; Thomas J., our subject; Marvin, John G. and George P., all living at Academy; Lizzie, the wife of John Fly, a stockman living at Academy.

Thomas J. Simpson was born July 13, 1866. His early life was spent on the farm, while his education was received in the academy at Academy. When but eleven years of age his father died and from that time until he left home he took an active part in the work of the farm. At the age of twenty he started out to make his own way in the world, beginning as a sheep rancher on rented land fourteen miles from Fresno. In 1886 he bought five hundred head of sheep from John Baley's partner, the partnership thus formed continuing for two years, when Mr. Baley sold out to William R. Simpson. In 1889 T. J. Simpson disposed of his interest in the business to his brother, William R., they owning at the time five thousand head of sheep. Soon after selling, Mr. Simpson became interested in the cattle business and a little later established his brand, "P. L.," which is known all through the cattle country. He has nine hundred acres of land on Dry creek, below Academy, which is all fenced and improved. Here he is engaged in an extensive grain business, although the place is rented, making it possible for Mr. Simpson to devote his entire time to his cattle interests. His range is located in the Sierras, about eighteen miles east of his ranch, where he and his brother own valuable range land.

In Academy Mr. Simpson married Miss Eleanor Ann Perry, a native daughter of Fresno county. Her father, Peter Perry, settled here and engaged in farming on Kings river. To Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have been born the following children: Edwin R., Ina May, Thomas Russell, Hugh, Annie Laurie, Mary Elizabeth and Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson are members of the

Methodist Episcopal Church South, Mr. Simpson being a member of the official board. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never cared to enter the arena of public life, but at all times has been found ready and willing to perform the duties devolving upon him as a citizen. His success in life is the result of his own efforts, and while he is still a young man, he is considered one of the substantial residents of the county and is very popular with all his associates.

**LAYTON J. HANSBERGER.** California, with its beautiful landscapes, its lakes and streams, its picturesque mountains, its progressive towns and cities, its farms with the fertile soil, its wonderful prosperity and its abundance of fruit and flowers, makes a habitation fit for a king, and no history would be complete unless due mention were made of the pioneers who assisted in settling this great state, and in this Virginia furnished her quota, among them Mr. Hansberger, who first stepped on California soil October 6, 1878, and for a quarter of a century has been identified with the agricultural interests in the vicinity of Selma, Fresno county. In 1902 Mr. Hansberger retired from his farm, taking up his residence in Selma, and at once engaging in the real estate and insurance business. The first year he was associated with T. L. Jones, but he now carries on an extensive business under the name of the Hansberger Land Company, buying and renting land and doing a general insurance business.

Mr. Hansberger was born March 2, 1850, in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, Va., and is one of six children born to L. J. and Martha (French) Hansberger, natives of the same state. The father, a native of Rockingham, Va., was a Methodist Episcopal minister and his demise took place in a parsonage near Appomattox Court-House. He was survived some years by his widow, who died in her sixty-fifth year at Sedalia, Mo. Of their children, three were sons and three were daughters, and they are as follows: W. F., a mail contractor, residing at Sedalia, Mo.; Henry, residing near Yuma, Ariz.; Layton J.; Mrs. Louise Guerant, also a resident of Sedalia; Mrs. Alice Fretwell, residing at Danville, Va.; and Mrs. G. S. Hewitt, of Fresno county.

The mental training of Mr. Hansberger was received in private subscription schools, which he attended during the Civil war, and when of sufficient age he engaged in farm pursuits in his native state, raising tobacco, principally. His people were southerners, and at this time lived near Cartersville, but in 1867 Layton J., in company with his brother Henry, went west to Se-

dalia, Mo., and followed farm pursuits there, renting land. Upon the death of their father, they returned to Virginia and stayed there for eighteen months, but in the fall of 1870 they returned to Sedalia, which was their home for several years. About 1878 Mr. Hansberger came to California, purchasing a quarter section of land three miles south of Selma, which he still owns. He lived upon this place and carried on agricultural pursuits until 1902; since then he has lived in Selma.

The home ties of Mr. Hansberger date back to November 18, 1877, when he was united in marriage with Miss Nannie Stone, formerly of Missouri. Three children came to bless this union. They are: Alma, now Mrs. Morris Yost, residing near Selma; Celeste, who was a high school student in Selma, class of 1904; and Nannie, also a high school student. The mother of these children passed to the great beyond in 1889, and October 26, 1890, Mr. Hansberger married for his second wife Mrs. Julia B. Reed, a native of Missouri, and she has one daughter, Ruth Reed, who is also a high school student.

In 1899 Mr. Hansberger was one of the organizers of the Selma Co-operative Dairy Association, of which he is now serving as president. Fraternally he is prominently connected with a number of secret societies, among them Selma Lodge No. 155, K. of P.; Valleyview Lodge No. 208, A. O. U. W., and Justice Council No. 322, Fraternal Aid, of which his wife and daughters are members. In his political convictions he is termed an Independent Democrat and has served as school director many times, being also twice elected director for the High School of Selma.

**FRED A. BENNETT.** Distinguished for his executive and business ability and judgment, Fred A. Bennett is one of the best known men of Merced county, and as manager of the Dos Palos Colony Rochdale Association is one of the prominent men in Dos Palos. Energetic, progressive and practical in his methods, he has been the leading spirit in the promotion of the affairs of the colony, and as manager of the co-operative establishment, founded and located through his enterprise and keen foresight, has built up one of the most extensive and important mercantile trades of central California. Inheriting in an eminent degree the sterling qualities of his Puritan ancestors, he is a man of unquestioned integrity, upright in all of his dealings, above reproach or suspicion, his word at all times being as good as his bond. A son of F. C. Bennett, he was born, September 13, 1863, in New Marlboro, Berkshire county, Mass., the de-

scendant of a colonial family of prominence. He comes from Revolutionary stock, his great-grandfather on the paternal side having served as Washington's bodyguard during the great struggle for independence.

A native of Connecticut, F. C. Bennett was there reared to agricultural pursuits. Subsequently settling in New Marlboro, Mass., he was there employed for a number of years as millwright and carpenter. Removing with his family to Nebraska in 1874, he purchased land in Fairmont, Fillmore county, where he still resides, being now retired from the activities of business, a venerable and highly respected man of seventy-five years. He is connected with the Masons. He married Phoebe Ann Hadsell, who was born in Massachusetts, where her father, Moses Hadsell, was a life-long farmer, and in 1902 this happy couple celebrated their golden wedding. On this auspicious occasion all of their eleven children, with the exception of the youngest child, who was unavoidably detained, were present, and with the many friends and acquaintances assembled assisted in making the event one to be remembered most pleasantly.

The sixth child in order of birth of the parental household, Fred A. Bennett spent the first twelve years of his life among the picturesque hills of the Berkshire mountains, laying a good foundation for his future education in the common schools of the old Bay state. Removing with his parents to Nebraska in 1874, he was subsequently brought up on the farm in Fairmont, attending the district school for a few years. He afterward continued his studies at the University of Nebraska, in Lincoln, completing his school life at the Lincoln Business College. Locating then in Fairmont, Mr. Bennett was for five years there engaged in the hardware business as a member of the firm of Gary, Bennett & Co. Disposing of his interest in the firm in 1894, he came to Merced county, Cal., locating in the Dos Palos Colony, where he carried on farming for two years. Starting the co-operative store in 1896, he managed it with eminent success, the business growing so large within the ensuing three years that Mr. Bennett, in 1899, found it expedient to incorporate the Dos Palos Colony Rochdale Association, of which he has since been manager. Not liking the first location of the store, he selected its present site in 1897, which has proved a very advantageous one, being now in the center of a farming community with an estimated population of two thousand people. Under the supervision of Mr. Bennett a very large and lucrative trade in general merchandise has been built up, this co-operative store dealing in dry goods, clothing, furs, boots and shoes, furniture, hardware and queensware, and handling large quantities of lumber, having

extensive lumber yards. The main building is 30x60 feet, containing two floors stocked with goods, while the hardware department and the warerooms are each 16x60 feet. In connection with his mercantile business Mr. Bennett has charge of the association's large creamery and ice plant, manufacturing butter for the city and Rochdale markets, and making ice for the same, and maintaining a cold-storage plant.

In Shickley, Neb., Mr. Bennett married Retta Baker, who was born in Missouri, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Chester, Mabel, Gladys and Alfred. Politically Mr. Bennett is a Socialist; fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is banker, and of the Fraternal Aid; religiously he is a member and a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

---

MICHAEL KAVANAGH. Two miles southeast of Fresno is the fifty-six-acre ranch of Michael Kavanagh, well improved and as practically managed as the most fastidious horticulturist could desire. Thirty-two acres are in grapes, five acres in orchard, and the balance is seeded to alfalfa. In 1900 the successful owner of the property completed what is one of the finest rural residences in the vicinity, a white structure two stories in height and containing eleven rooms. The property has more than realized the financial expectations of this genial and popular horticulturist, who sees the bright side of everything and appreciates the luxuries made possible by his wise disposal of the advantages which have come to him.

Mr. Kavanagh comes of a family known in Queens county, Ireland, for generations. His father, Michael Kavanagh, was a native of that part of the country, and he himself was born there June 26, 1851, while his mother, formerly Mary Howard, came from County Tipperary. The elder Michael was a man of ambition and ability, and for years was agent for a very large estate in Ireland, which responsibility passed to his son, Daniel, at the time of the older man's death at the age of fifty-two years. The younger Michael was reared on a farm and remained at home until coming to America in 1869. During the winter of 1869-'70 he attended school in New York City, and for the seven following years engaged in farming in Livingston county, N. Y. Upon arriving in California in 1876, he located on a farm in Yolo county. In 1877 he made a trip to Texas, in quest of a more desirable place of residence. Returning to Yolo county in 1878, he farmed there until 1884, and then came to Fresno county, and in 1885 purchased his present ranch. In 1890 he married Nora Martin, a native of Livonia, N. Y., and a daugh-

ter of James and Margaret (Lindsley) Martin. Of the union there have been born three children, Martin Howard, Marguerite Louise and Genevieve. In 1899 the family enlarged their horizon by taking a trip east, a jaunt which furnished pleasant relaxation. Mr. Kavanagh is a Democrat, but locally votes for the man best qualified for the office. He is identified with the Knights of Columbus and is a member of the Catholic Church. Twice he has served as a member of the school board, and materially aided in establishing the present high standard of instruction. He is highly respected in his neighborhood, representing as he does the highest type of the Irish-American citizen.

**SEROPIAN BROTHERS.** Notwithstanding the misfortunes that have befallen the Armenian race through persecution in their own land, comparatively few of that nationality have sought homes in other countries. Representatives of the Seropian family were not only the first Armenians to settle in California, but among the first to come to the United States as well. The two brothers, John and George, are now at the head of a large fruit business in Fresno, which they incorporated April 22, 1902, under the name of Seropian Brothers, and re-incorporated two years later as Seropian Brothers Company. Under their direct oversight and capable management has been built up one of the largest packing houses in California. The work is systematically divided, the younger brother having the management of the sales and finances, while the elder brother takes charge of the buying, also of the management of the packing house. The firm maintains a branch house in Chicago, and possesses every facility for the efficient and profitable conduct of a large and responsible industry.

The two brothers are natives of Marsovan, Armenia, George having been born in 1868, and John in 1870. Their father, a prosperous merchant, held a position of influence in his community, and was one of the leading members of the Congregational Church there. He was married twice, by his first union having five sons and three daughters, of whom one daughter now resides in Fresno county, and two sons died here. Two sons were born of his second marriage, John and George, and a daughter, who is now deceased. Two sons of the first marriage settled in Massachusetts about 1870 and founded the family in America. During the summer of 1880 the two younger sons joined them at Worcester, Mass., and in 1881 came with them to California, where they attended the Fresno public schools. Without any assistance they worked their own way, being for a time employed on

farms in the Central Colony. For six years George continued in the employ of Mr. Babcock, receiving wages in the summer, but working for his board in the winter and attending school. At first the older brothers carried on a fruit business where the Grand Central hotel now stands, but the loss of the building and stock by fire left them without capital to begin again at once. A vineyard of twenty acres was then rented, which John and George cultivated so assiduously that the appearance of the property was greatly improved and the owner sold it at a fair profit. Later they turned their attention to the fruit business, at first selling from a wagon, and then opening a store on I street near Mariposa. As the trade increased a stock of groceries was added, and in time they became proprietors of a large store on Mariposa street.

On disposing of the business the brothers began to improve a tract of land which they had previously purchased in Fresno colony, and improved it with thirty acres of raisins and other fruits. However, the sale of fruit possessed for them greater fascination than the growing of the same, and they soon returned to the fruit and produce business, and also managed a retail grocery, which was conducted on J street, under the name of Seropian Brothers. Somewhat later they moved near Fresno street on J, where they had a frontage of seventy-five feet. One side of the building was utilized for the receiving of the fruit, and the other side contained the packing department. So successful were their undertakings that they felt justified in discontinuing the grocery trade and devoting themselves wholly to fruit packing, in which they engaged on J street for four years. In 1898 they built a commodious packing house, fitted with every accommodation for their business, but were met with misfortune at the very outset by the destruction of the building in a fire, with only partial insurance. With an energy characteristic of their whole business career, they at once began to rebuild, and the new structure was completed in sixty days, a portion of it being three stories in height, and the whole 275x100 feet in dimensions, with facilities for shipment via the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific Railroads. Their specialty is seeded raisins and figs, and they pride themselves on having been the pioneers in the shipment of figs, also of pound packages or bricks of California figs. Indeed, they deserve great credit for their work in introducing the figs of the state to the markets of the world, and creating a demand for what is now one of the profitable products of California. By means of machinery they have a capacity for seeding five cars of raisins per day, also of packing ten cars a day. The Honey Brand is their specialty in figs, while in raisins their leading



brands are Seropian Best, Mount Whitney and Lotus. Shipments are made to every part of the United States, as well as to Germany, France, Holland and England. In addition to their principal packing house at Fresno, they operate similar establishments at Watsonville, Healdsburg, San Francisco, Lemoore and Tulare. Both brothers have made several trips through the eastern states and become personally acquainted with the trade, and are members of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and the California Raisin Growers' Association. In political views they are stanch Republicans and loyal supporters of the government of their adopted country. John is married, his wife having been Miss Hazel Malikian, of Fresno.

When it is remembered that the brothers came to California unfamiliar with the English language and with American customs, strangers in a strange land, and far removed from any of their own race, their courage and resolute spirit are worthy of the highest admiration. Amid surroundings that might have discouraged many, they pushed resolutely forward, working as opportunities offered, and constantly adding to their store of learning and experience. By degrees, without extraneous aid, they have built up a business that would reflect credit upon the ability of any of our native-born citizens. They have gained prominence and influence in their adopted city and throughout the entire San Joaquin valley.

---

**JOSIAH WINTER DAVIS.** A man of more than average ability and energy, Josiah Winter Davis holds a position of prominence among the foremost citizens of Portersville. He is distinguished as a participant in the Civil war, and his subsequent career as a business man has been successful and noteworthy. A son of William Davis, he was born August 7, 1841, in St. Joseph county, Ind., near South Bend.

A native of New York state, William Davis was well educated, and for a few years was pastor of the United Brethren Church near Elkhart, Ind. Going from there to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1852, he opened a general merchandise store, but subsequently returned to Indiana. For a short time he resided near South Bend, but in 1860 was appointed president of Western College in Iowa, and for twelve years was connected with that institution as its head official. On resigning the position he removed to Lisbon, near Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he resided until his death, in 1881, at the age of sixty-seven years. He married Charlotte M. Miller, who was born in Butler county, Ohio, and died in 1883 in Iowa. Four sons and three daughters blessed their union, of these Josiah Winter being

the second child in order of birth and the oldest one now living.

After leaving the public schools of Indiana, Josiah W. Davis took an academic course at Seven Mile, receiving a diploma, and subsequently entered the Pittsburg University at Pittsburg, Pa. During his fourth year in that institution the Civil war broke out, and all of his patriotic spirit was aroused. At once enlisting in Company I, Fifty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, he went to the front as drummer, and later was made a member of the regimental band. At the battle of Shiloh he was wounded. Subsequently Mr. Davis was detailed as chief clerk in division headquarters at Cairo, Ill., and had charge of all the traffic up and down the river. In 1864 he was promoted to the office of assistant quartermaster, with rank of captain, and stationed at Memphis, Tenn. He was afterwards sent to Washington, D. C., but was again ordered to Memphis, where he received all stores from the regiments located there. Going thence to New Orleans, he took charge of the stores of the different regiments, being mustered out of service at the close of the war.

Having received his honorable discharge from the army, Mr. Davis went to Detroit, Mich., and for twenty-five years was connected with a tobacco firm as bookkeeper and cashier. In 1886, as an employe of John J. Bagley & Co., he came to California, taking charge of the firm's branch office, which was located at No. 109 Front street, San Francisco. Retiring from mercantile pursuits in 1880, Mr. Davis located in Portersville, and in this vicinity made wise investments in land, and is now the owner of fourteen hundred acres, all of which he devotes to general farming. He is actively identified with several of the leading enterprises of Portersville, and is well known in business circles. In 1901 he assisted in organizing the A. J. De Laney Hardware Company, of which he is vice president, and he also assisted in the organization of the Rosedale Water Company, of which he is a stockholder, one of the directors and a vice president. He was also one of the organizers of the California State Board of Trade, and is one of its most active members.

In Chicago, Ill., Mr. Davis married Victoria E. Van Auken, who was born in New York. She died in early womanhood, in Detroit, Mich., leaving one child, William W. Davis, accountant in the money order department of the Wells Fargo Express Company in New York City. Fraternally Mr. Davis stands high in Masonic circles. He joined the order in Detroit in 1862, but demitted, and is now a member of Portersville Lodge No. 303, F. & A. M., of Portersville; of Portersville Chapter No. 85, R. A. M.; of Visalia Commandery No. 26, K. T.; and of

Portersville Chapter O. E. S. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and in 1894 was a candidate for the assembly, but was defeated at the polls. October 1, 1904, he was nominated by the Republicans for the same office. For twelve years he was school trustee in the Burton district, rendering good service.

---

CHRIST H. KROGH. The farm owned and occupied by Mr. Krogh is situated three and one-half miles from Newman and lies in Merced county, with the exception of one-eighth of an acre across the line in Stanislaus county. The nucleus of this property was acquired by him about 1885, when he purchased eighty acres and embarked in the raising of grain. Investigations made in the following years convinced him that alfalfa could be made a profitable crop and by 1896 he had the entire tract under that product, which flourishes so luxuriantly that five crops can be cut in the course of a year. An orchard with fruit sufficient for family use and a residence erected in 1896 add to the value of the homestead, while other improvements made as opportunity affords prove the owner to be a man of progressive spirit.

Near the town of Sudeborg in Schleswig-Holstein, on the sea-girt island of Alsén, one of the possessions of Denmark, Mr. Krogh was born June 13, 1852, and is one of nine children, seven still living, of whom three crossed the ocean to America. A younger brother, Hans H., resides four miles southwest of Newman, where he has a valuable alfalfa farm. The father, Peter, was a son of Jorgen Krogh, a baker by occupation, and he himself not only worked as a baker, but also followed the butcher's trade and also operated his own farm. He is still living on the old homestead, where in 1901 he enjoyed a visit from his son, Christ H., who returned for a brief sojourn among old friends and the associations of youth. The mother, Catherine Maria Moller, was a daughter of Jens Moller, by occupation a farmer. She died in the fall of 1871.

The farm which is still the family homestead was the home of Mr. Krogh's youth and there he worked diligently to assist in the support of the family. At fifteen years of age he left school and in 1870 crossed to the mainland of Denmark, where he remained six months. During 1871 he came to America and during the summer season worked as a farm-hand near Chatsworth, Livingston county, Ill. From there he came to California in 1873 and at Hill's Ferry secured employment on the Noxon ranch, remaining in the same position for a long period. In 1877, with Noxon's teams, he ran a grading

machine and helped to construct the canal on both the east and west sides in the San Joaquin valley. Later, after severing the partnership with David Noxon, he assisted in constructing the Stevenson canal on the east side, for which purpose he had teams there for more than a year. About 1878 he became a partner of his former employer and as such superintended a large ranch largely under cultivation to grain. Until about 1880 he also managed a ranch of six hundred and forty acres which he had purchased. A few years later, about 1885, he bought eighty acres of his present property, which is one of the finest alfalfa farms in this region. Dairy interests have engaged his attention and he now has a herd of thirty-five milch cows, also other cattle, aggregating one hundred head in all. For the cultivation of the land he keeps sixteen head of horses, these being used not only on the home place, but also on a rented farm of five hundred acres, which he has in wheat. When the project of starting a creamery was first formulated he became enthusiastically active in the measure, and in 1896 was one of the organizers of the New Era creamery, the first of the creamery plants established in the county and the foundation of the dairy industry that has proved perhaps the most important factor in the progress of the farming community. In 1896 he moved to his present home and began to improve it.

In Stockton Mr. Krogh was united in marriage with Mrs. Jensina (Hurlock) Hermanson, a native of Schleswig. Mrs. Krogh is the mother of five children, three of whom are now living, namely: Mrs. Catherine Hill, who lives upon a dairy farm in Merced county; Andrew and Wilbur.

By her previous marriage Mrs. Krogh had two children. The daughter, Mrs. Annie Schmidt, who died in Newman, and the son, Henry Krogh, who is manager of all of the Newman warehouses. On different occasions Mr. Krogh has been chosen to serve on grand and petit juries and he has also been a delegate of the Democratic party to county conventions. Since coming to California he has associated himself with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Newman and is further connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

---

NATHANIEL P. DUNCAN, M. D. To Nathaniel P. Duncan, M. D., belongs the distinction of being the oldest physician in Hanford, Kings county, in point of years of service in the medical profession. Dr. Duncan was born in Pittsburg, Pa., January 9, 1849, a son of Robert C., and grandson of Thomas Duncan, whose father, a native of Scotland, came to the



United States about the time of the Revolutionary war and first located in Louisiana, where he operated a plantation for a number of years. He subsequently removed to Pennsylvania, but soon afterward died in Pittsburg, while still a comparatively young man, from yellow fever.

Robert C. Duncan was born in Louisiana, and was an infant when his parents removed to Pennsylvania. He was reared and educated in the latter state, and engaged in merchandising in Beaver Falls and Pittsburg. He died in the latter city at the age of about seventy years. He married Nancy Patterson, a native of Pennsylvania, who still resides in that state at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Her father, Nathaniel Patterson, was at one time a civil engineer in Pittsburg.

The boyhood and youth of Dr. Nathaniel P. Duncan were spent in Pittsburg and vicinity, where he received the benefit of a common-school education. He subsequently attended Beaver Academy, and at the age of eighteen years, having decided upon a career in medicine, began the study of that science under the direction of Dr. Stanton of New Brighton, Pa., a cousin of Edwin Stanton, secretary of war during Lincoln's administration. He afterward took a course in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and in 1871 was graduated from Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City. He at once opened an office at Enon Valley, Pa., but after spending two years in that locality he decided that a better field for practice could be found in the newer western country. Coming to California, he visited various towns, finally locating, in 1876, at Lemoore, Kings county, where for eight years he was engaged in general practice. In 1884 he established himself in Hanford, where he has since built up a reputation which is a just reward for his humane and self-sacrificing efforts. During the years of his residence here he has become thoroughly identified with the town's best interests in various ways. He has given evidence of his faith in the stability of Kings county by the purchase of twenty-four hundred acres of grazing land near the mouth of Tule river, which is devoted to the raising of Durham cattle. He is a Republican in politics, but has steadfastly refused to become a candidate for public office, preferring to concentrate his time and capabilities upon his profession. He is a member of the California State Medical Society and the San Joaquin County Medical Society. Fraternally he is identified with Hanford Lodge, K. P. In 1903 he took a prominent part in the organization of the Hanford National Bank, of which he has since been president. At Lemoore, Cal., in 1877, he was united in marriage with Mary Cramer, a native of Calaveras county, Cal.

Personally Dr. Duncan possesses those qualities which tend to endear a man closely to those who know him. Though he has always devoted himself closely to his scientific labors, in which he has been accorded a rare measure of success, he has not been unmindful of the general welfare of the community, but has always exhibited a keen interest in those movements having for an end the advancement of the material well-being of the people. Public-spirited, progressive, liberal-minded and unselfish, he has come to be regarded as one of the best type of representative citizen, who is entitled to more than passing recognition in the annals of the state of California.

**DANIEL P. SHIPPEY.** With the exception of five years Daniel P. Shippey has been a resident of Visalia, Tulare county, since 1872, and by the many sterling traits which distinguish his character, he has won the confidence and esteem of all with whom he has come in business or social contact. As a farmer and carpenter he has spent the greater part of his life here, but in 1902 he became interested in the milling business, purchasing the Hubbs Planing Mill, now known as A. B. Shippey & Co., his two sons, A. R. and A. B. Shippey being equal partners in the concern and the practical managers.

A native of Pomeroy, Ohio, where he was born December 27, 1836, Daniel P. Shippey was taken to Illinois when three years old, his father then locating in McDonough county near Macomb. In 1842 he went to Missouri, where he was reared to young manhood by J. H. Dice, a farmer of Cedar county. He received his education in the common school in the vicinity of his home, after which he was apprenticed to learn the trade of carpenter, being located in St. Clair county, Mo. At the breaking out of the Civil war he left his personal pursuits and in April, 1861, enlisted from that county in the first company of Loyal Home Guards. In December of that year he joined the first battalion of Yates Sharpshooters, comprising five hundred and forty men, and equipped for service by the war governor of Illinois, being a part of Company A, Sixty-fourth Illinois Regiment. His enlistment was for three years, and he served until January 15, 1864. He afterward re-enlisted for three years more, out of which time he was allowed thirty days as furlough, and went to Ottawa, Ill. There his regiment was re-organized with recruits from other companies and called the Sixty-fourth Illinois, comprising nine hundred and sixty men, rank and file. At the close of the war, when mustered out in Chicago, it numbered only one hundred and fifty, Mr. Shippey being one of nine of the original company

in which he enlisted. During the time that he served he was in seventeen important battles, including those about Atlanta, the March to the Sea, through the Carolinas, the capture of General Johnston, and the march to Richmond. He was in the Grand Review in Washington, and received his honorable discharge in Louisville, July 15, 1865. Mr. Shippey entered the army as a private, and in the course of time received the promotion to the position of corporal, then sergeant, up to the first duty sergeant, and won much commendation for personal bravery.

After being mustered out of service in Chicago, Ill., Mr. Shippey returned to his home in Missouri and engaged in farming and the prosecution of his trade until the fall of 1872. In that year he came to California and located in Visalia, where he followed the same occupation until 1881. Removing then to Umatilla county, Ore., he engaged in a general merchandise business in Willow Station until July 4, 1886, when he returned to Visalia and once more followed his trade and general farming operations. Since 1900 he has withdrawn entirely from the latter occupation. In 1902 he purchased the Hubbs Planing Mill, which, with his two sons, he now conducts, and also owns other city property, among which is his residence and five lots on South Court street.

The marriage of Mr. Shippey united him with Amanda Melvina Hurt, a native of Missouri, and they are the parents of four sons and four daughters. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a member and the quartermaster of Gen. George Wright Post, No. 111, G. A. R., of Visalia. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

---

**JUDGE C. S. COTHRAN.** Prominent among the progressive farmers of Merced county that have contributed their full share in bringing about the present fine condition of the country is Judge C. S. Cothran, a well-known and highly esteemed citizen of Los Banos, and the proprietor of two well-kept dairy ranches. He is the son of the late Henry Cothran, a pioneer of the coast, and was born, May 18, 1860, in Tomales, Marin county, Cal. His grandfather, for many years a resident of Illinois, was killed during the Civil war.

A native of Indiana, Henry Cothran spent his earlier years in that state, afterward living in Illinois. Deciding to enter upon a professional career, he was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College, but did not at once begin the practice of medicine. He made a trip across the plains to California in search of a favorable location, and being pleased with the country and climate returned to Illinois for his wife,

coming back with her by way of the Isthmus of Panama early in 1860. After living a short time in Tomales, he settled at Grand Island, Colusa county, where he was for awhile successfully engaged in farming. Removing from there to the Green valley, he continued in agricultural pursuits at Watsonville, Santa Cruz county, for two years. Deciding then to resume his profession, he settled as a physician in Hollister, San Benito county, where he built up a large and lucrative practice. His health failing, however, he again took up farming, buying land near Hollister, and was thus engaged until his death, at the age of fifty-two years. He was a man of great integrity, greatly beloved and respected. In politics he was a strong Republican, and in religion was a member of the Christian Church. He was active in fraternal circles, being a Mason. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Pope, was born in old Virginia, and is now a resident of San Jose. Eight children were born of their union, C. S., the special subject of this sketch, being the firstborn.

His parents returning to Illinois in 1863, C. S. Cothran lived with them in Duquoin, Perry county, until six years old. Coming back to California with them in 1866, he acquired his rudimentary education in the public schools of Hollister, completing his studies at the University of the Pacific, in San Jose, attending that institution a year. He was afterward engaged in farming in San Benito county until 1886, when he located on the west side of Merced county, where, on the Uriah Wood ranch of six hundred acres he carried on a successful business at grain raising for a number of years. In 1902 Judge Cothran removed to his present home estate, where he has one hundred and fifty acres; of this ranch sixty-one acres are planted to alfalfa. The judge has also a valuable grain ranch in the foothills. On his home farm he has made improvements, having a comfortable residence, and substantial farm buildings. In addition to carrying on general farming with such marked success, Judge Cothran has a well-established and profitable dairy business. In 1894 he was elected justice of the peace, and has since served with eminent satisfaction in this office, having been re-elected in 1896 and 1900, the district over which he presides includes township No. 3.

Judge Cothran married, in Los Banos, Hettie Bibby, who was born in Napa, Cal., a daughter of Nicholas Bibby, a prominent pioneer, and ex-supervisor. A brief sketch of Mr. Bibby may be found elsewhere in this volume. Judge and Mrs. Cothran are the parents of four children, namely: Robert, Ethel, Charles and Alvin. Fraternally Judge Cothran is a member and Council Commander of Blue Gum Camp No. 491,

W. of W.; a member of the Fraternal Aid and Women of Woodcraft. Politically he is one of the leading Democrats of this part of Merced county, and an ex-member of the Democratic county committee.

EDWARD M. DEWEY. Born in 1829, Edward M. Dewey became one of the old residents of the San Joaquin valley, a pioneer whose life has lain along the hard lines of the beginners of a statehood, a citizen whose efforts have materially assisted in the development of this section of the country. His life has been made up of varied experiences. Reared to the life of a farmer until eighteen years of age he afterward served as an apprentice in the United States Coast Survey; as a pedagogue; as a bank clerk in Washington, D. C.; then as newspaper man, and an engraver. Lastly, he threw in his lot with the pioneers of the extreme west, taking his place among the early settlers of Tulare county, Cal., where as a journalist he labored zealously for the development of all resources which might make of the state what time has since proven it to be.

In 1861 Mr. Dewey came to California by way of Panama. In Downieville the year following he began the publication of the *Mountain Messenger*, in partnership with G. A. Vaughn purchasing it from A. T. Dewey, a brother of the former. Before the railroad had been built into Tulare county Mr. Dewey came to Visalia from Gilroy, Santa Clara county, in 1871. Several years later, however, the railroad was built and improvements followed. When he first came to the county there was not even a hut to mark the now flourishing city of Tulare, the county seat being at Millerton, at the foothills on the east bank of the San Joaquin river, which was then crossed only by ferries. Bakersfield was hardly known, the county seat of Kern being at Havilah, a mining town in the mountains near Upper Kern river, about forty miles above Bakersfield, which was then only a supply headquarters for miners and stockmen, though it had one newspaper called the *California*. When Mr. Dewey resumed charge of the *Delta* its political standing was changed from Republican to Independent. The positive status of the then existing parties by vote was about four Democrats to one Republican.

The inhabitants of the several counties in the Upper San Joaquin were very largely from the southwestern border slave states, and this was emphasized in the travels of Mr. Dewey throughout the country, as he would find in nearly all the homes, whether white or colored, pictures of President Jefferson Davis, of the Southern Confederacy, General Lee, Beauregard, and others

of the southern leaders. The sentiments of the southern people were strongly Confederate, but they were found to be the most kindly and hospitable people among whom Mr. Dewey had ever traveled.

The native Indians, at that time, were rapidly disappearing. There was little farming or fencing. Lumber was scarce and hardly within reach in price. The fencing was principally of crooked fences made of split oaks, and the first houses were made of whip-sawed oak and home-made brick or adobe. Most all of the valuable stock or grazing lands still belonged to the government, and were offered at \$1.25 per acre, and were a free range for thousands of horses, hogs, sheep and cattle. Most all of the first settlers were large owners of herds of stock, but butter and potatoes were luxuries and were brought in by freighting teams; later Chinamen began to plant gardens and supply the settlers with vegetables. There was only one bearing orange and one bearing olive tree in Visalia, though there were several bearing lemon and orange trees on Tule river and in that vicinity.

The uncultivated plains of Tulare county in a good rainy season in the spring time were covered with verdure and flowers; fields of blue, red, white and golden hues; all of one color by hundreds of acres. It was a wonderful view, grand beyond description, though the flowers had little fragrance. There were countless numbers of ground squirrels and jack rabbits, as well as all kinds of wild domestic animals, belonging to stockmen who only gathered their herds once a year, usually by a general rodeo, when the young stock was branded by the owners with a hot iron to prove ownership when it should be gathered in after years, to be sold and driven away. At these rodeos there would be gathered and camped hundreds of horsemen in the employ of different brand owners. It was considered a time of great interest. Hundreds of settlers would be there also to find their stock which had unintentionally (of course) been gathered up by the big stockmen; and they found them, too, all too often. Many of these big stockmen owned only a quarter section of land upon which they had a large corral or two, a few cottonwood trees, perhaps a live spring instead of a well; and a few dogs; the free government range constituting the rest of their possessions. Lumber to fence with in those days was out of the question; hardly enough could be had for houses, barns and the fencing of small cultivated fields. Most of the fencing done was with oaken split rails, crooked fence fashion. At the first organization of the county and town the jail was a sort of log corral, made of whip-sawed oak planks, covered with hand sawed oak shakes, and in the jail prisoners were chained to

stumps. There it was that William Gouverneur Maurice, United States marshal of the district, with the aid of another man as lawless as himself, caused a man named Deputy, with a knife at his throat, to sign away \$50,000 worth of property of which the Visalia mill property was said to be a part. Mr. Maurice shot and killed the first publisher of the *Delta* in a drunken row on the Mill creek bridge near the court house.

Naturally, the rapid incoming of emigration and the taking up of public lands foreshadowed the downfall of the free range stock industry, by which many of the old settlers were growing rich; and they let their herds range over the growing crops of settlers to their destruction, threatening starvation to the settlers and their small herds. The attention of Mr. Dewey was early called to this state of affairs, and his paper became an advocate for the enactment of a state law requiring the owners of stock herds to fence or herd them off their neighbors, the settlers. There was no lumber for farmers to fence with, and the free range around them they considered naturally belonged to them and not to the predatory owners of wild stock who had little or no range of their own. The proposed law was known as a "no-fence" or "herd-law," meaning that stockmen should be obliged to herd their flocks and that farmers should not be expected to fence against others' stock, as had been the practice.

Quite a bitterness of feeling had arisen between the two factions, and the stockmen had begun calling the settlers "sand-lappers," in derision, from the manner of horse and cattle lapping up the dry feed off the plains in summer, and in return the stockmen, from being horsemen and wearing leggings were nicknamed "hair-leggers." Preparatory to the oncoming election the new settlers, sand-lappers, about half and half politically, decided to vote together for Republican candidates pledged to the herd-law, and Tipton Lindsey, of Visalia, and a Mr. Canfield, of Bakersfield, were nominated for the senate and assembly; both popular men, and both were elected. They secured the passage of a herd-law, but it proved unconstitutional when tested in the courts and there was great rejoicing on the side of the stockmen. But they were speedily made sad by the enactment of a "higher law" by the settlers of Woodville, who, one moonlight night, slaughtered a whole herd of trespassing cattle. Stockmen rode into the slaughter field from several counties and they left, saying to themselves that the settlers had now enacted a law that could not be declared unconstitutional in any court of their jurisdiction.

Soon after Mr. Dewey's arrival in Visalia a meeting of prominent citizens was held to discuss the question as to whether or not it was ad-

visable to yield to what was said to be a demand from the Southern Pacific Railroad magnates to make a donation of \$100,000 to induce them to build to Visalia or to let the road pass the city by a more southern survey. The most prominent attorneys pledged their reputations that the road had to come to Visalia; the bonds called for it and the government charter would require it, and it must come. But they, the best citizens, thought it might be well to appoint a committee to go out a few miles west on the survey and get the farmers to give a bond for a deed for a dollar to give the right of way through their land, to have their farms cut in two for the benefit of Visalia land owners. The committee was appointed, but no money was raised for the committee to pay the farmers for the bond for right of way through their land. Therefore nothing was done toward helping the great corporation to follow the law, the charter, or the legal opinions of the lawyers.

---

FREDERICK V. DEWEY, editor and proprietor of the *Daily Journal* of Hanford, inherits his journalistic ability from his father, Edward M. Dewey. The latter was for several years engaged in publishing newspapers in Massachusetts, but when his son was a lad of four years, left his home in Massachusetts and settled in Downieville, Cal., as publisher of a newspaper. Three years later he went to San Francisco, where he engaged in the real estate business. In 1870 he went to Visalia, Tulare county, in the latter place owning and managing the *Visalia Delta*.

While living in Visalia, Frederick V. Dewey attended the public schools there, which furnished him with an excellent educational basis, upon which he later built by attendance at the Visalia Normal School and Heald's Business College at San Francisco. To attempt to state definitely when Mr. Dewey first displayed a predilection for newspaper work would be well-nigh impossible, as his associations and surroundings throughout early life when not in school were type and printer's ink. His adaptability for the work was such that when only seventeen years old he was enabled to take a man's position on a newspaper as compositor, and a few years later went to San Francisco, where he held cases on the *California Magazine*, the *Bulletin* and the *Call*. Thereafter his time was divided between San Francisco and Visalia for several years, or until he became foreman of the *Visalia Delta*. In the meantime, in 1882, he came to Hanford and conducted the Muesel Slough branch of the *Visalia Delta*, having charge of the same for about eight months.



After serving as foreman of the *Visalia Delta* for several years he was for a short time an employe of the state printing office, going from there to Traver, Tulare county, where, as editor and proprietor of the *Traver Advocate*, he wielded a trenchant pen for about six years. Upon disposing of the latter paper in 1891 Mr. Dewey came once more to Hanford, and the same year established the *Weekly Journal*, its first issue appearing April 14, 1891. Such was the success of the paper that five years later Mr. Dewey was warranted in making it a semi-weekly journal, the first issue of this paper appearing March 21, 1896. Still greater success was in store for Mr. Dewey, for May 1, 1898, he was enabled to give to the reading public the first issue of the *Daily Journal*, continuing also the publication of the *Semi-Weekly Journal*, which papers have constantly grown in circulation and popularity until they rank among the leading Democratic newspapers of the interior of the state.

Mr. Dewey is an easterner by birth, having been born in Massachusetts November 14, 1860. His marriage in 1881 united him with Martha E. McBee, a native of Visalia, Cal., and they became the parents of four children, one of whom, Walter, died in infancy; Harry McBee died when in his fourteenth year; Irene W. is the wife of Robert McCourt, a merchant of Hanford; and Frederick V., Jr., is a student in the Hanford high school. Mr. Dewey is a Democrat in political sentiment, and a staunch defender of party principles. Fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Macca-bees.

---

**JOSEPH BROWN.** Born in White county, Tenn., March 14, 1858, Mr. Brown is a son of Samuel Brown, whose sketch will be found in that of Samuel T. Brown, on another page of this work.

Joseph Brown was reared on his father's farm and by attending school during the winter months obtained a fair common-school education. In 1876, in company with his brother William, he went to Texas, where he followed farming near Dallas for nine months. At the end of that time he returned to his native state and was employed on the old farm for a few months, later taking full charge. Here he carried on general farming and stock-raising until 1897, when he disposed of his interests in Tennessee and came to California. Locating in Fresno county, he leased his present place of residence and has since been engaged in farming and stock-raising, although a large portion of the five hundred and twenty acres are devoted to the raising of

grain. While he still rents this place, Mr. Brown has purchased three hundred and thirty-two acres on section 31, four and one-half miles west of Clovis, which he also farms in connection with his place of residence.

In White county, Tenn., Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Mattie England, a native of Arkansas, and to them have been born the following children: Ollie (now the wife of Jared Moore, of Clovis), May, William, Harland, Samuel T., Fina, George Henry and Joseph, all of whom are living at home. Mr. Brown has never taken a very prominent part in politics. He thinks it best to cast aside party lines in local elections, but in national issues he votes for the Democratic candidates. In fraternal relations he is associated with the Woodmen of the World.

---

**MILLS ELEY.** Prominent among the representative stockmen of Fresno county, Mills Eley is engaged in this work in the vicinity of Pulaski, while he makes his home in Fresno at No. 925 O street. He was born in Talladega, Ala., in 1858, a son of Merritt Eley. The elder man was a native of Madison county, Ala., where his father, Mills Eley, had removed from his home in Virginia, which had been established there many generations earlier by English ancestors. Mills Eley had proven a patriot in time of need, taking part under General Jackson in the war of 1812. He died early in life, his family of children being reared on the paternal homestead. As a boy Merritt Eley went to Talladega county, where he engaged as a planter in manhood. During the Civil war he served in an Alabama regiment. He died in March, 1870, at the early age of forty-six years. Religiously he was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in which he acted as ruling elder. In January, 1854, he was united in marriage with Sophronia Blasingame, a native of Marshall county, Ala., and a daughter of Jesse Blasingame. He was a native of the Carolinas. He located as a planter in Marshall county, Ala., where he married Mary Walker, whose parents were from South Carolina. Mrs. Eley brought her family to California in 1876, and entered land in the vicinity of Fresno, where she engaged in the stock business. She is the mother of nine children, seven of whom are still living.

Mills Eley, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the paternal farm in Alabama until 1876, in which year he accompanied his mother to California, his education being received in the common schools of his native state. On his mother's property he engaged in stock-raising, and in 1878 entered into the business for himself. He located first on Kings river, where he remained

one year, thence going to Academy, where he began the sheep business, his range at that time being in what is now Madera county. He entered land and also homesteaded a farm eight miles east of Borden, where he made all improvements and gave intelligent effort to the success of his enterprise. Later he sold out and located his home in Fresno, while he still conducts the sheep business on his ranch northwest of Pulaski, which, since 1903, has been a partnership affair, A. H. and L. A. Blasingame being interested with him. They have over twenty thousand acres of pasture land for their sheep, which number from ten to fifteen thousand head of a good grade of mutton stock. This enterprise has been one of the most successful in Fresno county, and has named Mr. Eley among the representative stockmen of the section. For many years he has been a member of the National Sheep Breeders' Association, and fraternally was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, and is also a member of Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M. Politically he is a Democrat and an ex-member of the county central committee.

---

**PETER DROGE.** A successful fruit dealer of Fresno, Cal., Peter Droge is named among the prominent business men of this city. He is a native son of the state, his birth having occurred in San Francisco, September 2, 1872.

Peter Droge was reared in San Francisco, receiving his education in the public schools and Heald's Business College, graduating from the latter institution in 1887. His first business employment was with George Wallcon, of San Francisco, with whom he remained as bookkeeper for three years. Following this he came to Fresno and entered the employ of the Seropian Bros. as manager of their fruit business, remaining so occupied until he went into business for himself. He met with success in his work, and in the spring of 1902 established a packing plant, which was incorporated in July of the same year, under the name of the Droge Fruit Company, with a capitalization of \$25,000. Mr. Droge became its first president, his brother its treasurer, and Charles A. Paulden vice-president and secretary. The company then built a packing house on the Southern Pacific Railroad, with a capacity of five thousand tons, modern in every way and operated by steam power. In November, 1904, this plant was destroyed by fire, when the company purchased the Porter Brothers' plant, fitting it up for the business with double the capacity. This plant is also located on the Southern Pacific Railroad, with an office at No. 1823 Tulare street. They handle all kinds of fruit, buying from Modesto to Bakersfield. They are the largest packers of California figs in the state, handling one-

third of the product of this section, having made a specialty of this fruit at the beginning of the business. Mr. Droge's business is an important factor in the development and progress of Fresno and he is accounted one of the enterprising and resourceful business men and one who can always be depended upon to give his best efforts toward the upbuilding of the community in every possible way.

---

**CHARLES A. KIMBLE.** Prominent among the men who have come to Kings county with assets consisting of physical strength and mental alertness, and who have had the sagacity to perceive and the boldness to push to a successful issue a large and paying opportunity, mention is due Charles A. Kimble, one of the most extensive stock raisers and most prominent and wealthy pioneers of Kings county. Traveling south over well kept country roads four miles from Hanford one comes to the model stock farm, from which no improvement suggested by latter day enterprise has been omitted, and where grow to maturity some of the finest sheep and Clydesdale horses on the Pacific coast. Mr. Kimble came to Kings county in 1889, bought a half interest in a one hundred and sixty acre ranch, managed the same for some time, and then purchased it all for his present home. In addition he rented large tracts of land for his sheep-raising industry in 1895 and at the present time has eight thousand head of American Merino and Ramboulet sheep, twelve hundred of which are the famous Ramboulet bucks. At the head of his herd of Clydesdales is the well-known stallion whose registered name is Yathin Stamp, the winner of many premiums, and whose graceful and splendid proportions have been the admiration of many hundreds gathered at the district and agricultural fairs. Yet another source in the stock line is a high grade of hogs, of which Mr. Kimble sold four hundred and forty-two head at one time, averaging two hundred and twenty-six pounds. He receives good prices for his Clydesdales and ships them all through the west and as far east as Chicago, Ill. Having insufficient feed for his stock Mr. Kimble bought, in 1901, three hundred and twenty acres of land eight miles south of Hanford, and in 1903 added to it two hundred and forty acres of land, both farms being under alfalfa. He also rents three hundred and twenty acres adjoining his home farm, which contributes further to the alfalfa output. He is one of the best judges of fine stock in the San Joaquin valley, and his advice and counsel are sought and appreciated on occasions involving the prestige of Kings county as a stock producing center. He is a director in the Kings county Agricultural Association, an institution which



has proved of great benefit to stock and produce raisers throughout the county.

When Mr. Kimble started out on his own responsibility at the age of twenty-one, he had a thorough knowledge of farming and an aptitude for making it a paying proposition. Until then he had lived on the home farm in Ontario county, N. Y., where his birth occurred November 2, 1865, and where his father, Chillian Kimble, still makes his home. Having posted himself regarding the various chances for advancement open to the ambitious youth on the coast, he went to Phoenix, Ariz., near which city he worked on a farm for a year. Not liking the prospects in Arizona, he came to California with hopes of better success, and in Woodland worked at the carpenter's trade for two years, removing to his present farm in 1889. He was obliged to go partially in debt for his land, but industry soon enabled him to rise above this handicap, and his way has been comparatively clear of hindrances since getting a start. His family consists of his wife, formerly Bertha Dewey, a native of California, and four children: Florence, Elmer, Nellie and Alice. Mr. Kimble's intelligent grasp of the needs and possibilities of this county has made him an important factor in many of its outside enterprises, especially in connection with the development of water. He is the representative of Kings and Tulare counties in the St. John's River Association, and the president of the Lake Side Ditch Company. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and of the Hanford Lodge No. 194, K. of P. Mr. Kimble is a solid, substantial and practical man, a generous contributor to worthy causes, and a supporter of education and progress. As a stock-raiser no one has excelled and few approached his standard, and as he is a comparatively young man, his career is surrounded with every indication of extended future usefulness.

**WILLIAM H. GARDNER.** A prominent wheat grower of the Upper Kings river country, William H. Gardner is widely known throughout this section of Fresno county. He was born in Orleans county, Vt., November 24, 1838, a son of Roswell Gardner, of Massachusetts, who located first in Canada and later crossed the line into Vermont, where he made his home for many years. He came to California on a visit to his son in 1879, and died that year at the age of seventy-two years. His wife, formerly Eliza Hussey, a native of Maine, died in Newport, Vt. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom ten attained maturity, five sons and five daughters, while three sons and one daughter are now living. William H. Gardner was the oldest of this large family of children, re-

ceiving his education in the common schools of both Canada and Vermont, while he was trained to the practical duties of a farmer's son. Deciding to try his fortunes in the remote west, he came to California in 1866 by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and upon his safe arrival located near Santa Clara and engaged in grain farming. For sixteen years he remained in that locality, when he came to Fresno county, purchasing a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, where he engaged in grain farming. He has since added by purchase until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres in the home place, forty acres near by, and four hundred and eighty acres west of Fresno, near Huron. He has also a stock ranch of six hundred and forty acres in the mountains, where he raises horses and cattle. The greater part of his land is devoted to the cultivation of wheat, in which he has met with a gratifying success.

In Santa Clara, Cal., Mr. Gardner was united in marriage with Imogene Riker, a native of New York, and they are the parents of two sons, Harry P., a rancher, and Frederick J., a blacksmith at Sanger. Politically Mr. Gardner is a Democrat and in the interests of this party held the office of school director while a resident of Santa Clara county.

**LUCIUS POWERS.** The Powers orchard and vineyard, of which Lucius Powers is general manager, holds rank among the most carefully improved and most thoroughly cultivated fruit farms in the Centerville district of Fresno county. The property, which adjoins Centerville on the west, comprises an aggregate of three hundred and seventy acres, subdivided as follows: one hundred and fifty acres in raisin grapes; twenty acres in Emperor grapes; eleven acres in oranges; ten acres in apples; six acres in figs of the White Adriatic variety; ten acres in Calmerna figs; two acres in peaches; twenty acres in alfalfa, and the balance in hay and grain which furnish feed for the stock carried on the place.

Ever since the stirring days of 1849 the Powers family has been identified with California history. The founder of the family on the coast was Aaron H. Powers, a native of New Hampshire, but from early childhood a resident of Boston, Mass., having accompanied his parents to that city. At the time of the discovery of gold in California he took passage on a sailing vessel and after a long voyage by way of the Horn landed at the Golden Gate, whence he proceeded to the mines of the north. Eventually he became engaged in business in Sacramento, where he continued for twenty years. Upon retiring from commercial life in 1887 he purchased two hundred and fifty acres west of Cen-

terville in Fresno county and soon afterward planted one hundred acres of the tract in fruits of various kinds, also laid out a large vineyard. Of recent years he has given the management of the place into the hands of his son, Lucius, but still maintains a close supervision of the property and by wise counsel and keen judgment is proving a helpful factor in the highest development of the land. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emma Louisa Sweasey, was born in London, England, and died in California.

Of six sons and three daughters comprising the family of Aaron H. Powers the gentleman whose name introduces this article was next to the youngest. As a boy he received common-school advantages in his home town of Sacramento, where he was born January 11, 1872. After having taken a course in a business college in San Francisco he started out for himself, and ever since has been associated with the fruit ranch in Fresno county, where still he makes his home. An incident of his youth indicates his progressive, enterprising disposition. In 1880, when seventeen years of age, he established the *Kings River News*, a four-page sheet, which was 6x8 inches in size, and was published every other week. The people of the community around Centerville, which had no publication of its own, appreciated his efforts to give them the news of current interest, and their support encouraged him to increase the paper to eight pages, but after he had published it for two years other matters required his attention and he discontinued the little publication.

By his marriage to Miss Abbie Vian, who was born at Colusa, this state, Mr. Powers has three children, Lucius, Jr., Mary Louisa and Martha Kate. In political belief a Republican, he has been active in local affairs of the party, and for some years has served as a member of the county central committee. Fraternally he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the kindred organization of Rebekahs at Centerville. Both he and his father, who continues to make the ranch his home, take an intelligent interest in matters for the benefit of the county and especially give encouragement to movements for the development of the fruit interests of this locality, believing that the land can be made more profitable by following horticulture and viticulture than by continuing in general farming or stock-raising.

---

JACOB VOGEL. Prominent in financial circles in the San Joaquin valley, Jacob Vogel has given his best efforts toward the development of the best interests of this section. He is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in

Hesse-Cassel, November 27, 1839, his father, Baltasar Vogel, being born in the same locality, where he engaged as a farmer and merchant until his death in the fall of 1848. In that same year he participated in the revolution, being a member of the Revolutionary party. In religion he was a Lutheran and was a strong moral citizen and one who gave his efforts to advance the welfare of the community in which he made his home. His wife, formerly Christine Hoffman, was a native of Germany, where she also died. Of the five children born of their union only two are living, a son and daughter. A son, John, went to England and engaged as a baker until his death, and the other son, Ludwig, remained on the old home place, where his death occurred.

Reared on the home farm in Hesse-Cassel, Jacob Vogel attended the public schools until he was fourteen years old, when he was confirmed. He was then apprenticed to learn the shoemaker's trade, remaining so occupied for three years, when in 1857 he came to America. His passage was made on a slow steamer, the voyage occupying three weeks, and after his safe arrival in New York City he went on to Chicago, Ill., where he found himself with but \$1 left of his savings. He remained in that city but four months, when he went to Bloomington, same state, and for three months worked in the employ of a mason as he was unable to follow his trade. He received \$1 per day as his remuneration for his three months' work, after which he found work at his trade until the breaking out of the Civil war. He had taken a keen and intelligent interest in the question of the day, and in 1858 had heard Lincoln and Douglas debate five times in different cities in Illinois. He did not at first enlist for service, but in the spring of 1862 he was a volunteer among three hundred, a company raised in one night to go to Springfield to guard prisoners. In the July following he enlisted in Company A, Ninety-fourth Illinois Regiment Volunteer Infantry, being mustered in at Bloomington, after which the regiment was sent to service in Missouri and Arkansas, where, December 7, 1862, at the battle of Prairie Grove, the regiment suffered great loss. Following they participated in the siege of Vicksburg, after which they were sent to the relief of Port Hudson, and thence to New Orleans. In that city the greater part of the regiment was incapacitated through fever, and four months later the Thirteenth Army Corps was organized and all that was left of the regiment became a part of the same. They were then sent to Brownsville, Tex., on the Rio Grande, one of the most trying and difficult expeditions during his long service, their only food being salt pork. Scurvy broke out in the regiment and the suffering was intense. Later they went to Mobile

bay, taking part in the battles of Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines, and also doing garrison duty. In the taking of the fort at Mobile this corps was active, and immediately afterwards came the news of the assassination of Lincoln. The anger of the troops was something terrible in its magnitude, and but for the previous surrender of the fort the southern soldiers would have suffered at the hands of the enraged sympathizers. In Mobile the troops remained for a time, after which they were sent to Galveston, Tex., where Mr. Vogel was honorably discharged and mustered out of service in July, 1865. During his long service he was wounded once in the right hand at the battle of Vicksburg. Returning to Bloomington, Ill., Mr. Vogel engaged at his trade for some time, did some traveling throughout the west, as far west as Omaha, and later returned. His employer suggested to him the idea of starting a store and shop, and accordingly he located in Clinton, Dewitt county, Ill., where he established his business. He met with success and very shortly his business assumed lucrative proportions, and in a very short time he found it necessary to make two trips a year to the eastern factories, where he purchased his goods. During this time he purchased and improved property in Illinois, owning a farm of four hundred and eighty acres. In 1886 he came to California as delegate to the National G. A. R. Encampment at San Francisco, and while in the state visited various localities. Charmed with the climate, and the business possibilities of the state, upon his return to Illinois he at once sold out his business and returning to California invested in lands, real estate and stock in the vicinity of Fresno, Fresno county. He built a handsome residence on Q street, and later on purchased a forty-acre vineyard in the vicinity of the city, which, however, he has since sold. He also improved four hundred acres on Kearney avenue, devoted principally to alfalfa, and where he conducts a large dairy, and owns as well various other lands throughout Fresno county. In 1900 he located his home in Fruitvale, at the corner of Fruitvale avenue and Bellevue street, but still retains a prominent place in the business activity of Fresno, to which city he goes each month to look after his interests, being director and vice-president of the First National Bank of Fresno; president of the Fresno Street Improvement Company; and owns three-quarters of a brick block at the corner of I and Fresno streets. He is also a stockholder in the People's Savings Bank of Fresno and the Fresno Abstract & Title Company, as well as the First National Bank of Selma, the Bank of Dinuba and the First National Bank of Madera, while he also owns three store rooms in Sanger. Mr. Vogel has brought about his noteworthy success

by a close application to his business, without which even ability cannot bring a man desired results. With nothing but his ability and powers of application, he has risen from a position of dependence to one of competency and affluence, at the same time winning for himself a place high in the esteem and confidence of all who know him either in a business or social way.

In Bloomington, Ill., Mr. Vogel was united in marriage with Eliza Ludolph, a native of Kur-Hessen, and the daughter of Martin Ludolph, who located as a farmer in Indiana, where his death occurred. They became the parents of six children, namely: Amelia, the wife of A. Hall of Fresno; Lulu, the wife of Harry Aldrich of Fresno; Olivia, the wife of Charles McCordle; Herbert E., in charge of the dairy at Fresno; Welby, at home; and Burnel, at home. Fraternally Mr. Vogel is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also belongs to the Encampment. He is a member of Appomattox Post, G. A. R., of Oakland, and is a past commander of Atlanta Post, of Clinton, Ill. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, while his wife belongs to the Christian Church. Politically he is a strong Republican in national issues, but locally gives his support to the men whom he considers best qualified to discharge public duties. Mr. Vogel has proven himself one of the most helpful upbuilders of the San Joaquin valley—a man of strong moral influence and unusual business ability, and a citizen whose best efforts have been given to advance the interests of the community in which he has made his home, as well as the general public which holds his allegiance.

---

DAVID R. GRIFFITH. Representative of the enterprise and spirit of progress which have distinguished the commercial, industrial and agricultural life of Tulare county, David R. Griffith is entitled to the position accorded him by the liberal and public spirited citizens of this section. A member of the firm of Griffith & Owen, proprietors of the Rocky Point Granite Works, he is giving his best efforts toward the success of this enterprise, as well as interesting himself generally in all movements calculated to advance the public welfare. Born near Carnarvon, Wales, December 12, 1851, he is the only one out of a large family to seek a home in America. His father, Robert Griffith, was also a native of the same place, and the representative of a very old Welsh family. He was employed in the slate quarries in that locality, where his father had followed farming for a livelihood. His wife, formerly Mary Jones, was also a native of the same locality, where both herself and husband died. They became the parents of eleven chil-

dren, of whom ten attained maturity, while only three sons and one daughter are now living.

Until he was seventeen years old David R. Griffith remained in Wales, attending the National school in boyhood, and when old enough assuming a place in the slate quarries. In the spring of 1869 he came to New York state and found employment in the slate quarries at Middle Granville. From there he went to Quincy, Mass., in 1872, and became an apprentice to learn the work of granite cutter and maker of building stone. In 1875 he returned to Wales and for the ensuing seven years found employment again in the slate quarries in Llanberis. From 1876 to 1882 Mr. Griffith was secretary and one of the assistant leaders of the Eryri Choral Union, one of the leading choirs of North Wales during this period. The choir, which consisted of one hundred and fifty picked voices, competed for prizes every year and during this time won about \$5,000 in prizes. The most noted competition was the one at Berkenhead in 1878, where two of the best choirs of South Wales and two of the best choirs from North Wales and one from Liverpool entered the contest for a prize of \$1,000, which was won easily by the one to which Mr. Griffith belonged. During this time he was also a leader of another choir of one hundred voices that was successful in competitions. He also wrote many pieces of poetry that became popular, namely: The Soldier Brave, Choral March, music by Dr. Joseph Parry, Gwenfron, music by R. S. Hughes. Other pieces were set to music by American composers. He was special correspondent to the *Carnarvon Herald* during the same years and he made his home at Llanberis, where he was known entirely by his Bardic name Granvillefab. The Eryri Choral Union was the first choir in North Wales to give an opera in costume, as the churches of that location, at that time, were much opposed to operatic singing. Mr. Griffith was the one who induced the members to undertake the matter. The expense of one entertainment was over \$1,000 (a neat sum at that time in North Wales), the costumes being obtained from London. The opera *Blodwen*, by Dr. Joseph Parry, the first Welsh opera ever written, was produced and was a grand success, over six thousand people attending it, being held at the Pavilion Carnarvon. For years he led the singing in one of the largest churches in Llanberis and devoted one night each week in teaching the children to sing, using the Tonic Sol Fa method. In 1888 he was the leader of a male choir in San Francisco. He taught a music class in Exeter, his home, during the winters of 1889-90, and also led the singing in the church there. His services were always given gratis and were appreciated by those who were benefited.

Deciding to locate again in the United States Mr. Griffith went to Austin, Tex., and engaged in the granite business, helping to cut the granite for the state capitol. After one year in that location he came to California, worked in San Francisco for nine months, then found employment at Penryn, Placer county, for three months, when he returned to Texas. In June, the following year (1887), making a six months' trip to Wales. In September, 1887, he located in Denver, Colo., where he remained until the spring of 1888, when he once more came to California and located in San Francisco in the prosecution of his trade. He removed to Tulare county in 1889 and leased and opened a granite quarry on Rocky Hill, being associated with D. G. Hughes and R. H. Owen, the former eventually disposing of his interests to the other partners. Mr. Griffith and Mr. Owen have remained connected ever since, five years afterward giving up their lease and purchasing ten acres for a quarry on the north side of Rocky Hill, four miles east of Exeter, and opened new quarries. The quarry is admirably located for a profitable conduct of the business, a spur from the Electric Railroad soon to be built to enable them to ship by the carload. They have built derricks, sheds and shops, all thoroughly equipped, and are soon to have electric power with which to operate. In Exeter they have also built a polishing shop, where they make cut stone and monumental work, all by electricity. Their product is shipped all over California, the excellence of their work, and the despatch with which orders are executed, bringing them a large and lucrative custom. In addition to his business interests Mr. Griffith owns two hundred acres adjoining the quarry, one-half interest in sixty acres on the west side of Rocky Hill (one and a half miles from Exeter), and also owns seventeen acres adjoining, of which ten acres are in a bearing orange grove, where he is now building a residence. Mr. Griffith is prominent locally, being a director of the Exeter Water & Irrigation Company, which canal runs near his property, and is president of the Exeter Citrus Fruit Association, a packing and shipping concern, of which he was one of the organizers.

In Wales Mr. Griffith was united in marriage with Ellen Thomas, a native of that country, where she also died. She left one child, a daughter, *Blodwen*, who is now in Wales, a teacher in the public schools at Llanrug. In Grass Valley, Cal., Mr. Griffith was afterward married to Emma Bagley, who was born in Rough and Ready, the daughter of a pioneer miner from Maine. Mr. Griffith is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and politically is a staunch Republican, now serving as a member of the county central committee. He belongs to the Exeter Board



of Trade and is active in all public movements. Fraternally he belongs to Exeter Lodge No. 308, I. O. O. F., of Exeter, of which he is past grand, and is also a member of Damascus Encampment No. 44, Canton Visalia No. 24, and Orange Blossom Rebekah Lodge No. 265, of which Mrs. Griffith is also a member.

G. W. WEBSTER was born in Chatham county, N. C., a son of Micajah Webster, who was one of a family of fifteen children, twelve sons and three daughters. When his son G. W. was a child Micajah Webster went to Indiana, and there he carried on farming the remainder of his life, dying in that state, as did also his wife, Mrs. Jane B. (Colburn) Webster.

When twenty years old G. W. Webster went to Missouri, where he followed the brickmaker's trade. In Andrew county, that state, in September, 1844, he married Miss Jane C. Smith, a daughter of John P. and Elizabeth (Crittenden) Smith. In 1852, with his wife and three children, Mary E., Sarah E. and John M., Mr. Webster crossed the plains with ox-teams, the journey occupying six months. Two of Mr. Webster's uncles, Hiram and Nathan Smith, who were also in the party, died of cholera. Mr. Webster first settled in San Ramon valley, Contra Costa county, going from there to Vacaville, where he died June 1, 1872. After coming to California six other children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Webster, as follows: Mrs. Martha J. Potter, Mrs. Eliza Dunn, Mrs. Nellie Trevis, Morris S., Mrs. Abigail Shipp and Mrs. Josie Potter. In 1890 the family came to Fresno county.

DR. CHESTER ROWELL, of Fresno, was born in Woodsville, N. H., October 7, 1844, the son of Jonathan and Cynthia (Abbott) Rowell. In 1849 his parents, with their eight sons, removed to Stouts Grove, near Bloomington, Ill., where his father died the next year. With the other younger children he lived with his mother on an Illinois pioneer farm, until the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861, when, with four other brothers, he entered the Union army, taking part in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, the Siege of Vicksburg and most of the battles and campaigns of the Army of the Tennessee, from 1861 to 1864.

After the war Mr. Rowell attended Lombard College, Galesburg, Ill., for a time, and then went to Chicago, where he attended a business college and took up the study of medicine in private. In 1866 he came across the plains of California and settled in San Francisco. He studied medicine with his cousin, Dr. Isaac Row-

ell, and in the medical department of the University of the Pacific, now Cooper Medical College, where he graduated in 1870. During this time he spent one year in Oregon, where he taught school. He began the practice of medicine in San Francisco, but in 1874 came to Fresno, and has continued the practice of his profession in this city and vicinity ever since. In 1876 Dr. Rowell established the *Fresno Republican* as a small weekly paper. It remained under his control for three years, and was then transferred to others. After many vicissitudes the same paper, grown to a promising daily, came, in 1891, into the possession of the present Fresno Republican Publishing Company, of which Dr. Rowell is president and principal stockholder. The paper has now become one of the leading influences and best newspaper properties in California. Dr. Rowell was elected as a Republican to the state senate in 1879, at a time when the county was almost solidly Democratic and was the first Republican ever elected to office in Fresno county. He served as senator until 1883, and was again elected to the same office in 1898 and 1902, and is therefore just completing his twelfth year of service as a senator. He was appointed a regent of the University of California in January, 1891, and has been fourteen years in that office. His present term will expire March 10, 1910. Dr. Rowell was appointed a member of the State Board of Health in 1880, and was a presidential elector in 1884. He was a delegate to the National Republican convention in 1900 and was one of the sub-committee of nine which framed the national platform of that year. He has been a delegate to many state and other Republican conventions and has always been active in politics. During the legislative dead-lock of 1900, Dr. Rowell voted continuously for Thomas R. Bard, who was finally elected senator at the called session of the following year.

In 1872 Dr. Rowell was married to Mrs. Nellie Rowell, widow of his former preceptor, her death occurring in 1884. In 1887 and 1888 Dr. Rowell made an extended tour of the world, visiting Japan, China, India, Egypt and all the countries in Europe. He has taken other less extensive trips at intervals, and has always been an enthusiastic traveler, taking an active and well-informed interest in the affairs of other countries as well as his own. He is a man of public spirit, whole-souled and generous, and is honored by all who know him, either in a social or political way.

ROBERT E. LEE GOOD. The most extensive merchant in Clovis, Fresno county, Robert E. Lee Good is active in the upbuilding of the

best interests of this place. He was born at St. Albans, W. Va., April 19, 1868, the fourth in a family of twelve children, of whom ten are now living. His father, Thomas Good, was a son of Henry Good, both natives of Virginia, in which state the latter died. They were descended from an English family of prominence and occupied a position of importance in the development of the Old Dominion. Thomas Good removed to St. Albans, W. Va., improving a farm on the Great Kanawha river until his retirement, now making his home in that city at the age of seventy-six years. His wife, formerly Louisa Smith, was a native of West Virginia and the descendant of an old Virginia family. She died in the old home in 1886.

The childhood of Robert E. Lee Good was spent on the paternal farms, while he received his education in the common schools. He remained at home until 1886, when he came to California, and in Fresno county engaged in the cultivation of a vineyard in the employ of M. F. Tarpey. He remained in that connection for ten years, six of which he acted as superintendent of the vineyard. In 1896 he entered upon a commercial career on the corner of Fourth and Front streets, where he has since been located. He bought these lots, which were then nothing but a wheat field, and put up a small building 24x36 feet, and established a general merchandise business. In 1900 he built a new store, 75x110 feet, built of brick, with a large warehouse 50x150 feet, with a capacity of forty thousand sacks. He carries a full line of dry goods, clothing, hardware, groceries, all kinds of produce and dried fruits, and has built up an extensive and lucrative trade. He is also interested in farming, conducting twelve hundred acres planted to wheat and barley, running five six-horse teams in the operation of the work. He has met with success and is esteemed as well for the qualities which have distinguished his citizenship.

Near Clovis Mr. Good was united in marriage with Amy Clay, a native of Merced county, Cal., and the daughter of John A. Clay, an early settler. They became the parents of two children, George and Helen. Fraternally Mr. Good is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the former of Fresno and the latter of Clovis. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, and is ex-member of the county central committee.

---

**LEWIS WILLS GIBSON.** A prominent man in local affairs in Clovis, Fresno county, Lewis Wills Gibson is active as a merchant of this place. A native of Springfield, Mo., he was born

December 27, 1857, a son of W. B., and grandson of George M. Gibson, both natives of Tennessee, and early settlers of Greene county, Mo., where both died. W. B. Gibson, although of southern birth, was a strong advocate of the Union, and during the war served as a member of the state militia. Susanna Wills, a native of Virginia and the daughter of Lewis Wills, an early settler of Greene county, Mo., became the wife of W. B. Gibson, whom she survives, now making her home in that state. She was the mother of seven children, of whom Lewis Wills was the eldest. He was brought up on the paternal farm in Missouri, receiving his education in the district schools and Henderson Academy. In young manhood he followed farming and stock-raising in the vicinity of Springfield, Mo., remaining so occupied until 1886. In that year he came to California, and in Tulare county preempted one hundred and sixty acres, and later homesteaded the same, improving a quarter section of land and cultivating grain until 1897. In the same year he located in Tipton, Tulare county, and engaged in a mercantile enterprise for one year, when he came to Clovis and established the business which was then known as the firm of Hutchinson & Gibson. Three years later he and T. J. Mitchell bought his partner out and the firm was known as Gibson & Mitchell. A year later he bought his partner out and has since continued alone, now carrying on a large general merchandise business.

In Greene county, Mo., Mr. Gibson was united in marriage with Miss E. A. Kerr, a native of that place, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Ernest, who died at the age of twelve years; Clyde, a student in the business college of Fresno; Fred, Floyd and Susie. Fraternally Mr. Gibson was made a Mason in Sanger, Fresno county, and is also identified with the Woodmen of the World. He is a Republican politically, and is a member of the county central committee, and of the school board here.

---

**HANS AHRENSBERG.** A successful manufacturer, Hans Ahrensberg has done much for the industrial development and prestige of Fresno. He is a native of Schlesvig, Germany, born at Barsmark, near Apenrade, July 19, 1865, the youngest in a family of eleven children, of whom seven are living. His father, Hans Christian Ahrensberg, was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, and in manhood learned the blacksmith's trade, combining this with farming pursuits in Barsmark, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-six years. He was the representative of a very old and prominent family of Copenhagen. His wife, formerly Maria Christine Hansen, died in Barsmark at the age of seventy-five years.



They were devout members of the Lutheran Church.

Reared in Barsmark, Hans Ahrensberg received his education in the common schools of that place. Upon leaving school he entered the blacksmith shop of his brother, where he served an apprenticeship of two years. At the age of seventeen years he immigrated to America and came at once to California, locating first at Soledad, where he followed his trade for one year; thence to Salinas for eighteen months in the same work; and in April, 1885, he located in Fresno. He engaged in the prosecution of his trade for four years, when he established a blacksmith business on L street under the firm name of Jacobsen & Ahrensberg. Upon the death of the former two and a half years later Mr. Ahrensberg continued for a like period alone, when he took in as a partner L. Lauritzen, the firm name being H. Ahrensberg & Co., their business first on K street and later on Fresno and H streets. He established an agricultural implement factory, which was conducted successfully for eight years, when it was incorporated under the style of H. Ahrensberg Company, with Mr. Ahrensberg as president. Eight months later he sold out his interests and in 1904 established his present business on I and Mono streets, building a shop 50x75 feet in dimensions, two stories in height, where he carries on general blacksmithing and horseshoeing. He has also built a comfortable residence at No. 1245 R street.

In Salinas, Cal., Mr. Ahrensberg was united in marriage with Elvine C. Nielsen, a native of Schlesvig. Fraternally Mr. Ahrensberg is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is past grand and ex-representative; the Encampment, of which he is past chief Patriarch and ex-representative, and is a charter member of Fresno Canton No. 30, of which he has served as treasurer since its organization, in 1900. He is a member of the Rebekahs and a charter member of the Dania Society of California and past grand president. In national politics he is a staunch Republican.

**FREDERICK C. SHUMARD.** During the past thirty years many men have migrated from the east, settled in Fresno county, and by perseverance and industry have accumulated and become the owners of handsome property. To accomplish this they have been saving, and yet with all their economy they have instituted and promoted numerous public improvements. Such men as Mr. Shumard have made Fresno one of the leading counties in the state. Born in Clermont county, Ohio, August 11, 1845, Frederick C. Shumard is a son of Jacob and Mary (Cline) Shumard. The father was born, reared, lived

and died in Ohio. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company K, Seventy-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being in the service from 1862 until 1865. His marriage resulted in the birth of seven children, four boys and three girls.

Frederick C. Shumard obtained a common school education and remained at home working on his father's farm until 1868, when he came to California. Locating at Hollister, he engaged in the lumber business and was also interested in farming until 1876. In the fall of that year he took up his residence near Liberty, Fresno county, where he followed stock-raising five years. He then sold his interests there and bought his present place of one hundred and twenty acres, twelve and one-half miles west of Laton. Here he is carrying on a stock and dairy business, his efforts being well rewarded.

While living at Hollister he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Ann Hill. She is a native of Ohio and a daughter of Jonas Hill. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Lenora Pearl, wife of J. W. Downing, of Elkhorn; Ernest C., who is attending a dental college in San Francisco; Albert M., deceased; George R.; Sarah Edna married F. I. Sherrill of Riverdale, and Gladys at home. Politically, Mr. Shumard firmly believes in the principles of the Prohibition party, and is an active supporter of that party. Starting in life without money or influence, he has persevered and to-day Fresno county counts him one of its substantial citizens.

**JOSEPH J. STREET.** A noticeable fact in the population of California is that the southern element is represented in almost equal degree with the northern, for the climate and opportunities of the coast region have proved as attractive for families south of Mason's and Dixon's line as for the people from the colder climate of the north. Among the men of Fresno county who trace their lineage to southern progenitors, mention belongs to Joseph J. Street, who is a southerner by birth and ancestry. Born in White county, Tenn., December 6, 1846, he was only three years of age when his father, hoping to better their financial condition, removed the family to Arkansas. As the years passed by, however, Richard Street found his prospects less bright than at first, for in addition to financial troubles, the war cloud was beginning to hang heavy over the land. In 1860 he decided to make another move, and this time he crossed the plains with ox-teams and settled in California. After two years on the Kings river, in the fall of 1862 he bought a tract of land near Visalia and took up ranch pursuits. Probably prosperity would have rewarded his arduous exertions had

his life been spared, but he died within a year after settling on the ranch from whose purchase he had hoped so much. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Patience Randolph, was born in Tennessee and died in Tulare county, Cal.

In the parental family there were three daughters and five sons who attained mature years, one of these being Joseph J. Street, now of Fresno county. As a boy he had practically no advantages for an education. Poverty reared an impassable barrier between him and the schooling he earnestly coveted. Toil was his portion from childhood and the future held little promise in the Arkansas environment. When the decision was made to seek a home in California he gladly agreed to the proposition and accompanied his parents across the plains, settling on a ranch in Tulare county. In the fall of 1877 he came to the upper Kings river and rented a ranch three miles east of Centerville. In October, 1901, he secured his present homestead sixteen miles east of Sanger, where he not only conducts ranch pursuits, but also carries on a stage station. The ranch is situated on the Sequoia mill road, a highway in more frequent use by travelers than some of the other roads in the eastern part of Fresno county. In addition to this property he owns a cattle ranch and also leases a considerable acreage. His wife, formerly Mrs. Almira Hutchinson, is the owner of a ranch of two hundred and forty acres in Clark's valley, their aggregate possessions representing a considerable amount. In politics he has been a stanch Democrat ever since casting his first ballot. Though not an office seeker, he accepted the positions of road master and school director at the solicitation of the people of his district, and these offices he filled with care and praiseworthy diligence.

---

**PHILIP W. HASTIE.** An extensive farmer, Philip W. Hastie is located on a ranch of one hundred acres three miles south of Fowler, Fresno county, which was originally a portion of a four hundred acre tract which he has sold off in small tracts, the whole being known as the Iowa Colony. He was born in Warren county, Iowa, December 21, 1851, a son of Andrew Hastie, who emigrated from his birthplace near Edinburgh, Scotland, to the United States and located in Ohio, near Columbus. He engaged as a railway contractor, some of the first construction throughout that locality being his work. He went to Iowa in 1850 and located in Warren county, where he engaged in farming. He is now retired from the active cares of life and makes his home in Carlisle, Iowa. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Whittecar, a native of Ohio, died in 1868. They were the parents of

four sons and two daughters, of whom Philip W. Hastie was the oldest. He was reared in Iowa and educated in the common schools, making his home in that state until 1873. Coming to California in that year, he spent the two years following in various parts of the state, in Monterey, Lake Tahoe country, etc. He returned to Iowa in 1876 and engaged in farming on his father's place. In the fall of 1882 he once more located in California and on Christmas day of that year accepted the position of superintendent and foreman of the Iowa and California Fruit Company, located two miles northwest of Fowler, Fresno county, and consisting of three hundred and twenty acres. This he conducted successfully for two years, when, in 1884, he engaged in farming independently on rented land. Later he purchased land, and in the fall of 1885 he bought his present place. This consisted at that time of four hundred acres three miles south of Fowler and was nothing but a bare and desolate plain. He engaged in farming and later colonized the tract which was known as the Iowa Colony, having left but one hundred acres of the original purchase. In the meantime he colonized section 26, and the west half of section 27, north half of section 21, north half of section 33, and east half of section 29, and is now engaged in the sale of section 22, all in the vicinity of Fowler. On the Santa Fe Railroad south of Oleander he also colonized eleven hundred acres known as the Bowles tract. In the midst of his other interests during the past sixteen years he has carried on a threshing machine business, he himself renting four thousand acres devoted to grain. In the wheat panic of 1893 he lost quite a fortune, which, however, he partially regained in 1895, after which he quit the business. He then engaged in the cultivation of fruit and helped in the placing of irrigation ditches. He still retains an interest in real estate operations and is active in all public movements of the community, where he is an influential member. He is a Republican politically and during the election of McKinley as president he gave his best efforts toward his support, being at that time chairman of the Republican committee. He is a member of the Pioneer Club of Fresno county.

---

**JOB MALSARY.** A pioneer of California and one of the oldest residents of Fresno county, Mr. Malsary is not only a most respected citizen of the State, but is one of the most successful farmers of Fresno county. Coming to the state in 1853, he has been an eye-witness to the remarkable growth and development of California, and in this work of progress he has ably performed his part. A native of Clermont coun-

ty, Ohio, he was born June 11, 1833. His father, Isaac Malsbary, was born in New Jersey, later taking up his residence in Clermont county, Ohio, where he lived until his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Isabelle Hall, and by her marriage became the mother of six children, four sons and two daughters. She died in Ohio August 8, 1849.

While in Ohio, and after the death of his mother, Mr. Malsbary worked for \$8 per month until he accumulated sufficient means to purchase a ticket to San Francisco, which cost him \$130, steerage passage. After a very stormy voyage he arrived in San Francisco February 16, 1853. From there he went to the mines near Placerville, remaining until 1858, then entered the University of the Pacific, where he was a student for two years. He subsequently engaged in farming on rented land near San Jose, until 1874, when he removed to San Benito county, locating near Hollister, where he purchased three hundred acres of wheat land. There he carried on a successful business until 1885, when he located in Fresno county, near Riverdale. Here he bought his present place of two hundred and forty acres and has since been engaged in the stock and dairy business.

In June, 1859, when twenty-six years of age, Mr. Malsbary was united in marriage with Henrietta Shaw, a native of Lake County, Ill. This union has been an unusually happy and congenial one, and has been blessed by the birth of five children, as follows: Albert J.; Sanford, deceased; Amey, now Mrs. F. R. Green; Cora, deceased, and Otis.

A staunch supporter of the principles advocated by the Prohibition party, Mr. Malsbary has taken an active interest in local affairs. Through the exercise of economy and industry, he has accumulated a handsome property and is classed among Fresno county's most successful farmers. Both he and his estimable wife have a circle of friends that is co-extensive with their circle of acquaintances.

---

CRISS WELDON TREMPER. Everyone knows more or less about the great mining excitement at Nome, Alaska, but in Mr. Tremper we find a man who was one of the very first to stake a claim in that famous country, and was the original discoverer of what is known as "Glacier Hill." For four years he was one of the foremost mining men of Nome, his efforts being rewarded with splendid success. Since returning to California he has become extensively interested in the fruit and cattle business, and while he has lived in Fresno county but a short time, his force of character and business ability have gained for him a position in the business world that is as-

sured, opening up a future that appears very bright. The soul of honor and a royal good fellow he has already gained a large circle of friends that is constantly increasing.

A native son of the Golden West, Mr. Tremper was born in Lake county, Cal., May 23, 1867, a son of L. B. and Matilda (Slater) Tremper. L. B. Tremper was a native of New York state. When a boy his parents removed to Crown Point, Ind., where he learned the blacksmith's and machinist's trade. In 1848 he crossed the plains to California, thus being one of the first to blaze a trail across the barren deserts and trackless forests. Locating in the mines of northern California, he remained there until 1854, when he was severely injured and made a cripple for life. On recovering he went to Napa county for a time, subsequently locating in Lake county, where he followed his trade. He is now living in Lower Lake county at the age of eighty years, and in spite of his crippled condition is hale and hearty. His wife was born in Springfield, Ill., and became the mother of ten children.

Criss W. Tremper was the third child. His father gave him the benefits of a good schooling, his studies in the lower grades being supplemented by a course of study in an academy under Prof. William H. Adamson. On reaching his majority he went to the mines, and from that time until his removal to Fresno county he followed mining. In 1888 he went to Utah and for ten years thereafter worked in the mines of Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, New Mexico and California. In 1898, the year of the great Klondike excitement, he went to that frozen country and for two years was employed as a salesman by the Alaska Exploration Company. At the time of the discovery of gold on the beach at Nome in 1900 Mr. Tremper resigned his position and went to that section. Being an experienced miner he soon saw the possibilities of the country, and a little later discovered "Glacier Hill," one of the richest mines at Nome. Realizing that it would take many thousands of dollars to develop the property, he formed a partnership with J. T. Price, and together they spent about \$64,000, all of which was used in litigation in the courts, they being mixed up in seven lawsuits, but in each case the court rendered a decision in their favor. Glacier Hill proved very rich, and for four years yielded up its hidden gold, nearly \$2,000,000 being taken out in that time. Mr. Tremper was identified with much of the pioneer work at Nome, being the first man to dig a ditch, which was named the Price-Tremper Ditch. This connected Glacier creek and the Nome river.

In 1904, tiring of the life in that faraway country, Mr. Tremper disposed of his water rights and other interests and came to Fresno county,

locating on his present place, four miles north-east of Kingsburg. Here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres, most of which is devoted to grapes and other fruits. In Lake county he has extensive interests, being the owner of the Tremper Hog Ranch, composed of twelve hundred and eighty acres. It will thus be seen that his interests are very extensive. His success in life has been little short of marvelous, as he started out without a dollar, all his possessions being the result of his own individual efforts.

In Calaveras county Mr. Tremper was united in marriage with Miss Eva Edna Tupper, and to them have been born one child, Criss W., Jr. In fraternal relations Mr. Tremper is a member of the Odd Fellows, having united with the Arctic Brotherhood of Alaska, he being the third man to join, and is a life member. A Republican in politics, he is deeply interested in the welfare of his party, but his life has been too busy for any active participation in public affairs.

---

CHESTER H. ROWELL, editor of the *Fresno Republican*, was born in Bloomington, Ill., November 1, 1867, the eldest son of Jonathan H. and Maria (Woods) Rowell. In boyhood he attended the public and high schools of his native city and the Illinois State Normal University, after which, in the fall of 1885, he entered the University of Michigan. He graduated in 1888 with the degree of Ph. B. and remained one year more for graduate study. The following three years Mr. Rowell spent in Washington, D. C., two years as clerk to the committee on elections of the House of Representatives, of which his father was chairman, and the other year in private literary work. While in Washington he compiled a Digest of the contested election cases in the Fifty-first Congress, which was published by order of Congress, and gathered most of the material for his volume on the election cases in all the congresses, which was subsequently published. Mr. Rowell then went to Europe, where he spent two years in study and travel. He was enrolled as a student in the Universities of Halle and Berlin, Germany, and also studied in Rome and Paris. He traveled on foot across Germany, Switzerland and Italy, and made another foot-tour in Bohemia.

Returning to America Mr. Rowell engaged in teaching. He taught in Baxter College (now defunct), Kans.; in Racine College, Wis., the Fresno (Cal.) high school and in the University of Illinois. In the university he had charge of the work in Scientific German, and in the other institutions taught languages and mathematics. In 1808 Mr. Rowell returned to Fresno, where he had formerly been a teacher in the high school,

and assumed the editorial management of the *Fresno Morning Republican*, in which work he has been engaged ever since. He spent the winter of 1900-01 in Washington. In 1901 he was Republican candidate for mayor of Fresno, but was defeated by the incumbent, L. O. Stephens. He served for several years as trustee of the Fresno Free Public Library and secured from Andrew Carnegie the gift of \$30,000 for the construction of the present library building. He is now a member of the school board.

Mr. Rowell was married in Chicago, August 1, 1897, to Myrtle M. Lingle. They have had two children, Chester H., born July 4, 1898, and died January 22, 1900, and Cora W., born May 4, 1900. Besides newspaper articles, lectures, and contributions to scientific and other periodicals, Mr. Rowell is the compiler of the volume of the reports of the contested election cases in the Fifty-first Congress above mentioned and is the author of "A Historical and Legal Digest of All the Contested Election Cases on the House of Representatives of the United States, from the First to the Fifty-first Congress—1789—1901," published by order of Congress at the Government printing office in 1901. Mr. Rowell is a man of ability and culture, a scholar of thorough training, and has given special attention to the study of languages. He is also a successful business man, and has taken an active interest in public, and especially municipal, affairs. He is held in high esteem by all who know him, either personally or through the medium of his pen.

---

JOHN RANKINE. When the California Wine Association desired to select a thoroughly qualified and experienced man to place in charge of an important undertaking, they chose John Rankine and by this act showed the high confidence reposed in his knowledge of viticulture. As manager and superintendent of the Wahtoke vineyard for the Great Western Vineyards Company, he occupies a position of trust and responsibility. The tracts of the company lie seven miles north of Reedley, with mail service furnished by Rural Route No. 2 from Sanger. Approaching the grounds at a distance one is impressed with the beauty of the place. The neat white buildings present an attractive contrast to the wealth of vines, and when the visitor learns that all of these results have been accomplished within a very brief period he is impressed anew with the energy of the manager.

A native of Scotland, Mr. Rankine was born in Lanarkshire, June 17, 1870, being a son of John and Agnes (Hall) Rankine, natives of the same locality. The father followed farm pursuits in Scotland until death and since then the



mother has continued at the old home place. They were the parents of five sons and five daughters, John being the eldest of the family. In addition to the advantages offered by common schools, he was sent to school in Glasgow and thus acquired an excellent education. Immediately after coming to the United States in 1892 he settled in California and secured employment as a laborer in the Carmelita vineyard in Fresno county. During 1900 and until 1902 he was in the employ of Mr. Forsythe, having charge of a vineyard and packing house, and, having attracted the attention of the company he is now with, received an offer of a responsible position in their employ. In 1903 he superintended the planting of fifteen hundred acres forming the Wahtoke vineyard. It is said by judges that no vineyard in the entire state is planted or conducted upon more modern plans than this, and already the owners are beginning to reap the results that usually come to industry and intelligence.

The duties of his position leave Mr. Rankine little leisure for participation in local matters, in which, indeed, he takes no part except such as may be represented by the casting of a Republican ballot at elections. In fraternal relations he is an enthusiastic Mason and a believer in the high principles for which the order stands. Besides belonging to the Blue lodge at Reedley, he is identified with Chapter No. 114, R. A. M., and Commandery No. 3, K. T., Scotland. Since coming to Fresno county he has established a home of his own, his wife being Effie Holmes, a native of Iowa. In his work as an expert with grapes he has found in his wife an able assistant as well as a practical helpmate, and they and their daughter, Agnes, have a comfortable home at the Wahtoke vineyard.

---

THOMAS B. MCKELVY. Although the above-named gentleman has been a resident of California only a few years, he has from the first taken a leading part in public affairs, and in addition to improving a fine fruit and stock ranch near Clovis, he is prominently identified with several business enterprises in which he is the moving spirit. In the early spring of 1901 he organized the Clovis Improvement Company, of which he is still manager. During the past four years this company has developed over one thousand acres in the vicinity of Clovis to vineyard, orchard and alfalfa. At the present time Mr. McKelvy has under his management about two thousand acres of fruit, stock and grain lands; he is manager of the T. B. McKelvy & Co. real estate firm of Fresno and president of the Clovis Land Company of Clovis. He is one of the resident managers of the Clovis Fruit

Company, which he organized in St. Paul, Minn., in November, 1904.

Mr. McKelvy was born in western Tennessee in 1858. His father, Elijah McKelvy, joined the Union army soon after the opening of the Civil war and conflicting reports came back from time to time of his being taken prisoner. During the war the mother and child became separated and the three never met again. Mr. McKelvy says that the story of his childhood is similar to hundreds of others whose homes were destroyed by the cruel war and to this day he abhors wars of all kinds and declares that they have no excuse for existence among civilized nations. During the war he went with friends through the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Illinois, and in 1867 went with a colony to northern Minnesota, which was then in part claimed by the Indians. For the first four or five years in this new country there were no schools of any account, so that he was about fifteen years old when he first had the privilege of attending a country school. The following three winters he managed to get into the village school of Alexandria and at the age of nineteen secured a teacher's certificate and taught his first term of school in Douglas county, Minn. He afterwards took a course in the State Normal School and followed educational work in the state of Minnesota for about twenty years. He held the office of county superintendent of schools for eight years in Dakota county, Minn. After retiring from educational work he became general manager for the School Education Company, wholesale dealers in school books and supplies and publishers of *School Education*, the teachers' state journal. In addition to his educational work, Mr. McKelvy has always kept in close touch with the business world, spending his vacations as traveling salesman, bookkeeper, clerk, manager of harvesting crews on large farms, etc. For several years before leaving Minnesota he owned and operated a large farm, also had a half interest in an agricultural implement house.

In 1883 Mr. McKelvy was united in marriage to Miss Mary W. Weichselbaum and to them have been born eight children: Thomas M., Marie J., Anna S., Rowena M., John G., Pearl, Warren H. and Gladys. Little Rowena died at the age of four; the other seven are all at home.

In politics Mr. McKelvy is a staunch Republican and for many years has been active in political matters, but since coming to California he has been too busy looking after his personal affairs and the building up of the country at Clovis to take much part in the politics of his new home. As will be seen by this short review, Mr. McKelvy has made his own way in the world since his early childhood. He had not seen the face of a relative from about the age

of three years until two years ago, when, upon a visit to the old home of his childhood, he found a number of relatives who gave him a royal welcome. He visited the grave of his father, who is buried in Bollinger county, Mo., but was unable, at that time, to locate the burying place of his mother.

Mr. McKelvy has spent most of his life on the frontier, which gives him very valuable practical experience for the work he is now engaged in. He is personally acquainted in most of the middle west and western states. He has made the best of many opportunities, been persevering and industrious, and as a result has accumulated a handsome property. Both he and his most estimable wife and their large family of children are highly respected and have a host of friends who join in wishing them continued prosperity.

---

**ARTHUR WEHRMANN.** Notwithstanding a few experiences of a somewhat discouraging nature, the business career of Mr. Wehrmann has been successful and he now occupies a position among the capable and resourceful business men of Madera. He is of German birth and ancestry, a native of Halla, Saxon, and a son of Louis and Louise Wehrmann, both of whom spent their entire lives in that province. The father was a harness-maker by trade and served in the German army until he was retired. In a family of six children, four of whom are living, Arthur, the youngest of all, was born January 5, 1865. His boyhood years were uneventfully passed in Halla, where he had such educational advantages as the common schools afforded. At fourteen years of age he was taken from school and apprenticed to a baker, with whom he served for three years. At the expiration of his time he set sail for America, arriving in San Francisco, August 12, 1882. Three days later he secured work at his trade in that city and continued employed there until 1890, when he removed to Fresno. It had been his ambition to own a store and his savings were carefully hoarded with that object in view, but his first experience was not encouraging. The bakery and coffee house that he conducted for six months in Fresno proved an unfortunate venture, although he paid every dollar of his indebtedness even at considerable loss to himself. After closing out his business he worked for a baker in the same town.

On coming to Madera in 1893 Mr. Wehrmann bought out Stohl's bakery, which he enlarged and successfully conducted. As the years passed by he established a reputation as a baker and commanded a large trade. Desiring to enlarge the business by the addition of a stock of gro-

ceries, in 1899 he formed a partnership with Mr. Meicke and built a new store, to which in 1903 another new building was added, making the total capacity 50x150 feet. A full assortment is kept of staple groceries, queensware, house furnishing goods, etc. The bakery has a capacity of four hundred loaves per day and its equipment is modern and complete. To this department Mr. Wehrmann gives much of his time and thought, his partner superintending the grocery department. The two are energetic, pushing business men, and deserve a large measure of success.

Of the brothers and sisters of Mr. Wehrmann, one sister, Eliza, has never left Germany, but the others came to America. Max lives in Chicago, where he is engaged in the furniture business, and Clara, Mrs. Lehmann, is also a resident of Chicago. Two brothers, Oscar and Ernest, came to California; the former died in San Francisco and the latter in Fresno. While making his home in Fresno Mr. Wehrmann married Miss Bertha Baden, a native of Germany, and by this union there are two daughters, Erna and Marguerite. The family are identified with the Lutheran Church and believers in its doctrines. Though not prominent in politics nor desirous of holding office, Mr. Wehrmann always supports the Democratic party and is a staunch believer in its principles. Local movements of a beneficial nature receive his support and co-operation, and notably the Madera Board of Trade, which has done much to promote the growth of the city. In his fraternal relations he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Madera.

---

**FRANK S. SMITH,** a dairyman of the Los Banos district, and former editor of the Los Banos *Enterprise*, was born on the old Smith place, near where he now lives, September 11, 1872, and has since allied his energy with the most substantial upbuilding of Merced county. Mr. Smith's father, Samuel A. Smith, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work, was born in Illinois and came to the coast in the early '50s, crossing the plains with ox teams, and engaging in mining in Solano county. In 1866 he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in the west side of Merced county, which is now within half a mile of the town of Los Banos, and to which he has added, and now has two hundred acres. Owing to the fertility of this property, he has derived a gratifying income from alfalfa and stock, and of late years has leased it to his youngest son, Charles. Since practically the beginning of his success in life Mr. Smith has been a widower, for his wife,



formerly Nancy Dollarhide, a native also of Illinois, died in 1878, leaving to his care and guidance five sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. These are Oscar, Jasper, Grant, Frank, Charles, Alice and Amanthus.

The common school education of Frank S. Smith was supplemented by a course at the Stockton Business College, after graduating from which he returned to the home farm for a year. He next engaged in the general merchandise business in Los Banos for four years, after which he began to improve his present place, locating thereon in 1898. The first to cultivate the soil and build in this district, he has since raised alfalfa to a considerable extent, and now has a dairy of twenty-five cows, and other stock to the number of thirty. Mr. Smith has signaled his appreciation of the comforts and conveniences of life by erecting a modern and thoroughly up-to-date country residence, presided over by the wife whom he married in Los Banos, and whose girlhood name was Effie Abbott, born in Merced county, and the daughter of an early California pioneer. Mr. Smith for a year edited the Los Banos *Enterprise*, at the end of that time returning to his farm with added regard for the peace and satisfaction of modern agricultural life. He is a Democrat in national politics, and fraternally is connected with the Woodmen of the World. As one of the younger and more energetic and resourceful of the dairymen and stock-raisers of the vicinity of Los Banos, Mr. Smith occupies a position of honor, not only because he is a native son, but because he is honorable and public-spirited, broad minded and resourceful, and in his intercourse with friends and business men is tactful, considerate, and genial.

---

**ROBERT KELLEY MADSEN.** Occupying a position of prominence and influence among the extensive fruit growers of Fresno county, Robert Kelley Madsen has done as much as any one man to have the orchard and fruit productions of this section of California placed advantageously upon the markets of the world. Largely through his influence, in 1900, the Growers' Winery and Distillery Company, of which he is president, was organized, and also, in 1902, the Parlier Pickling House Association, of which he is president, was formed. With this association, he also established, in 1903, a co-operative seeding plant, and he is now organizing the Fresno Canning Association, which will be of great practical benefit to all raisers of fruits in this locality. He was born April 4, 1860, in Denmark, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, Jorgen Madsen.

A man of versatile talents, Jorgen Madsen

learned the trade of a painter when young, but subsequently followed the sea for awhile, crossing the Atlantic in 1849, and visiting the West Indies, Mexico and California. Remaining on the Pacific coast for a time, he was engaged in the bakery business in San Francisco. Returning to Denmark in 1856, he is now living there retired from active pursuits, being seventy-two years old. Of his union with Conradina Riddle, of Denmark, one son and one daughter were born, the son, Robert Kelley, being the eldest child.

Completing his common school education at the age of fourteen years, Robert Kelley Madsen served as cabin boy on board ship for six months. Going then to Aarhus, Denmark, he attended a school of navigation for thirteen months, at the end of which time he passed the examinations for all the ranks from mate to captain. Shipping then before the mast as a common seaman, he visited all the important ports of the globe, arriving in San Francisco in 1877. The ensuing six months, Mr. Madsen was here employed in coasting, and was afterwards employed on shore, in a warehouse, for two years. Going then with a ship load of barley to New York City, he was on the water one hundred and thirty-eight days before reaching that port. Returning to his old home in 1880, Mr. Madsen learned how to manufacture compressed yeast and whiskey, and the following year came again to San Francisco. The ensuing six months he was yeast maker for the Partrero Compressed Yeast Company, and was then employed for a year with the National Vinegar Works, on Fourth street. Entering then the newly-organized compressed yeast department of the Bay View Distillery Company, he remained there eight months, and then returned to the works of the National Vinegar Company, with which he was connected for a year and a half. From 1884 until 1889, with the exception of four months spent in Denmark in 1887, Mr. Madsen was an employee of the Fraike & Lewis Vinegar and Pickle Manufacturing Company, in Oakland, Cal. When, in 1889, the company dissolved partnership, Mr. Madsen went with Mr. Lewis to San Francisco, where he was employed in the manufacture of vinegar and pickles for seven years.

Locating in Fresno county in 1896, Mr. Madsen purchased eighty acres of land, lying three and one-half miles west of Parlier, and has since devoted his entire attention to the care of his private interests. He has a vineyard of twenty acres, and a magnificent orchard of fifty-four acres, in which he has six thousand peach trees. As a fruit grower he has been very successful, finding a ready market for all of his products. He ships large quantities of raisins from his vineyard, his special brands being known as River

Bend, El Toro, El Fresno, Sunrise, Sunset and IXL.

In Denmark Mr. Madsen married Annie Fleck, a native of that country, and into their household ten children have been born, namely: Georgia; Carl; Anna; Helga; Halven, deceased; Robert Kelley, Jr.; a child that died in infancy; Ellen, deceased; Henrietta, and Harold. In politics Mr. Madsen invariably supports the principles of the Republican party, and fraternally he is a member of the Dania, of San Francisco; of the Danish Brotherhood, of Fresno; and of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. E.

**FREDERICK BACHLE.** Well worthy of note among the most enterprising and successful business men of Los Banos is Frederick Bachle, the oldest established and most extensive contractor of this section of Merced county. He owns a snug little ranch adjoining the village, and on this he resides, having made substantial improvements which render it attractive and valuable. Coming here when the city was in its infancy, he has taken much pleasure in watching its rapid growth, in its upbuilding and advancement being a potent force. A native of Switzerland, he was born March 24, 1846, in the canton of Aargau, which was also the place of birth of both of his parents, John and Annie (Hoch) Bachle. He is the youngest of a family of three children, and the only one in America.

Brought up in Aargau, Frederick Bachle obtained a practical education in the common branches of study, and at the age of fifteen years began learning the miller's trade, at which he worked until 1867. In that year, following in the wake of those of his countrymen who had crossed the Atlantic and had sent home cheering reports of their improved condition in the New World, he resolved to come to America. After a tedious voyage, he landed in New York City, and from there proceeded immediately to Toledo, Ohio, where he worked at the carpenter's trade for nearly ten years. Migrating to California in 1876, Mr. Bachle located in San Jose, where he worked at his trade a year. In 1877 he began contracting and building on his own account, and in the following four years erected some of the finest residences of that city. Removing to the west side of Merced county in 1881, he settled at old Los Banos, and there, and at Central Point, was employed as a wagon manufacturer for two years. Going to Fresno in 1883, Mr. Bachle resumed work as a contractor, and in that capacity built many of the largest and most imposing dwelling houses and business establishments of that locality, remaining there eighteen months. The ensuing year he was engaged in building in Redding, from there going to San Diego, where,

during the time that the boom was on, he carried on a very profitable contracting business. Returning to Merced county in 1890, Mr. Bachle located at New Los Banos, which was then just started, and has since been the leading contractor and builder of this vicinity. Many of the handsomest and most substantial residences and public buildings have been erected under his supervision, and are a standing monument to his ability and skill. Among those of importance may be mentioned Dr. Wade's residence, two large schoolhouses, and the Odd Fellows' Hall. In addition to his contracting, Mr. Bachle pays considerable attention to his ranch, having twenty-two acres of alfalfa, and in his dairy of twenty cows, which is up-to-date in every respect, and is furnished with a separator, he has a good business, renting it for a goodly sum.

Mr. Bachle was married twice. By his first marriage he had one son, Frederick Bachle, Jr., a carpenter by trade, who was accidentally killed in a railroad accident in Nevada. Fraternally Mr. Bachle belongs to Los Banos Lodge No. 312, F. & A. M.

**SAMUEL A. WILLIAMS.** It is doubtful if any rancher in the vicinity of Bakersfield is more fittingly heir to the title of self-made man than Samuel A. Williams, owner of a thrifty ranch of sixty acres in the Greenfield school district, eight miles southeast of the town, and which is valued at \$7,000. Located on the Kern Island canal, every foot of the ranch can be irrigated, and the improvements are many, all of them having been made by the industrious owner who is utilizing them in his alfalfa and hog raising enterprise.

Samuel A. Williams has the satisfaction of knowing that every cent he has in the world represents so much honest toil and practical good judgment, for his youth knew little diversion, few educational advantages, and no influence to help him on his way. He was born in Ross county, Ohio, December 15, 1854. His father, Jonathan B. Williams, was an early settler of the Buckeye state, having come from his native Vermont. He died in Ohio at the age of forty-nine. After his death his wife with her sons and daughters, returned to Vermont and continued to live there for the balance of her life. Samuel A., older than his brothers and sisters, was nine years of age when his father died, and he manfully put his shoulder to the wheel and bolstered up the slender fortunes of the family with his earnest toil. Securing employment on various farms in the neighborhood, he remained in Vermont until his sixteenth year, when he removed to Connecticut. He worked for his board and clothes for a time, and later on sent all of his

earnings to the dear ones at home. By the time he had attained his majority his responsibility lifted somewhat, and in 1875 he married Margaret O'Brien, a native of Connecticut, and of which union five children were born: May, who died at the age of nineteen; William A., who is employed in Bakersfield; Frederick S., an employe in the Coalinga oil fields; Elmer, at home; and Ray E., an infant.

For some time after his marriage Mr. Williams continued to work by the day and month, and in 1883 came to Bakersfield, where he was employed by the Kern County Land Company, remaining with the company for eight years and seven months, during that time looking after their canals. Upon the death of the manager of the company he resigned his position, and with his earnings purchased his present farm, now one of the best in the district. Mr. Williams is a Democrat who leaves to others the trouble of office seeking and holding. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World. He is honorable in all of his dealings, public spirited and generous, and a model of kindness and consideration in his family and towards his friends.

M. C. PURCELL, more familiarly known as "Mike," throughout Kern county, of which he is a pioneer, is a well known figure in stock circles in the community, as by investments in this line he has made several fortunes since locating here. As a sheep and cattle raiser he holds a place in the front ranks among stockmen in the county, and since going out of business for himself he has held the position of manager of the Rosedale Ranch for the Kern County Land Company, located in the neighborhood of Bakersfield. A native of Philadelphia, Pa., he was born December 25, 1842, a son of Patrick Purcell. The latter was born and reared in Ireland, and in manhood married there, after which he came to the United States and settled in Pennsylvania. He there became connected with the famous Molly Maguires in the capacity of captain, and was finally compelled to leave the country, coming to California during the gold excitement in 1849. His first employment here was in the mines near Mariposa, where he met with fair success, after which he went to Napa and bought a farm upon which he spent the remainder of his life, living to an advanced age. His wife, Julia, also a native of Ireland, died in Philadelphia at the age of seventy-three years.

Until he was thirteen years' of age M. C. Purcell remained at home in Philadelphia, after which he became dependent on his own resources, going as far west as Missouri and Kansas, being employed in the two states until 1858. He then came overland to California by ox team,

himself owning an interest in the team, and on arriving in the west located at what was then Kernville, this county, where he worked in the mines for a time. The following year he rented a ranch and engaged in stock-raising, dealing principally in cattle and sheep. In 1864, during the dry year, he took twelve hundred head of cattle to Nevada, after which he sold out and returned to Linns Valley, where he owned a ranch, and once more engaged in the cattle business, continuing until 1870. In 1872 he bought a thousand head of sheep and ran them on range for five years, the greater part of them dying in the dry year—1877—which meant to him the loss of the proceeds of his year's work. He then accepted the position of foreman of a large sheep ranch owned by Solomon Jewett, with whom he remained for three years, when he again purchased a ranch, this consisting of one hundred and sixty acres located three miles north of Bakersfield, stocking it with a thousand head of sheep, which he went in debt to purchase. He remained so engaged until 1894, when he sold his lot of twenty-five hundred head and went to work for the Kern County Land Company as foreman of the sheep department at Santa Media. After two years he took charge of the Jackson ranch, which handled from twenty to thirty thousand sheep, buying, selling, raising, etc., and after three years he was changed to his present ranch, where he has from ten thousand to twenty thousand sheep and cattle, and also has charge of several thousand acres of land. Mr. Purcell was married to Ellen Glass, who was born in Los Angeles and died in Kern county, June 15, 1891, the mother of six children, five of whom are now living. His second marriage united him with Mrs. Weston, a native of Arkansas, and they are the parents of four children. Politically Mr. Purcell is a Democrat, but has never cared for official recognition, as he has had little time in his busy life for public affairs. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, being a member of the Uniformed Rank, and also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

EDWARD SIMPSON. Possessing an unlimited amount of energy, push and ability, Ed Simpson, as he is familiarly known to a host of friends and well-wishers, is one of the most active, promising and popular young business men of New-  
man, and enjoys to a high degree the esteem and confidence of the community. Of English descent, he was born in Central City, Gilpin county, Colo., a son of Thomas Simpson. His Grandfather Simpson, a life long resident of England, assisted as a stone mason in building one or more large aqueducts, and under the employ of Robert

Stephenson, was foreman in the construction of the first railroad built in his native country.

Born and reared in Westmoreland county, England, Thomas Simpson learned the trade of a stone mason from his father. Immigrating to the United States, he followed his trade in Galena, Ill., for a few years. Crossing the plains to Pike's Peak in 1859, he located at Central City, where he worked for a while, but was afterward engaged in contract work, building stamp mills at Blackhawk, Central City, Gold Hill, Sunshine, and in other localities. He subsequently engaged in mining on his own account, after which he was city marshal of Central City for two terms, and then assistant marshal until failing health compelled him to return to Denver, Colo., where he resided until his death, in December, 1886. He was a most loyal and faithful Republican. He married Sarah Snow, who was born in Devonshire, England, and came to this country with her father, Robert Snow, a brewer, who settled in Galena, Ill., where he was employed in lead mining until his death. She survived her husband many years, dying in Newman, Cal., in 1902. Of the children born of their union, three sons and two daughters grew to years of maturity, and with the exception of one daughter, are still living.

Living in Central City, Colo., until eleven years of age, Ed Simpson there acquired the rudiments of his education. On going to Denver, he attended school for a few terms, and was afterward employed as a messenger boy in that city. Coming to California in 1887, he lived at Hills Ferry two years, in 1889 settling in Newman, where he has since resided. Entering the employ of J. C. Green in 1889, Mr. Simpson learned the trade of a plumber, and in 1893 started in the plumbing business on his own account, and as a contractor, plumber and tinner has met with great success.

Mr. Simpson is an important and influential member of several fraternal organizations, belonging to Newman Lodge No. 139, K. of P., of which he is a past officer, and to the Uniformed Rank, and is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In politics he is actively identified with the Republican party, and in its ranks no truer or more intelligent supporter of its principles can be found. He is an ex-member of the Republican county central committee, and for two years belonged to its executive board.

**LOUIE ELFERS.** Many desirable personal characteristics are contributing to the success of Louie Elfers, one of the largest and foremost wheat and barley growers of the vicinity of Crow's Landing. Although still a young man, having been born not far from where he now lives January 11, 1873, he is substantially connected

with the agricultural prestige of his locality, owning a farm of three hundred and twenty acres four miles north of the Landing and renting two thousand acres which he devotes exclusively to wheat and barley. Mr. Elfers' family is too well known to require more than passing mention, more especially as his father, Archibald, a native of Germany and a pioneer of 1849, is written of at length in the sketch of John H. Elfers. Not only was Louie Elfers born with a liking for the soil and its possibilities, but his well trained and ambitious mind is ever seeking for new and more practical means of accomplishing his end, and of contributing yet further to the comfort and all-around welfare of those who comprise his household.

Bright, genial and tactful, Mr. Elfers carries out in a well-knit and finely proportioned physique the harmony of his thought and action, viewing life sanely and practically, and always with a thought of its brighter side. His farm is well equipped and well managed, a model of neatness, thrift and promise. The machinery which enables him to harvest his crops is the latest and best, and his house and barns leave little to be desired from the standpoint of comfort and utility. Politically he votes the Democratic ticket in national affairs, giving his support to the best man in local offices. He is popular and influential in his community, and one of its ablest, most enterprising native sons.

**H. R. SCHELL.** A prominent rancher and wine man of Stanislaus county, located about two miles from Knights Ferry, is H. R. Schell, a gentleman who well merits the esteem in which he is universally held. A native of Lyon Falls, N. Y., he was born June 3, 1845, a son of Adam Schell, who was the descendant of a German family which immigrated to the Mohawk Valley, N. Y., from Baden-Baden during the eighteenth century. Adam Schell became a mechanic and followed this occupation throughout his entire life. He attained the ripe age of ninety years. His wife was in maidenhood Charlotte S. Harris, also a native of New York state.

Reared to young manhood in his native state, H. R. Schell knew no other home for many years. The descendant of patriots, he enlisted, in August, 1861, in Battery H, First New York Light Infantry, and following this served throughout the entire war, participating in many and severe engagements, enduring hardships and privations, but coming safe through it all with never a wound or a sick spell. He was honorably discharged in Elmira, N. Y., in June, 1865, after which he returned to his New York home. In 1867 he decided to emigrate to the more remote west, and accordingly took passage to California by way of



the Isthmus of Panama, after crossing which he embarked on the Golden City, under the command of Captain Lappage. After landing in the state he came at once to the county where he has since been located, at that time joining an uncle, Abraham Schell, who is now deceased. He came to California in 1849, and became a prominent lawyer of Stanislaus county. Soon after his arrival in the county, H. R. Schell located upon his present ranch and engaged in the wine business. His property is located twelve miles northeast of Oakdale, on the Knights Ferry and Stockton road, and consists of three thousand acres of land, a part of which, however, is in Calaveras county. He has seventy acres devoted to a vineyard, and thirty acres in fruit, which includes oranges, lemons, peaches, apples, etc., and has as well three hundred head of cattle. Besides many miles of wire fence he has eight miles of stone fence. His property is well improved, a beautiful two-story frame house and well kept grounds adding to its value. His production of wine during the year amounts to thirty thousand gallons, while he turns out four thousand gallons of brandy. For twenty-five years he has found a market for his wines, both dry and sweet, in New York City.

In California, in 1873, Mr Schell was united in marriage to Clara Church, who was born in New York state, and they are the parents of eight children, namely: Artie C., Pearl, Violet, A. Edison, Lucile, Charlotte, Roman and Charles E. In his political convictions Mr. Schell is a staunch Republican, but though active in his efforts to promote the principles he endorses, he is not desirous of official recognition. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

---

ROBERT WILLIAM MUSGRAVE, M. D. The fact that Dr. Musgrave came to Hanford, Kings county, long before it could boast the proud name of city gives him undisputed claim to the title pioneer. When he first set foot within its present confines but one physician had preceded him hither. Dr. Musgrave at once saw before him the possibilities of a growing town, and forthwith established an office which has witnessed a growing practice from that day to the present time. Not content to serve his own interests alone, he worked unremittingly for the betterment and upbuilding of the infant town, and as secretary of the Hanford Improvement Company his influence was far-reaching.

A native of California, Dr. Musgrave was born in Grass Valley, Nevada county, December 9, 1858, a son of Richard M. The grandfather, who was a native of Scotland, as an employee of the English government, had charge of surveying the harbor of Waterford, Ireland. It was while the family were residing in the latter

place that the birth of Richard M. occurred, and there also he spent his early youth. Brought up within sight of the placid ocean his inborn love for the water led him to adopt a sea-faring life, and when still a young boy entered the English navy. Working his way up gradually he finally became captain of an English merchantman, which landed in the harbor of San Francisco in 1855. This trip proved to be his last nautical experience, for he afterward became interested in the mines of California, and finally became superintendent of the Gold Hill Mill and Mining Company, and still later having an interest in the Idaho mines. His vigorous out-door life had given him a robust constitution, and the news of his death in Grass Valley, in 1878, after an illness of only three days, was a severe shock to all who had known him. His ocean voyages had taken him into all the principal seaports of the world, and at the time of his death he was a comparatively young man, being only fifty-five years old. His wife, in maidenhood Margaret Wilson, was born in the north of Ireland of Scotch parents, who allied themselves with the Orangemen in sentiment and belief. Her father, Robert W. Wilson, served as a soldier in the English army, and when quite advanced in years came to the United States, locating in Philadelphia, Pa., where his death occurred at the age of eighty years. The mother of Dr. Musgrave, with her two sisters, came to San Francisco from Philadelphia about 1855, being accompanied on the journey by Bishop Kipp. Mrs. Musgrave died in Oakland in 1901, when in her sixty-seventh year. She was a consistent member of the Episcopal Church. The parental family comprised five children, two of whom died young. Those living are: Robert William, Mary E., the wife of W. J. Tuck, of Oakland, Cal., and Margaret Wilson, the widow of George W. Payne.

Dr. Musgrave attended the public schools of Grass Valley, graduating therefrom in 1873. In 1875 he entered the University of California and was duly graduated from that institution in 1879. Among his classmates was G. C. Pardee, who afterward became governor of the state. After his graduation Dr. Musgrave taught school at Brentwood, Cal., for a time, and later was temporarily engaged in mining, surveying and railroading in Nevada, but finally returned to teaching, becoming principal of a school in Contra Costa county, Cal. The last two years of this time he had been reading medicine and he subsequently entered the California Medical College at San Francisco, graduating therefrom in April, 1884. He came at once to Hanford, and has had no cause to regret his choice, as he has established a lucrative practice and stands high in the estimation of his fellow citizens.

The marriage of Dr. Musgrave occurred Jan-

uary 15, 1900, and united his fortunes with those of Sue A. Barrett, who was born in Michigan. They have become the parents of three children, Margery M., Dorothy and Donald Robert. Politically Dr. Musgrave is a staid Republican, and has taken an active part in promoting the party's welfare. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, being a member and past master of Hanford Lodge No. 279, and Hanford Chapter No. 74, R. A. M., in which he has served as treasurer. He is president of Hanford Parlor, N. S. G. W., and is a charter member of the local lodge of the Woodmen of the World. The family find their religious home in the Episcopal Church.

**NICHOLAS BIBBY.** Distinguished as one of the early pioneers of California, and as a prominent farmer and stockman of Merced county, Nicholas Bibby is pleasantly located in the town of Volta, on the Bibby road, which was named in his honor. Coming to this locality in 1852, he purchased his present fine farm, which was then an unimproved tract of land, giving but scant promise of becoming the fertile and valuable estate into which he has transformed it, making it one of the best stock ranches in this section of the state. A son of John Bibby, he was born May 18, 1833, in Troy, Rensselaer county, N. Y. His paternal grandfather, Thomas Bibby, a native of Wales, came to this country as a soldier in the British Army during the Revolutionary war. At the second battle of Saratoga, when Burgoyne surrendered, he was captured, and after being paroled joined the American army, in which he served as drum major until the close of the war. He subsequently settled in New York City, where he spent his remaining years.

John Bibby was a lifelong resident of New York state. Learning the trade of a blacksmith when young, he located in Troy, N. Y., where he followed his chosen occupation until his death, while yet in manhood's prime, in 1835. He married Mehitabel Lindopt, a daughter of Enoch Lindopt. She survived him but six months, dying when her son Nicholas, the subject of this sketch, was but three and one-half years of age. She bore her husband four children, three sons and one daughter. One son, Enoch Bibby, came to California in pioneer days, and was accidentally drowned when fording the Big Blue, while out on a trip with his brother Nicholas.

Left an orphan when a mere child, Nicholas Bibby lived in western New York until fourteen years old, obtaining his elementary education in the public schools. Going then to Twin Lakes, Wis., he completed his studies in the village academy, after which he served an apprentice-

ship at the blacksmith's trade. Returning to New York state, he followed his trade at Adirondack Furnace for awhile, and then, with the adventurous spirit of youth, drifted westward to Missouri. A few days later Mr. Bibby joined a party just starting across the plains for California, entering the employ of Dr. Cunningham, the captain, who gave him \$19 a month and his board while on the journey, a period of six months. Arriving in Sacramento, he bade good-bye to his comrades, and in parting with the crowd that came through with him Mr. Bibby treated each one, paying \$1 a drink, a sum that took all of his money, leaving him penniless. Going then to Nevada county, he went to work in a blacksmith shop for \$8 per day, and was also engaged in mining to some extent.

At the end of two years Mr. Bibby located in Northern California, where he established himself in the dairy business, which proved profitable, milk selling at \$1 per gallon, and butter at \$1.50 per pound. His partner, Mr. Kleghorn, being taken ill, Mr. Bibby gave him \$400 with which to take a trip to Honolulu. Mr. Kleghorn settled there permanently, and became a citizen of much importance. He finally married the king's daughter, was appointed governor of one of the islands, and one of his children was the Princess Emma. After Mr. Kleghorn's departure to the Hawaiian Islands, Mr. Bibby embarked in the cattle business in the Sacramento valley, and after his marriage located on a farm in Solano county. Subsequently removing to Napa county, he purchased land, and engaged in general farming until the Berryessa grant was sold, after which he opened a blacksmith's shop in Monticello. Disposing of his land in Napa county in the spring of 1869, Mr. Bibby came to Merced county, first taking up government land on Los Banos Creek, later buying a ranch near Central Point, where he followed his trade in connection with farming. Remaining there but a short time, he sold out that property and bought seven hundred acres of land in Volta, where he has improved a valuable estate. Paying especial attention to the raising of stock he has been very successful in his undertakings, and is numbered among the foremost agriculturists of this section of the county. His ranch now comprises five hundred and sixty acres of land, eighty acres of which he devotes to alfalfa, a prolific and good-paying crop.

In Solano county, Cal., Mr. Bibby married Mary Robinson, who was born near Troy, Mo., and came across the plains to the Pacific coast in 1857, with her cousin, Frank Perkins. Of their union the following children have been born, namely: Annie M., wife of M. F. Lundy, of Newman; Enoch, a carpenter and farmer in Volta; John, carrying on the home farm, and



also his own ranch, which adjoins the home estate; W. R., engaged in carpentering and farming in Newman; Edward, of Los Banos; Hettie, wife of Judge C. S. Cothran, of Los Banos; Minnie died at the age of seven months; Ida, wife of D. V. Brown, of Dos Palos; Samuel, a farmer and dairyman, living near Los Banos; Nicholas, Jr., a carpenter and farmer, of Los Banos; and George died at the age of sixteen years. Politically Mr. Bibby is an earnest supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and is an ex-member of the county central committee. He was the first supervisor appointed by the Governor of the state, and served for two terms in that capacity. He was elected justice of the peace, but did not qualify for the office. Fraternally he belonged to Hills Ferry Lodge, F. & A. M., but demitted, and is now a member of Los Banos Lodge; he is also a member of Merced Chapter, R. A. M.; of the Knights of Pythias; and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In religion he is an Episcopalian.

**JOHAN BRAUN.** In the foothills of Stanislaus county, ten miles southwest of Newman, lies the large farm owned and cultivated by the prosperous German-American citizen, Johan Braun. Among the many people of his nationality who have found independence and a competency in the new world, he is one who has no reason to regret the decision which has made him a citizen of the United States, for under the conditions prevailing in his native land opportunities for advancement were meager. As he came to this portion of California when land was cheap, he has reaped the benefit accruing from the increased value of property as well as the benefits resulting from the careful cultivation of the soil.

Pomerania, Germany, is Mr. Braun's native province, and he was born near Colberg, October 3, 1859, being a son of Christleib and Auguste (Beling) Braun, natives of the same province, and both residents there throughout their entire lives. In religion they were devout Lutherans. Of their ten children only five attained mature years, namely: William, who engages in farm pursuits three miles north of Newman, Stanislaus county; Wilhelmina, who is married and lives in Wisconsin; Carl, who conducts a hotel in Stockton, Cal.; Johan; and Bertha, who makes her home in Wisconsin. During the boyhood years of Johann Braun he gained a thorough knowledge of agriculture as conducted in Germany. His father being a painstaking, industrious farmer, taught him the principles of the occupation, and at the same time trained him in habits of energy, perseverance and economy, important factors in his subsequent success.

At fourteen years of age he left school and thereafter gave his entire attention to farm work for some years. Following the custom of his country, at twenty-one years of age he entered the army. For three years he served as a member of Company Three, Twenty-first Regiment, stationed during the entire time at Bromberg in the province of Posen. On the expiration of his term of service he was honorably discharged.

After having spent eighteen months in Berlin, in 1885 Johan Braun came to the United States with his brother Carl. His first location in California was in the foothills on the west side of Stanislaus county, where he secured employment on Webster's ranch. In 1888 he resigned that position and with his brother, Carl, began to raise grain on seven hundred acres of rented land. The two continued together for a number of years. Meanwhile, in 1891, they bought forty acres of the Page tract, three miles north of Newman. After four years Carl sold his interest to another brother, William, and since then the latter has been in partnership with Johan in the cultivation of the land. To the original purchase of forty acres they have added twenty acres, making a total of sixty acres under the ditch. By reason of the irrigation facilities alfalfa has proved a profitable crop, and is utilized for the pasturage of the seventy-five head of milch cows comprising the dairy. Another improvement in the property is an orchard of three acres which the brothers have planted. This farm is the home of William, while Johan, as previously stated, has his home ten miles from Newman, where he operates six hundred and forty acres of grain and pasture land. In the many labors devolving upon him he has had the counsel and assistance of his capable wife, whom he married in Nevada and who was Bertha Braun, a native of Pomerania. Together they have labored to improve their home place and educate their four children, Hedvig, William, Herbert and Anna, whom they are training in the Lutheran faith and in habits of industry and the highest principles of honor.

**JOHN CERINI.** Born in Switzerland, January 20, 1854, Mr. Cerini is a son of Peter and Mary Ann (Posy) Cerini. The father was a native of the same country and in 1855 immigrated to Australia, locating on Jim's Creek, where he engaged in mining until his death in 1866. To Mr. and Mrs. Cerini were born nine children, four sons and five daughters.

John Cerini was the youngest child in his father's family. His education was obtained in the public schools of his native country. When a young man he started out to make his own way, securing employment on farms in the neigh-

borhood, continuing working for others until 1869, when he came to the United States. Soon after his arrival in New York he decided to make his home in the west and accordingly shipped on a vessel bound for the Isthmus of Panama, making the journey in remarkably short time. His first employment in California was in Alameda county, where he built a board fence. Later he resided in Marin county for a short time, subsequently going to Sonoma county, where he purchased a small ranch, which he has added to from time to time until he now owns two ranches in that county, four hundred acres in each. In 1886 he took up his residence in Fresno county, buying a portion of his present ranch, but since then he has purchased additional land until he now owns three thousand acres. This place is located twenty-one miles southwest of Fresno and here Mr. Cerini is carrying on an extensive stock and dairy business. In his dairy he has one hundred and twenty-five cows, using the milk for the manufacture of cheese, which he disposes of in the Fresno markets. In addition to his dairy cows he has about eight hundred head of fat cattle.

While living in Sonoma county Mr. Cerini was united in marriage with Miss Frances Calzascia, who is also a native of Switzerland. To this union have been born seven children. Mr. Cerini is a Democrat and takes an active interest in the welfare of his party. In the past he has been a delegate to both county and state conventions, while at home he is a leader in public affairs, being at all times willing to give of his time and means to further the interests of the county. Aside from his own personal business interests he is prominently identified with several ventures, including the Millrace Ditch Company, of which he is president and the largest stockholder. He was also one of the founders and promoters of the Mussel Slough Association and is now serving as its president.

---

CHARLES THOMAS TULLOCH. Of the native sons of Stanislaus county none have devoted their lives to its upbuilding with greater earnestness, greater regard for its future, or more sincere pride in its standing among the substantial communities of the west than Charles Thomas Tulloch, president of the Stanislaus Milling and Power Company, and manager of the Stanislaus Water Company. Behind his energy and resourcefulness, his integrity and public spirit Mr. Tulloch has the example of a Scotch ancestry, steeped in the lore, the conservatism, the simple living and regard for truth, which distinguished the descendants of Robert of Bruce. The family theater of activity was shifted from Scotland to Virginia by the paternal

grandfather, who became an expert miller in his native land, and after his marriage with Miss Whitelaw, crossed the sea and thenceforth plied his trade in the Old Dominion. He possessed the true Scotch grit and perseverance, and in time had six or seven mills along the James river, humming their way into the confidence of the business community, and netting their sagacious owner a handsome income. The milling business was so profitable that he naturally trained his children in the same occupation, his son, David Whitelaw, the father of Charles Thomas, taking to it with kindly persistence, and reflecting credit upon the ambition and teaching of his sire. David Whitelaw was born in 1813, and eventually succeeded to the business of his miller father, succeeding also to his Presbyterian sternness, and his little sympathy with the pomps and vanities of life. In time he removed to Kentucky, where he married Sarah White, daughter of John White, and three children were born to him in the Bourbon state. In 1850 he shared the spirit of unrest which visited the land because of the apparently easy fortunes being made in the far west, and, accompanied by his wife, children, father-in-law White, and brother James, removed to Hannibal, Mo., in 1851, the following winter making extensive preparation for emigration to the coast. The journey was accomplished without serious accident or incident of any kind, Mr. White separating from the rest and locating in Madera county, where he engaged in the stock business until shortly before his death, which occurred near Buchanan mine, and James Tulloch engaging in mining in different parts of the state until his death in Angel's Camp about six years ago. David Whitelaw Tulloch spent three years in Stockton, freighting between there and the mines, and in 1855 located in Knight's Ferry, where he engaged in mining for several years. His income, however, was not sufficiently encouraging or his future of enough promise, to warrant a life devotion to winning wealth from the mines, and the occupation of his younger days seemed of all others that in which he could place the most confidence and reap the largest reward. Accordingly, he purchased the mill at Knight's Ferry and operated it until 1875, in which year he left it in charge of his son and removed to Fresno, where he became interested in the stock business. In 1883 he returned to the old mill, managed it with the vigor and enthusiasm of old, and continued to delight in its noise and output until shortly before his death in November, 1897. As became a southern gentleman in whom the tenets of the plantation were firmly grounded, he was a stanch Democrat, his zeal extending only to his own personal vote, and what assistance it was in his power to render his office-seeking friends. He was a Master

Mason, and a Presbyterian. His wife died in Fresno in 1882, having reared two of her children, of whom John W., the elder, is a rancher three miles south of Oakdale.

The educational training of Charles Thomas Tulloch terminated at his fifteenth year, and was acquired in the public schools and at Santa Clara College. He arrived in Fresno in 1873, in time to see the first house erected and the first railroad train pull into the then small hamlet. From boyhood up he had worked around his father's mill, but near Fresno he engaged in the sheep business, later following the miller's trade in Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties for a period of eleven years. In 1884 he returned to Knight's Ferry and helped his father run the mill, and in 1895 incorporated the Stanislaus Milling and Power Company, of which he has since been manager and president. In 1896 the company started a lighting plant, furnishing light to Knight's Ferry and Oakdale, and in 1899 the greater facilities and superiority of location offered in Oakdale, resulted in the removal of the mill to that town, and the installation of the full roller process machinery, run by electric power generated by the company. The capacity of the mill at present is one hundred and fifty barrels per day, and the leading brand of "Stanislaus" reaches markets throughout the state, being especially popular in the mining camps of Mariposa, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Merced and Madera counties.

The Stanislaus Water Company was organized in June, 1899, when the company bought the old Stanislaus and San Joaquin Ditch Company's canal, extending from a point six miles from Stanislaus to within six miles of Lathrop. The new company enlarged the canal, and from an outlet seven miles from French Camp carried it seven miles to Slough, put in masonry for spillways, and set in motion an enterprise of far greater capacity and utility. At present there is contemplated further enlargement of the plant to a capacity of six hundred feet of water per second, when it will be possible to irrigate fifty thousand acres of valuable land. Before the completion of the ditch the land along its proposed course sold for \$15 per acre, and at present the same property, unimproved, brings at least \$75 an acre. Under the able management of Mr. Tulloch the company has prospered, and taken on the dignity of a necessary and upbuilding enterprise.

Mr. Tulloch joins to his business qualifications a predilection for public affairs. His interest and support are easily enlisted in charitable and other undertakings, as well as in the lighter side of social diversions. For many years he has been an honored member of the Masonic fraternity, and has twice been master of Summit Lodge No.

112, of Knights Ferry. He is a member of the Royal Arch Masons of Modesto, and of the Pacific Lodge No. 3, K. T., of Sonora, and the Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E. In Fresno, this state, he was united in marriage with Anna Nielsen, a native of Jamestown, Tuolumne county, and of which union four children have been born: David, with the Stanislaus Milling and Power Company of Modesto; John, with the Stanislaus Water Company; Neil, a student who will graduate at the Santa Clara College in the class of 1905; and Lila, who is attending the Sacred Heart Convent of Oakland, and will graduate in 1905. Commencing life in comparative obscurity, laboring in an humble capacity with steady industry, practicing economy and sobriety, Mr. Tulloch has prospered in his affairs. He has seen several communities grow with great rapidity, and has profited beyond the fortune of the majority in the value which a growing community confers upon fortunate location. His life thus far has been marked by probity, enterprise, and industry, and his character has been enriched by those high qualities of generosity and kindness which have won him business popularity and influence, and the sincere regard of a large circle of friends.

---

JOHN J. RICHARDSON. The representatives of the Richardson family in California are pioneers of the state and men who have experienced the trials and privations of a new country. The head of the family is Thomas Richardson, who came to the state first during the excitement of the gold discovery, returning afterward to his eastern home, when he brought his wife and children across the plains. A son of Robert Richardson, a native of Virginia, he was born in Burton county, Ky., September 18, 1818, whither his parents had removed. When only three months old his home was changed to Pike county, Mo., where his father located on a farm, shortly afterward locating in Pike county, Ill., where the same occupation was followed. Thomas Richardson was reared upon a farm and trained to the practical duties which have since occupied his attention with the exception of a very few years. In 1846, on seeking independent operations, he located in the state of Iowa, where he remained until 1850. In that year he crossed the plains to California, traveling by means of ox teams, and after spending one year in the mines he returned home by way of the Isthmus of Panama. The following year he again crossed the plains, bringing his family to California, locating in what is now Stanislaus county, being the second man to locate on the south bank of the Stanislaus river. He took up land which proved to be a Spanish grant, and he therefore had to purchase the ranch

which he had improved. This consists of five hundred acres devoted to grain and fifty acres of bottom land, which is planted to orchard fruits and a vineyard. Since his location here October 7, 1852, he has brought the land to a high state of cultivation and made many improvements which have placed his ranch among the most productive and attractive in Stanislaus county. He is still active in the pursuit of his agricultural duties, and as well takes a deep interest in public affairs, in the interests of the Democratic party, of which he is a staunch adherent, having served for some time as justice of the peace. Fraternally he is quite prominent, being a charter member of the Masonic lodge at Knights Ferry, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and of the Odd Fellows. In Illinois he married Lucinda J. Wagoner, who is now deceased. Their two living children are John J., the subject of this review, and Ephraim.

John J. Richardson was born in Pike county, Ill., January 15, 1849, and was a child of only three years when he crossed the plains with his parents to the state which he has since made his home. He was reared to young manhood on his father's ranch in this county, interspersing home duties with an attendance of the public schools. He remained at home until he was twenty-three years of age, when he entered upon independent operations in the agricultural line at various places in Stanislaus county. He is now located near Oakdale, this county, and engaged in a successful prosecution of his chosen occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson are the parents of four children, namely: Fannie, Thomas E., Ora Lee and Emmet William. In his political preferment Mr. Richardson is a Republican.

**CYPRIEN PUCHEU.** Many of the most successful ranchmen of sunny California are of foreign birth and breeding, and have brought from their early homes beyond the seas those habits of industry, honesty and thrift that have made them valued and respected citizens of their adopted country. Prominent among this number is Cyrien Pucheu, of Mendota, Fresno county, who is carrying on a prosperous business as a sheep raiser and dealer. A native of France, he was born January 13, 1869, in the village of Barcus, Department of Basses-Pyrenees, being the eldest of a family of eleven children, of whom but two, himself and his brother Pierre, who is in his employ, are in America. His parents, Pierre and Engroce (Cibery) Pucheu, still live on the home farm in Barcus.

Receiving but limited educational advantages, Cyrien Pucheu began helping his father when small, being well trained in farming and stock-raising while young. Before attaining his ma-

jority, he immigrated to America, arriving in San Francisco in October, 1889, his sole capital being his strong hands, willing heart and courageous spirit. Coming directly to the west side of the San Joaquin valley, he worked for nearly three years for Domingo Gastomibide, in the meantime acquiring a practical knowledge of the stock business as carried on in this country. In 1893 Mr. Pucheu started in the sheep business on his own account in Esmeralda county, Nev. He was quite successful until his health failed, when he had to go to a hospital, where he was confined for one hundred and fifty-four days. Returning then to California, he located in Fresno county, building a residence in Mendota, and has since continued in the stock business, having a range about seven miles south of the town, and keeping on an average from twenty-five hundred to four thousand sheep.

Mr. Pucheu married, in San Francisco, Mary H. Pon, who was born in Basses-Pyrenees, France, and they have one child, Julia. In politics Mr. Pucheu is an adherent of the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member and a trustee of the Knights of Pythias, and belongs to the French Mutual Benevolent Association of San Francisco. Religiously he is a Catholic.

**A. D. SWEET.** The business interests represented by the firm of S. Sweet & Co., of which A. D. Sweet is vice-president, are not only of a most extensive nature, but also have brought an added commercial prestige to Visalia. Through a gradual enlargement of stock, the business has developed into a department store of a size unsurpassed by any establishment in the city, four rooms being occupied with a total frontage of one hundred feet and a depth of one hundred and twenty-five feet. In addition to the stock found on the first floor, the second floor also presents an array of goods representing every department of general merchandise. A large retail business is supplemented by a growing wholesale trade that extends throughout the entire San Joaquin valley.

At the family home in San Francisco A. D. Sweet was born July 24, 1876, being a son of Solomon and Annie E. (Phillips) Sweet, natives respectively of Germany and New York City. After having completed the course of study in the San Francisco public schools he matriculated in the University of California, where he took the complete literary course, graduating in 1898 with the degree of Ph. B. Immediately after his graduation he was admitted to the firm of which his father remained the president until death and which, with an office in San Francisco and a large establishment in Visalia, is thoroughly equipped for the prosecution of a suc-



cessful business. In many respects the son has inherited traits that brought prosperity to his father, having the same wise judgment, the same keen discrimination and the same resourceful spirit.

The marriage of A. D. Sweet united him with Miss Carrie Weathers, who was born and reared in Visalia, her father, J. B. Weathers, being a well known citizen of this place. The Visalia Board of Trade numbers Mr. Sweet among its members, and in other ways he endeavors to promote the business prosperity of his home city. His wife is identified with the Parlor of Native Daughters at Visalia, and he is a member of Visalia Parlor No. 19, Native Sons, both being leaders in the work of their respective organizations. In addition, he also takes a warm interest in Masonry and is a member of Visalia Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M. Though not a partisan in political views, he is a staunch Republican and always votes the straight ticket in local and general elections.

**JAMES CRAWFORD.** Self-made in the best sense implied by the term, James Crawford holds to-day a high position in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He came west in the pioneer days of the state with nothing to presage future success save an unlimited supply of courage and energy and a manhood which could admit no defeat. To his credit it may also be said that he has never allowed his efforts toward a personal success to crowd from his life that interest in public affairs, that helpfulness to his fellowmen, which makes for the moral growth and upbuilding of a community, retaining amid all hardships, deprivations and labors the integrity which to-day makes his word as good as his bond among all who know him. A brief resumé of his life is herewith given—interesting reading to the younger generation as well as to those who have worked with him toward a common end—the upbuilding of a western statehood.

A native of Guernsey county, Ohio, James Crawford was the eldest in the family of four daughters and two sons, of whom all but one daughter are now living. His father, Robert Crawford, was a native of Scotland, from which country he immigrated to the United States and located in Ohio, where he became a pioneer farmer. From the age of ten years he was dependent upon his own resources and early developed the traits of self-reliance necessary to a success. After his location in America he made a trip to the West Indies, eventually returning to Ohio, where he farmed and also engaged in the tannery business at Malta. His death occurred in Ohio. His wife, formerly Rebecca Willis, a native of Guernsey county, Ohio, survives him,

making her home in Malta, Morgan county, that state. James Crawford was reared in Ohio on the paternal farm until he was eight years old, when he accompanied his parents to Malta. He received scant schooling while at home in Ohio, but was not satisfied, and after his trip to California, made during the war by the Panama route, he attended school in Marysville, Cal. After his arrival in the state Mr. Crawford went first to Penryn, from San Francisco, where he remained from May until January, when he began placer mining on Dutch Ravine, where, in six weeks and three days he cleared \$385.20. One year after his arrival in the state he went to Quincy, Plumas county, and prospected and mined, and at the end of four more years he had \$4,000. He then bought a mine at Newcastle, which venture proved a lamentable failure, as he not only lost all he had saved, but found himself \$300 in debt. He then found employment at \$2 per day for one month, and after that at \$4, working steadily at this until he had paid off his debt. He then found work at various things in the vicinity of Rio Vista, Solano county, until, with a partner, he became interested in gathering the cotton from the cat-tails on the Sacramento river, using a scow in the process and averaging one hundred pounds a day. This was sold in San Francisco at eight cents per pound and used in the making of mattresses and upholstery. As they had something like five tons they made considerable money. December 5, 1873, Mr. Crawford came to Visalia, Tulare county, attracted to this section by the discovery of gold at Mineral King, where he helped in the building of the trail, from the beginning to the completion. He located claims and followed mining for two years, when he returned to Visalia and began stock-raising, running hogs on the lake. In 1878 he entered the employ of Wiley Coughran, with whom he remained two years. Mr. Coughran then removed to Santa Rosa and Mr. Crawford assumed the entire management of the ranch, acting as superintendent for twenty-four years. With the exception of ten months he has held this position continuously for that time, during the ten months being located in the east, New Mexico and Texas, and near Oroville, Butte county, Cal., acting as superintendent of the Pleasant Valley ranch. This last position he resigned at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Coughran to return to Tulare county in the same capacity. Of one thousand acres in the ranch one hundred and forty are devoted to alfalfa, while the greater part of his attention is given to the raising of hogs, horses and cattle. He also has charge of Mr. Coughran's other interests in the county, and has thoroughly demonstrated the ability and trustworthiness which have always distinguished his character.

Mrs. Crawford was in maidenhood Cora H. Adams, a native of Missouri, and the daughter of D. M. Adams, of Maine, now a resident of Visalia. He served for four years in the Civil war as a member of an Illinois regiment. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford are the parents of five children, namely: Cora Rebecca, Lena L., James Milton, Wiley W. and Esther. Fraternally Mr. Crawford was made an Odd Fellow in Four Creeks, and his wife is a member of the Rebekahs. Politically he is a true-blue Republican, having cast his first presidential vote for Grant in 1868. In the educational interests of the community he has served as school trustee for several terms.

---

**LAWRENCE BULGER.** In the business rush and hurry of the present day the question of the transportation of men and merchandise has to be met, and the chief means established throughout the length and breadth of our continent is by means of railways. That travel on these may be safe and a high rate of speed maintained, railway men are exerting strenuous effort, employing skilled workmen only in the construction and management of these roads. Prominent among the official employes of the Southern Pacific Railway Company is Lawrence Bulger, roadmaster of the Merced District of its Western Division. Gifted with great mechanical ingenuity and ability, he industriously cultivated his natural talents, becoming skilled in the use of tools, and was first a house carpenter, later a bridge builder, and now occupies a position of trust among the practical and experienced railway men of this state. A son of Thomas Bulger, he was born in Malone, St. Lawrence county, N. Y. His grandfather, John Bulger, born in the north of Ireland, immigrated to the United States, and improved a farm in St. Lawrence county, N. Y.

Born on the parental homestead in New York, Thomas Bulger succeeded to the free and independent occupation of his ancestors, becoming a prosperous farmer in Malone, N. Y., where he resided, an esteemed and respected citizen, until his death, about 1889. He married Mary McCabe, who was born, lived and died in St. Lawrence county, N. Y., being the daughter of Lawrence McCabe, a farmer in Malone. She was of Scotch descent, and of Revolutionary stock, her grandfather McCabe having served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. She bore her husband seven children, Lawrence, the subject of this sketch, being the fourth child in order of birth. One other son, Hugh Bulger, of Oakland, is an employe of the Southern Pacific Railway Company as foreman of bridges and buildings.

After completing his early education in the

district schools of his native town, Lawrence Bulger served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, beginning at the age of fifteen years. Migrating to California in 1878, he followed his trade in Martinez for a year, and then entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway Company, which had at that time extended its road to a point about twenty-five miles south of Tucson, toward El Paso. As a carpenter he assisted in building the bridges and erecting the buildings along the line to Texas, continuing in this capacity for three years. Going to Oakland in 1882, Mr. Bulger was a bridge and building carpenter for the company for another year. Being then promoted to the position of foreman of the bridge and building department, he remained thus employed until 1895, with headquarters in Oakland. Proving himself able and trustworthy as foreman, the company appointed him assistant superintendent of the bridge and building department of the Western Division of the road, and four years later, in 1899, made him roadmaster of the Merced District of the Western Division of the road, with headquarters at Merced. At first Mr. Bulger had charge of two hundred and sixteen miles of the railway, but since the reconstruction of its divisions his district now embraces but one hundred and sixty-eight miles, that extending from Lathrop to Muscatel, from Merced to Oakdale on the Stockton branch, and that from Berendo to Raymond on the Yosemite branch. In his district are sixteen sections, with two extra gangs of workmen. Under the management of Mr. Bulger, during the summer of 1903, new steel rails were laid between Lathrop and Fresno, the fifty-pound steel being replaced by eighty-pound steel, and in addition sixty thousand new ties were put in. As roadmaster Mr. Bulger displays great ability, his efficiency being recognized by both his employers and his employes. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Woodmen of the World.

---

**MARCUS LAFAYETTE MORRIS.** Conspicuous among the most extensive and progressive agriculturists of Stanislaus county is Marcus Lafayette Morris, familiarly known by his friends and associates as Captain Morris. Owning and occupying a valuable ranch, which is located about one and one-half miles east of Crows Landing, he is carrying on general farming and dairying with most satisfactory results, finding his chosen occupation congenial as well as profitable. Coming from substantial Virginian stock, he was born January 6, 1840, in Lincoln county, Mo., a son of Charles R. Morris. His father, a native of Virginia, married Elizabeth Mason, who was also born and reared in the Old Dominion state, and they soon removed



to Lincoln county, Mo., becoming pioneer farmers of that place, and there both spent the remainder of their lives.

One of a family of twelve children, Marcus Lafayette Morris obtained his early education in the district schools of Missouri, and while on the home farm he became thoroughly versed in the various branches of agriculture. Beginning life for himself as a dealer in stock, he lived in Lincoln county until 1863, when he removed to Pike county, Mo., where he continued trading in stock, and also in buying and selling leaf tobacco for a year. Crossing the plains with a mule-team train in 1864, he brought a large drove of cattle to California, arriving in the Humboldt valley after a journey of sixty-five days. From 1865 until 1868 he resided in Stockton. Coming from there to Stanislaus county he bought his present farm of seven hundred acres, all of which is subject to irrigation from the canal, and has since been very successfully employed in agricultural pursuits. Captain Morris makes a specialty of raising alfalfa, and is one of the largest dairymen in this section of the San Joaquin valley. He keeps one hundred and seventy-five cows of a superior grade, and in his well-equipped factory, which has a capacity of two hundred pounds per day, he manufactures American cheese, which he sells to the Pacific coast markets, receiving the highest price quoted. From 1872 until 1892 he was engaged in the wholesale and retail butchering business in Oakland, killing and selling sheep and cattle, making a specialty of sheep.

In Stockton, Cal., Captain Morris married Virginia Crow, a native of Missouri, and into their household three children have been born, namely: Walter and Roy, living at home; and Archer, of San Francisco. Politically the Captain is a steadfast Democrat and a staunch supporter of its principles.

---

**JOHN C. MOORE.** It is asserted by many competent to know that, in matters pertaining to values of property in Fresno, no man is better posted than Mr. Moore, senior member of the real estate firm of Moore & Cate, with office at No. 1050 J street. The firm of which he is a member has carried through to a successful consummation some of the most important deals in the city and county of Fresno and has established a record as noteworthy as it is gratifying. In addition to their real estate business they represent twelve old-line insurance companies for fire protection, also the Equitable Life Insurance Company and the National Surety Bond Company. Another feature of the business is the making of loans.

Referring to the ancestral history of Mr.

Moore, it may be stated that he is a descendant of Virginian progenitors, who were represented in the early wars of our country. His grandfather, John Moore, a native of old Virginia, and a soldier in the war of 1812, removed to Tennessee and settled upon a plantation. The father, Calvin Moore, was born and reared in Tennessee and carried on a plantation there up to the time of the Civil war. Being a Union man, he assisted the Union forces by engaging in scouting. After the war came to an end he removed to Sailor Springs, Clay county, Ill., and there conducted farm pursuits until his death. In religion he was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and in politics voted with the Republicans. His wife, Catherine Jenkins, was born in Tennessee and died in Illinois; her father, William Jenkins, was a Virginian by birth and went from that state to Tennessee.

In the Moore family there were originally twelve children and of these three sons and four daughters are now living, John C. being one of the youngest. He was born in Hawkins county, Tenn., March 31, 1861. When a boy he attended public school in Illinois and aided in the cultivation of the home farm. March 19, 1883, he arrived in Los Angeles, and for five months was employed in a store at Orange, receiving \$16 per month. On account of poor health he left there and went into the mountain regions around Bear valley, where he worked in lumber mills. After his return to Los Angeles he suffered a severe attack of typhoid fever. On regaining his strength he came to the San Joaquin valley. His long illness and inability to work had reduced his savings until he had only \$30 when he arrived in Fresno in April, 1884. For three years he worked on farms, after which he and J. F. Hall bought eighty acres at Selma and planted the same in an orchard and vineyard. Eight months later he sold his half of the property at a profit of \$1,000. He then turned his attention to trading in lands near Selma and at the expiration of three years had accumulated about \$10,000. With this capital he embarked in the agricultural implement business at Selma, where he built up a large trade and continued until October of 1895. Meantime he had assisted in incorporating the city of Selma and served as its first city clerk. He was also connected with the Fowler Switch Company and the Emigrant Ditch Company as secretary and manager. During the panic of 1893-94 he suffered the fate of most of the heavy property holders and lost the accumulations of years of labor, but he paid one hundred cents on every dollar of his indebtedness and thus retained the excellent business credit he had built up. In October of 1895 he came to Fresno, where he has since engaged in the real estate, insurance and money brokerage business,

having been successively the partner of T. C. White, G. J. Nees and J. Wilbur Cate.

The marriage of Mr. Moore occurred in Selma and united him with Miss Matie Goodman, a teacher in the schools there and a native of Vermont. They have two living children, Calvin and Ruth, and lost one son, Alfred, in boyhood. Mrs. Moore is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Fraternally Mr. Moore is connected with the Woodmen of the World. For years he has been an active worker in the Republican party and a member of Republican clubs, besides which he has served as secretary of the county central committee. In April of 1899 the Republicans elected him city trustee from the first ward and he continued in the office until the new charter went into effect in 1901, when he declined to become a candidate for re-election. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and a charter member of the Fresno Real Estate Exchange, in which he is now a director.

**BURR BROTHERS.** Tulare county owes much to the young men who have taken up their residence within its boundaries and are making this one of the greatest counties in the state. Progressive and industrious, the young men are the ones to build up new industries. In this work special mention must be made of the Burr Brothers, who have done much for Tulare county. Always alert to adopt new ideas, they have met with success in their business ventures and are now looked upon as two of the most substantial young business men in the county.

John Burr, Jr., and Charles Felton Burr are sons of John Burr, Sr., a native of Aberdeen, Scotland. He came to California in 1873, and being a landscape gardener by trade, he soon secured a position with ex-Senator Charles Felton, with whom he continued for ten years. In 1883 he located at Goshen and started a forty-acre vineyard. This he conducted for three years, when he sold out and removed to the San Fernando valley, where he set out orange, lemon and olive trees, now owning ninety acres, twenty-one miles north of Los Angeles. His ranch is known as the "Morning Side Ranch" and is one of the finest places in Los Angeles county. From the first he took an active interest in political matters and has served one term as sheriff of Los Angeles county. Filling this office gave him a wide acquaintance, and wherever known he has scores of warm personal friends, who respect him for the position he has gained in this state. Mr. Burr married Miss Annie Philpott, who was born in England. By this union three children have been born: John and Charles, who will be mentioned later, and William, who

is living at home, assisting his father in the work of the ranch.

John Burr, Jr., was born in San Mateo county, this state, on March 10, 1874. His early life was spent in the county of his nativity and on the removal of his parents to Los Angeles county he accompanied them. His common school education was supplemented by a course in a Los Angeles business college, from which he was graduated in 1893. From a boy he took an active interest in horticulture and devoted all his spare time to the work on his father's ranch. In 1898, in company with his brother Charles, he came to Lindsay, and together they purchased one hundred and thirty acres four miles north of the town. Improvements were at once begun and soon ninety acres were set out with navel oranges, while the balance was placed under excellent cultivation and in the spring of 1905 the whole will be set out in oranges. The entire ranch is on the hillside and above the frost. This makes it possible to produce an excellent quality of fruit and much earlier than the ranches in the lowlands. While Mr. Burr has been very busy looking after his own interests he is interested in the Exeter Water and Irrigation Company, of which he is one of the directors. He was one of the organizers of the Lindsay Orange Growers' Association and is now one of the directors. He is also connected with the Rochdale Association.

While still living in Los Angeles county Mr. Burr was united in marriage with Miss Hallie Cresap, a native of Iowa. She died in January, 1903, leaving one child, Annie, who is also deceased, dying at the age of seven months. Mr. Burr's second marriage took place in Lindsay and united him with Miss Grace Foster, who is a native daughter of California, having been born in Salinas. In politics Mr. Burr is a Republican and fraternally is a member of the Woodmen of the World. He has little time for the social side of life, yet he and his most estimable wife are very popular, and the best homes in this section of the county are always open for their reception.

Charles F. Burr is also a native of California, having been born at Menlo Park, San Mateo county, May 6, 1876. His education was received in the schools of Los Angeles county, later taking a course in the Los Angeles Business college. Coming to Lindsay with his brother in 1898, he has since been actively associated with him in business. The two brothers have worked together in every sense of the word and as a result "Sunny Slope" is one of the finest ranches in the county.

In Los Angeles county Mr. Burr married Miss Elsie L. Hoyt and now has two children: Charles Felton, Jr., and an infant unnamed. Mr. and Mrs. Burr have made scores of friends since tak-

ing up their residence in Tulare county, all of whom are deeply interested in the welfare of their new acquaintances. Like his brother, Mr. Burr is a director in the Rochdale Company, and is interested in the Lindsay Improvement Company, the Lindsay Orange Growers' Association and the Exeter Water and Irrigation Company. A staunch Republican, he takes an active interest in the welfare of the party, and while he has never had the time nor inclination to seek office he endorses those he thinks should be elected and will work for their successful candidacy.

ADDISON L. WISEMAN. One of the more important factors in the advancement of the industrial and horticultural interests of Tulare county is Addison L. Wiseman, who as an orchardist and vineyardist is carrying on a most prosperous and successful business, his ranch being about two miles south of Reedley. He is a man of great energy and activity, a natural mechanic, and in addition to his horticultural labors has done notable work as a carpenter and contractor. He is a man of fine physique, strong and athletic, with an unlimited amount of grit and pluck. On one occasion, while working in the North woods, his left hand was nearly severed by the accidental blow of an ax in the hands of a fellow-workman. Mr. Wiseman was then eighty-six and one-half miles from the nearest railway station. His comrade stopped the flow of blood by tying a rawhide around the wrist, and then the sufferer started on foot through the snow for medical aid, walking thirty-two miles the first day, thirty-five miles the second, completing the remaining distance by the following noon, and then taking the train for the city and hospital. This little incident shows the mettle of the man, who is as honest and brave as he is fearless. A son of Samuel Wiseman, he was born December 21, 1863, near Gallipolis, Ohio, of pioneer ancestry, his grandfather, Isaac Wiseman, having settled in Ohio in 1837.

Born in Virginia in 1833, Samuel Wiseman was brought up and educated in Ohio, near Gallipolis, being reared to agricultural pursuits. During the Civil war, in 1864, he served for four months in an Ohio regiment. Migrating to Michigan in 1869, he located near Howard City, Montcalm county, and was there employed in farming until 1891, when he came to Tulare county, and has since resided with his only child, Addison L. He married Elizabeth Wright, who was born in Ohio, where her father, Moses Wright, settled on leaving Virginia, his native state. She died in Ohio, very soon after the birth of her son.

But six years of age when he accompanied his father to Michigan, Addison L. Wiseman ob-

tained his education in the district schools of Montcalm county. When a small boy he began working on the river as a log driver, and at the age of fifteen was such an expert as a log driver that he received \$3 a day at the work, riding the head log and acting as jam cracker, employment that he enjoyed thoroughly. Going to Wisconsin, he was similarly employed on the headwaters of the Tomahawk, in one of the first mills erected in that locality. Leaving there in July, 1884, Mr. Wiseman went to Seattle, Wash., in search of a favorable business opportunity, but that was a season of depression, and he came down into Butte county, Cal., and for three years was engaged in farming near Gridley. Locating in Tulare county in 1887, he worked for three years as warehouseman, first in Traver, then at Reedley, and later in Dinuba he was a piler, after the first season receiving \$3.50 a day.

In 1890 Mr. Wiseman bought his present ranch of twenty acres, lying two miles south of Reedley, and at once began its improvement, having now a highly productive orchard of twelve acres, the remainder being vineyard and alfalfa land. Making good use of his native mechanical talent and ability, he has since erected a good residence and substantial buildings on his place, and built houses for many of his neighbors, all of which are a credit to his skill and industry, as well as an ornament to the community. He has likewise filled contracts for setting out orchards and vineyards, in this line meeting with great success. Thrifty and capable, he has accumulated considerable wealth, owning other valuable property aside from his home estate.

In Fresno, Cal., Mr. Wiseman married Nellie McClanahan, who was born in Butte county, and they have one child, Alta Echo. Mrs. Wiseman died in 1894, her death being a loss to the community as well as to her family and to the Methodist Church, of which she was a member. In politics Mr. Wiseman is Independent. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, belonging to lodge and circle; is a member of the Fraternal Aid, and president of the Court of Honor; and is a member and past chief ranger of the Independent Order of Foresters.

LOUIS H. PFITZER. A thorough master of the machinist's trade, which he is following at the present time in Los Banos, Louis H. Pfitzer is also known as one of the successful dairymen and land owners of Merced county, his ranch of one hundred acres four miles southwest of town, rented out since the fall of 1904, being one of the valuable and paying properties of a section which has proved a veritable dairyman's paradise. Mr. Pfitzer's name correctly indicates his nationality,

and his father, Anthony, was born near Stuttgart, Germany, coming to America as a young man to avoid the limitations by which he was surrounded at home, and making a name for himself in Merced county and other parts of the state of California. The elder Pfitzer located a farm three miles from Volta, where the majority of his children were born, among them Louis H., whose natal day was September 7, 1878.

The machinist of Las Banos was educated in the public schools, in the Santa Cruz high-school, which he entered at the age of fourteen, and at the Santa Cruz Business College, from which he was graduated in 1897. Upon determining to become a máster machinist he selected the best possible place on the coast to learn his trade, the Union Iron Works, where he served an apprenticeship of four years. Objecting to the confinement incident to this kind of work, he followed farming for a couple of years, and in February, 1903, located on his present farm, which was then wild and bare land, giving little promise of its present prosperity. The fall after making his purchase the outside canal was extended, and he prepared the land for alfalfa, in 1904 the water being sufficient to grow five crops. This he utilized for dairying, having one hundred milch cows, but although successful in the management of his property, he preferred his trade, and so rented his land to responsible parties.

At Newman, Mr. Pfitzer married Edith Eachus, daughter of Major W. P. Eachus, a farmer near Newman, and of this union Lois Bertrand has been born. Mr. Pfitzer is a stanch advocate of Republicanism, but has never seen his way clear to actively participate in local political undertakings. He is an obliging, high-minded, and agreeable gentleman, doing well whatever task confronts him, and believing always that the best is none too good to strive for.

---

**HERMANN A. KRICKE.** A man of ability and sterling integrity, and an important factor in developing and advancing the dairying and farming interests of Stanislaus county, Hermann A. Kricke is especially deserving of particular mention in a work of this character. He is a native of this county, and was born on the homestead where he now resides, one-half mile east of Crows Landing, on March 1, 1874, a son of the late Charles Kricke.

Born in Germany, Charles Kricke was reared and educated in his native country, and there married Anna Schickor. Immigrating with his wife to the United States in 1864, he was a resident of Sheboygan county, Wis., for five years. Coming to Crows Landing, Cal., in 1869, he rented the two hundred and forty acres of land now included in the home ranch, and in addition

to carrying on general farming he assisted in building the canal, continuing thus employed until his death, while yet in the prime of life, in 1877. His widow, an energetic and accomplished business woman, subsequently bought the farm on which they had been living, and still resides on it, it being now managed by her son, Hermann A., the subject of this sketch.

The youngest child of the parental household, which consisted of two sons and four daughters, Hermann A. Kricke has spent his entire life on the home ranch, of which he now has the sole charge. In his chosen vocation he has been exceedingly prosperous, his practical and systematic methods, excellent judgment and wise management being conducive to success. He has established a large and remunerative dairy business, and has one hundred and thirty acres of land in alfalfa, the remainder of the farm being devoted to the raising of grain.

In Stockton, Cal., Mr. Kricke married Mabel McClintock, who was born in DeKalb county, Mo., and they are the parents of two children, namely: Velma and Virginia. In politics Mr. Kricke is a stanch Democrat, and in religion he is true to the faith in which he was reared, belonging to the Lutheran Church. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

---

**CLARENCE J. BERRY**, of Selma, was born June 23, 1867, in Mendocino county. Coming to Fresno county with his parents in 1874, he received such educational advantages as were afforded by the district schools. At the age of twelve years he began working with his father on the home farm, in the River Bend district, and also assisted him in operating a threshing machine throughout this section of the county, remaining at home until after attaining his majority. During the great excitement that followed the first discovery of gold in Alaska, Mr. Berry was among the first to go to that region, arriving at Dawson, on the Yukon river, in 1894. Locating fifty miles further down the river, at Forty Mile Creek, he bought several claims, but they proved to be worthless. In the fall of 1895 he returned to California and the following spring March 15, 1896, was married. Subsequently he made another trip to Alaska. After prospecting a few months near Forty Mile Creek he went into the Klondike district, locating on Eldorado Creek, and later bought eight adjoining claims on the side hills, besides owning claim No. 5 on the Bonanza creek, and a half interest in claim No. 42 in the Hunker district. He likewise owned for awhile a third interest in a claim on Damon creek, but this he sold at an advantage. From 1897 until 1902 he made frequent trips between California and Alaska, and has still heavy



interests in various placer mines of the Klondike region.

Investing his money freely in California lands, Mr. Berry has a large cattle and stock ranch lying north of Grants; owns a farm of six thousand acres south of Selma, in Fresno county, where he raises alfalfa and salt grass, and keeps two thousand head of cattle; in Stockton he owns twelve hundred acres of garden land, known as the Wakefield ranch, which he leases; and has one thousand acres of oil land in Kern county. Mr. Berry has other interests of great importance, being a director of the Eldorado Oil Company, incorporated with a capital of \$100,000; and also a director of Our Own Oil Company, which has twelve wells in operation, with a capacity of two thousand barrels daily. He likewise owns valuable city property in Selma, owning seven store buildings on Front street. In 1900 and 1901 the Berry Improvement Company, of which he is president, was incorporated, with a paid up capital of \$100,000, the Berry family being the stockholders of the company. Mr. Berry was also one of the organizers and is the president of the Farmers' National Bank, which has a paid up capital of \$50,000.

In Selma Mr. Berry married Ethel D. Bush, a native of California. Politically he is an adherent of the Democratic party, and fraternally he is a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

**WILLIAM RUDY.** Five miles southeast of Fresno is located the farm which belongs to William Rudy, a well known and successful agriculturist of this county. Of the eighty acres in his ranch, fifty are devoted to the culture of grapes, both raisin and wine grapes, while the remainder is given over to an orchard and general farming. A native of Ohio, Mr. Rudy was born in Muskingum county, December 25, 1840. He was the son of Rudolph Rudy, who was born in Germany and reared in Pennsylvania, afterward removing to Muskingum county, Ohio, where his death occurred. He was a farmer by occupation throughout his entire life. His wife was formerly Mary Dean, also a native of Pennsylvania.

Until attaining the age of nineteen years William Rudy remained upon the paternal farm, after which he went to Illinois and located in Sangamon county, where he made his home for the period of twelve years. He then removed to Nemaha county, Kans., where he engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1880. Locating at that date in Missouri, he made that state his home until 1884, when he came to California. Upon his first trip to the state he spent but a short time, when he returned to his old home in Illinois,

three years later again coming to the west. Settling in Fresno county, he has since made this locality his home, giving his attention to his ranch of eighty acres. In Illinois he was united in marriage with Susan M. Fairbanks, a native of Ohio, and of this union were born the following children: William F., J. J., Henry V., and Alice, now Mrs. Rhinehart. In his political preference Mr. Rudy is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party, his first vote having been cast for Abraham Lincoln.

**HANS J. SCHMIDT.** A man of unlimited energy, industry and activity, Hans J. Schmidt, living about eight miles southwest of Newman, holds high rank among the skillful and prosperous farmers of Stanislaus county. Hard-working and persevering, possessing shrewd common sense, and thinking for himself, he has met with success as a tiller of the soil and has gained the respect and confidence of the community. He was born across the Atlantic ocean, his birth having occurred June 21, 1853, in Denmark, where his parents, George M. and Mary (Elholm) Schmidt, were life long residents, the father having been employed as a stone mason.

The second child in a family consisting of two boys and two girls, Hans J. Schmidt was reared and educated in his native land, attending the public schools, and being trained to farming pursuits. At the age of seventeen years he bade good-by to his parents, friends and neighbors, and, filled with the high ambitions of youth, immigrated to America, arriving in New York City in 1870. Proceeding directly to Livingston county, Ill., he worked as a farm hand in Chatsworth for two years. Migrating still farther westward in 1872, he came to California, locating first in San Francisco, and a week later going to Livermore valley, where he operated a threshing machine for a time. Subsequently coming to the San Joaquin valley, Mr. Schmidt was so impressed with its agricultural advantages and possibilities that he made up his mind to settle here permanently. He has since rented land in this vicinity, having had under his management tracts containing from three hundred to two thousand acres of land, and as a general farmer has met with well-deserved success. He has now eleven hundred acres of land under his care, located on the Garsos creek, eight miles southwest of Newman, and is extensively engaged in raising wheat and barley. He has also a nice chicken ranch, furnished with an incubator, and as a poultry raiser has acquired fame, raising about eight hundred chickens each season.

In Modesto, Cal., Mr. Schmidt married Catharina Mary Peterson, a native of Schleswig, Ger-

many, and they are the parents of four children, namely: George W., living near home; John, also residing in this vicinity; Irene, wife of Hans Jensen, of San Francisco; and Chester W. Politically Mr. Schmidt is a loyal adherent of the Republican party, and for several years served as school trustee. Fraternally he belongs to Newman Lodge, F. & A. M.; to Newman Chapter, E. O. S.; to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and to Dania Lodge, Danish Society. True to the religious faith in which he was reared, he belongs to the Lutheran Church.

**JAMES M. DAGGS.** With the progress of Kings county, Cal., Mr. Daggs has been intimately associated for many years, having contributed materially to the development of its resources and the growth of its industries ever since he came here in 1884. From that year until 1903 he carried on a general ranching and stock business, but in the latter year he went east for the purpose of purchasing high grade stock and returned with twelve Shorthorn cattle, bulls, Poland-China hogs, one Millard thoroughbred trotting stallion and a fine jack, and has since engaged in raising only thoroughbred stock. To Mr. Daggs is due credit for the fine fair grounds which since 1901 have added to the attractiveness of Hanford. He himself raised the money and built the track of the Central California Fair Grounds, of which he has been a director and president ever since its organization, and has spent time and money unstintingly to promote its success.

Mr. Daggs was born in Scotland county, Mo., June 26, 1848, a son of George W., a native of Virginia, and a grandson of Ruel Daggs, a native of Maryland, who went from there to Virginia and still later, in 1833, to Missouri. In Clark county, where the balance of his life was spent, he followed farming and stock-raising until his death, when eighty-four years of age. It was in the latter state that his son, George W., grew to mature years. He followed the calling to which he had been reared, and with the assistance of five slaves carried on his farm, with good results, in addition to which he conducted a merchandise business. In the spring of 1864 he sold out his interests in Missouri and came to California overland, bringing with him a large band of horses. With this as a nucleus he started in the stock business on the Lower Kings river, but two or three years later transferred his interests to the Mussel slough district, the land upon which he then located being the same upon which his son now lives. At the time he located here the land was entirely unimproved, but in course of time it took on the appearance of a well-ordered ranch, and was his home until his death, at the

age of sixty-two years. His wife, who was a native of West Virginia, died on the Kings county farm at the age of sixty years, leaving five children, as follows: James M.; Sarah, who married Anderson Kelly and resides in Hanford; Letha, Mrs. Stephens, who is now a widow; Cora, and Mattie, Mrs. Miller, who is also a widow and now residing in San Francisco.

James M. Daggs spent the first sixteen years of his life in Scotland county, Mo., and attended school at Memphis, that state. When the family removed to California, in 1864, he was sixteen years old and remained at home until 1872, when he returned east and was united in marriage with Miss Annie Kerns, who was born in Hancock county, Ill., and who died in 1880, leaving three children. Peter B. is engaged with his father in the stock business; Clinton is at home, and Birdie is the wife of Robert Logan and resides in San Francisco.

In addition to raising high-grade cattle, Mr. Daggs conducts a butcher shop and owns two hundred and thirty acres, devoted to the raising of alfalfa and grain. Politically he is a Democrat in national affairs, and in local elections votes for the man best fitted for the position, regardless of party affiliation.

**CLAUS J. MARTENS.** The progress of any community is dependent upon the efforts of its citizens. In estimating the advancement made by Tulare county within the past few decades, due credit should be given the brothers, Claus J. and John Martens, for their persevering and successful labors in the development of the stock industry, one of the most important occupations followed by the people of this part of California. The brothers were pioneers of Tulare county and sons of John Jacob Martens, their family history appearing in the sketch of John Martens, presented elsewhere in this volume. Claus J. was born at Heide, Holstein, Germany, February 6, 1846, and was second among six children now living. At the age of fifteen years he left school and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church, after which he aided on the home farm until twenty years of age, also served for four years as an apprentice to the trade of a cabinet-maker.

Coming to America in 1866 Claus J. Martens spent nine months in Chicago, where he followed the carpenter's trade and kindred occupations. In May, 1867, he came to California and secured work on a farm near San Francisco, but later in the same year gave his attention to building a residence and barns on a large ranch near Tracy. On his return to San Francisco he resumed work at his trade in that city. In the fall of 1871 he went to the southern part of the



state and entered land near San Diego, but found he could accomplish little owing to lack of moisture in the soil. Abandoning the place in the spring of 1872, he came to Tulare county and took up land nine miles southwest of Tulare, but gave his attention principally to carpentering. He aided in building the Tulare depot, the first store and the first residence in town, and continued in the same occupation for three years, after which he embarked in the sheep business on his ranch. In 1883 he disposed of his sheep and also sold one thousand acres of land near Pixley, after which he spent a year in San Francisco. Returning to Germany in 1888 he remained at his old home in Heide for three years. Since his return to the United States in 1891 he has made Tulare his home. For some years he again conducted an extensive sheep business on his range near Tipton, Tulare county, and in addition he now owns a stock farm of three hundred and twenty acres near Woodville, which he rents. Besides the three years' sojourn in Holstein he has made a second trip to the old home and has also traveled much through our country, thus gaining a wide and cosmopolitan experience that makes him an interesting companion. Since coming to America he has been a supporter of Republican principles and here, as in the old home, has adhered to the Lutheran religion. While in San Francisco he married Miss Margareta Lorenz, who was born in Holstein, Germany, and died in California. Four daughters survive her, namely: Kate, who is a student in the University of California; Clara, Freda and Elsie, who are attending school in San Francisco.

**WILLIAM G. H. BROWN.** Though comparatively a new comer to Stanislaus county, William G. H. Brown has lived long enough in his present neighborhood to impress his worth upon it and to take his place among its representative German-American agriculturists. Born in the agricultural province of Pomerania, Northern Prussia, Germany, November 30, 1849, he is the oldest of three sons and two daughters, all of whom were reared on a farm too small to permit of many advantages penetrating its well tilled borders. His parents, C. H. and Augusta (Beling) Brown, were natives also of Pomerania, where they spent their entire lives.

In his youth William G. H. Brown attended the common schools. He had ample assets in grit and determination and physical strength, and as soon as success came his way he proceeded with German thrift to establish a home of his own, pursuing the while the occupation of farming and stock-raising. His wife was formerly Amelia De Genre, a native also of Pomerania. Of their chil-

dren two have left the family roof, these being the second and third oldest daughters, Mrs. Bertha Brown and Mrs. Minnie Hanson. Those remaining are: Annie, August, Ferdinand, William, Lena, Ewalt, Emma and Otto. In 1892 Mr. Brown disposed of his land and boarded a northern liner for the United States, coming at once to California, where he purchased sixty acres of alfalfa land three and a half miles west of Newman. To the improvements on his land at the time he has added greatly and now has an orchard of three acres, the balance of his land being devoted to general farming and stock-raising. The family are members of the German Lutheran Church.

**CHRISTOPHER C. ARKLE.** The Arkle family is of English origin, Charles C. Arkle immigrating from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to America, where he located in Cadiz, Ohio, and engaged as a shoe merchant. Later he removed to Preston, Minn., where his death occurred. His wife, formerly Mary Hilliard, was a native of the Isle of Wight, her death occurring in Ohio. They were the parents of four children, all of whom are living, next to the youngest being Christopher C. Arkle, a highly esteemed and successful business man of Portersville, Tulare county.

Christopher C. Arkle was born in Cadiz, Ohio, May 19, 1847, and was reared in the vicinity of that place, receiving his education in the district schools. When twelve years old he learned the shoemaker's trade and continued at this work until he was seventeen. In May, 1864, he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Seventieth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered in at Bellaire, Ohio, serving in the Army of the Shenandoah, and taking part in the Battle of Winchester, and others of that year, being mustered out of service September 15, 1864, in Columbus. In 1865 he went to Missouri, locating in Warrensburg, in the fall of the same year going to Preston, Minn., where he followed his trade. After a period of seven years he came as far west as Wadsworth, Nev., and engaged in the manufacture of shoes, finally going to Benton, Mono county, Cal., where he spent one year. Returning to Nevada he made that state his home until 1876, when he located in Visalia, Tulare county, and followed the manufacture of shoes for the ensuing five years, when he located in Fresno. For seven years he met with success in that city, when he went to Seattle, Wash., and spent one year, engaged as a shoe merchant, when he returned to Visalia and followed the same occupation until 1896. For a time he conducted a shoe store at Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo county, about eighteen months

later—in August, 1898—coming to Portersville and opening the shoe business, which he has since conducted with much profit. His establishment, known as the Citrus Shoe Store, is the largest in the place and his wide patronage has brought him good financial returns. He has also a ten-acre orchard of bearing navel oranges, adjoining Plano, set out in 1899, and to the care and cultivation of which he gives considerable time and attention.

In Visalia Mr. Arkle was united in marriage with Caroline Majors, a native of Visalia, and the daughter of Columbus P. Majors, a pioneer farmer of that city. They have one daughter, Ethel. Mr. Arkle gives his support to the Christian Church, of which his wife is a member. In his political convictions he is a Socialist. A practical and broad-minded citizen, he is always interested in all that adds to the material welfare of the city and takes an active part in public affairs, being a member of the Board of Trade here as well as giving his support to various other public works.

---

A. L. SAYRE. The genealogy of the Sayre family is traced to England, where many generations of honored ancestors lived and labored. The first of the name to cross the ocean to the new world was Thomas Sayre, a native of Paddington, Bedfordshire. From the little that family history and tradition record of this original immigrant he was undoubtedly a man fond of adventure, undaunted by the perils of pioneer existence, and the possessor of business ability which found its culmination in the accumulating of considerable means. As early as 1636 his name appears on the town records of Lynn, Mass. In 1640 he removed to South Hampton, Long Island, and there erected a substantial residence which has withstood the storms of more than two and one-half centuries and still stands on the spot where originally built. Later generations removed to New Jersey and still others identified themselves with the Quaker colony of Pennsylvania.

A. L. Sayre, Sr., was born on the homestead near Morristown, N. J., a son of Ebenezer Sayre, a thrifty farmer. Supplementing exceptional native ability by such educational advantages as the times and locality afforded, he grew to manhood fitted for responsibilities in the business world. Solely through his unaided exertions he rose to a position of prominence among the business men of New York City of 1844, where he established himself as a fruit merchant and where in time he became a leading importer and jobber of foreign fruits. After a successful career covering thirty years, failing health, resulting from the nervous strain incident to great responsibilities, caused

him to retire from the fruit business. About the same time a visit to California in the interest of his health brought to his keen and far-seeing mind a realization of the vast opportunities afforded by the fertile soil and fair climate of the far west. Embracing this exceptional opportunity for investment, he purchased eight hundred and four acres one mile southeast of Madera, forming what is now known as the Sierra Rancho. Afterward he divided his time between New York City and California until his death, which occurred on his ranch in 1887. His wife, Mrs. Julia W. (Harris) Sayre, now a resident of Fresno, was born in Sing Sing, N. Y., a daughter of William H. Harris. Her grandfather, Harris, of New York, fought under Washington during the Revolutionary war, and endured all the vicissitudes of the memorable winter at Valley Forge.

The younger of the two children of A. L. and Julia W. Sayre, the subject of this narrative, was born at the family residence in Thirty-fifth street, New York City. His education was obtained principally in the military academy at Stanford, Conn., after which he was engaged as a buyer for a New York house for eight years. Upon the death of his father he came to California to take charge of the Sierra Rancho, which he has since successfully superintended. The eight hundred and four acres which at the time of purchase were in the primeval condition of nature, have been brought under cultivation and transformed into one of the most complete ranches in the entire state. In 1881 twenty-five acres were set out in raisin grapes, and three years later two hundred acres were planted to the same product, this being the first attempt made to raise raisins in the community. The venture proved successful and this portion of the ranch is still under raisins. In addition there is an orchard of deciduous fruits. The balance of the farm is in cereals and alfalfa. The dairy business is one of the important industries conducted on the ranch. In the fine herd of Friesian-Holstein cattle there are about three hundred milch cows. To add to the convenience of the work Mr. Sayre has erected a creamery, operated by steam power and fitted with modern machinery. The product is disposed of principally in Fresno and other parts of the San Joaquin valley. The value of the ranch has been increased by irrigation, the entire tract being under ditch, besides which he has put in a pumping plant that has no superior in the state. Realizing the importance of a packing house in Madera, in 1894 he erected a building fitted with modern appliances, and of this he has since been the manager.

When an organization was effected of raisin growers under the title of the California Raisin Growers' Association, in April, 1898, Mr. Sayre

gave his co-operation to the plan, believing it would prove helpful to all persons engaged in that industry. His prominence in the organization and the fact that he was a pioneer and successful raisin grower led to his selection as manager of the association during the first year of its existence and he was further a member of the first board of directors. During the second and third years he acted as manager of the inspection and stock department. In 1901 he was not a director, but the next year was again elected to the board, also in 1903. During 1902 he was elected secretary of the association, and this responsible position he now fills. Those most intimately connected with the association state that its success is largely due to Mr. Sayre's careful, intelligent and wise oversight. Much time and thought have been given by him to the organization, and all has been done gratuitously, with the sole object of benefiting those who are aiding in the development of this important industry.

While necessarily spending much time in Madera, Mr. Sayre since 1898 has made Fresno his home, and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Sequoia Club of this city. His political views are in harmony with Republican principles, while in religion he is a contributor to and attendant of the Presbyterian Church, with which his wife is identified. In Madera he married Miss Etta M. Hensley, daughter of John M. Hensley. Born in Tulare county, Mrs. Sayre has spent her entire life in California and is a graduate of the State Normal School at San Jose, and a lady of the highest culture and artistic tastes. Mr. and Mrs. Sayre have two sons, Logan and Donald.

**EMANUEL ROGERS.** The life work of Emanuel Rogers is being carried on a long way from the Azore Islands, where he was born September 18, 1859. Equipped with the best educational training possible, he came to California with an uncle, reaching Alameda county September 1, 1874. Physically he was strong and rugged, and the farm work, which seemed the only available means of livelihood at the time, seemed less arduous to him than it would to a less hardy youth. Through working by the day and month for land owners in different parts of the county he accumulated what appeared a small fortune, and in August, 1885, leased his present farm of thirteen hundred acres. Near by, five miles south of Grayson, he has purchased eighty acres of land, upon which he makes his home, and which he devotes to general farming. He has the latest in agricultural implements, including a combined harvester, and his house, barns and general improvements show

the tendency of a progressive and enlightened agriculturist.

Mr. Rogers is surrounded by a family which shares his desire to succeed, and which supports him in every worthy effort. In Alameda county he married Mary Marshall, a native of the county, and his two sons and one daughter, Frank, Daniel and Emily, give promise of realizing his expectations for them. It is the intention of their parents to give them every advantage within their power. Mr. Rogers is social in his tendencies, and is a popular and long standing member of the Knights of the Maccabees. Politically he is a Democrat in national politics, and locally votes for what he considers the best man.

**WILLIAM C. KENNEDY.** A native son of the state, William C. Kennedy was born at the corner of Twenty-third and Howard streets, San Francisco, June 16, 1870. His father, Edward Kennedy, was born in Troy, N. Y., where he engaged in manhood as a merchant tailor. Deciding to seek the more abundant opportunities of the remote west, he crossed the plains in 1849, traveling by ox-teams on the long and tedious journey. Upon his safe arrival in San Francisco he engaged as a merchant tailor in that city for a good many years, early in the '80s coming to Fresno, and in 1884 purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, where he improved a vineyard. He became a prominent citizen of Fresno, becoming a director of the First National Bank, of Fresno, and later its vice-president. In 1892 he suffered a severe sunstroke, after which he returned to San Francisco, where he is now residing. He still has extensive interests in both Fresno and San Francisco. Politically he is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party and gives his best efforts to advance the interests of that party. His wife, formerly Judith Colby, of New Hampshire, is also living, at the age of sixty-eight years. She came of an old and honored family of the Granite state, prominent in colonial history. Two of her brothers lost their lives in the Civil war. They are the parents of two children, Nellie, of San Francisco, and William C., of this review.

William C. Kennedy was reared in San Francisco, to the age of sixteen years, where he attended the public schools, and later became a student in Heald's Business College. Coming to Fresno in 1886 he worked with his father in the vineyard until 1892, in which year he took charge of the work and successfully conducted its interests until 1902, when he leased the property. In the meantime he improved a ranch of six hundred and forty acres belonging to his father and located near Rolinda, twelve miles

west of Fresno. Water for irrigation was brought from the Houghton ditch and Fresno canal. The land is planted to alfalfa, the interests of the ranch being devoted to a fine dairy of Holstein-Friesian cattle, owned by Mr. Kennedy in conjunction with A. D. Owens. They use every modern method in conducting their work, having a separator operated by steam, and every possible convenience. Mr. Kennedy is also engaged in the raising of cattle, and looks after his father's interests in Fresno. In 1901 he built a fine residence at No. 64 Fortcamp avenue, where he now makes his home, presided over by his wife, formerly Elizabeth Davison, whom he married in Fresno. She is a native of Placerville and the daughter of M. C. Davison, of this city, a pioneer of the state, as well as a veteran of the Civil war, serving in a California regiment. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy have one daughter, Vera. Politically Mr. Kennedy is a Republican, and fraternally is associated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

**GEORGE THOMING.** The fertile grain raising region around Crow's Landing has among its developers many native sons of the state, men who appreciate its substantial business opportunities, and who furnish an example of unrivaled industry in pursuing their chosen vocation. Of these, none are held in higher esteem than George Thoming, since 1903 the occupant of a ranch of sixteen hundred acres four and a half miles west of the Landing. In his veins Mr. Thoming has the blood of a hardy German ancestry, one trained to industry, and moderate and conservative in its tendencies. His father and mother, Theirs and Lena (Massoff) Thoming, came to the United States from Germany in 1869, soon after their marriage, bringing with them little of this world's goods, but riches galore in the way of intrepid determination and practical common sense. Theirs Thoming had been reared on a farm and took kindly to that occupation, and after locating near San Francisco engaged in potato growing with gratifying success. In time removing to San Joaquin county, he located near Vernalis, where he at present resides, a prosperous general farmer, secure in the possession of a finely improved and paying property. Besides George, who is the eldest son and second child, there were two sons and two daughters in his family, all trained to be useful men and women by their well-beloved but now deceased mother.

Like his brothers and sisters, George Thoming had the average advantages of the boy born into the unsettled west, but of these he made the most, developing that strength of character and determination which have aided him in many a discouraging bout with fate. After leaving the

home farm he engaged in independent farming near Vernalis, San Joaquin county, on fourteen hundred acres of land, and in 1903 came to his present leased land, comprising sixteen hundred acres. His farm equipment is complete and modern, and includes a combined harvester of great value and excellent make. During the harvest time he employs many hands, and his waving fields of golden grain, shimmering in the sunlight, are a sight calculated to make a man feel at peace with himself and the world in general. In keeping with his success, his breadth of mind and public spirit, Mr. Thoming entertains justifiable pride in local affairs, promoting the cause of good government on the part of his Republican colleagues, and interesting himself in establishing a high standard of school instruction. Fraternally he is a welcome member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. The wife of Mr. Thoming, formerly Flora Russell, is a native daughter of California, and owes her birth and education to Stockton. The family circle is brightened by two interesting children, Thelma and Russell. Mr. Thoming is a practical agriculturist, disposing of his land to the best possible advantage, and carrying his operations to the standpoint of an exact science. He is a genial and popular man, always ready to do a favor, and inclined to look on the cheerful and helpful side of life in general.

**WILLIAM LUDOLF HEINE.** One of the enterprising towns of Fresno county is Reedley, which by its location on the Kings river and by the fertility of the surrounding soil affords an excellent illustration of the resources of Fresno county, made profitable and possible by the abundance of water for irrigation. East of the town lie large tracts where wheat growing is a specialty, and among the most extensive wheat-raisers of the locality is William L. Heine, who resides seven miles northeast of Reedley, where he owns thirty-eight hundred acres. Of German birth and parentage, Mr. Heine was born in Holstein May 21, 1854, and is a son of Ferdinand and Bertha (Stein) Heine, also natives of Germany. His father, who was born and reared in the city of Hamburg, came to the United States in 1870 and after one year in Wisconsin removed west to the coast, settling in Solano county, Cal., where he made a specialty of wheat farming. After a time he removed to the adjoining county of Yolo and there he died in 1877. Since his demise Mrs. Heine has made her home in San Francisco.

In a family including five sons and three daughters, William Ludolf Heine was the eldest. As a boy he was given fair advantages and received his education principally in private schools. When sixteen years of age he accompa-



nied the family to the United States and a year later settled in California, where he assisted his father in growing wheat in Solano county. From 1873 to 1887 he made his home in Yolo county, where he carried on grain farming. During the latter year he first came to Fresno county, but it was not until 1888 that he permanently settled at the place he still owns. To his original purchase of six hundred acres he has added from time to time until at this writing he owns six sections of wheat land (most of which is in one body), but of this he uses some for pasture land, and sows about twenty-four hundred acres to wheat. In stock he has made a specialty of sheep and now has twenty-five hundred head in his flock.

In addition to his large tracts in Fresno county Mr. Heine is the owner of property in Oakland. Since becoming a citizen of the United States he has made a careful study of our national affairs and has given his allegiance to the Republican party. In fraternal connections he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the blue lodge of Masons at Reedley.

---

**DENVER S. CHURCH.** The genealogy of this well-known attorney of Fresno is traced back to the east, where several generations of the family lived and labored. Joshua Church, a native of Pennsylvania, grew to manhood in that state, married, and settled upon a farm there, but later removed to Chautauqua county, N. Y. At the time of the removal to New York his son, E. J., who was born in western Pennsylvania, was a lad in years, and he aided in bringing the new farm under cultivation. In 1852 he crossed the plains with ox-teams to California, in company with Millard Church, who afterward returned east and died there; also an older brother, M. J. Church, who is remembered as the founder of the irrigation system in Fresno county. Settling at Diamond Spring, E. J. Church engaged in mining, but not finding the occupation profitable, he removed to Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, where he followed the blacksmith's trade. After a very short time he removed to Folsom City, Sacramento county, where in addition to blacksmithing he also devoted considerable attention to the stock business. A later location was in the vicinity of St. Helena, Napa county, where he took up general farming in connection with stock-raising. For a long period he continued there, but finally advancing years made further manual labor unwise, and he thereupon retired, coming to Fresno about 1898. In this city he now makes his home.

The marriage of E. J. Church united him with Catherine Rutan, who was born in Illinois and during the early '50s crossed the plains with her

father, Samuel Rutan, settling on a farm near Woodbridge. By her marriage four sons and one daughter were born, of whom the following survive: Millard D., a merchant in Fresno; L. H. Church, M. D., who is a well-known physician of Grand Junction, Colo.; and Denver S., the youngest of the family, who was four years of age when he lost his mother by death. He was born at Folsom City, Cal., December 11, 1864, and received his education primarily in St. Helena, after which he was a student in Healdsburg College, completing the regular course of study in that institution. In 1877 he first came to Fresno, joining an uncle, M. J. Church, whom he helped to carry the chain that surveyed the boundaries of the Temperance Colony. After settling permanently in Fresno during 1887 he engaged in the study of law and in 1893 was admitted to the bar, since which time he has conducted a general practice. At this writing he acts as attorney for the public administrator. From January, 1899, to January, 1903, he served as deputy district attorney under O. L. Everts. The Democratic party has always received his allegiance and he is one of its leading members in his home city. Various societies number him among their members, among these being the County Bar Association, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Fresno Parlor No. 25, N. S. G. W., and the Woodmen of the World. Sharing with him the esteem of the community is his wife, whom he married in Reno, Nev., and who was Miss Louise Derrick, a native of that city, her parents having been pioneers of the Carson valley. In their family are three children, Earl, Fern and an infant unnamed. Through his accurate knowledge of the law Mr. Church has won a position of deserved prominence among the practitioners of Fresno and his high standing may be attributed to his unaided efforts, for he had no assistance except such as could be given by his own determination, intelligence and resourceful mind.

---

**A. T. YEARGIN.** In the prosperous farming and fruit raising section surrounding Fresno, the name of A. T. Yeargin stands for progress and success, and for active participation with all that has to do with the general upbuilding of the community. In Lawrence county, S. C., where he was born near Lawrence, December 20, 1852, the family name was identified with all that was fine and patriotic, and with the terrible tragedy which often rewards the valor of bearers of the standard. Out of a family of ten children born to his parents, Wiley and Nancy (Morgan) Yeargin, five sons exchanged the coarse farm clothes for the habiliments of war, and when peace had been declared at the expense of the defeat of the Con-

federacy, but one returned to tell of his sufferings in tent and camp and on the march. Wiley Yeargin was born in South Carolina, and died in Cherokee county, Ala., in 1865, his wife, also a native of South Carolina, surviving him until 1870.

A. T. Yeargin was two years old when his parents removed to Cherokee county, Ala., and he was there educated in the country schools, and developed a strong constitution while working in the fields. In 1870 he came to California by rail, locating first near Centerville, on Kings river, where he found work on a farm by the month. He then turned his attention to independent farming and stock-raising on rented land, and in 1889 sold his equipment and came to his present farm with D. J. McConnell, and purchased eighty acres of land, three and a half miles southeast of Fresno. The partners planted general crops, and set out a vineyard of twenty acres, later on setting out fifteen acres more in vineyard. In 1894 Ben Cakly succeeded Mr. McConnell in the ownership of half the property, and in 1901 the land was divided evenly, each partner caring for his own property and crops. Mr. Yeargin has forty acres, of which twenty-seven are under Muscatel grapes, five acres under general fruit trees, and the balance is devoted to general farming. He has made many fine improvements on his land, and has one of the most productive and well-cared for properties in this section.

While living in Centerville, Cal., Mr. Yeargin married Mattie Spears, born in Cherokee county, Ala., and who came to Centerville, Fresno county, with her parents in 1870. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Yeargin, Dela and Max, both living at home. Mr. Yeargin is prominent fraternally, and identified with the Manzanita Camp No. 160, W. O. W. He is a Democrat in politics, and has filled the office of school trustee in Page district with characteristic thoroughness. His religious convictions are with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Fresno.

C. C. EASTIN. Two miles west of Newman lies the farm owned and occupied by Mr. Eastin, one of the progressive farmers and dairymen of Stanislaus county. During the long period of his residence in the county he has acquired large landed tracts, and at the same time has gained and retained a position among the honored citizens and upright men. As early as 1874 he purchased the place he still owns, consisting originally of four hundred and eighty acres, and here he became interested in grain farming and raising mules. By subsequent purchases of adjacent property he has acquired the title to two thousand acres, of which four hundred are under ditch and in alfalfa. With J. B. Crow as a partner, he pur-

chased fifteen hundred acres of the Wilson ranch, and this he laid out in tracts of forty acres or larger, all under ditch and utilized for dairy purposes.

The Eastin family is of Scotch ancestry and was founded in America by John Eastin, who immigrated from Scotland to Kentucky and settled on a farm. During the Revolutionary war he served his adopted country with zeal and fidelity as an enlisted soldier. His son, James T., was born near Madisonville, Hopkins county, Ky., and from there removed to Pike county, Mo., where he conducted agricultural pursuits upon an extensive scale. With the patriotic instincts characteristic of the family, he was a loyal American, proving his fidelity by brave service in the war of 1812. Politically he was a believer in Whig principles. He attained a great age, passing away about the time of the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861. By his marriage to Theodosia South, a native of Kentucky, he was connected with an old Virginian family of English extraction. Her father was a planter in Kentucky, and during the war of 1812 held the rank of general. Mrs. Theodosia Eastin came to California in later life and spent her last days in the home of her son, C. C., dying here at ninety-six years of age. In her family were eight sons and four daughters. The family traits of bravery and patriotic spirit showed themselves among her children; four of her sons volunteered in the army during the Civil war and two fell while fighting for the principles which they espoused. Four sons came to California during the mining days of 1849 and 1850. Of these Brutus died in Orestimba; Octavius is engaged in farm pursuits near Merced; Oscar returned to Missouri and there died; and James is living in Madera county, where he carries on a farm.

Near Bowling Green, Pike county, Mo., C. C. Eastin was born February 22, 1840. During boyhood days he was a pupil in district schools and had the further advantage of a four years' course in Watson Seminary. In early manhood chance led him into the study of medicine, which he carried on under Dr. South in 1858. Later he matriculated in Pope's Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1861 with the degree of M. D. During the period of his residence in St. Louis he cast his vote for Bell and Everett and later in his home county cast a ballot against secession. When Missouri seceded he was driven into the southern army, and during the four years of the war he served in a regiment of artillery, and was present at the siege of Vicksburg, later accompanying Gen. Joseph Johnston in the Georgia campaign and through North Carolina. The last service that he gave was under General Hood. At the close of the war he settled in Mississippi, where he took up the raising of grain



and stock. During 1868 he became a pioneer of the San Joaquin valley in California, where his first business venture was the purchase of one thousand head of sheep that he pastured on the Orestimba. In 1870 he removed to Tulare Lake, Fresno county, where he remained for four years, engaging in the cattle and sheep business, and then settled upon the property near Newman that has been the scene of his subsequent activities. The dairy industry has been his principal business, and he now has a dairy of sixty cows. As a farmer and dairyman he is progressive, quick to adopt improved methods and accurate in attention to every detail.

The marriage of Mr. Eastin, in Madison county, Miss., united him with Miss Emma Compton, who was born there of North Carolina parentage. Eight children were born of their union, namely: Cassius J., who conducts a farm in Merced county; Martha P., who resides with her parents; E. E., a merchant in Los Angeles; Lucius O., who is engaged in farming at the old homestead; Viola, at home; Marion Grover, who is engaged in the dairy business; Claude and Walter, at home. Mr. Eastin has always been interested in movements for the religious, educational and moral upbuilding of his community, and has been a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church of Newman. Politically an active Democrat, he served as a member of the county central committee of the party several different terms, and for four years held the office of supervisor. During his service on the school board, covering a period of eighteen years, he assisted in the building up of the schools and did much to promote the standard of education. Indeed, in every worthy movement looking to the future prosperity of Stanislaus county he has been deeply interested and has contributed of his time and means to plans of such a nature.

**CASSIUS C. CROW.** In Mr Crow we have an example of that class of citizens who were pioneer settlers in the San Joaquin valley in California, for his home has been in this section from his early boyhood days. Born in Pike county, Mo., July 18, 1860, at the tender age of five years he accompanied his parents across the great plains to a home in Stanislaus county, Cal., where his father located on a large farm and carried on ranching pursuits extensively. Here it was that Cassius C. was educated in the common schools, and when of a suitable age he began assisting his father in farm pursuits on the home ranch, which is located in the western part of the county. He has seen the country change from a vast plain to one of the finest alfalfa and dairy farming communities on the Pacific slope and to-day he is the proud possessor of one of the finest dairy

farms in that section of the county. His farm contains two hundred and twenty acres of fine land under the West Side Irrigation Ditch. It is very productive, being well located along the Orestimba creek, near the junction of the latter with the San Joaquin river. It is a part of the original farm settled upon by his father, and the magnificent tall trees which it contains were planted by that beloved parent.

In addition to carrying on general farm pursuits Mr. Crow also has a cheese factory located on his place, which, at the present time, he leases out. His pretty cottage residence is just three and one-half miles east of Crow's Landing and is among the most attractive spots in his neighborhood. By his marriage he was united with Cora C. Cressey, who was born in San Jose, Cal. Mrs. Crow has exceptional literary talent, having attained quite a good deal of prominence as a story writer. Their only child, Paul, a native son of California, takes great pleasure in assisting on the ranch, deriving enjoyment from the pursuit. Politically Mr. Crow is an ardent Democrat, and aside from his ranching pursuits he has been interested in a number of enterprises of worth, among them the Crow Oil Company, of which he was one of the incorporators and is now serving as director. This company was incorporated with a capital stock of \$300,000, with eighteen hundred acres in the Sunset belt, but is not active at this writing.

**HENRY D. BOLLIN.** An enterprising merchant of Reedley, Henry D. Bollin is engaged in a general mercantile business in this place, in the conduct of which he is meeting with success. He was born in Cooper county, Mo., October 16, 1865, a son of A. Lewis Bollin. The latter, who was a native of Prysion, Germany, emigrated to the United States and located in Cooper county, Mo., where he engaged as a farmer and blacksmith. He removed to Kansas in 1867 and at Kickapoo engaged as a blacksmith. Two years later he returned to Missouri and followed his trade until his death, which occurred in 1872, at the age of fifty-five years. His wife, formerly Minnie Miller, was also born in Germany. She came to California in 1889 and died here in 1895. They were the parents of three daughters and six sons, of whom Henry D. Bollin was the fourth in order of birth.

The education of Henry D. Bollin was received in the common schools of Missouri, where he remained until 1889. In that year he came to California with his mother and engaged in farming at Traver, Tulare county, where he remained until 1897, in which year he located in Reedley. He secured employment as clerk for two years, and following this he engaged in a general mer-

chandise business under the firm name of Stout & Bollin for a like period. Purchasing the entire interest at the end of that time, Mr. Bollin continued the enterprise for one year, when (March, 1902) he started a general merchandise business under the firm name of Bollin, Mathews & Co. They carried on business until they were burned out by the memorable fire which devastated the entire town. Their loss was covered by insurance, however, and following the fire Mr. Bollin engaged in a general merchandise business which he has since conducted successfully. He has also been instrumental in the business enterprises of Reedley, with his brother organizing the Reedley Hotel & Store Company, and assisting in the erection of a brick block.

In Missouri Mr. Bollin was united in marriage with Alvina Bank, a native of Monitor county, that state, and they are the parents of the following children: Leonard, Harry, Maggie, Dora and Lucy. Fraternally Mr. Bollin is associated with the Woodmen of the World, the Women of Woodcraft, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, all of Reedley. He was formerly a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which he had passed all the chairs, and twice attended the meetings of the Grand Lodge. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

---

HUGH A. BLODGET. As showing what may be accomplished by a normal, healthy and ambitious mind which marks out a career for itself and resolutely goes to work to make its dream of success a reality, the case of Hugh A. Blodget, vice-president and general manager of the California Consolidated Oil Fields Company, and ex-president of the Kern Valley Bank, affords a lesson strong in human interest, and vital in its ring of encouragement. The story is not embellished with meteoric rise, indulgent early fortune, out of the ordinary gifts, or get-rich-quick opportunities. Its strength and assurance lie in the fact that it can be emulated by the right sort of man, possessing the right sort of intentions. Mr. Blodget's underlying mental and physical vigor comes from good ancestors and from the fact that he is a son of the soil, having been born on a farm in Chautauqua county, N. Y., October 23, 1855. His father, William O. Blodget, was also born in Chautauqua county, and was reared on a farm which extended over into Pennsylvania, and which had been settled by his father, Orba Blodget, when the property was owned by the Holland Land Company. The grandfather was born in Massachusetts, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was accidentally killed in middle life. William O. Blodget graduated from farming into the mercantile business, which he left at

the outbreak of the Civil war to raise a company, and was raised to the rank of lieutenant in the service. He was a member of the Reynolds Division at the battle of Gettysburg, and was wounded in front of the historic stone wall, from the effects of which wound he contracted consumption, and died at the age of forty-one. Additional pathos was added to his untimely death by the decease of his wife, three days before. Mrs. Blodget was formerly Esther A. Spencer, a native of Warren county, Pa., and besides Hugh A., the second of her three children, there is Ella, wife of C. F. Lake, of Boulder, Colo., and Spencer L., a resident of Bakersfield.

Ten years old at the time of his parents' death, Hugh A. Blodget lived with his maternal grandmother until his seventeenth year, working on the farm. He received his preliminary education in the public school, after which he took a course at the Jamestown Collegiate Institute. In December, 1872, he arrived in Windsor, Sonoma county, Cal., with a depleted exchequer, but abiding confidence in a future of large accomplishment. For a couple of years he alternated clerking in a store with harvesting on a ranch, and in January, 1875, arrived in Bakersfield and found employment on a nearby ranch for two or three months. He then became clerk for the county recorder for a couple of years, and so faithfully attended to business that he was able to secure a position as book-keeper in the Kern Valley Bank. His faith in himself was communicated to his superiors through ways best known to practical and discerning business men, and he was promoted to the cashiership in the bank in 1884, and in 1902 became president of the institution. Pressure of outside business interfered with the latter responsibility to such an extent that in 1903 he resigned from the bank, and was then able to devote his entire energy to the development of oil in this section, of which he was one of the first and most energetic promoters.

Mr. Blodget became interested in oil in the Sunset region in 1890, and that year, with Solomon Jewett and Charles Barnard, put down the first wells drilled in the district. The project not proving successful, Mr. Barnard withdrew from the field, leaving Mr. Blodget and Mr. Jewett to conduct further experiments. It was not until 1897 that their efforts were rewarded with success, but so sure were they of the practically exhaustless supply, that in the spring of 1903 Mr. Blodget and C. M. Beall organized what is now the California Consolidated Oil Fields Company of Bakersfield and Kern County, which company controls seven thousand acres in the Sunset District and containing at present forty-seven oil-producing wells. Mr. Blodget has done more to encourage the oil business in the section than any one other individual, giving it the support of his

clear judgment, and ample facilities for ascertaining facts. His reputation for substantiality and reliability count for much in an enterprise more or less speculative, and invest it with an assurance peculiarly gratifying to cautious minds.

The energy and public spirit of Mr. Blodget have invaded many avenues of improvement in Bakersfield, and since his arrival at a time when the town consisted of an aggregation of huts, he has had a share in the enterprises most emphatically developing and lasting, including the water works, lighting plant, street transportation, and the Southern hotel. That he believes in the future of the city is evident from his many investments in its desirable real estate, including his own well appointed home. Mr. Blodget married Miss A. L. Park, a native of Wisconsin, and who came to California in 1878. Three children have been born of the union: Haselton P., a student in San Francisco; and Ruth and Anna L., at home. Mr. Blodget is a staunch Republican, but has never been willing to accept office. One of his greatest services to the town has been in connection with education, not only as president of the board of education, but through individual effort whenever opportunity has arisen requiring his support and co-operation. He is fraternally connected with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Blodget's many fine traits of character have won him hosts of friends in Bakersfield and throughout the entire county, and his name stands for all that is progressive and substantial.

**JOHN BIBBY.** Actively identified with the agricultural interests of Merced county is John Bibby, who owns a valuable ranch of fifty acres in Volta, and in addition to managing that also carries on the farm belonging to his father, Nicholas Bibby, Sr., of whom a brief biographical sketch may be found on another page of this volume. He is a man of energy and integrity, well informed, with a mind broadened by observation and travel, and is deservedly esteemed throughout the community in which he resides. In his industrial operations he has met with excellent success, his well-cultivated and well-improved land yielding good annual crops. Of Welsh ancestry on the paternal side, he was born in Solano county, Cal., and there spent the first seven years of his life.

Coming to Merced county in the days of his boyhood, John Bibby received such educational advantages as were afforded by the district school. He subsequently obtained a wide and varied knowledge of places, men and events by traveling, visiting Arizona, Oregon, Nevada, Wyoming and the Hawaiian Islands. When

ready to settle permanently in life, Mr. Bibby selected the independent occupation to which he was reared, and assuming possession of his present ranch of fifty acres on the Bibby road at once began its improvement. In addition to this he has, since 1901, engaged in stock-raising on the parental homestead, which adjoins his own estate, and in the care of both farms has been exceedingly prosperous, his skill and systematic methods bringing him much success.

Taking an intelligent interest in local affairs, Mr. Bibby is a staunch Democrat, and uniformly casts his vote with that party. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

**JOHN ARTHUR BENHAM**, manager of the Sanitary House Cleaning Company, of Fresno, Cal., was born at Flushing, Mich., November 20, 1859, the eldest in a family of three sons and two daughters, all of whom but one daughter are now living. His father, John C. Benham, was a native of Ontario, where he engaged in lumbering and farming, and was then employed for eight years as manager of the Crapo ranch. He made his home in Flushing, Mich., where his death occurred in 1904 at the age of eighty-seven years. His wife, formerly Sarah Glidden, was a native of New York. She survives her husband and makes her home in Flushing. Reared in his native town until attaining his majority, John Arthur Benham received his education in the public schools of that place and at Flint. In 1881 he went to Stevens' Point, Wis., where he engaged for sixteen years in business. Deciding to locate in the remote west, he came to California in 1897, and remained for a time in Oakland, in the same year coming to Fresno, where he brought out the first slot machine, engaging in that business until 1901. He then became associated with Fulton G. Berry as partner in the Grand Central Bar and Billiard Room, remaining so occupied for fifteen months. Forced to withdraw from the business on account of rheumatism, he then entered into partnership with Lester Funge, with whom he built the Grand Theater, which was opened in May, 1903. In October of the same year he sold out, and in the following December located on his ranch near Conejo. He remained in that location until December, 1904, engaged in the dairy business, which he still conducts. He returned to Fresno and became a stockholder on the organization of the Sanitary House Cleaning Company, and also its manager, having fortunately become free from the disease which had troubled him. This company uses the Lotz vacuum and compressed air machine in their process of cleaning, and are already doing an extensive business, being agents

for the entire San Joaquin valley. Mr. Benham owns a comfortable residence at No. 821 O street, which is presided over by his wife, formerly Ella Van Riper, a native of New York state, whom he married in Port Huron, Mich. They are the parents of three children, Irene, Arthur and Lawrence. Politically Mr. Benham is a Republican and fraternally is associated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

W. N. ROHRER. The success which W. N. Rohrer has achieved since locating in Fresno county has placed him indisputably among the prominent and representative citizens of this section. A business man of remarkable acumen and unerring judgment, combined with a quickness of decision, he has steadily advanced to an important position among the commercial and industrial interests of the county, to whose upbuilding he has devoted his best efforts since locating here less than twenty years ago. His most important achievement has been the development of the Mount Campbell Orange Tract, one of the finest pieces of property in this section of the state. This consists of about nine thousand acres of land lying at the southern base of Mount Campbell, directly east of Fresno, six miles from Reedley and nine miles from Sanger, and is from forty to eighty feet higher than the fertile fields adjacent in the Kings river bottom, thus being above the line of severe frost, while the mountain protects it from the northern winds. The location commands a fine view of the Sierra mountains, as well as vast stretches of orchards and vineyards to the south and westward. Excellent drinking water is obtained at a depth of sixty to eighty feet, while the large Alta canal furnishes an abundant supply of water for irrigation purposes.

In Juniata county, Pa., W. N. Rohrer was born, the son of the Hon. Abraham Rohrer, a native of the same locality. The family flourished originally in the state of Maryland, whence the grandfather removed to Pennsylvania and engaged in agricultural pursuits. Abraham Rohrer was reared in Pennsylvania and in young manhood followed the example of his father. During the Civil War, although a stanch Democrat in his political convictions, he was still intensely loyal to the Union and served as a recruiting officer. He was known all over the state by the cognomen of "Honest Abe," and during his service as a member of the state legislature, to which he was twice elected, he ably upheld the high opinion which was universally accorded him. He died in 1888, at the age of sixty years. In his religious life he was a devoted member of the United Brethren Church, in the ministry of which he served for many years. His

wife was in maidenhood Mary Pannebaker, who was also born in Pennsylvania the descendant of an old and honored family. Mrs. Rohrer survives her husband and still makes her home in Pennsylvania.

Of the seven children born to his parents W. N. Rohrer was the fourth, and the only one now located in California. He was reared to manhood in his native state, engaging alternately in study at the district school and the farm duties which were a part of his daily life. His first efforts along an independent line were as school teacher, in which he met with the success which has always characterized his work. When a boy he decided to come west and accordingly located in Durango, Colo., in 1876, a pioneer in that district. He engaged in the abstract and real estate business there until 1887, when he continued his journey west and settled in Fresno, with whose best interests he has since been identified. Real estate has occupied a large share of his attention since locating here. In 1899 he conceived the idea which has resulted in the formation of the Mount Campbell Orange tract, upon which he has expended many thousands of dollars, and an incalculable amount of time and thought. He has thoroughly advertised this section all over the United States as well as in many foreign countries. He has spared no effort to make a success of his enterprise and thus far he has been rewarded by most gratifying returns, while the future holds out promise of still greater achievements in his endeavors to build up and develop the resources of the country.

In Colorado Mr. Rohrer was united in marriage with Lucinda Mitchell, a native of Missouri, and to them were born three children. Mr. Rohrer is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and in religious affairs is identified with the Unitarian Church.

SAMUEL PRATT. Prominent among the well-to-do and prosperous agriculturists of Stanislaus county is Samuel Pratt, an extensive land owner and stock raiser, and a business man of unquestioned ability and integrity. Self-supporting from his boyhood days, he has been in very truth the architect of his own fortunes, attaining his present assured position in the industrial world by persevering toil, good judgment and keen foresight. His home ranch, lying six miles southeast of Oakdale, is one of the best in its appointments and improvements of any in the locality, giving to the passer-by visible evidence of the thrift and wise management of its proprietor. A son of Samuel and Priscilla (Denford) Pratt, he was born April 6, 1854, in Devonshire, England, where he received a very limited education.



Leaving his native land when ten years old, Samuel Pratt came alone to the United States, and for two years thereafter lived with friends in Brown county, Kans. In 1869 he migrated to California, and in June, 1873, took up his residence in Stanislaus county. For about six years Mr. Pratt worked as a farm laborer in the vicinity of Oakdale and Modesto, and with characteristic economy and prudence saved the larger part of his wages. Buying land near Modesto in 1879, he carried on farming for several years, as a grain raiser meeting with satisfactory pecuniary results. In 1895 he bought his present home ranch of eight hundred and eighty acres, and has since been actively and profitably employed in general farming, raising hay, grain and stock, keeping on an average five hundred head of cattle. He has other real estate of value, owning three thousand acres of land in Stanislaus county. Public-spirited and progressive, he has ever evinced a warm interest in local advancement and improvements, and heartily endorses all enterprises calculated to benefit the town or county. Politically he supports the Republican party.

Mr. Pratt has been married twice. He married first, in California, Elizabeth Cobb, who died in early womanhood, leaving two children, Edwin W. and Charles S. His second wife was formerly Jennie Sage.

---

**JAMES MONROE BOND.** In the medical, as in other professions, if a man would rise he must work, and he will ever find plenty of room at the top. In Dr. Bond we recognize one who is bound to win, as he has taken his place in Kings county, Cal., as one who has come to stay, and is quietly engaged in attending to the stream of practice that is converging in his direction. Although during his early manhood days he followed ranching pursuits mainly, he finally determined to enter the medical profession, having a great deal of natural ability in that direction and having practiced to some extent before taking a special preparation. It was not until about 1890 that he entered the California Eclectic Medical College in San Francisco, and after his graduation from this institution in 1893, he practiced one year in the same city. Returning to Kings county the following year, Dr. Bond opened an office in Hanford and engaged as general practitioner. Shortly afterward, however, he started a sanitarium, and here for five years he worked with earnestness and vim in building up his practice. In 1903 he purchased the place upon which his sanitarium is now located. This place contained five acres of ground, and is well located within the city limits and just outside the residence portion of Hanford,

where everything is quiet and peaceful. The extensive grounds are laid out in beautiful lawns, well-kept and beautified in every conceivable way by ornamental flowers, trees and shrubbery. The Sanitarium proper is a large and commodious two-story building, which furnishes accommodations for fifteen patients, in addition to the family living rooms. The building is well fitted with the latest medical appliances and surgical instruments, as the doctor is well informed on the latest discoveries applying to medicine and to surgery, and adopts the most improved methods of healing in treating different cases.

The birth of Dr. Bond took place near Knoxville, in Marion county, Ia., November 17, 1847, and he is one of four children born to William B. and Hannah (Hayes) Bond, the latter an Ohio lady, died in the Blue Mountains, while the family were en route to Oregon, in 1853. William B. Bond descended from a worthy English family who left England in the sixteenth century and settled in Virginia, which was also his birthplace. The progenitor of the family in America was one John Bond, the great-grandfather of William B. Bond. His son, Solomon, was a native of Virginia and served in the Revolutionary war and his son, the father of William B., was a Baptist minister and married a Virginia lady. Reared in his native state, where in his early manhood he followed farm pursuits, the father of Dr. Bond left his eastern home and traveling westward, he settled for a time in Illinois, proceeding on to Iowa in 1846. Here he took up government land in this section, which was new and undeveloped, and he was engaged in tilling the soil here until 1853. Selling out, he crossed overland to Oregon, and having lost his beloved companion on the way, he was left with the care of four small children. He took up a claim near Harrisburg, in Linn county, and lived there for twelve years, and in 1865 located permanently in Benton county, where he died shortly afterward, being forty-nine years old at the time of his death.

The boyhood days of Dr. Bond were spent upon his father's farm, and he attended public school until about twelve years of age, receiving but a limited education. He followed farm pursuits until about the close of the war and after the death of his father, when only nineteen years old, he married and continued to farm in that section a couple of years afterward. It was in 1868 that he first stepped on California soil and at that date he took up a homestead claim at Crows Landing, in Stanislaus county, and here at times he followed farm pursuits during the next few years. In 1874 he purchased a government claim in Kings county, three miles southeast of Lemoore, but did not occupy this place as a home until the spring of 1877. He

followed ranching and stock-raising here until 1889 and about that time he determined upon a medical career and taking a complete medical course, he has devoted his life to this profession ever since.

By his marriage, November 11, 1866, in Oregon, Dr. Bond linked his fortunes with those of Miss Sarah T. Storr, a lady whose parents moved to Oregon in 1847, and it was in that state that she was born. Mrs. Bond is both amiable and accomplished and is in every way a fitting companion for the doctor. They have reared a family of eleven children, of whom they are justly proud, many of them filling positions of trust in a professional way and all prominent in the communities in which they reside. They are enumerated as follows: Emma, wife of R. A. Wheeler, of Healdsburg, Cal.; William F., a resident of Hanford; James E., a minister of the Seventh Day Adventists' Church, stationed at Phoenix, Ariz.; Elmer C., a rising young physician conducting a sanitarium in the same city; Frank Storr and Walter Guy, who are Seventh Day Adventist missionaries, now laboring in Spain; Edith, a successful teacher at Phoenix, Ariz.; and Jessie May, Charles Lester, Harry Cecil and Mildred G., who are still at home with their parents. As may be inferred, both the doctor and his wife are enthusiastic Seventh Day Adventists and have reared their family in the same belief. In his political views, the doctor is a Republican, but he has had neither time nor inclination for aspirations in the field of political favor, as he places his profession emphatically before every other interest. Outside of work in his sanitarium, he has a large patronage extending far into the surrounding country, and it may be said of him that he has made a record equaled or excelled by few. A deep and logical thinker, well-read, with good judgment and keen, trustworthy common sense, he has in addition a strong ambition and a high standard of professional excellence. These attributes are bound to bring the permanent rewards of a successful career, and he can truly be said to be the "architect of his own fortune."

---

**WILLIAM NATHANIEL HARRIS.** A prominent citizen of Laton, Fresno county, Cal., William Nathaniel Harris is representative of the developing forces of this section. He was born in Burlington, Vt., January 27, 1862, the son of William L., of Middleboro, Vt., and the grandson of Nathaniel, of New York state. The elder man owned a marble quarry in Middleboro, Vt., where he also engaged as a dentist, becoming a popular and prominent citizen of the community. His death occurred there after a long

and useful life. William L. Harris also became a dentist and located in Burlington, Vt., where he engaged at his profession until his removal to Chicago, Ill. Later he returned to Burlington, thence located in Washington, D. C., where he filled the office of deputy assistant commissioner of pensions for three years. On account of impaired health he came to California and in Santa Barbara engaged in stock raising until his death, which occurred in 1870, at the comparatively early age of forty-two years. He served in the Civil war, enlisting in 1861 for three months as captain of his company in the Seventh Vermont Regiment. He was a strong man, of fine physique and splendid constitution, but was severely wounded and compelled to stay four months in the hospital. He rejoined the regiment earlier than he should have done, so eager was he to be in active service again, and consequently lost his health. He was sent to New Orleans in charge of a prison ship, where, after one and a half years' service, he was honorably discharged. His wife, formerly Sarah A. Hoyt, was a native of Rochester, N. Y., and died in San Francisco at the age of sixty-one years. Of their three children two died in infancy, William Nathaniel being the youngest.

William N. Harris attended the common schools of Vermont and later of Washington, D. C. He accompanied his parents to Santa Barbara, Cal., where he finished his education, in 1879 entering the Berkeley Gymnasium, having previously completed the high school course. He later entered the class of 1884 as a special student in chemistry and civil engineering in the University of California, having spent the year previous in Boston, where he took a course in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, studying engraving under Victor L. Chandler. After his return to California and the years spent in the University of California he took up book illustrating and engraving, after which he was employed in the art department of the San Francisco *Chronicle* for two years. Deciding to take up a commercial life he entered the insurance business with the George Easton company, of San Francisco, and in 1893 engaged with Easton, Eldridge & Co. in real estate operations, his principal work being colonizing. He was afterward associated with other companies. In 1897 he came to Fresno, where he acted as the agent for the Canadian & American Mortgage and Trust Co. and the United Trust (limited), for the period of three years. During this time he colonized three large tracts in Fresno county and took an active part in the growth and development of the country. In 1890 he became associated with Nears & Saunders, and handled the larger part of their business. He represented Kings county at the Louisiana Purchase Exposit-



tion and is a staunch supporter of the best interests of California.

In Los Angeles Mr. Harris was united in marriage with Fleeta W. Cummings, a native of Illinois, whose death occurred in San Francisco. Fraternally Mr. Harris is associated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is a member of the Sequoia Club. He is a prominent member of the Chamber of Commerce and the San Joaquin Valley Commercial Association. He is actively identified with the work of St. James Episcopal Church, of Fresno, where he has held the position of choir master for the past three years. Politically he is a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party. Mr. Harris was the originator of lecturing and stereopticon views in California, and has given lectures throughout various parts of the states, as well as in the middle west and Pennsylvania. It is his plan to go to the Lewis and Clark Exposition with his views and lectures and anticipates his usual success.

DAVID STEWART JONES. Numbered among the successful young men of Fresno county is David Stewart Jones, who is located at Lane's Bridge, and engaged in an extensive cultivation of grain. He was the third in a family of seven children, his birth occurring in Trimble, Dyer county, Tenn., July 27, 1871. His father, Ezra Jones, crossed the plains in the '60s and in California married Mary Lewis, of Arkansas, who had crossed the plains to this state in the '50s. They returned to Tennessee, where Mr. Jones engaged as a farmer and merchant until his death. Until he was thirteen years old David Stewart Jones was reared in Tennessee, where he attended the public schools in pursuit of an education. In 1884 he came to California and in young manhood took charge of his mother's farm on Owens creek, Merced county, where he remained for some years. He then bought a farm at Raymond in the mountains, where he engaged in the cattle business for four years, after which he located on the San Joaquin river, two miles west of Lane's Bridge, in Madera county, where he engaged in the cultivation of grain on one hundred and sixty acres of land. In 1904 he bought the old Lane home of eighty acres at Lane's Bridge, upon which he located, and now conducts the two farms, as well as renting considerable land, making in all sixteen hundred acres devoted to grain and alfalfa.

In Fresno Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Della Walker, a native of San Joaquin county, and the daughter of J. N. Walker, the first sheriff of Fresno county, and one of the prominent men of this section. (For more complete details concerning Mr. Walker refer to his

biography, which appears elsewhere in this volume.) To Mr. and Mrs. Jones were born the following children: Zella, Orville and Zolo. Mr. Jones is independent in politics but takes a keen interest in the welfare of the community. At various times he has served as school trustee and has given his best efforts to advance educational interests.

JOHN McDONALD WILMANS, a native of Plumas county, Cal., was born in Quincy March 29, 1858, a son of David I. and Martha (Bass) Wilmans, natives respectively of Philadelphia, Pa., and Potosi, Mo. His paternal grandfather was a native of Germany, born on the River Rhine, and in manhood was occupied as an importer of silks and wines. A member of an old and honored family he secured a splendid education and became a prominent citizen in whatever locality he made his home. He immigrated to America and followed merchandising in Philadelphia and afterwards in St. Joseph, Mo. His death occurred at the age of seventy years. His son, David I. Wilmans, who became a pork packer and merchant of that city, came to California with the gold seekers in 1849, organizing a train of about sixty men, well armed and well equipped, coming by way of Utah. Upon his arrival in California he settled in Marysville, or rather founded that town, putting up the first frame building and establishing a store. Disposing of these interests he went to Quincy, Plumas county, in 1850, and became a leading miner and merchant on Nelson creek, where he made a fortune in gold mining and merchandising. He died in Gila county, Arizona, where he was engaged in a mercantile enterprise, at the age of sixty-seven years. His name was well known over the entire west. He was a personal friend of George C. Gorham, Judge Stephen J. Field, United States Senator Jones, Senator Sharron, and others equally well known in the west, a man of honor and probity and great ability. In his political affiliations he was a Democrat, and fraternally was a member of the Masonic order, in which work he was quite active in early life. He married Martha J. Bass, a native of Missouri, and a descendant of English ancestry related to the old and distinguished Bass family of England. With her brothers, Stephen D. and Richard S., both of whom were partners of David I. Wilmans, she came overland to California in 1853 and was married in Quincy. She died at "Woodside," the country ranch of the Wilmans, at the age of seventy-one years. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilmans, three reached maturity, namely: F. W., J. M., and S. C., of whom the last named died August 6, 1901, at the age of thirty-five years, leaving a

wife and three children. F. W. resides at Seattle, Wash.

John McDonald Wilmans was educated in Nevada, principally. From the time he was fourteen years old he engaged in mining, for the greater part being located in Nevada; and was a successful miner even at that age. After he left Nevada in 1876 he was head distributor in the San Francisco postoffice in the paper department for three years, after which, on account of failing eyesight, he went to Gila county, Ariz., and engaged in mining. As before he met with success. He remained in that locality about eight years, half of the time being spent as a merchant. He was also a contractor and managed several other mining properties, making Globe, Ariz., his headquarters. For a part of this time he was also interested in the cattle business. In 1888 he went to Park City, Utah, thirty-five miles south of Salt Lake City, where he took a lease on a mine, in partnership with his brother, F. W. Wilmans, the two taking out \$620,000 in gold in ten months. The lease being for twelve months they disposed of the other two months for \$47,000. This mine is now known as the Silver King and has produced \$15,000,000 worth of gold. After disposing of his interest in this mine Mr. Wilmans located his family in San Francisco. He there became interested with James L. Pearsall, in Monte Cristo, Wash., in mining in the Monte Cristo and other mines, and again met with success. Although he eventually disposed of a part of his interests to John D. Rockefeller, he acts as manager of and owns the controlling interest on a forty-seven mile railroad, which cost about \$3,000,000. His brother, F. W., is president. Since his identification with the Monte Cristo mine, the improvements made have been remarkable, while several million dollars' worth of gold has been taken out. Mr. Wilmans owns a one-third interest in the Monte Cristo mine and is also interested in mines in Alaska.

"Woodside" ranch was bought in 1900, when it was practically a desert, and the improvements since made have demonstrated both the ability and taste of the owner. About eighteen hundred acres are under cultivation and irrigation and in alfalfa. A portion of this ranch has been sold to W. B. Witcher. Mr. Wilmans was married in Arizona to Clara James, a native of Logan, Iowa. She is the mother of two children, Irma and Frederick S. Mr. Wilmans is a prominent Mason, being a member of Golden Gate Commandery, K. T., and Islam Temple, N. M. S. Politically he adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party, in which faith he was reared. He has shown himself to be a man of enterprise and ability and has done much toward advancing the best interests of the

community in which he makes his home. He was instrumental in securing the rural telephone, thus connecting his ranch by long distance with San Francisco and other places of importance. In the matter of improvements on his ranch he has exercised his most intelligent efforts to bring his broad fields to a high state of cultivation and make them rank among the most profitable of this section of the country. Some idea may be gained when it is known that the ranch was bought at the rate of \$55 per acre and is now worth at least \$200, renting for \$12.50 per acre. He is interested in dairying and has a number of Holstein and Durham cattle. At one time he was much interested in sheep raising, importing from France sheep that cost as high as \$1,000 per head, twenty-six being purchased for \$17,000. He has since sold his sheep and now gives considerable time and attention to the raising of fine horses.

---

HIRAM FORD. A resident of Fresno since 1887, Hiram Ford was born in Ohio county, Indiana, April 28, 1850, and is a son of Darius and Margaret (Brown) Ford, natives respectively of Rutland, Vt., and Indiana. The maternal grandfather, David Brown, was born in Pennsylvania and in an early day identified himself with the then frontier region of Switzerland county, Indiana, where he cleared a tract of raw land. After settling in Ohio county, Indiana, Darius Ford followed the tanning business for some years, but eventually turned his attention to flour milling and continued in that industry until his death. Both he and his wife spent their last days in Indiana. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters, all of whom are still living, Hiram being the only member of the family to settle on the Pacific coast. His younger brother, Oliver P. M. Ford, M. D., was reared under his supervision and he paid the expenses of his education in the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, from which he was graduated. At this writing he is a successful physician at Rising Sun, Ind.

In the county where he was born, Hiram Ford passed uneventfully the years of boyhood and youth, receiving meager advantages in neighboring schools, but acquiring through reading and observation a large fund of valuable information. Under his father he learned the milling and stone dressing business and after his father's death he operated the mill for a year, when it was sold. Thereupon he turned his attention to the carpenter's trade. About this time he married Miss Sophia C. Cooper, who was born and reared in Ohio county, Indiana, and whose cooperation has been of great assistance to him in all of his active life. After his marriage he en-

gaged in the mercantile business at Bennington, Ind., for seven years, and on selling out resumed work as a carpenter.

When Mr. Ford came to Fresno in 1887 the town had only one three-story brick building. During the next three years the building business was active, carpenters were in constant demand, and he had no difficulty in securing steady work. In 1891 he took up contracting, his first contract being for the building of a large fruit cannery in Fresno. Since then his business has grown steadily, and now during the busy seasons he gives employment to about thirty hands. Scores of elegant residences in various parts of the city have been built under his supervision. Among other buildings for which he had the contract are the Baptist church, Union high school at Clovis, Kirk school house in Fresno and the John Brown colony school house in Madera county. Not only does he understand every detail and department of the contracting business, but he is further fortunate in being able to handle his workmen without friction, a matter of no small importance in these days of constant conflict between capital and labor. He makes his home in a residence that he built on the corner of K and San Benito streets. In his family there are six children, namely: Margaret A., wife of Alvin G. Lorbeer, who is now living at Tucson, Ariz.; Flora A., at home; Harrison H., a farmer of Fresno county; Grace C., wife of Thomas C. Edgar, of Reedley; Charles W., who is employed as foreman of his father's building operations; and Stephen L., a box-maker.

On the organization of the Citizens' Alliance Mr. Ford became one of its charter members, and he is an active member of the Chamber of Commerce. Politically he is a believer in Republican principles. On the organization of the local lodge, Woodmen of the World, he became a charter member. About 1873 he was initiated into the Independent Order of Odd Fellows while a resident of Indiana and since coming to the coast he has affiliated with Fresno Lodge No. 186, of which he is secretary at this writing. For two terms he has been past chief patriarch of the encampment of Fresno, and also officiates as clerk of the canton of this city. When the Builders' Exchange was established he became a charter member and now serves as secretary of the governing board. He took a warm interest in the organization of the Contractors' Association and was honored by the members with the office of president, which he has filled with fidelity and efficiency.

---

**WILLIAM MCINDOO.** The most extensive dairy business of Fresno county is conducted by William McIndoo, who, as president of the

Jersey Farm Dairy (incorporated), is giving his best efforts toward the success of the enterprise. He was born near Peterboro, Ontario, April 1, 1846, the eldest son in a family of six sons and five daughters, of whom nine attained maturity and are living. Three brothers, Robert, Matthew and James, are also located in Fresno. His father, Matthew McIndoo, was a native of Ontario, where he was engaged as a farmer until his death, which occurred in 1902 at the age of eighty-three years. He was a descendant of Irish ancestry, his father, William McIndoo, having immigrated from that country in 1815 and became a farmer in Ontario. Matthew McIndoo married Mary Carter, a native of Peterboro, Ontario, and the daughter of Robert Carter, who came to Ontario from the north of Ireland, where the family had been located by Scotch ancestors. Mrs. McIndoo still survives her husband and makes her home in the old residence in Ontario.

William McIndoo was reared on the paternal farm, while receiving his education in the public schools and the military academy at Toronto. When twenty-one years old he began farming for himself, continuing in that occupation for three or four years, when he sold out and engaged in the cattle business. For the following five or six years he engaged in the exportation of beef cattle for New York and Buffalo markets. In 1886 he came to California and located in Fresno county, where he engaged in mining above Fish camp in the Sierras. He prospected for about six months, when he went to Oakland and engaged in the restaurant business. After eighteen months he came to Fresno, locating here in January, 1888. He first worked at the fruit business in the Scandinavian Colony, having charge of a vineyard until it was sold, and four months later he moved into Fresno. Shortly after this he began the dairy business, which has since occupied his attention, he being the first to introduce this work as a means of livelihood. He began with one cow and gradually increased his herd until two years later he moved to a farm two miles out of the city, where he conducted his enterprise for several years. His dairy farm is now located on Kearney avenue six miles west of Fresno, where he has thoroughbred Jersey and Holstein stock, about three hundred in number, his ranch having two hundred and eleven acres devoted to alfalfa. In February, 1903, the business was incorporated under the name of the Jersey Farm Dairy, with Mr. McIndoo as president and manager. They run five wagons in delivery, while the balance is manufactured into butter at their creamery. Mr. McIndoo also owns an eighty-acre farm on section 18, three miles east of Fresno, and leases five hundred acres of the Newhall estate adjoining, where he raises hay and grain. He

also leases the East Fresno tract, where he is engaged in the raising of hay and grain. At Lindsay, Tulare county, he improved an orange grove, consisting of fifty acres, thirty of which are bearing navels. He is one of three interested in the Lindsay Independent Packing Company, incorporated, Mr. McIndoo being vice-president. They have a packing house in Lindsay and a fine grove of oranges and are meeting with satisfactory success in the enterprise.

Near Gadrige, Ontario, Mr. McIndoo was united in marriage with Charlotte Graham, a native of that place, and the daughter of James Graham, a blacksmith and carriage manufacturer, now residing in Fresno. They are the parents of three children: Edith, Ivan Carter and Claribel. Fraternally Mr. McIndoo is associated with the Masons, having been made a member of this organization in Wingham, Ontario, and is now a Royal Arch Mason, belonging to the lodge in Fresno. Both himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically Mr. McIndoo is a staunch Republican. In the line of his business he belongs to the Milkmen's Association.

---

J. B. CHINN was born in Kentucky November 29, 1830, a son of Joel H. and Caroline (Blackwell) Chinn. The grandfather, John Chinn, was a native of Virginia, of English descent. Later in life he removed to Kentucky, locating near Lexington, where he engaged in general farming. He married a Miss Higgins and became the father of eighteen children. Being a great believer in education he did much for his family in that direction. He was an ardent admirer of Henry Clay. The father of our subject was engaged in the manufacture of hemp, and also carried on farming. In 1852 he moved to Missouri and followed farming until his death, in 1874, being seventy-three years of age. He was the father of nine children, J. B. being the eldest of the family.

J. B. Chinn was reared in Kentucky and at the age of sixteen began teaching, which vocation he followed for nearly four years, meanwhile spending some time in St. Louis and two winters in the Gulf states, returning from the south in the spring of 1850. In September following he matriculated as a student in Bethany College, in Virginia, of which Alexander Campbell was president, and pursued his collegiate studies until the beginning of 1854. On the first of May of that year he started across the plains in company with four other young men, bringing through some twenty-five head of selected horses. The trip was a long and trying one, each man in the party being compelled to stand guard every night two hours to protect

the stock. Finally, having had one Indian fight on the Humboldt, they arrived at Sacramento September 15. After casting about for awhile J. B. Chinn accepted a position as teacher in San Jose, taught out the term, and February 4, 1855, left for what was then thought to be a great mining field, the Kern river. He and Wharton M. Moore, a college chum, fitted up with provisions and mining outfit, rockers, long toms, etc., and leaving San Jose, passed through the Pacheco Pass into the then seemingly limitless San Joaquin valley. Crossing Kings river near Visalia, they passed on by where is now the beautiful village of Portersville, and down to Posey creek at the base of the Sierra, on which stream they mined for two days, getting from \$1 to \$2 per day. At this place the range was crossed to Kern river. Gold could be found in many places in small quantities, but not in quantities to justify working.

After an interesting trip through an uninhabited region, abounding in wild horses, bear, elk, deer, antelope and Indians they arrived at San Jose May 1. On the third of the same month Mr. Chinn left for Iowa Hill, Placer county, where the summer was spent in fluming the American river. The venture was unsuccessful and in February, 1856, he took charge of the school in Butte county and taught without cessation in Oroville and Yolo county until November, 1861, at which time he went to the famous Comstock silver lode. For several years he was engaged in the lumber business and subsequently carried on farming in Carson valley, and was among the first in the then territory to plant alfalfa. In 1867, when the Overland Railroad had penetrated the heart of the Sierra, he located on the same and engaged in the wood and lumber business for twenty-two consecutive years, a business which proved to be very lucrative. Meanwhile, in 1884, he interested himself in a fruit and cattle ranch near Vacaville, in which he beguiled himself during the winter months when lumbering could not be carried on. The railroad got the lion's share of the profits, and it is his belief it has continued to get it during the long intervening years. Much money was spent fruitlessly, as many another man in the same calling, fruit-raising, would testify. Being tired of working for carriers and middlemen, and having heard of the resources of Tulare county, he went to Portersville in 1887, and engaged in alfalfa and cattle raising and general farming. He has enjoyed life in the exploiting of the great resources of this county.

Though verging on to seventy-five years Mr. Chinn is still active in the details of his business and alive to every move looking to the betterment of the community in which he lives. He is one of those who believe that employment is



only another name of enjoyment. Religiously he is a believer in the fundamental principles set forth in the sacred oracles, and that the adherence to them builds up the best and highest type of civilization. Politically he thinks that all public utilities should be used for the benefit of the people, and not for a few persons.

**LEVI HUNT.** The name of Levi Hunt is associated with all that is honorable and progressive in the ranching vicinity of Bakersfield, where he owns sixty acres of land on the Kern Island canal, and is engaged in horticulture and stock-raising. Comparatively speaking he is a new comer to the vicinity, having arrived in 1899 to pasture stock raised on his ranch in San Luis Obispo county. So favorably impressed was he with the advantages at the disposal of the rancher of Kern county that he bought his ranch a year later, after disposing of the majority of his large herd. Naturally, he found many improvements on the property, but he is a progressive and wide-awake man, and the next few years will doubtless see many modern changes as the direct result of his investigation and advancement.

Mr. Hunt has spent all but nine years of his life in California and he comes of one of the pioneer families of 1852 which added brawn and useful endeavor to the unsettled conditions of that time. Born in Gentry county, Mo., October 5, 1841, he is a son of John Hunt, a native of Ohio, a natural mechanic, and who for many years was an engineer on boats plying the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. Mr. Hunt brought his family overland in 1852 with wagons and ox-teams, and after a journey of five months settled at Petaluma, Sonoma county, and ran a blacksmith shop for a couple of years. He then removed north to Oregon, remained a year, and upon returning to California took up his residence in Monterey county, where he operated a blacksmith shop for many years. His next home was near Watsonville, and in 1882 he settled near Rio Grande, San Luis Obispo county, and ran a shop until selling out in 1900. Mr. Hunt then came to live with his son, Levi, where he still makes his home, and where, at the age of eighty-six, he still finds pleasure and profit in the carrying on a small blacksmith shop. His wife, a native of Kentucky, shared his uphill early fortunes and later prosperity, and reared his four sons to be conscientious and capable men. Mrs. Hunt lived to be seventy-seven years of age.

Until his twenty-first year Levi Hunt remained in his father's home, but much earlier than that learned the miller's trade, at which he worked in San Luis Obispo county for about ten years. In Santa Cruz county he married Miss

Frances Haynes, a native of Chili, South America, and six children have been born of the union. The oldest son, Edward, owns a paying mine known as the Rocky Mountain Mine, near Randsburg, in which his father has an interest; George holds the responsible position of cattle boss on the Ta Jone ranch, Kern county; Albert is part owner of the mine with his brother Edward. Ida is the wife of William Branch, a rancher of this county; Alice is the wife of Mr. Collins, a plumber and gas fitter of Kern City; and Fannie is living at home.

Giving up his trade in San Luis Obispo county, Mr. Hunt engaged in the cattle business there, owning sometimes as high as five hundred head. During the dry season of 1899 he came here to pasture his cattle, with the result that he has become one of the most promising ranchers of the vicinity of Bakersfield. He takes pardonable interest in the politics of his neighborhood, voting the Republican ticket, but stanchly refusing official recognition. Fraternally he is a Mason.

**HON. JAMES NULL WALKER.** One of the pioneers of the San Joaquin valley, and a man who has ever had the interests of the people at heart, is James Null Walker, who was born February 7, 1829, in DeSoto, Mo., a son of William G. and Elizabeth (Null) Walker, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Missouri, whose parents came to that state from Pennsylvania. William C. Walker settled in Missouri in 1824 and engaged in the stock business on an extensive scale, marketing his stock in New Orleans. James Null Walker comes from sturdy German parentage and was reared on a farm and received his education in the subscription schools. He early became interested in the handling of stock. At the age of fifteen he was sent to New Orleans in charge of his father's stock, and as he grew older was taken into partnership with him and became prominent as a drover in the southern city. He made his last trip to that city in 1849 and his share of the proceeds enabled him to purchase an outfit to come to California, which he did in 1850, making the long trip overland with ox-teams and arriving in Sacramento in August of that year. He followed mining in Grass valley and also in Mariposa county, and engaged in merchandising in Coarse Gold Gulch, Fresno county, conducting a large business with the miners and extending credit, so that in 1860, when the mines gave out, he had to close out the business at a heavy loss. He then embarked in ranching at Fine Gold and in 1863 went to the foothills. He purchased cattle at \$4 per head to stock his range there. In 1867 he located on his present place on the north side

of the San Joaquin river in what is now Madera county. He has a fine place, well improved and devoted to the raising of cattle and alfalfa. A meadow one and a quarter miles by a half mile, is a special feature, being one of the best in the valley. He has added from time to time until he now owns thirteen hundred acres on the river. His first stock venture was in raising mules, after which he engaged in the sheep business for twelve years, and since then has devoted his time almost exclusively to the cattle business. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres set to vines near Malaga and one year's yield gave him one hundred and forty-eight tons of raisins. As he has prospered in his business ventures he has gained the confidence of his fellow townsmen and in 1861 was elected to the state legislature and served two terms. In 1866 he was elected sheriff of Fresno county and served one term, was re-elected for a second term without opposition, and refused a third term. In 1870 he was again elected to the state legislature and served one term.

In Fresno county Mr. Walker was united in marriage with Agnes Cranmer, a native of Calaveras county, Cal., and they have had seven children: Clarence; J. N.; William; Belle, the wife of D. S. Jones; Sallie, the wife of John Patten; Addie; and Minfer, all residents of the San Joaquin valley. Mr. Walker was made a member of Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F. of Millerton, then transferred to Fresno, but is not an active member. In politics a Democrat, he has served officially, and it is said by his friends that as sheriff of the county he was the best official the county ever had.

In looking over the past Mr. Walker calls to mind the condition of the country when he first came to the San Joaquin valley. The settlers of that period are nearly all gone, and he is one of five men now left of the early settlers of Fresno county. The friends of Mr. Walker have taken pleasure in according him a place in the annals of the state that has claimed him as a resident for over half a century.

---

LINDSAY PARKER TIMMINS. Born October 8, 1864, near Ottawa, Canada, Lindsay Parker Timmins is a son of John and Margaret (Donnelly) Timmins, who are living on a farm near Ottawa; the former a native of La Shute. is a son of Andrew Timmins, who was born in the north of Ireland of English ancestry, settled in the Province of Quebec and later removed to a farm near Ottawa, where he died. John Timmins was a member of the town council in earlier days, and in his religious views is a Methodist. L. P. Timmins is the fifth child in a family of eleven children, nine of whom are

living. He was educated in the district and high schools and learned the blacksmith's trade on the home farm. In 1881 he went to Michigan and the same year to Minnesota. Deciding to come to California, in 1882 he made the trip and settled in Fresno county, where he found employment on a ranch near Fowler, then ran a derrick fork on a threshier in the season of '83, and that fall began work at his trade in Fresno. He conducted a successful business until 1886, when he sold out and engaged in getting out logs by contract for Judge Donohoo and later for Musick & Son. This he followed until 1892. In the meantime in 1887 he had married, in Fresno, Emma Studor, a native of Yonkers, N. Y. In 1892 Mr. Timmins purchased a ranch of twenty acres on Blackstone avenue, which he set out in vineyard. January, 1893, he was appointed outside deputy under sheriff Scott, and gave his entire time to the performance of the duties of that position for six years. The fall before Mr. Scott took the office, Sontag and Evans had committed their several crimes, and were still at large. The incoming officer took up the hunt, which terminated in the fight at Stone Corral, by the Fresno posse. Mr. Timmins having originated the plan of capture, was detained from being present by the Heath case then on trial, and where considerable courage was a necessity as feeling ran high and revolvers were drawn several times. That evening with a comrade, Mr. Timmins left for Stone Corral, where the fight had taken place. Sontag had received seven wounds, from the effects of which he afterward died, and Evans was very badly wounded. Not making the capture the desperadoes made their way to the ranch of E. H. Perkins in Wilcox valley and sent Mr. Perkins' son to Visalia with an offer of surrender if the reward would be equally divided with Mrs. Evans. When the Fresno officers left Visalia the officers of that city refused to go into the mountains as they had already lost so many men, but they agreed to watch Evans' house in case he should go back there. When the offer to surrender reached them they could not withstand the temptation of a capture and securing fast teams, passed the Fresno men who also increased their speed and arrived as the others entered the room, where the robbers were staying. Jay Scott's advice being heeded that night prevented bloodshed between the rival posses. Sontag died in the county jail, and Evans afterward made his escape with the aid of Murello, an ex-convict, who was employed at the restaurant that furnished meals to Evans. This was done by the ruse of a suspected train hold-up at Goshen. Mr. Timmins and the other deputies went to the scene, during which time Evans and Murello escaped to the mountains. Pursuit was made at once and continued day and



night, the party gradually lessening to Timmins, Henry and Peck, who determined to effect the capture or give up their lives in the attempt. They persistently followed and searched the mountains, swimming the streams and exposing themselves many times to the outlaws, who knew the mountains and were in advance, until after two months when the cabin was reached and set on fire, and then a running fire and chase began towards the plains, and, Visalia being reached, they found their men had surrendered about thirty minutes before. The criminals were sentenced for life, and Evans frequently stated that Murello had drawn a bead on Mr. Timmins several times as they passed them hidden in the bushes, but was induced by Evans to spare his life as he had been kind to him while a prisoner and was attentive to his children when they came to see him. During his terms in office the Dilwood and James gangs were run down, about fifteen receiving sentence. Also the Saunders case, in which Mr. Timmins secured the evidence which caused conviction. In 1899 he left the sheriff's office and entered the police department as a private detective and special officer. February, 1901, he was appointed deputy United States marshal of the southern district of California, by H. Z. Osborne, of Los Angeles, having under his charge the following counties in the northern division of that district: Merced, Madera, Mariposa, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Kern and Inyo, discharging the duties of his office without favor. He stands high in the esteem of his superiors and the citizens of Fresno.

By his marriage three children have been born, Mabel Margaret, Claude Walter and Alice. Mr. Timmins is a member and past master workman of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Maccabees. He is a Republican and a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. In all matters that have had for their object the advancement of the county, Mr. Timmins has been a liberal supporter. In the pursuit of his duties he has shown himself a fearless officer and by his kindly manners has gathered about him a host of friends.

---

A. C. MAUDE, who, at the time of his death, September 27, 1904, was an esteemed citizen of Bakersfield, Kern county, was born in Derbyshire, England, August 13, 1839. In the spring of 1859, when nearly twenty years of age, he came to the United States, landing in Boston, where he followed any occupation that offered an honest livelihood. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war, he gave his services and was employed in various capacities, but did not regularly enlist until August, 1863, when he became sergeant

of Company B, Seventeenth New York Veteran Volunteers. When in front of Atlanta, under Sherman, in July of 1864, he was promoted to be second lieutenant. He was with his regiment in Virginia, then down the Mississippi, and from Vicksburg to Meridian and return, up the Red river with the Banks expedition, then with Sherman to Atlanta, later helped to head off General Hood, then on to the sea, from there through North Carolina, and finally, in July of 1865, after the Grand Review, received an honorable discharge at Washington.

At the close of the war Mr. Maude entered the freight office of the Rensselaer & Saratoga Railroad Company, at Green Island, N. Y., but soon went to Richmond, Va., where he worked in the sutler's department, and thence to Jackson, Miss., where he became a post trader and army sutler, later following the same occupation in Tennessee and Louisville, Ky., during the reconstruction period, in connection with the Seventh Cavalry and Fourth Infantry. His work took him at different times to all the military posts between Natchez and Louisville. On the abandonment of the reconstruction policy and the disbanding of the army, he came west, stopping meanwhile at different posts. He came to what is now Bakersfield in July of 1872, and took up government land six miles away, on what is now Bellevue ranch, engaging there in ranching and general stock pursuits. In 1874 he sold his property for \$4,000 to J. B. Haggin, who afterward sold it to the Kern County Land Company.

From 1875 to 1879 Mr. Maude was engaged in the real estate and insurance business. During the latter year he purchased the *Weekly Californian*, and in 1880 established a daily edition of the paper, the first daily newspaper to be established in Kern county, managing and owning the same until the spring of 1882, when he sold out. Subsequently he conducted a real estate and insurance business, although meanwhile he had other interests, especially from 1894 to 1902, when he owned and published the *Kern Standard* of Kern City. At various times he erected buildings in Bakersfield, and the destruction of some of these in the great fire of July, 1889, entailed upon him a loss of \$30,000. In Bakersfield he married Miss Helen E. Lechner, who was born in Indiana, and they became the parents of three children, Harry E., an employee of the Southern Pacific Railway Company; Sarah Helen and Martha M., who are students in the Bakersfield schools.

Upon the organization of the local lodge of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks Mr. Maude became one of its charter members, and he was also connected with the Masonic fraternity. He was ever a stanch Republican, active in the political life of every community where

he made his home. For fifteen years he served as United States commissioner, and for twenty years acted as a notary public. He was interested in educational matters and served on the school board for one term. The death of a city trustee, T. E. Harding, in November, 1902, causing a vacancy on the board, he was appointed to fill the same, and in April, 1903, was duly elected to the office. As chairman and secretary of the Republican County Central Committee at various times he was enabled to do effective work for his party, especially during campaigns and at elections. For six years he was a member of the Republican State Central Committee. At his death Mr. Maude left many friends as he was held in high esteem by all with whom he had had either business or social relations.

**JAMES FRIKKA.** While the identification of Mr. Frikka with the citizenship of California covers a comparatively brief period only, he has established a reputation for honesty and energy among his neighbors in Fresno county and conducts with characteristic thrift the property on which he has established his home. The date of his arrival in California was 1874, but he came then as a prospector rather than as a permanent settler, and during the following years he had many interesting experiences in the mines of northern California. When he came to the coast the second time it was in company with his family and with the intention of establishing a permanent home in the west. Since then he has operated a very large tract of land situated seven miles east of Clovis, where he is engaged in raising wheat and barley. In the cultivation of his lands he uses three ten-horse teams and the work of harvesting the crops is carried forward by means of a combined harvester requiring thirty head of horses.

The native land of Mr. Frikka is Denmark, and he was born at Dalby, Jutland, Jylland, October 18, 1848, being a son of Hans and Maria (Randoup) Larsen, natives respectively of Schleswig and Jylland. He was one of two sons, his brother, George, being a farmer in the state of Washington. His father served as a soldier in the Danish army during the struggle of 1848 and later engaged in the milling business at Kolding, where both he and his wife died at the age of seventy-two years. In religion they were faithful members of the Lutheran Church. At the time of removing to Kolding their son, James, was a youth of eighteen years, strong, alert, energetic and well educated in the Danish language. With a view to improving his opportunities, in 1873 he crossed the ocean to America. After a year at Oxford, N. J., he came to the Pacific coast and spent five years in

the mines of California. During 1879 he went to Arizona, where he was engaged as shift boss for the Tombstone Milling and Mining Company. On resigning that position, in 1884 he returned to the home of his boyhood, where he enjoyed a visit amid the scenes familiar to him from his earliest recollections. After a year at the old home he returned to his former position in Tombstone, Ariz. In a few months, however, he went back to Denmark and purchased a hotel and farm at Bramdrop. In addition to managing the hotel he conducted the farm, but later sold that place and bought another farm. An experience of some years in Denmark proved not altogether profitable nor congenial, and in the fall of 1902 he again came to the new world, this time to cast his fortunes with the agriculturists of California. Shortly after his arrival in Fresno county he leased the ranch of D. C. Sample, comprising twenty-three hundred acres, and on this immense tract he has since conducted extensive farm operations. In all of his plans he has the co-operation of his wife, who was Christine Peterson, a native of Bramdrop, Denmark, and the two labor in sympathy and with ceaseless energy in order to secure good advantages for their children and establish the family fortunes upon a substantial basis. Both are earnest members of the Lutheran Church and give to movements for the religious upbuilding of their community. In fraternal matters Mr. Frikka holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Devoted to the welfare of his adopted country, he may always be found upon the side of progress, justice and religion. Of his children the eldest, Maria, is the wife of James Thompson of Enterprise, and the others, Carrie, Hans, Johanna and Andrew, remain with their parents on the home farm.

**O. H. P. DUNCAN.** As a pioneer citizen of worth and ability, O. H. P. Duncan is remembered by all and honored for the qualities which distinguished his manhood. He was born in Illinois October 16, 1836, and when only sixteen years old started across the plains to California. Through a painful and severe accident—the breaking of his thigh—he was compelled to remain a year in Salt Lake City. The following year he came on to California and went to mining in Placerville. After four years of this life he came to Tulare county and engaged in the sheep business, and the following year (1858) he bought eighty acres of land on Deep creek. After his marriage, which occurred in December, 1860, he located on his wife's land, five miles east of Visalia, removing in 1866 to that city while he served as deputy sheriff. In 1867 he went to Kings river, near Kingston, and

homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and bought eighty acres adjoining, making that location his home until the spring of 1872. He then moved to Lemon Cove and bought all of the land, seven hundred and forty acres, which he sold in 1874, then located in Springville. He there purchased eighty acres, including the hotel and springs, and engaged in stock-raising for two years. In December, 1876, he went to the South Tule district and bought one hundred and sixty acres and pre-empted a like number, and also secured eighty acres from the railway company. This continued to be his home until his death, which occurred in June, 1889, after a long and lingering illness following a paralytic stroke.

Mr. Duncan's widow was in maidenhood Matilda Swanson, a native of Peru, La Salle county, Ill., where she was born February 20, 1843. Her father, John Swanson, was a native of Union county, Ind., who came to Illinois and located in Putnam county, where he conducted a flour mill. Later he engaged in farming, in 1850 crossing the plains to California by means of ox teams. Upon his arrival he engaged in mining in Eldorado county until the following year, when he returned east for his family, which he brought back in 1852. They left their home in the Prairie state March 5, and arrived in Placerville in August. There the father engaged in mining for a time, in the same year locating at Knights Ferry on Stanislaus river, where he conducted a store in conjunction with his mining operations. He eventually went to Suisun City, Solano county, and took up land, which he found was a Spanish grant, so in June, 1854, he located near Visalia, Tulare county, where he bought four hundred and eighty acres of land. Later he added two hundred acres of school land, and in 1858 bought the seven hundred and forty acres which comprise Lemon Cove. He there built the Lemon Cove ditch and did much toward the development and upbuilding of this section. The freshest of 1861 and '62 washed out everything in this section, and he afterward sold the property. His death occurred in August, 1863. His wife, formerly Hannah Sherman, of Ohio, also died near Visalia. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Duncan, to whom all the property was deeded, took charge of the land and conducted it for a time, finally disposing of all but one hundred and twelve acres, which is devoted to general farming and stock-raising. To herself and husband were born the following children: John W., of Portersville; Oliver K.; Clara V.; May M.; Pelham; Rey M.; Ada I., the wife of D. Pratt, of the North district; Hayne; and Claude. Four children are deceased, Oliver K., Clara V., May M. and Hayne. The others are located in the vicinity of their childhood's home, while Claude is living with his

mother and caring for the home property. Mr. Duncan was always active in the counsels of the Democratic party.

When Mrs. Duncan first came to Tulare county the Indians were very troublesome and had massacred many of the settlers. They were met at Kaweah Bridge and at Woodville by Indians, who told them not to cross. Her father traded and made friends with them, so they came on to Cameron creek. She learned the Indian language and for some years the Indians were her only playmates. In 1855, on one of her trips to the Indian camp all the squaws were gone, and shortly afterward an Indian girl came to see her and told her that the Indians were going to kill all the white people. In a panic the little white pioneer girl ran with the news to older people, and thus the settlers of that section escaped, the Tulare county Indian war following. She has witnessed great changes during her long residence in the west and has taken an active part, with her husband, in the progress and development of this section.

---

EDWARD E. BUSH. The industrial history of Hanford lies parallel to and absorbs the life history of Edward E. Bush. This leading real estate man of Kings county, who has probably done more to stimulate varied activity in this particular part of the state than any other single agency, and who is widely known as the organizer of the Hanford Abstract Company, organizer and manager of the Hanford Gas & Power Company, hardware merchant, oil promoter, developer of extensive vineyards, and all-around successful business man, has been a resident of this section since his fifth year, and at one time used to drive cattle over the desert upon which Hanford has since risen to importance. He was born at Waukon, Allamakee county, Iowa, June 25, 1859, a son of Moses D. Bush, whose association with the pioneer industries of Kings county furnished a notable example of industry, public spirit, and the old fashioned virtues of kindness, generosity and humanity.

Moses D. Bush was born and reared on a Hudson river farm in New York state, and, being left an orphan at the age of nine, was obliged to early assume the responsibility of self-support. When grown to maturity he went west to the shores of Lake Michigan, and where Chicago now astonishes the world purchased a hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he lived and ran a boarding house for a few years. From Chicago he returned east and married Emily E. Randall, and upon his return located in Allamakee county, Iowa, where he helped to survey the boundary line of the state, and subsequently practiced surveying in connection with the cultiva-

tion of a large farm. In 1864 he came overland to California, and after running a small foundry at San Jose for three years, sold out and came to what is now Kings county and took up land upon which the town of Lemoore now stands. When the railroad made the town a possibility he removed to an adjoining quarter-section and engaged in farming and stock-raising with great success, at the same time exerting his influence to acquire for himself and neighbors the advantages enjoyed by the agriculturists in the settled communities of the east. When he first arrived in the county Samuel Wright and H. F. Bicknell were the only other settlers, a few stock-raisers temporarily availing themselves of the grazing advantages, completing the inhabitants. Mr. Bush became enthusiastic in praise of the county, and was the means of inducing many emigrants to settle within its boundaries. As an inducement he allowed them to live on his farm without pay until such time as they could investigate and select a place of residence, in the meantime sharing his vegetables and grain with them, and otherwise holding out encouragement and assistance. With four or five others he started the first ditch in Kings county, taking water from Kings river; and when the lower Kings river ditch company was organized he was one of the foremost of its promoters, sharing with the other settlers the labor of digging the ditch with shovels, and with them receiving compensation by taking stock in the new enterprise. He lived on his second farm until 1879, when he located on four hundred acres eight miles south of Hanford in the Lakeside district, and engaged in farming and dairying. In 1884 he sold his farm and retired from active life in Hanford, where his death occurred November 16, 1893, at the age of seventy-six years. Politically he was a Democrat, and though never an office seeker, held a number of local offices. His wife, who survived him until eighty-two years of age, and who spent her last years with her son, Edward E., was a member of the Adventist Church, which he attended but never joined. But two or three men who shared with him the rigors of the crude pioneer days are living at the present time, but these are loud in their praise of his honesty, his unselfishness and his practical common sense.

When his family came to Tulare, or what is now Kings county, Edward E. Bush was eight years old, and it may be imagined his educational and other opportunities were extremely limited. He distinctly recalls walking five miles to the nearest school house, over plains covered with wild cattle, and of assisting with the clearing of the farm as soon as his strength permitted. In 1881 he started on an independent farming enterprise, but the following year came to Hanford

and started a livery business on a small scale. He was successful in the latter capacity, increased his equipment and trade and disposed of his business in 1890 at a gratifying profit. From then until the present time he has been engaged in a real estate business in Hanford and vicinity, and has probably held out greater inducements to settlers than any other man similarly employed in the county. He has never stopped to consider the cost of any departure calculated to make this county a pleasant and profitable place in which to live, and has often advanced or given money when the requisite funds were not forthcoming. This tendency on his part was particularly noticeable when the question of extending the Santa Fe Railroad from Fresno to the Kern county line arose, and it was principally owing to the generosity and untiring zeal of Mr. Bush that Hanford was able to profit by the passing through of the road.

At an early stage of the country's development Mr. Bush ascertained its particular adaptability to vine growing, and after most satisfactory experiments, started, in 1889, the Del Monte Vineyard Company, which set out one hundred and sixty acres in vines and trees. In 1890 he organized the Banner Vineyard Company, which purchased three hundred and twenty acres, set the land out in vines and trees, and disposed of it the same year. A few months later he bought the Grangeville Vineyard of one hundred and sixty acres, set out vines and sold the second year. About the same time he bought a section of land in the Foster section, half of which he set out in vines and sold to P. McRae, in 1891 planting the other half and disposing of it to the Ormona Orchard & Vineyard Company. In the fall of 1891 he went to Butte, Mont., and organized the Silver Bar Vineyard & Orchard Company, set out two hundred and forty acres in orchard and vineyard, and disposed of entire to the company. In the spring of 1892 he set out half a section of land in prunes and peaches near Butte City, went into partnership with seven other men, the same year inducing eastern men of capital to come west and purchase the property. In 1890 he purchased and platted the Reddington Addition of forty lots in Hanford, and soon after bought an additional twenty acres in the northern part of the town, platted half of it, and has since seen it develop into the most exclusive residence section of the city. Another twenty acres was purchased in the town about the same time, and sold in one tract.

Mr. Bush's active interest in oil began in the early '90s, and in 1896 he organized the Consolidated Oil & Development Company with a capital stock of \$100,000. The company bought a section of land in the Kroyenhagen district, sank a well and found oil, but not a producer. He



then organized the Caribou Oil Company in the Coalinga country for \$100,000, became superintendent and manager of the same, and with C. C. and W. A. Spinks bought a section of land in Kings county. A portion of this land was afterward sold to the Peerless Oil Company, eighty acres to the Merced Oil Company, and eighty acres to the Great Northern Oil Company. The land still owned by the original company has five wells in operation and is yielding its promoters a handsome yearly income. In the Kern River country Mr. Bush organized the Provident Oil Company, with a capital stock of \$200,000, developed sixty acres in oil, but suspended operations owing to cheap oil. He also organized the McFadden Oil & Mining Company with a capital stock of \$100,000, put down a well, and, although operations have since been suspended, the company retains possession of the land. In both of these companies Mr. Bush owns a controlling interest. A still more ambitious effort at oil production was his organization of the Del Rey Oil Company for \$1,000,000, the company owning four hundred acres, forty of which are in the heart of the Kern river field. Seven producing wells are the result of this combination of capital, and during the development of the wells Mr. Bush was superintendent and general manager, and still owns stock in the company, as well as hundreds of acres of undeveloped lands in the same world-famed locality. While his coal interests have been on a comparatively small scale, Mr. Bush has been instrumental in interesting many in this future great resource of the county. In 1898 he organized the Del Monte Coal Company, which developed coal lands in the western part of the county, but owing to exorbitant shipment rates was obliged to suspend operations.

The Hanford Abstract Company was organized with a paid up capital of \$10,000, and since November, 1901, Mr. Bush has been superintendent and manager, at the same time owning a controlling interest in the stock. He has been directly concerned with the majority of the improvements which have marked the growth of Hanford from a village to a thriving industrial community, one of his most noteworthy efforts having been in connection with supplying the town with gas. With four stockholders he organized the Hanford Gas & Power Company, of which he is secretary and general manager, and which company has erected one of the finest plants in the state of California at a cost of \$60,000. The plant has been running for about seven months, and during that time has demonstrated its utility and money-making advantages. Although a staunch Democrat, Mr. Bush has invariably refused official recognition, but has

served as secretary of the last central committee, and has been a delegate to numerous conventions. In the fall of 1892 he was one of those most interested in the division of Kings from Tulare county, generously contributing time and money to secure so manifest an advantage for the settlers of the county. He was appointed a member of the committee on organization by the governor, the other members being S. E. Biddle, John Malone, W. J. Newport, William Ogden and G. K. Wendling.

In Tulare county, December 21, 1884, Mr. Bush was united in marriage with Emma L. Byrd, a native of California, and they have four children: Ruby Pearl, Clarence E., Moses Lyman and Grover L. Mr. Bush is a welcome member of various fraternal organizations, including the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, and the Independent Order of Foresters. Politically he is a Democrat. As a type of the captains of industry who have planted civilization in its highest form in the country west of the Rocky Mountains, Mr. Bush is entitled to a place in the remarkable history of a resurrected desert, and the manner in which he has exploited the opportunities offered by the state of California may well serve as a model for future commercial, industrial and social advancement.

---

GEORGE W. STIMPSON. For some generations the Stimpson family resided in Maine. George Washington Stimpson, Sr., who was a native of that state, removed to Michigan and settled at Cheboygan, where he embarked in the lumbering business. A few years later he removed to the present site of Mackinaw, Cheboygan county, where, at old Fort Mitchell, had once occurred a terrible Indian massacre. He was the first white man to settle there, built the first house and the wharves, and then began fishing, sending out many boats on the lake and employing over one hundred hands. When the fishing season came to an end he engaged in lumbering until the opening of spring again permitted the pursuit of his favorite occupation. Along the entire shore of the lake there was no shipper who sent out as large consignments as he, and his success was recognized among all who were familiar with the fishing business. Politically he was a Democrat. Elected the first justice of peace in Mackinaw, he held the office until his death, which occurred at sixty-three years of age. During the Civil war he served as a quartermaster-general in the Federal army, his headquarters being at Fortress Monroe. His wife, Elvira A. Pillsbury, was born in New Hampshire of an old family of that state, and now makes her home in Mackinaw, Mich. Of

their four sons and two daughters all are living but one son. Of these, George W., Jr., was next to the youngest and is the only one on the Pacific coast. He was born in St. Albans, Me., August 15, 1859, and at seven years of age accompanied his parents to Cheboygan, Mich., three years later going to Mackinaw with the family. After completing the studies of the public schools he entered the Northern Indiana Normal at Valparaiso, Ind., and after completing a course of study there took up veterinary surgery. In 1880 he matriculated in the Ontario Veterinary College at Toronto, from which he was graduated in 1883, with the highest honors of his class, and the degree of Member of the Ontario College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Believing Quincy, Ill., would offer excellent advantages for his work, Dr. Stimpson settled there, an entire stranger to everyone. Notwithstanding this disadvantage, he soon had established a valuable practice and won a reputation for skill in veterinary science. The high opinion held of his skill is evidenced by his appointment, unsolicited, as assistant state veterinarian of Illinois; and is further proved by his credentials from the board of live stock commissioners. After three years of service in the office of assistant veterinarian he resigned upon leaving the state. While his practice in Quincy aggregated \$9,000 per year, the health of his wife was such that a change of climate seemed imperative, and he therefore brought the family to California in February of 1888. As soon as they were west of the Rockies she commenced to improve and after settling at Oakland soon regained her health. Meanwhile Dr. Stimpson established himself in practice in Oakland, where he built and conducted a hospital for animals on Nineteenth street and San Pablo avenue. In addition he responded to call from the large ranches in that part of the state and was given the charge also of many fine standard and race horses. After a time, devotion to his practice undermined his strength and he was obliged to seek a different climate; therefore in February, 1903, came to Fresno, where he is now a leading veterinary and also engaged in breeding and raising standard-bred horses. He is the owner of Kohlan King, ten years old, a Wilkes, Sidney, Strathmore, Hambletonian trotting stallion, combining the greatest blood lines of the present day; and further owns Kohlan Prince, sired by Kohlan King, five years old, and considered by competent judges without a superior in the west.

Politically Dr. Stimpson is a Democrat, a believer in the principles championed by William Jennings Bryan and a promoter of the same by his influence and ballot. While living in Quincy he married Miss Emma Kibby, who was born in Palmyra, Mo., and by her he has three chil-

dren, Earl, Ruby and Mildred. His connection with Masonry dates from his residence in Quincy, when he entered the blue lodge and was raised to the Royal Arch degree in Quincy Chapter No. 5. Since coming to California he and his wife have been identified with the Order of the Eastern Star. His fraternal relations are further extended by his association with the Woodmen of the World.

---

WILLIAM FRISBIE LEWIS, M. D. The first immigrant of the Lewis family came to America from Belfast in 1650, the time of Cromwell's entrance into Ireland, whence two sisters of this Thomas Lewis fled to Holland for refuge. Thomas Lewis was born in Belfast in 1628 and landed in New Amsterdam in March, 1650, and in that city became engaged in shipping and merchandising. In conjunction with Frederick Philipse and Thomas Delaval, he purchased the territory which became known as the Manor of Philipseburgh, now the city of Yonkers, stretching sixteen miles along the Hudson river. This property remained in the family until after Mr. Lewis' death, which occurred in his home on the northeast corner of Hanover Square and William street, New York City, in 1686, his widow, a year later, selling out these interests. His wife was formerly Geesji Barent, a native of Holland, who made her home in Beverwyck, now Albany, N. Y. Of their family a son, Leonard, born August 3, 1667, rose to prominence in New York City, serving in various public capacities, being alderman from 1696 to 1700, then governor-general of New York. Afterward he removed to Dutchess county, where he was the first resident representative in the Colonial Assembly, and the first judge and the first treasurer of Dutchess county. He was associated with Johannes Hardenburgh in the purchase of the great patent of land in Ulster county, N. Y. A man of much ability and a strong and upright character, he won the esteem and confidence of all who knew him. On December 23, 1772, by order of the New York legislature, he was awarded nine ounces and fifteen pennyweights of silver plate "for his services done at Albany in an expedition against the French in the Mohawcks country." He married Elizabeth Hardenburgh, the daughter of J. Gerrit and Jalpie (Schepmors) Hardenburgh, both natives of Holland. A son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, Gerardus, born January 2, 1698, became allied through marriage with one of the oldest and most prominent families of the eastern states, his wife being in maidenhood Rachel Kip. She was a descendant of the De Kype family (as the spelling of the name was originally given), which was prominent in the early history of France. Ruloff



De Kype, a sixteenth century ancestor, resided near Alencon, in Bretagne, where he took a prominent part in the civil war between the Catholics and Protestants, being a warm adherent of the Guises. Upon the triumph of the Protestants under Conde in 1562, his chateau was burned and he was forced to leave the country. He took refuge in the Low Countries with his three sons, where they lived for several years under an assumed name. Later he fought in the interests of his native country and was killed in the battle of La Charante. His son, Ruloff, remained in the Low Countries and eventually became a Protestant, locating in Amsterdam, where the family name (from which the French prefix De was dropped) flourished until nearly the middle of the seventeenth century. In 1635 Henry Kype came to New Amsterdam and brought his family with him, but later returned to Holland, while his sons remained and became important factors in the upbuilding of the western country. Of these sons Isaac became a prominent citizen of New York and acquired large landed property, including what now forms Central Park. Nassau street was then called Kip street in his honor and is so laid down in the early maps. Under the Great Burgher Right introduced into New Amsterdam by Governor Stuyvesant, Isaac Kip's name is to be found, being one of twenty which composed the aristocracy of New York at that time. He married Catalina de Suyers and reared a large family, of whom Rachel Kip became the wife of Gerardus Lewis. One of her brothers, Jacobus, born August 25, 1666, was especially prominent in the history of that time, being co-patentee of the Manor of Kipsburg, which remained in the family for several generations. One-fifth of this afterward passed into the possession of the Livingston family, through the inheritance of the mother of Chancellor Livingston, the granddaughter of Col. Henry Beekman, to whom it was sold. Jacobus Kip left a son, Samuel, who was a Royalist during the Revolutionary war and served in the British army as a captain, having raised a company of cavalry, which he commanded in a valiant and daring manner. He survived the war, although he was severely wounded. Johannes, a son of Gerardus and Rachel (Kip) Lewis, married Anetjie Hendrickson, whose father located in New York state in 1631. Of their family a son, Gradus Lewis, married Angelica Gonsaulus, of Spanish descent. The founder of the Gonsaulus family came from Spain and located in Schenectady, N. Y., in 1684. He was a member of Captain Merrill Teunises' military company at Kingston, while his descendants became prominent in the French and Indian wars. A son of Gradus Lewis, John by name, married Ann Eliza Frisbie, a daughter of Dr. William and Elizabeth (Davidson) Frisbie, of

Vermont, where he practiced medicine, following it later, however, in Phelps, N. Y. The Frisbie family is of English and Scotch descent, and the Davidsons of Scotch ancestry, the great-grandfather of both families serving in the Revolutionary war, the maternal ancestor taking part in the battle of Saratoga and dying in Vermont, while a Davidson served as a member on the Committee of Safety. John Lewis graduated in Albany Medical College with the degree of M. D., after which he practiced in Clyde, Wayne county, N. Y., until his death at the age of thirty-eight years. His wife, surviving him, married William D. Wylie. Her death occurred in Walworth, N. Y. By her first marriage she had two children.

Born October 3, 1829, in Clyde, Wayne county, N. Y., William Frisbie Lewis was reared to young manhood in that town and Phelps, receiving his preliminary education in the Phelps Academy, from which he was graduated. Deciding to take up the profession of his father, he spent the first two years in this study at Rush Medical College, Chicago, his third year being passed in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in New York City. From this latter institution he was graduated in 1854, with the degree of M. D., and practiced for a time in New York City. Following this he visited the hospitals of Europe when he went to Edinburgh, Scotland, to attend a course of lectures. In 1856 he located in Mankato, Minn., practicing medicine only a short time until he became interested in the land and banking business in that city. He was one of the first bankers of the city, his business being conducted for many years under the firm name of Lewis & Shaubut. On account of impaired health he was finally forced to give up his many business interests. While a resident of that locality in 1857 he was appointed captain of a company of forty men who went to quell the Indians that had taken part in the Spirit Lake massacre, and a battle was fought near Mankato. Seeking recuperation Dr. Lewis came to California and located in Oakland in 1887, since which time he has virtually retired from the active cares of life. The greater part of his time is spent in traveling, having been abroad four times, once around the world, all through India, Asia Minor and Egypt, as well as in nearly every state in the Union. Interested in the state of his adoption, he has purchased two fruit ranches in Tulare county.

In Vienna, Walworth county, Wis., June 15, 1857, Dr. Lewis was united in marriage with Albertine E. Cowham, a native of New York City. The family came originally from England, where her grandfather, James Murray Cowham, was an admiral in the British navy. His son, Joel F. Cowham, was a native of London, Eng-

land, and a commander of a ship. In New York he married Mary Albertine Mellgren, a native of Gothenburg, Sweden, and in that state located his family while he continued to follow the sea until his death on the Isle of St. Thomas, in the West Indies. After her mother's death Mrs. Lewis went to Wisconsin and lived in Burlington with an uncle, receiving her education in the Female College of Milwaukee. To the doctor and his wife were born the following children: Irving C., engaged in the cattle business and a resident of Oakland; John Mellgren, a prominent attorney of San Francisco; Louisa; and Bertina, the wife of S. E. Grove of Oakland. Dr. Lewis is a Royal Arch Mason and politically adheres to the principles advocated in the platform of the Republican party. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Presbyterian Church. The doctor and his wife have several grandchildren, Irving C. Lewis having one son, Phillip Frisbie, born August 26, 1892, in Oakland, and Mrs. Grove the following children: Albertina, born August 14, 1885, at Spirit Lake, Iowa, and who will graduate at the Tulare high school this spring; Irene, born December 14, 1886, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and will graduate in two years; Mabel, born May 3, 1891, in Oakland, and is now attending the grammar schools; and Ruth, born November 6, 1896, in Oakland.

---

DAVID T. CURTIS. Although a resident of Oakland, making his home at No. 126 Ninth street, facing Madison Square, David T. Curtis is properly named among the representative citizens of the San Joaquin valley, where so large a part of his active life has been passed. A native of Warren county, Pa., he was born April 26, 1843, in the city of Columbus, a son of James and grandson of David Curtis. The latter was a native of France, who immigrated to the United States during the Revolutionary war, taking part in the struggle under Lafayette. Upon the close of hostilities he located in New York state, near Sherburne, where he engaged as a farmer and surveyor. He finally removed to Warren county, Pa., taking with him a large number of people who formed a colony in what was then a wilderness. He established the town of Columbus, where he owned the extensive lumber mills, and also engaged as a farmer and surveyor. His death occurred in the town and colony he had established, removing from the community an important factor in its development and progress. His son, James Curtis, was born in Chenango, N. Y., in 1813, and in boyhood was brought to Pennsylvania by his father. He was reared in the latter state, and in manhood became a farmer, removing to Iowa in 1852 and locating in Mitchell county. He fol-

lowed farming in that location until he came to California, making the trip across the plains by ox teams. He left his family in Iowa, with the exception of David T. Curtis, of this review, whom he brought with him. They located at West Point, Calaveras county, Cal., where they both mined for two years, then located in Lathrop, San Joaquin county, and engaged in farming. In 1863 Mr. Curtis returned to Iowa and engaged again in farming near Frankville, Winnebago county. Once more locating in California in 1869, he made his home with David T. Curtis until 1872, when he removed to Watsonville, Santa Cruz county, Cal. He lived retired in that city until his death, which occurred in 1902, at the advanced age of ninety years. His wife, formerly Alzina Hill, of New York state, died in 1892. They were the parents of four sons and five daughters, of whom David T. was the eldest son.

David T. Curtis received a rather limited education in the common schools of Pennsylvania and Iowa, the knowledge which is his to-day being the result of his efforts in later years—his contact with the world, his reading on broad lines, and the mental training to which he has bent his mind. He came to California with his father when only sixteen years old, experiencing the dangers and hardships of the journey across the plains, and afterward engaging as a miner for two years. Coming to the San Joaquin valley in 1861, he engaged in farming in the vicinity of Lathrop, and in 1863 located eight miles west of Modesto, Stanislaus county, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he still owns. He engaged in its improvement and cultivation and now owns in that tract three hundred and twenty acres. In 1868 he bought six hundred and forty acres which is in the Turlock irrigation district. He remained in Stanislaus county until 1878, in which year he came to Fresno and bought section 4, at Del Rey, Fresno county, where for six years he engaged in general farming. In the year of his settlement in Fresno county he bought twenty-eight hundred and eighty acres adjoining Reedley on the south, and in 1890 colonized this land under the name of the Level Orchard Land Colony, which he sold to sixty-two people, retaining nine hundred acres, which is devoted to alfalfa and wheat. This is in the Alta Irrigation district and is well improved, being thoroughly well fenced, and is highly cultivated. In 1885 Mr. Curtis bought his Mountain View ranch twelve miles east of Reedley, along the foothills, consisting of twenty-five hundred and sixty acres of wheat and grazing land, where he raises cattle, a large per cent of his four hundred head of stock being Durham. He also owns six hundred and forty acres six miles south and one mile east of Reed-

ley, which is devoted to alfalfa and pasture land; six hundred and forty acres in the Lake country devoted to pasture; and eighty acres adjoining the town site of Salida. On his Turlock ranch he has a fine Holstein dairy, and is at present interesting himself in the sugar beet industry on his Reedley ranch. He is very successful in his work, is a large land owner in the San Joaquin valley, and a supporter of all movements calculated to advance the general welfare of this section.

In Frankville, Iowa, Mr. Curtis was united in marriage with E. Luella Hollaway, a native of La Porte, Ind. She is the daughter of Henry Hollaway, who died early, leaving his widow,

Susan (Pagan) Hollaway, to rear her family. She was a woman of remarkable strength of character and intellect, a historian of no little note, and a temperance worker who did much for the cause. Mrs. Curtis is also interested in the temperance movement in Oakland, and was a delegate to the convention at Buffalo. She is a woman of rare personality, broad-minded and liberal, and possessing qualities which peculiarly adapt her for this work. She is a member of the Congregational Church of Oakland. Mr. Curtis is a staunch Republican politically, and gives his support to the advancement of this party.



















